



Practical Nursing

Program Information

The Practical Nursing program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and proficiencies to provide safe and effective bedside nursing care within the scope of practice of licensed practical nurses. Students are instructed in the provision of nursing care for clients through the lifespan. Clinical experiences are provided at area hospitals and health care agencies in adult health, maternal health, child health, orthopedics, geriatrics, psychiatric and other areas of nursing practice.

Practical Nursing is open to men and women; few careers match the versatility, satisfaction and longevity afforded by a nursing career. Students who have satisfactorily completed the program may apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN). The Practical Nursing program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing. The program has a competitive admissions process.

Occupational Choices

Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses held about 724,000 jobs in 2016. About 16 percent of LPNs worked in hospitals, 38 percent in nursing and residential care facilities, 13 percent worked in offices of physicians, 12 percent worked for home healthcare services, and 7 percent in Federal, State, and local government agencies. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S.

Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2017-2018 Edition

Average Full-Time Wage

Median annual wages of licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses were \$44,090 in May 2016. Salary ranged from the lowest 10 percent earned less than \$32,570, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$60,420 annually.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-2017 Edition.

Admission Criteria

Applicants should complete and submit a Practical Nursing Program Application and request for copies of college and high school transcripts sent directly to the College's Admission Office.

Minimum admission standards include:

1. Unconditional admission to the college. (Must complete college application)
2. Receipt of completed application for the nursing program by deadline June 1 for Fall admissions, October 1 for Spring admissions.
3. Minimum of 2.50 cumulative GPA for nursing required academic core courses and minimum 2.0 GPA at current, native institution.
4. Minimum of 2.50 high school GPA for students without prior college work (GED acceptable in lieu of high school transcript).
5. Eligibility for ENG-101 and MTH-100 as determined by college policy (minimum ACCUPLACER scores of 5 or above in writing and a score of 40-59 in elementary algebra or 70-120 in math, and a reading score of 70 or above). ACCUPLACER scores must be at or above minimum.
6. Good standing with college.
7. Meeting the essential functions or technical standards required for nursing and
8. Completion of the ACT (score of 18 or higher) must have been taken.
9. Transfer students must be in good standing from transferring institution with letter from Program Director and a minimum of 2.0 Cumulative GPA with Nursing Courses no more than one year from date of application.

Estimated Program Length & Cost *

Award	Length	Credit Hours	Tuition Fees	Books	Tools	Supplies
Certificate	3 Terms	46	\$7,130	\$1,200	\$745	\$600
Estimated Testing Fees: \$1,000						

* Tax not included. Prices are subject to change without prior notice; cost of books may vary considerably among suppliers. Cost of general education books is in addition to the total listed above. The length of the program is based on full-time status of 12-15 credit hours per term. Enrollment in transitional level general education courses will alter the length of the program.

Students in the Practical Nursing Program must meet the following requirements which will be completed at the student's expense prior to and throughout enrollment in the program:

1. Meet the Essential functions of the program,
2. Provide verification that the student possesses the physical and mental capabilities to function as a nurse in diverse settings with or without reasonable accommodations,
3. Verify absence of use of drugs and alcohol by participation in random and scheduled drug/alcohol testing at the student's expense,
4. Adhere to policies of affiliated clinical agencies by submitting criminal background check and CPR certification prior to enrollment.

Admission to the Practical Nursing Program is competitive, and the number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. Meeting minimal requirements does not guarantee acceptance. If the number of eligible applicants exceeds the space available to new enrollees, applicants are rank-ordered using a point system based on:

1. ACT score of 18 or higher
2. Points for selected college courses (i.e., ENG-101, MTH-100, BIO-201 & 202, PSY-210, SPH-106 or 107).
3. Students may be awarded up to 10 additional points as determined by college policy and procedures.

The applicant's actual score on ACT test will be the points awarded. Applicants must go online to schedule ACT testing and pay appropriate fee.

The Practical Nursing Admissions/Selection Committee will review and calculate points for students meeting minimum admissions standards after receiving GPA calculations from the Director of Admissions and Records.

This process may take 4-6 weeks after each deadline before applicants receive notification of acceptance. Calls to the department will slow the process.

Transfer Policy

The transfer policy applies only to students desiring to transfer between Alabama Community College System institutions. It does not apply to students wishing to transfer from other institutions. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the nursing program director.

Awards Available

Certificate
Practical Nursing

Program Contact

Dr. Marilyn Whiting
Director of Nursing/Instructor
334-420-4497
Location: Trenholm Campus - Bldg. B

As part of ongoing planning and evaluation, the College regularly evaluates student learning outcomes for each program.

Certificate Practical Nursing

General Education Requirements (9 hours)

Area I - Written Composition (3 hours)

ENG-101*	English Composition I	3
ENG-102	English Composition II	3
ENG-130	Technical Report Writing	3

Area II - Humanities & Fine Arts (3 hours)

(Humanities and Arts disciplines include but are not limited to: Area/Ethnic Studies, Art and Art History, Foreign Languages, Music and Music History, Philosophy, Ethics, Religious Studies, Theater and Dance.)

Note: If SPH-106, SPH-107, SPA-101 or SPA-102 has been taken an additional 3 semester hours in Humanities and Fine Arts must be taken to satisfy requirements in Area II.

Arts:

ART-100	Art Appreciation	3
MUS-101	Music Appreciation	3

Humanities:

PHL-106	Intro to Philosophy	3
PHL-200	Ethics in the Workplace	3
PHL-206	Ethics & Society	3
PHL-210	Ethics and the Health Sciences	3
REL-100	History of World Religions	3
REL-151	Survey of Old Testament	3
REL-152	Survey of New Testament	3
SPA-101	Intro Spanish I	3
SPA-102	Intro Spanish II	3
SPH-106*	Fundamentals of Oral Comm	3
SPH-107	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

Literature:

ENG-251	American Literature I	3
ENG-252	American Literature II	3
ENG-261	English Literature I	3
ENG-262	English Literature II	3
ENG-271	World Literature I	3
ENG-272	World Literature II	3

Area III - Natural Science & Mathematics (3 hours)

(In addition to Mathematics, disciplines in the Natural Sciences include: Astronomy, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geology, Physical Geography, Earth Science, Physics, and Physical Science.)

Note: 3 semester hours in MTH must be completed. Additional hours can be taken in the Natural Science area.

Mathematics:

MTH-100*	Intermediate Algebra	3
MTH-103	Intro to Technical Mathematics	3
MTH-104	Plane Trigonometry	3
MTH-110	Finite Mathematics	3
MTH-112	Precalculus Algebra	3
MTH-116	Mathematical Applications	3

Natural Sciences:

BIO-101	Introduction to Biology I	4
BIO-102	Introduction to Biology II	4
BIO-103	Principles of Biology I	4
BIO-104	Principles of Biology II	4
BIO-201*	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIO-202*	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4

PHS-111	Physical Science I	4
PHS-112	Physical Science II	4
PHY-120	Introduction to Physics	4

Area IV - History, Social & Behavioral Sciences (0 hours):

(Social and Behavioral Sciences include, but are not limited to: Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.)

History:

HIS-101	Western Civilization I	3
HIS-102	Western Civilization II	3
HIS-121	World History I	3
HIS-122	World History II	3
HIS-201	United States History I	3
HIS-202	United States History II	3

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

PSY-200	General Psychology	3
PSY-210*	Human Growth and Development	3
SOC-200	Introduction to Sociology	3
POL-200	Introduction to Political Science	3
POL-211	American National Government	3

Area V: Pre-Professional/College Requirements:

(Courses appropriate to the degree requirements and major of the individual student and electives.)

College Requirements:

ORI-101	Orientation to College	1
NUR-112	Fundamental Concepts of Nursing	7
NUR-113	Nursing Concepts I	8
NUR-114	Nursing Concepts II	8
NUR-115	Evidence Based Clinical Reasoning	2

Area V Credit Hours: 26

Total Credit Hours: 46

* These courses are required for this program.

Note: Students applying for Practical Nursing are exempt from BIO-103 - Principles of Biology and PSY-200 - General Psychology.

Note: Students without prior college credit who enter the program may opt to take a reduced load; however, Pell Grant will be affected. Please speak to a Financial Aid Counselor. Students may choose to take ENG-101, MTH-100, PSY-210, SPH-106 or 107 and ORI-101. (as applicable).

Course Descriptions Practical Nursing

Course #	Course Title	Credit Hours
NUR-112	FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS OF NURSING COREQUISITE: MTH-100, BIO-201, ORI-101 PREREQUISITE: ADMISSION TO NURSING PROGRAM This course teaches foundational knowledge of nursing concepts and clinical decision making to provide evidence-based nursing care. Content includes but is not limited to: healthcare delivery systems, professionalism, health promotion, psychosocial well-being, functional ability, gas exchange, safety, pharmacology, and coordinator/manager of care.	7
NUR-113	NURSING CONCEPTS 1 COREQUISITES: ENG-101, BIO-202, PSY-210 PREREQUISITES: NUR-112, MTH-100, BIO-201, ORI-101 This course teaches foundational knowledge of nursing concepts and clinical decision making to provide evidence-based nursing care. Content includes but not limited to: coordinator/manager of care, perfusion, oxygenation, infection, inflammation, tissue, nutrition, elimination, mobility/immobility, cellular regulation, acid/base balance, and fluid/electrolyte balance	8
NUR-114	NURSING CONCEPTS II COREQUISITES: NUR-115, SPH-106 or 107 PREREQUISITES: NUR-112, NUR-113, ENG-101, BIO-201, BIO-202, PSY-210, ORI-101 This course teaches foundational knowledge of nursing concepts and clinical decision making to provide evidence-based nursing care. Content includes but is not limited to: coordinator/manager of care, sexuality, reproduction and childbearing, infection, inflammation, sensory perception, perfusion, cellular regulation, mood disorders and affect, renal fluid/electrolyte balance, and medical emergencies.	8
NUR-115	EVIDENCE BASED CLINICAL REASONING COREQUISITES: NUR-114, SPH-106 or 107 PREREQUISITES: NUR-112, NUR-113, ENG-101, BIO-201, BIO-202, PSY-210, ORI-101 This course provides students with opportunities to collaborate with various members of the health care team in a family and community context. Students utilize clinical reasoning to assimilate concepts within the individual, health, and nursing domains.	2