

# PENSACOLA STATE — COLLEGE —

## **Career Mobility For Licensed Practical Nursing and Paramedics**

### Information Packet

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

Accredited by the National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission  
(NLNAC)

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

March 2012

### **Notice Regarding Changes to Policies**

The provisions of this publication are not to be construed as a contract between the student and Pensacola State College. The College reserves the right to change any provision or requirement when such action becomes necessary. Nursing Program requirements may change due to regulatory rules, accreditation standards, health recommendations, or program needs. Students are advised to work closely with the counselors/advisors to remain up to date on program requirements.

### **What is the Career Mobility Option?**

The Career Mobility Option offers qualified Florida Licensed Practical Nurses and Paramedics an opportunity to earn an Associate Degree in Nursing in four semesters. Students are admitted once a year in the summer semester. After successfully completing ADN program, graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

### **What is expected of a Registered Nurse?**

Registered Nurses (RN) are responsible for gathering information about patients using communication, physical assessment, and analytical skills; administering medications; performing invasive and non-invasive procedures; communicating with patients and their family members, peers, and other health care professionals in an effective manner; teaching patients and their families to promote or restore health. Nurses must respect the rights and dignity of individuals and display exceptional interpersonal skills, sensitivity, and tact with ill, injured, and suffering patients. Nurses must assume a commitment to quality care and the responsibility of life-long learning.

### **What are the employment opportunities for Registered Nurses?**

Employment opportunities are in Hospitals, physician's offices, outpatient clinics, industry, extended care facilities and community health agencies. Registered Nurses have an opportunity to pursue career as clinicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, educators, administrators, researchers, and consultants.

### **What are working conditions for RNs?**

Patient care environment may include working with persons with AIDS, AIDS-related diseases, Hepatitis, and other communicable diseases. Work schedules may include day, evening, or night shifts, weekdays, weekends, and holidays.

### **What educational opportunities are available after completing the Associate Degree in Nursing?**

Graduates of Pensacola State College ADN nursing program who have earned their RN license are eligible to apply to Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. Graduates may also wish to apply to other colleges and universities to further their education.

### **What are the performance standards for the nursing program?**

A nursing program applicant 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 Disabled Student Services to discuss any special needs or equipment necessary to accomplish the requirements for this course. Pensacola State College Disability Support Services [www.pensacolastate.edu/student/services/dss](http://www.pensacolastate.edu/student/services/dss)

## How do I apply for the Career Mobility Program?

Eligibility for admission requires:

1. Submit an application to the College (cost is \$30);
2. Submit an application for the Health-Related Programs;
3. Submit an official high school transcript. Applicants to the Nursing Program must be high school graduates or have completed the GED;
4. Have official college transcripts of all colleges attended sent to Pensacola State College;
5. Complete the following General Education courses with a minimum "C" or higher in each course and 2.5 cumulative grade point average (\*\*\*) 2.75 grade point average) in these nine (8) courses:

### Complete

- Anatomy and Physiology I (BSC 1093)
  - Anatomy and Physiology I Lab (BSC 1093L)
  - Anatomy and Physiology II (BSC 1094)
  - Anatomy and Physiology II Lab (BSC 1094L)
  - English Composition I (ENC 1101)
  - Human Growth and Development (DEP 2004)
  - Elementary Statistics (STA 2023) or College Algebra (MAC 1105)
6. CPR certification American Heart Association, Health Care Provider level
  7. A current unencumbered licensure as a Paramedic or unencumbered Florida licensure as a Practical Nurse;
  8. Pass the HESI A-2 Entrance Exam

### Entrance Exam Policy

Students are required to take the HESI-A2 entrance examination comprised of the following five (5) components: Grammar, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Mathematics, and Anatomy & Physiology. Students with a composite score of 75% are eligible for admission to the associate degree nursing programs at Pensacola State College.

The Department of Nursing can accept HESI A-2 scores from other institutions following the established policies of the Pensacola State College Testing Center.

**The Testing Center's web page for nursing applicants can be found at:**

<http://www.pensacolastate.edu/students/services/testingCenter.asp>

### Retesting:

Pensacola State College Department of Nursing policy allows students to take the HESI A-2 exam two times per twelve months to achieve the minimum 75% score required. **The second attempt must be at least 30 days after the initial exam, regardless of where the test is taken. No more than two attempts are allowed in a twelve month period.**

Pensacola State College Department of Nursing will not consider HESI A2 scores IF:

- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt occurs less than 30 days after initial testing, OR
- ❖ the student has taken the exam more than 2 times in a twelve month period, regardless of where test was taken, OR
- ❖ scores are older than 36 months

Progression to the clinical component of the program is contingent upon submission of satisfactory physical examination/immunization forms.

Program acceptance is based on first qualified, first accepted.

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

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

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.

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. More information is available at [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 the student will be dismissed from the program 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.

#### 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 the Registered Nursing Program Accredited?**

Pensacola State College Associates Degree in Nursing is accredited by the National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Florida Board of Nursing.

#### **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 Financial Aid office on the Warrington Campus at (850) 484-2349.

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

<b>Estimated Expenses</b>	<b>In-State</b>	<b>Alabama Resident</b>	<b>Out-of-State</b>
Pensacola State College Application Fee (first time students)	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
HESI A2 Admission Exam	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00
Tuition for 58 College credits (includes 22 hours of Prerequisite courses (\$98.05 FL. 99.05 AL and \$428.32 Out of State)	\$5,686.90	\$5,744.90	\$24,842.56
Lab Fees	\$ 585.00	\$ 585.00	\$ 585.00
Books, Supplies, Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
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
Estimated Program Total	\$7,646.90	\$7,704.90	\$26,802.56

### **Academic Advising**

It is recommended that applicants contact an academic advisor for detailed information on the Career Mobility Option, Warrington Campus (484-2270).

### **Do I have to attend an orientation?**

All Career Mobility students must attend a mandatory orientation for the nursing program upon written acceptance into 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).

**Who Can I Call If I Have Questions About The Program Or The Application Process?**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Telephone #</b>	<b>Importance</b>
<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.

## Career Mobility ADN Curriculum

COURSE			Theory	Lab/Clinical	Credit Hour
<b>Semester I</b>					
NUR	2003C	Career Mobility Nursing Concepts	2	6	4
NUR	1521	Mental Health Nursing I	1	0	1
MCB	1000	Applied Microbiology	3	0	3
MCB	1000L	Applied Microbiology Lab	0	1	1
HUN	1201	Elements of Nutrition	3	0	3
Total Credit Hours					12
<b>Semester II</b>					
NUR	2212C	Adult Health Nursing II	3	9	6
SYG	2000	Introduction to Sociology	3	0	3
Humanities/Fine Arts (Category II)			3	0	3
Total Credit Hours					12
<b>Semester III</b>					
NUR	2213C	Adult Health Nursing III	3	9	6
NUR	2440C	Maternal-Child Health Nursing	4	6	6
Total Credit Hours					12
<b>Semester IV</b>					
NUR	2523C	Mental Health Nursing II	2	3	3
NUR	2811L	Transition into Practice/Preceptorship	0	12	4
Total Credit Hours					7

Upon completion of the Mobility Option, an additional 12 semester hours are granted. Thus, the student graduating from the Mobility Option earns 72 semester credits for the Associate Degree.

**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.