

# PENSACOLA STATE — COLLEGE —

## LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

### Information Packet

Health-Related Programs Admission Office  
850.484.2210  
[healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu](mailto:healthprograms@pensacolastate.edu)

An Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Institution  
Pensacola State College  
Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
5555 West Highway 98  
Pensacola, Florida 32507

May 2012

## Description of the Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing (PN) Program is a one year vocational certificate program designed for the student whose career goal is to work as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). The PN program is 45 vocational credits which consist of 1350 hours of classroom, simulated laboratory experience, and clinical learning experiences. Practical nurses function under the direction and supervision of a registered nurse or licensed physician and provide care for individuals in situations which are relatively free of complexity.

Approximately 30 students begin the Practical Nursing Program in January or June. Classes are held on the Warrington campus. Clinical rotations may be assigned in Escambia or Santa Rosa Counties.

### **Will I Need a License to Practice Nursing?**

Yes. Graduates of the Pensacola State College Practical Nursing Program receive a certificate in Practical Nursing. Upon graduation, graduates apply to take the national licensure examination (NCLEX-PN) to become an LPN. Each applicant for national licensure will have a background check via Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The cost of licensure (Florida Board of Nursing fee and testing center fee) is the responsibility of the graduate.

### **What are the Educational Competencies of the Nursing Program?**

Educational outcomes are the competencies expected of the Practical Nursing Student graduating from Pensacola State College.

After completion of the Career and Vocational Certificate at Pensacola State College, the graduate's clinical practice will be characterized by the following:

#### Professional Behaviors

Demonstrating ability to serve as an advocate for clients and family members.

#### Communication

Demonstrating ability to communicate effectively with clients of varying ages and developmental levels.

#### Clinical Decision-Making

Demonstrating ability to utilize the nursing process, developmental theory, and critical thinking in order to plan interventions which are client based.

#### Caring Interventions

Demonstrating the ability to deliver quality care to individuals and family members.

#### Collaborating

Reinforcing client/family teaching initiated by Registered Nurse/Medical Doctor.

## **How do I apply for the Practical Nursing Program?**

To be considered a qualified PN applicant requires:

1. Submit an application to the College (cost is \$30);
2. Submit the Health Related Programs application; Submit an official high school transcript. Applicants to the nursing program must be high school graduates or have completed the GED;
3. Have a minimum 2.0 Vocational cumulative grade point average. Have official college transcripts of all colleges attended sent to Pensacola State College
4. Practical Nursing Entrance Exam minimum raw scores of 24 on Judgment and Comprehension (reading), 36 on Academic Aptitude, and 42 on Natural Science
5. Score of 23 or higher on the Health Related Math exam;
6. Complete the TABE test.

## **If I am a Certified Nursing Assistant, can I receive advanced placement?**

Yes, you can receive advanced placement, the program begins in August and is completed in 10 months. Advanced placement requires:

1. Submit an application to the College (cost is \$30);
2. Submit an official high school transcript. Applicants to the nursing program must be high school graduates or have completed the GED;
3. Have a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average. Have official college transcripts of all colleges attended sent to Pensacola State College;
4. Submit the Health Related Programs application;
5. Proof of certification as a Nursing Assistant;
6. Score of 23 or higher on the Health Related Math exam;
7. Practical Nursing Entrance Exam minimum raw scores of 24 on Judgment and Comprehension (reading), 36 on Academic Aptitude, and 42 on Natural Science (cost \$25);
8. Complete the TABE test

## **How are students selected for admission?**

Students are accepted on a first-completed, first-admitted basis after completion of all admission criteria. Therefore, it is important to complete the application, testing, and transcript acquisition process as soon as possible.

## **How could I transfer into the PN program?**

Transfer students are evaluated on an individual basis and on a space available basis. Transferring from another Florida Practical Nursing Program is possible; transferring vocational credits from another state is not possible.

## What Knowledge and Skills Does a Practical Nurse Need?

The scope of practice of Practical Nurse graduates is directed toward providing basic, therapeutic, and preventive nursing measures for individuals experiencing common, well-defined, acute and chronic health problems. The practical nurse, working under the direct supervision of an R.N. or physician, functions in nursing situations which are relatively free of scientific complexity and assist in the development and evaluation of the plan of care.

As a Practical Nursing Program Applicant you should possess the following capabilities:

1. Sufficient physical, motor, sensory, intellectual, emotional, and social/communication skills to provide safe patient care utilizing a variety of equipment in different health care environments. Examples of performance standards for nursing practice are outlined below.
2. Be of sound mind and body so you can perform the professional duties of a nursing student without becoming injurious to yourself or others.

<b>NURSING PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS</b>		
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move independently from room to room, walk in hallways, maneuver in small places such as patient rooms, and medication rooms.	Walking independently with patients from department to department, around the patient room, down the corridor, from one patient room to another, to take care of all patients on a team, and to assist in the transport of all patients from bed to bed, bed to chair. Walking, standing, sitting for long periods of time, stooping, lifting patients weighing over 40 pounds, squatting, reaching, twisting, bending, pushing, pulling, dragging, and climbing.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor skills to practice safe and efficient patient care. Sufficient manual dexterity to manipulate equipment in the patient care setting.	Manual dexterity to start a patient's intravenous line, set alarms on monitors, draws up and gives injections to patients.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Auscultation of breath sounds, heart sounds, blood pressure, bowel sounds, hearing alarms, call bells telephones in patient care, converse with patients, family and staff from varying distances with varying audible sounds.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary to provide safe patient care.	Reading patient charts/flow sheets/monitors, drawing up and administering medications, assessing patient skin tones, reading thermometers, assessing wound status, non-verbal behaviors.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and to provide safe patient care.	Perform palpation, giving injections, starting IV's, sterile and non sterile dressing changes, urinary catheterization, assess skin temperature and texture, and assist with patient care activities
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in coherent and concise oral and written form.	Is able to follow spontaneous verbal and/or written instructions. Is able to effectively communicate when teaching patients and/or families. Must be able to communicate the patient's response to therapy to other members of the health care team, document patient responses to therapy on health care forms utilizing various forms of media, consult with health care team members/workers in a professional manner.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal skills sufficient for interaction with patients, families and groups from diverse backgrounds (cultural, emotional, intellectual) in a variety of health care settings	Able to converse effectively in stressful patient care situations with patients, families and groups. Codes, emergencies. Discharge teaching.
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking sufficient for clinical decision making	Competent assessment of a patient in a timely manner, correct interpretation of assessment, readily respond with appropriate nursing/medical interventions, treatment plans, can work in isolation independently for positive patient outcome.

## **American Disability Act:**

For students with a disability that falls under the American Disability Act, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor and Student Resource Center for ADA Services to discuss any special needs or equipment necessary to accomplish the requirements for this course. The web address for the Student Resource Center for ADA Services is: [www.pensacolastate.edu/students/services/dss](http://www.pensacolastate.edu/students/services/dss)

## **How are students selected for admission?**

All applicants who meet admission requirements are accepted into the nursing program and become program candidates. Candidates are ranked in order by the date program requirements were met. Candidates are offered a seat in the next available class based upon their date ranked order.

## **What if I Have an Arrest Record?**

### **Legal Limitations of Licensure/Criminal History Record Checks**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Pursuant to Section 456.0635, *Florida Statutes*, effective July 1, 2009, health care boards or the department shall refuse to issue a license, certificate or registration and shall refuse to admit a candidate for examination if the applicant has been:

1. Convicted or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony violation regardless of adjudication of: chapters [409](#), [817](#), or [893](#), Florida Statutes; or [21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970](#) or [42 U.S.C. ss 1395-1396](#), unless the sentence and any probation or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the application.
2. Terminated for cause from Florida Medicaid Program (unless the applicant has been in good standing for the most recent five years).
3. Terminated for cause by any other State Medicaid Program or the Medicare Program (unless the termination was at least 20 years prior to the date of the application and the applicant has been in good standing with the program for the most recent five years).

Individuals who are considering entering the nursing profession and who may have a criminal history often ask about potential barriers to licensure following successful completion of an approved nursing program. While it would be nice to know this prior to making a decision to enter the program, obtaining that information is not possible under current Florida law.

The Board of Nursing makes decisions about licensure based upon a number of questions on the application and on an individual basis. The application (or the background screening) that indicates a criminal history is considered a non-routine application and must be reviewed by the board staff and possibly referred to the Board of Nursing for action.

Each application is reviewed on its own merits. The Board of Nursing has created guidelines for specific offenses to be cleared in the board office; however, the staff cannot make determinations in advance as laws and rules do change over time. Violent crimes and repeat offenders are required to be presented to the Board of Nursing for review. Evidence of rehabilitation is important to the Board Members when making licensure decisions.

There are no permanent barriers to licensure; each circumstance is reviewed on a case by case basis.

The Board may issue a license under conditions such as probation, supervision, or additional education, or the Board may deny your application. If drugs or alcohol are a concern, the board may require the applicant to undergo an evaluation and to sign a contract with the Intervention Project for Nurses (800-840-2720).

Each nursing program makes independent decisions about admissions into the program and may require a criminal background screening as part of that process. Clinical facilities may limit or prohibit students with criminal histories from participating in clinical experiences. Other options may not exist for the student to complete required clinical hours in order to obtain a nursing degree; thus, such a student may not be eligible for licensure in Florida.

The licensure application requires disclosure of any criminal history and the disposition of all cases prior to board review. Entry into the nursing education program is the prospective student's decision based upon the knowledge that he/she may, or may not, be granted a nursing license. All of the above factors should be taken into consideration prior to making a decision about a nursing career. Please go to this web address for more information [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/cna/cna\\_prospective.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/cna/cna_prospective.html) (the information on the website was written for CNAs but the process is the same for all applicants).

### **Do I have to take a drug screen?**

All students must undergo a urine drug screen upon admission to a health-related program. If a student tests positive for any of the drugs, the student will be dismissed and may apply for admission in one year. Urine drug screening tests for the following drugs: Alcohol, Amphetamines, Cannabinoids, Phencyclidine, Opiates, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepine, Synthetic Narcotics: Methadone, and Propoxyphene. Pensacola State College's complete drug screening policy is available in the Department of Nursing and in the Dean's office.

### **Drug Screening**

All students, full-time and part-time, may be randomly tested for drugs. A computer program or other independent, bias free method of name selection may be used to ensure that students to be tested are randomly selected. Additionally, while in the clinical setting, students are expected to follow the drug screening policy of the facility. Should a student refuse to follow facility and/or departmental policy, the student shall assume liability for their personal transportation from the clinical facility and a critical incident will be documented. Students may not attend clinical while under the influence of alcohol, narcotic, sedatives, or stimulant medications.

### **Unscheduled Drug-Testing**

All students, full-time and part-time, may be tested for drugs at unscheduled intervals.

### **Extended Drug-Testing**

Students who return to a program may be tested for drugs at unscheduled intervals.

### **Is Pensacola State College's PN Program Accredited?**

Pensacola State College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The Practical Nursing Program is approved by the Florida Board of Nursing, and the PN Program is a candidate for accreditation by the National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

## Do I have to attend an orientation?

All Practical Nursing students must attend a mandatory orientation for the Nursing Program upon written acceptance to start the program; times and dates are provided at that time.

Students new to Pensacola State College are required to attend a Pensacola State College New Student Orientation. Contact Student Services for dates (484-2270).

## What can I expect my schedule to be?

Courses are normally scheduled on Monday through Friday. Clinical is usually during the day, but some may be scheduled in the evening. Occasionally, make-up clinical may be on the weekend. Additionally, clinical time is allocated for Simulation Lab, and this is scheduled through the Mary Ekdahl Smart Simulation Center at dates and times convenient for the student.

The student should be aware that various workshops and student services are available to them. Please plan your schedule to accommodate time for these additional opportunities.

## What will the Program Cost?

The overall cost of the program includes tuition, lab fees, books, and supplies. Additional fees, health examination, immunizations, and laboratory testing will be the responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for transportation to attend all class and clinical instruction. Course materials (information packets, study guides, textbooks, manuals, and Benchmark test sheets), student uniforms, and accessories are to be paid by the student. Any college fees, including tuition, are subject to change without notice. For information on financial aid, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Veteran's Affairs on the Warrington Campus at (850) 484-2349.

The following is a list of **APPROXIMATE** costs and are subject to change without notice.

	<u>In-State</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Out of State</u>
Pensacola State College Application Fee	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Pre-Entrance Exam	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Tuition – 45 Vocational Credits Per credit hour: \$81.87 FL Resident, AL Resident \$82.87 and \$327.50 Out-of- State	\$3,676.50	\$3,729.15	\$14,737.50
Lab Fees	\$560.00	\$560.00	\$560.00
Books, Modules, Forms Packets, Asses Test (estimate)	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
Preclinical Physical Examination and Immunizations	Varies	Varies	Varies
Uniforms and Supplies (Includes 2 uniforms, shoes, hose, penlight, stethoscope, bandage, scissors, benchmark test sheets, videotape, and photo)	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00	\$ 275.00
<b>Estimated Program Total</b>	<b>\$5,466.50</b>	<b>\$5,519.15</b>	<b>\$ 16,527.50</b>

## Who can I call if I have questions?

Department	Telephone #	Importance
<b>Health Related Admissions Office</b> Warrington Campus.....	484-2210	Information and application packets are available for all health related programs.
<b>Admissions/Registrar Offices</b> Warrington Campus..... Pensacola Campus ..... Milton Campus.....	484-2270 484-1602 484-4410	Turn in your college application for admission at any of these campuses. The Registrar's Office will verify that transcripts/documents are received.
<b>Testing Centers</b> Warrington Campus..... Pensacola Campus .....	484-1076 484-1656	Register for entrance exams. Will answer questions about entrance exams.
<b>Academic Counseling Offices</b> Warrington Campus..... Pensacola Campus ..... Milton Campus.....	484-2270 484-1660 484-4410	It is recommended that applicants contact an academic advisor/counselor for detailed information on the program requirements.
<b>Financial Aid/Veteran Affairs/Scholarships</b> Pensacola Campus ..... Warrington Campus..... Milton Campus.....	484-1680 484-2349 484-4410	Discuss financial support available.

**CURRICULUM - SUMMER START**

Term	Course	Theory Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Semester Total
Summer D	PRN 0065C Practical Nursing Foundations I	30	90	4	6 Credits
	HSC 0591 AIDS/OSHA for Health Professionals	30	0	1	
	PRN 0030 Pharmacology /Medical Terminology	30	0	1	
<b><i>CNA's option join the PN group in the fall term</i></b>					
Fall A	BSC 0070 Structure and Function	60	0	2	17 Credits
	PRN 0015 Interpersonal Relationships for Nurses	30	0	1	
Fall B	PRN 0066C Practical Nursing Foundations II	85	125	7	
Fall D	PRN 0200C Practical Nursing I	80	130	7	
Spring B	PRN 0201C Practical Nursing II	120	120	8	16 Credits
Spring D	PRN 0202C Practical Nursing III	120	120	8	
Summer B	PRN 0100C Practical Nursing IV	60	90	5	6 Credits
	PRN 0904 Practical Nursing Seminar	30	0	1	
<b>Total for the program</b>		<b>675</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45 Credits</b>

**CURRICULUM – SPRING START**

Term	Course	Theory Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Semester Total
<b>There is NOT a CNA option for the Spring start</b>					
Spring A	BSC 0070 Structure and Function	60	0	2	16 Voc. Credits
	PRN 0015 Interpersonal Relationships for Nurses	30	0	1	
Spring B	PRN 0065C Practical Nursing Foundations I	30	90	4	
	HSC 0591 AIDS/OSHA for Health Professionals	30	0	1	
	PRN 0030 Pharmacology /Medical Terminology	30	0	1	
Spring D	PRN 0066C Practical Nursing Foundations II	85	125	7	
Summer B	PRN 0200C Practical Nursing I	80	130	7	15 Voc. Credits
Summer D	PRN 0201C Practical Nursing II	120	120	8	
Fall B	PRN 0202C Practical Nursing III	120	120	8	14 Voc. Credits
Fall D	PRN 0100C Practical Nursing IV	60	90	5	
	PRN 0904 Practical Nursing Seminar	30	0	1	
<b>Total for the program</b>		<b>675</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45 Credits</b>

PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE  
REQUEST FORM FOR HIGH SCHOOL OR  
COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS

The applicant is responsible for mailing this form to the appropriate high school, university(s) or college(s). Transcripts submitted by the student will not be accepted. Academic records must be mailed directly to the address on this form. This form may be copied for multiple uses.

TO THE REGISTRAR/Records Clerk:

\_\_\_\_\_  
COMPLETE NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

Name of Student at Time of Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND:

\_\_\_\_\_ High School Record (showing graduation date or date of withdrawal)

\_\_\_\_\_ College Transcripts

\_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Academic Standing (for summer transient students)

PLEASE MAIL RECORDS TO:

**ADMISSIONS/REGISTRATION OFFICE  
PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE  
1000 COLLEGE BLVD  
PENSACOLA, FL 32504-8998**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

If a charge is incurred for this service, please bill the student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name

First

Middle

SSN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Address

Last Term Attended

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

State

Zip Code

Date of Graduation  
If Applicable

# PENSACOLA STATE COLLEGE

## Application for Health Related Programs

Student ID Number (Required) or DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle and /or Maiden \_\_\_\_\_

Current Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Current Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the program(s) you want to apply for and return this form to the Health Program Admissions Office at 5555 West Highway 98, Pensacola, FL 32507; or fax it to (850) 484-2375. You may check multiple programs.

✓	Program	Start Dates		
	Career Mobility – Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to Registered Nurse ⇒ Florida LPN License and CPR Certification required	Jan	May	
	Career Mobility – Paramedic to Registered Nurse ⇒ Florida Paramedic License and CPR Certification required	Jan	May	
	Certified Nursing Assistant ▶ Warrington Campus	Jan	Aug	
	Certified Nursing Assistant ▶ Century Campus	Jan	May	
	Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) to Licensed Practical Nurse ⇒ Florida CNA License and CPR Certification required			Aug
	Dental Hygiene		May	
	EKG Technology Program			Aug
	EKG Aide ▶ Century Campus		June	
	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) ⇒ CPR Certification required	Jan	May	Aug
	Health Information Management			Aug
	Medical Information Coder/Biller Certificate			Aug
	Health Services Management	Jan	May	Aug
	Health Unit Coordinator			Aug
	Medical Assisting			Aug
	Medical Office Administration	Jan	May	Aug
	Medical Records Transcribing	Jan		Aug
	Nursing (A.D.) R.N.	Jan	May	Aug
	Nursing (A.D.) R.N. ⇒ Weekend/Evening Option – See Information Packet for specifics	Jan		
	Paramedic ⇒ Florida EMT License and CPR Certification required			Aug
	Perioperative Nursing ⇒ Registered Nursing License required			Aug
	Pharmacy Technician		May	
	Phlebotomy	Jan	May	Aug
	Physical Therapist Assistant			Aug
	Practical Nursing	Jan	June	
	Public Safety Telecommunicator (911 Emergency Dispatcher)	Jan		Aug
	Radiography		June	
	Sonography	Jan		
	Surgical Technology			Aug
	Veterinary Technology			Aug

Detailed information packets with admission requirements for each program are available at  
[www.pensacolastate.edu/healthprograms](http://www.pensacolastate.edu/healthprograms)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signature of Health-Related Program Applicant

It is your responsibility to keep your address and phone number current with the college.