

PENSACOLA STATE — COLLEGE —

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

Information Packet

Health-Related Programs Admission Office
850.484.2210
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

February 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 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 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 are the employment opportunities for RNs?

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 careers as clinicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, educators, administrators, researchers, and consultants.

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 the RN to BSN Program. Graduates may also wish to apply to other colleges and universities to further their education.

Description of the Associate Degree Nursing Program

The Pensacola State College Associate of Science Degree Program in Nursing (ADN) is a five semester program requiring 72 credit hours: 30 credits in general education and 42 credits of nursing focusing on academic integration and clinical application. The program is a restricted entry program.

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 to perform the professional duties of a nursing student without becoming injurious to self or others.

NURSING PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLES
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

How do I apply for the Nursing Program?

To be considered as a qualified candidate for the two-year Nursing Program, you must:

1. Submit an application to the College (cost is \$30);
2. Submit an application for the Health-Science 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 a cumulative 2.75 grade point average (GPA) in these seven (7) courses:
 - 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. Have a minimum 2.5 College cumulative grade point average;
7. 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:

- ❖ 2nd 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.

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.

I am already enrolled in nursing classes at another college, how can I receive advanced placement in the ADN program?

Receiving advanced placement in the ADN program requires that there first be space available and that the applicant meet the following program admission requirements:

1. Contact the Nursing Department to receive the transfer student application.
2. Submit an application to the College (\$30.00).
3. Submit an official high school transcript. All applicants to the Nursing Program must be high school graduates or have completed the GED.
4. Submit official transcripts from regionally accredited colleges and/or universities. Acceptance of nursing credits from another institution will be made on an individual basis. Verification of knowledge and/or skills will be required.
5. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.
6. Must be able to meet and comply with standards and policies in the current *College Catalog* and *Nursing Student Handbook*.
7. Submit a letter of eligibility to return to previous nursing program and transferring college in good standing.
8. Have earned no more than one grade of "D" or "F" in a nursing course.
9. Have failed no clinical course due to "unsafe clinical practice".
10. Have successfully completed a nursing course with a clinical component within the past 12 months.
11. Submit course descriptions and course syllabi for nursing courses to be transferred.
12. Provide two letters of recommendation, one from a faculty member and one from the Program Chair/Director of Nursing, mailed directly to the Department of Nursing.
13. Complete a urine drug screen and background check; the cost is the responsibility of the student. This is completed after you are accepted as a nursing transfer student.

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.

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 (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. 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 RN 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.

Estimated Expenses	In-State	Alabama Residents	Out of State
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 – 72 credits Per credit hour: \$98.05 FL Resident, AL Resident \$99.05 and \$369.58 Out-of-State	\$7,059.60	\$7,131.60	\$26,609.76
Lab Fees	\$ 895.00	\$ 895.00	\$ 895.00
Books, Modules, Forms Packets, Asses Test	\$ 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	\$ 9,329.60	\$ 9,401.60	\$ 28,879.76

Do I have to attend an orientation?

All Registered Nursing 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).

What can I expect my schedule to be?

In general the nursing courses are scheduled on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday in fall and spring and Monday through Thursday in summer. Clinical is usually during the day, but some may be scheduled in the evening. 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.

Who can I call if I have questions about the program or the application process?

Department	Telephone #	Importance
Health Related Admissions Office Warrington Campus.....	484-2210	Information and application packets are available for all health related programs.
Admissions/Registrar Offices 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.
Testing Centers Warrington Campus..... Pensacola Campus.....	484-1076 484-1656	Register for entrance exams. Will answer questions about entrance exams.
Academic Counseling Offices 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.
Financial Aid/Veteran Affairs/Scholarships Pensacola Campus..... Warrington Campus..... Milton Campus.....	484-1680 484-2349 484-4410	Discuss financial support available.

Nursing Curriculum (RN-AS)				
Prerequisites Courses				
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 seven (7) courses:				
		Theory	Lab/Clinical	Credit Hours
BSC1093	Anatomy and Physiology I			3
BSC1093L	Anatomy and Physiology I Lab			1
BSC1094	Anatomy and Physiology II			3
BSC 1094L	Anatomy and Physiology II Lab			1
ENC 1101	English Composition I			3
DEP 2004	Human Growth and Development			
STA 2023	Elementary Statistics OR			3
MAC 1105	College Algebra			
Total Prerequisite Hours				17
An overall cumulative college credit grade point average of 2.5 is required for admission.				
Semester I				
NUR1020C	Introduction to Nursing	5	9	8
NUR1511	Mental Health Nursing I	1	0	1
HUN1201	Elements of Nutrition	3	0	3
Total Semester Hours				12
Semester II				
NUR1211C	Adult Health Nursing I	5	9	8
Total Semester Hours				8
Semester III				
NUR2212C	Adult Health Nursing II	3	9	6
	<i>and/or</i>			
NUR2240C	Maternal-Child Health Nursing	4	6	6
Total Semester Hours				6
Semester IV				
NUR2212C	Adult Health Nursing II	3	9	6
	<i>and/or</i>			
NUR2240C	Maternal-Child Health Nursing	4	6	6
NUR2213C	Adult Health III	3	9	6
				12
Semester V				
NUR2523	Mental Health Nursing II	2	3	3
NUR2811L	Transitional Practice/Preceptorship	0	12	4
Total Semester Hours				7
It is your responsibility to schedule your general education courses around your nursing schedule. Required General Education courses:				
MCB1000	Applied Microbiology	3	0	3
MCB1000L	Applied Microbiology Laboratory	1	0	1
SYG2000	Introduction to Sociology (Category III)	3	0	3
	Humanities/Fine Arts (Category II)	3	0	3
Total General Education Hours				10
Eligible for NCLEX – RN			Total credits required = 72	

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

_____ Date

_____ Signature of Health-Related Program Applicant

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