

Certificate: Practical Nursing 190-11

AREA: Practical Nursing
Certificate

LENGTH: Three semesters (one-year) program.

PURPOSE:

The Practical Nursing curriculum is designed to prepare beginning practitioners with the knowledge and skill to care for patients of all age groups and to qualify as contributing members of the health care team. Students who successfully complete the curriculum are awarded a certification in practical nursing and are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) leading to a license as a practical nurse.

Practical Nursing is an academically rigorous program. The Practical Nursing Program is open to men and women who provide evidence of interest, motivation, and aptitude in the area of health care. Students shall be selected on the basis of established criteria and without regard to age, race, creed, sex, or national origin. Students with disabilities who meet the admission requirements, including a medical history and physical examination signed by a physician stating that the student is able to perform as a student nurse in a clinical setting are eligible for admission.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Requirements for admission into the PN Program are specific and admission is selective and competitive.

1. Application to Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC) and nursing program
2. LFCC placement tests (if required) and completion of any developmental work that may be identified by the placement tests. Applicant must show competency in MTE 1-6 and readiness for ENG 111 to satisfy requirements without taking remediation.
3. Graduation from high school or satisfactory completion of the certificate of general education development (GED or equivalent); official copy required.
4. One (1) unit of high school biology or college equivalent (BIO 101).
5. Meet certain computer competencies prior to entering the nursing program. Applicants are required to review and sign the, "Essential Computer Competency Checklist." Students without the required skill set are encouraged to enroll in ITE 115
6. A GPA of 2.5 or higher based on the twelve (12) most recent college credits completed by the end of fall semester prior to submitting a nursing application.

7. Completion of required admission assessment exam (HESI exam) at or above the 45th percentile.
 - HESI entrance exam will be available in the at three LFCC locations. Testing is by appointment only, usually beginning in January. January and February will be for initial testing only with retakes in March. Please go to www.lfcc.edu to schedule an appointment at the Middletown, Fauquier campus or Luray-Page County Center.
 - **Nursing entrance exams are good for 2 application cycles only. NOTE: Needed entrance exam scores (at or above 45%) change on a yearly basis.**
8. If current CNA – evidence of a current unrestricted CNA license.
9. Submit official transcripts from other institutions to LFCC Admissions and Records for evaluation for transfer credit. Another official transcript from the other institutions must be submitted with the Nursing Application.
10. Admission requirements that must be completed by spring application include: remedial work for Math or English, high school biology or the college equivalent.

Prospective nursing students are encouraged to watch the nursing information session video at lfcc.edu/nursing.

Upon acceptance to the PN program the student must:

- Submit a completed physical history and examination, including immunizations.
- Provide proof of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) by the American Heart Association/Healthcare Provider Course.
- Complete a criminal background check and drug screening conducted by the college-designated contractor. The costs of the background check and drug screen are the responsibility of the student. Failure to pass either will prevent student from clinical requirements, which will prevent student from being accepted into PNE course.
- Comply with all rules and guidelines of the LFCC Nursing Student Handbook and the LFCC Student Handbook.
- Sign an agreement which releases all clinical agencies and their employees, Lord Fairfax Community College, The Virginia Community College System and the Commonwealth of Virginia from any liability for any injury or death to the student or damage to his/her property arising out of agreement of use of facilities associated with the nursing program

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- Nursing students enrolled in nursing courses are required to purchase malpractice insurance. Students may purchase malpractice insurance from independent providers.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of a minimum of 49 credits with a C average or better in all general education and nursing courses, to include the Preceptorship clinical experience in PNE 164.
2. Demonstrate satisfactory attendance and performance in the nursing clinical areas. Virginia Board of Nursing requires at least 400 hours of clinical experience for licensure with a satisfactory grade C or better.
3. Transportation to and from classes and to agencies used for clinical experiences
4. Student is responsible for all fees charged in purchasing required testing, liability insurance, uniforms, books, criminal background search and drug screen.
5. Strict adherence to attendance and performance policies for classroom and clinical courses as outlined in the Nursing Student Handbook and College Catalog.

Program of Study

The Practical Nursing program is approved by the VCCS and the Virginia Board of Nursing.

Course#	Title	Credits
First Semester (Fall)		
BIO 145	Human Anatomy and Physiology for the Health Sciences ²	4
ENG 111	College Composition I ²	3
PNE 161	Nursing in Health Changes I ¹	6
PNE 174	Applied Pharmacology for Nurses ¹	2
PSY 230	Developmental Psychology ²	3
SDV 101/100	Orientation to Health Professions	1
Total		19
¹ Formal Acceptance into the Practical Nursing Program is required before registering for PNE classes ² ENG 111, BIO 145 or BIO 141 & BIO 142 (BIO 141 & BIO 142 are strongly encouraged for nursing students and are required for continuing nursing education) and PSY 230 must be completed with a "C" or better before enrolling in the Spring Semester PNE Courses		
Second Semester (Spring)		
HLT 130	Nutrition and Diet Therapy	2
PNE 136	Care of Maternal Newborn and Pediatric Patients	4
PNE 162	Nursing in Health Changes II ³	11
Total		17
³ PNE 162 is a Prerequisite for PNE 158, 164, & 175		
Third Semester (Summer)		
PNE 158	Mental Health/Psychiatric Nursing	2
PNE 164	Nursing in Health Changes IV	10
PNE 175	Introduction to Supervision & Management for Practical Nurses	1
Total		13
Program Total		49

The following courses may be completed prior to acceptance in to the Practical Nursing Program: SDV 101/100, ENG 111, BIO 145 or BIO 141 & BIO 142 (BIO 141 & BIO 142 are strongly encouraged for nursing students and are required for continuing nursing education), PSY 230, HLT 130. All Science courses must be completed within the last 8 years of applying to the program.