Fall 2015
Application Deadline is February 16, 2015
Nursing
Associate of Applied Science Degree

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION
Disclaimer

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PVCC reserves the right to make changes to any provision or requirement within these sources, as well as changes to any curriculum or program, whether during a student’s enrollment or otherwise.

Hard copies of the Admission Requirements and Program Information booklets may be obtained in the Admissions and Advising Center and in the lower-level of the Kluge Moses Building.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Piedmont Virginia Community College is an equal opportunity institution providing educational and employment opportunities, programs, services, and activities. PVCC does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, family medical history or genetic information, military service, national origin, parental status, political affiliation, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), sexual orientation, or any other non-merit base factor. The College also prohibits sexual harassment including sexual violence or misconduct. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding any of these policies: Human Resources Manager, 501 College Dr., Main Building, Room M810, Charlottesville, VA 22902; 434.961.6567.
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Introduction

The PVCC nursing program leads to an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing. The program prepares graduates to perform bedside nursing care primarily in an acute care or long-term care setting.

If you are interested primarily in taking care of patients at the bedside or if you wish to obtain an associate degree in nursing as a first step to pursuing a bachelor’s or higher degree, then the PVCC nursing program is an excellent choice.

PVCC also offers a program to prepare students to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). Graduates of this program are prepared to function as care providers in extended-care facilities and primary-care settings such as doctor’s offices and clinics. (Please see the information in the PRACTICAL NURSE PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION booklet.)

Applicants who already have a bachelor’s degree in another discipline may be interested in the Second Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offered through PVCC and Old Dominion University (ODU). Students may enroll in courses at both colleges and complete the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and BSN in two academic years. (Please see the SECOND DEGREE BSN PROGRAM brochure available from ODU).
Nursing Program Mission Statement

The mission of Piedmont Virginia Community College is to offer accessible, affordable, high quality educational programs that promote student success and community vitality.

In support of the college mission, the mission of the PVCC nursing program is to provide high quality nursing education to a diverse student population in preparation for entry-level, professional nursing practice in a variety of settings. This mission is accomplished through innovative programs that reflect the current needs and trends of healthcare and our community. Our programs are developed and implemented by faculty who are committed to education of the highest standards and who promote clinical practice, scholarly activity, and life-long learning to advance the profession of nursing.

Nursing Program Philosophy Statement

The nursing program is organized around the concept of nursing as defined by the International Council of Nurses (2010):

“Nursing encompasses autonomous and collaborative care of individuals of all ages, families, groups and communities, sick or well, and in all settings. Nursing includes the promotion of health, prevention of illness, and the care of ill, disabled and dying people. Advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, research, participation in shaping health policy and in patient and health systems management, and education are also key nursing roles.”

The conceptual framework guiding the nursing program philosophy and curriculum is based on the National League for Nursing Education Competencies Model. This model integrates several components which are essential in a comprehensive, successful nursing program. At the foundation are the Core Values: caring, diversity, ethics, excellence, holism, integrity, and patient-centeredness (National League for Nursing, 2010).

Keeping the core values in mind, the person with health care needs and the student with learning needs comprise the central focus for curriculum development in the PVCC nursing program. The foundational core values inform the integrating concepts within the NLN model that provide further structure for the development of nursing knowledge and competencies: 1) context and environment, 2) knowledge and science, 3) personal/ professional development, 4) quality and safety 5) relationship-centered care, and 6) teamwork (National League for Nursing, 2010). The nursing process is also used as a basis for introducing critical thinking and nursing practice. Additional concepts have been derived from the Quality and Safety Competencies (2007) from the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) and have been incorporated into the curriculum.
**Nursing Education**

Associate-degree level nursing education is a process that facilitates attainment of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for quality, entry-level nursing care and is based on recognized principles of adult and collaborative learning. Basic assumptions include self-direction, utilization of life experience, and activity- and problem-centered learning. The curriculum incorporates evidence-based nursing theory and practice, ethical principles, general education, and the sciences in an environment conducive to learning. The learning process is based on the concepts of critical thinking and making connections and occurs from simple to complex.

It is the belief of the nursing faculty that students learn and develop their highest potential in a supportive but challenging environment with clear expectations. The teaching-learning process is a shared responsibility between faculty and students with faculty serving as guides and facilitators of learning. The successful teaching-learning process requires an environment that promotes learning, considers the needs of the individual, and provides opportunities for student participation and educational goal attainment. The nursing student is responsible for actively participating in learning experiences and developing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to provide quality entry-level nursing care.

This program of learning prepares the graduate of our associate degree program for the roles of provider of care, manager of care, and member of the profession of nursing within a variety of structured health care settings.

**Program Competencies**

The graduates of PVCC associate degree nursing program are prepared to meet the educational competencies as defined by the National League for Nursing (NLN), the Virginia Nurse Practice Act, and the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Nurses. The Associate Degree-prepared nurse’s role is characterized by evidence-based clinical practice with the provision of care for individuals in structured settings.

The curriculum incorporates the NLN educational competencies as put forth in the NLN competencies for graduates of associate degree and diploma programs (NLN, 2010). The core competencies, as listed and defined below, are integrated into the three roles of nursing practice for the associate-degree nurse: provider of care, manager of care, and member within the discipline of nursing.

**Human Flourishing**  
Advocate for patients and families in ways that promote their self-determination, integrity, and ongoing growth as human beings.

**Nursing Judgment**  
Make judgments in practice, substantiated with evidence, that integrate nursing science in the provision of safe, quality care and that promote the health of patients within a family and community context.
Professional Identity
Implement one’s role as a nurse in ways that reflect integrity, responsibility, ethical practices, and an evolving identity as a nurse committed to evidence-based practice, caring, advocacy, and safe, quality care for diverse patients within a family and community context.

Spirit of Inquiry
Examine the evidence that underlies clinical nursing practice to challenge the status quo, question underlying assumptions, and offer new insights to improve the quality of care for patients, families, and communities.

Program Student Learning Outcomes
Each nursing course has student learning outcomes identified in the course syllabus which are the focus of classroom discussion, academic testing and clinical expectations and support the attainment of the program-level outcomes.

The PVCC nursing program prepares graduates to perform the role of the AD nurse in structured settings, providing direct care to clients with common health problems which have predictable outcomes. The graduate functions in the following ways:

As Care Provider by:

1. Promoting optimal health for clients at various points on the wellness-illness continuum by:
   a. applying principles from the physical, biological, and social sciences when planning and delivering nursing care;
   b. promoting client dignity;
   c. conceptualizing illness as an opportunity for client growth;
   d. facilitating the client’s assumption of primary responsibility for wellness;
   e. demonstrating caring behavior towards the client, family, peers and other members of the healthcare team;
   f. providing competent and safe entry-level nursing care in diverse settings.

2. Using the nursing process to formulate and maintain individual nursing care plans according to standards of nursing practice by:
   a. collecting, assessing and analyzing clients’ health status data to include: emotional, cultural, religious, spiritual, physical and psychological aspects;
   b. formulating and prioritizing “actual” and “at risk for” client problems, using nursing diagnoses;
   c. planning nursing actions and adapting care based on clients’ values, customs, culture;
   d. preparing client and family for interventions, treatment modalities and self-care;
   e. implementing nursing actions in a safe manner;
f. evaluating the effects of actions in collaboration with client, family and other healthcare team members;
g. revising nursing care accordingly;
h. reporting and documenting assessments, interventions and progress toward client outcomes;
i. utilizing information technology to support and communicate the planning and provision of client care;
j. assisting the client and family to cope with and adapt to stressful events and changes in health status;
k. supporting client and family when making healthcare and end-of-life decisions;
l. collaborating with client, family and other healthcare team members to manage clients’ care to achieve positive client outcomes based on differing needs, values and motivations.

3. Effectively communicating with clients, colleagues, and others by:
a. utilizing appropriate communication modes and channels within clinical and community health care settings;
b. advocating for clients’ rights.
c. utilizing therapeutic communication techniques in developing and maintaining nurse-client relationships;
d. delineating and maintaining appropriate professional boundaries in the nurse-client relationship;
e. utilizing communication theory and techniques to assess the verbal and nonverbal communication of clients;
f. utilizing communication theory and techniques to gather client data and to plan, implement, and evaluate client care;
g. evaluating the effectiveness of one’s communications with client’s colleagues, and others; and,
h. recognizing that people communicate their needs in different ways.

4. Teaching clients and families who need information or support to maintain health by:
a. identifying learning needs in collaboration with the client, family and other healthcare team members;
b. developing an individualized teaching plan based on assessed needs
c. implementing the teaching plan;
d. evaluating the effectiveness of achieving the desired outcomes of the teaching plan in collaboration with the client and family and other healthcare team members;
e. modifying the teaching plan based on evaluation of progress toward meeting identified learning outcomes.
As Manager of Client Care by:

5. Managing nursing care for clients with common, well-defined health problems in structured settings by:
   a. assessing and setting nursing care priorities;
   b. making clinical judgments and management decisions to ensure competent and safe care;
   c. identifying the role of the nurse and other health care team members in the clinical setting;
   d. providing assistive personnel with relevant instruction to support achievement of client outcomes;
   e. delegating aspects of client care to qualified assistive personnel;
   f. supervising and evaluating the activities of assistive personnel;
   g. coordinating the implementation of an individualized plan of care for clients and families;
   h. planning, coordinating, and evaluating nursing care for a group of clients in collaboration with the client, family, health care team members and in accordance with agency policies;
   i. facilitating the continuity of care within and across healthcare settings;
   j. assisting clients and families in accessing available resources and services;
   k. adapting the provision of client care to changing healthcare setting and management systems;
   l. communicating relevant, accurate and complete information in a concise and clear manner;
   m. participating in problem identification and data collection for research, quality control or improvement processes to meet client outcomes;
   n. implementing nursing strategies to provide cost efficient care.

As a Member of the Profession by:

6. Functioning as a member within the profession of nursing by:
   a. being accountable for the nursing care provided by self and/or delegated to others.
   b. practicing within the ethical, legal and regulatory framework of practice roles;
   c. serving as a positive role model within healthcare settings and the community at large;
   d. practicing within the parameters of individual knowledge and experience;
   e. assuming responsibility for self-development and continuing education;
   f. maintaining organizational and client confidentiality;
   g. observing standards of practice established by the nursing profession; and,
   h. recognizing the impact of economic, political, social and demographic forces as well as professional organizations, community groups, and legislation on the delivery of health care;
i. working cooperatively with others to achieve client and organizational outcomes.

j. successfully completing NCLEX-RN exam.

References


Essential Functions and Standards for Successful Performance

To successfully complete the classroom and clinical components of the program, the nursing student must, either independently or with reasonable accommodation, be able to perform all of the following essential standards and functions of a nurse. Students who are unable to meet these standards are not eligible for admission to the program.

1. **Speech**: Establish interpersonal rapport and communicate verbally and in writing with clients, physicians, peers, family members and the health-care team from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.

2. **Hearing and Comprehension**: Auditory acuity sufficient to respond to verbal instruction, perceive and interpret various equipment signals, use the telephone, understand and respond appropriately to verbal directions and hear faint body sounds.

3. **Vision**: Visual acuity sufficient to identify and distinguish colors, read handwritten orders and any other handwritten or printed data such as medication records or scales, chart data and provide for the safety of clients' condition by clearly viewing monitors and other equipment in order to correctly interpret data.

4. **Mobility**: Stand and/or walk eight hours daily in the clinical setting. Bend, squat or kneel. Assist in lifting or moving clients of all age groups and weights. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (move around client to manually compress chest and ventilate). Work with arms fully extended overhead. Lift 50 pounds independently and 125 pounds with assistance.

5. **Manual Dexterity**: Demonstrate eye/hand coordination sufficient to manipulate equipment (syringes, infusion pumps, life support systems).

6. **Fine Motor Ability**: Ability to use hands for grasping, pushing, pulling and fine manipulation. Have tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and manipulation of equipment.

7. **Mentation**: Ability to remain focused on multiple details and tasks for at least an eight-hour period of time. Assimilate and apply knowledge acquired through lectures, discussions and readings.

8. **Smell**: Olfactory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.

9. **Writing**: Ability to organize thoughts and present them clearly and logically in writing.

10. **Reading**: Ability to read and understand written directions, instructions and comments in both classroom and clinical settings.
Health Status

All individuals admitted to the Nursing Program will be required to submit documentation of a complete health assessment by his/her health-care provider. This will include documentation that specific immunizations and tests have been completed. A list of these immunizations may be obtained from the Health and Life Sciences Division Office in the Kluge-Moses Science Building, Room K224A.

Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening

All PVCC Nursing students must complete the Authorization Form for Background Check and Drug Screening. No other processes may be substituted for this requirement. Forms and information will be mailed to students upon acceptance into the Nursing Program.

This testing is completed through an outside vendor and all fees will be paid directly to this vendor. The testing will compare findings against the following criteria:

- Adult or child sexual offenses
- Adult, child or elder abuse or neglect
- Assault or battery
- Fraud
- Narcotics or other drugs, including prescription drugs
- Felonies of any type

The vendor will report only whether a student clears or does not clear the criteria listed above. All reports will be returned to the Dean of Health and Life Sciences. In the event that a student is not cleared, the student must make any clarifications directly with the vendor. The student may elect to involve the Dean in any clarification procedures. If no suitable arrangement can be made, the student shall be administratively withdrawn from the Nursing Program.
Program Behavior Expectations

The PVCC Nursing Program reserves the right to refuse admission to applicants if such refusal is considered to be in the best interest of the program. The Nursing Program will not accept any student who has been dismissed from another college or program due to misconduct or threatening behavior or who has been determined to be a potential threat. Students may be denied admission to the program if there is sufficient reason to believe that they present a danger to themselves, other members of the college community or clients in the clinical setting.

Study Options

Applicants may request consideration for admission to the day or the evening/weekend study option (check: “day,” “evening/weekend” or “either” on the application). Students admitted into either the day or evening/weekend program of study are expected to remain in that program of study. Requests to change study options must be made in writing to the Director of Nursing Programs prior to the start of each semester.

NOTE FOR EVENING/WEEKEND STUDY OPTION: For courses that require two clinical days per week, you may be assigned to clinicals that occur over one evening from 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. and Saturdays 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. OR on Saturdays and Sundays 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. or 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. Please plan and make your decision accordingly.

NOTE FOR DAY STUDY OPTION: Due to clinical site availability, it is possible that some day students will be required to attend a weekday evening clinical during select semesters, generally during the second year. Students will be informed of this requirement as soon as possible to allow for schedule planning.
Nursing Program Prerequisites

Only applicants who have completed all program prerequisites prior to February 16, 2015 will be eligible for admission. Staff will not be available to assist with submission of application materials after 5 pm on February 16. We strongly recommend you complete the process before February 16.

The following items must be satisfactorily completed in order to be considered for admission to the PVCC nursing program. This is a competitive admissions process with limited enrollment and not all applicants will be granted admission. Completion of these prerequisites and any of the general education courses in the curriculum does not guarantee admission.

1. Demonstrated competency in reading and writing (eligible to enroll in ENG 111)
   a. Successful completion of developmental English courses (ENG 1, 3, 4, 5 or ENF 1, 2, 3) OR
   b. COMPASS placement score showing proficiency in this content by placement into ENG 111 OR (within last 8 years)
   c. Virginia Placement* score showing proficiency in this content by placement into ENG 111 (within last 2 years) OR
   d. Completion of an acceptable college-level composition course with a grade of “C” or better OR
   e. SAT verbal and writing score of 500 or PSAT of 52 (within last 2 years)
   f. ACT score of 18 (within last 2 years)

2. Demonstrated competency in Algebra
   a. Successful completion of developmental math courses (MTH 2, BSK 6, 8, and 9 OR MTE 1-5) (within last 8 years) OR
   b. COMPASS Algebra score of at least 40 (within last 8 years) OR
   c. Virginia Placement* math score showing proficiency in MTE 1-5 (within last 2 years) OR

*Test scores are valid for two (2) years after the date of the test. Students who take the placement test and who do not enroll in developmental math are allowed to take one (1) retest within twelve (12) months. Students who attempt developmental mathematics will be ineligible for a retest.
d. Completion of an acceptable college-level Algebra course (within last 8 years) with a grade of "C" or better (Technical math or statistics courses will not satisfy requirement. Official transcript required.) OR

e. SAT quantitative score of 520 or PSAT of 52 (within last 2 years) OR

f. ACT score of 22 (within the last 2 years)

3. Demonstrated competency in science
   
a. Completion of 1 unit high school biology AND 1 unit high school chemistry OR 1 semester general college biology AND 1 semester general college chemistry OR combination of high school and college general biology and general chemistry with a grade of "C" or better OR

b. Completion of NAS 2 – Foundations of Life Science with a grade of “P” OR

c. Completion of NAS 2 challenge exam with a 70% or better

   (Completion of above courses must be verified by an official transcript. BIO 141 and BIO 142 will not meet the above prerequisite.)

4. Curricular GPA of 2.8 or above

   The curricular GPA is the grade point average of all the general education courses (non-NUR courses) listed on the AAS of Nursing curriculum sheet that the student has completed by the application deadline. This would include ENG 111/112, BIO 141/142, BIO 150, SDV 100/101/108, SOC 200, PSY 230, ITE 119 and humanities elective.

5. Science GPA of 2.0 or above

   The science GPA is the grade point average in the following courses that the student has completed by the application deadline: BIO 141, BIO 142, and BIO 150.

6. TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) Exam

   a. Completion of the TEAS exam is a prerequisite for those students who do not have a previous college degree (associate, bachelor’s, or higher).

   b. A minimum score of 45% is required.

   c. Instructions for completion of the TEAS exam:

      • TEAS exams must be scheduled through PVCC’s Testing Center. Call 434.961.5320 to schedule an appointment.
      • A picture form of identification must be presented at the time of the exam.
- The exam cost is $45 and a credit card is required for online payment. *Please bring a credit card as the Testing Center cannot accept cash or check payments for this exam.*
- Practice exams and study information are available through the ATI Web site below.
- Please see the TEAS brochure available in Health and Life Sciences Division Office or at PVCC’s Testing Center, or contact ATI directly at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) or 1.800.667.7531 (toll free).
- The TEAS may be taken up to two times per admission cycle.
- TEAS scores are valid for up to two years. For your TEAS score to be valid, the results must be dated between February 16, 2013 and February 16, 2015.

7. Nursing Interest Essay

   a. Written essay of 300 words to evaluate written communication skills.
   b. Must be done in PVCC’s Testing Center. Call 434.961.5320 to schedule an appointment.
   c. Can only be done once and cannot be prepared ahead of the appointment.
   d. Essays are not saved from year to year. Students not admitted for their desired year who apply for admission in subsequent years will have to redo the essay for each admission cycle.

8. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT)

   a. Completion of the TOEFL iBT with a standard score of 84 or above and a minimum speaking score of 26 is required for ALL nonnative English speakers. Completion of ENG 111 does not satisfy this requirement.

   b. These scores are based on recommendations from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for the level of English proficiency required to perform entry-level nursing safely and effectively.

   c. Any nonnative English speakers who do not take the TOEFL iBT and are determined to be unable to understand and speak English at the required proficiency will be dismissed from the Nursing Program.

   d. TOEFL iBT scores are valid for up to two years.
9. **ALL** prerequisites must be completed and documentation received as described below no later than the application deadline of 5 pm, February 16, 2015. Late documentation will not be considered.

a. **Submitted to the PVCC Admissions and Advising Office:**

   Official non-VCCS transcripts.
   
   You must also submit a Transcript Evaluation Form ([http://www.pvcc.edu/files/media/form_transcript_evaluation_request.pdf](http://www.pvcc.edu/files/media/form_transcript_evaluation_request.pdf)) for any course for which you want credit as part of the Nursing curriculum that was taken at a college other than PVCC (including other VCCS colleges).

b. **Submitted to the Health and Life Sciences Division Office:**

   Official or unofficial non-VCCS transcripts, TOEFL iBT scores (if required), and high school transcript and/or SAT/ACT scores (if used to document prerequisites), along with completed checklist from last page of Admissions Requirements and Program Information booklet.

   **Students should not request copies of transcripts from the Registrar’s Office.**
## Curriculum for Nursing Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG 111</td>
<td>College Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SAT or placement score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 112</td>
<td>College Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENG 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 141</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I¹</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>College level BIO or CHM w/grade of C or better or pass NAS 2 within last 5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO 142</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II¹</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>BIO 141</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDV 100/101/108</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ITE 119</td>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 230</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Placement into ENF 2 or above</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO 150</td>
<td>Introduction to Microbiology¹</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>College level BIO w/grade of C or better within 5 years and MTE 1-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Placement into ENF 2 or above</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humanities Elective²</td>
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### Nursing Courses

#### 1st Year (Fall)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Nursing and Health</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Admission to nursing program</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 108</td>
<td>Nursing Principles and Concepts I</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Admission to nursing program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 226</td>
<td>Health Assessment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Admission to nursing program</td>
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#### 1st Year (Spring)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 112</td>
<td>Nursing II</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Successful completion of first-semester nursing courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 230</td>
<td>Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Successful completion of first-semester nursing courses</td>
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#### 2nd Year (Fall)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 202</td>
<td>Medical-Surgical Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Successful completion of all first-year nursing courses and BIO 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 201</td>
<td>Psychiatric Nursing (fulfills the WIC requirement)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Successful completion of all first-year Nursing courses and ENG 111/112, ITE 119</td>
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#### 2nd Year (Spring)

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 254</td>
<td>Nursing Dimensions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Successful completion of all third-semester nursing courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 245</td>
<td>Maternity/Newborn Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Successful completion of all third-semester nursing courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 246</td>
<td>Parent/Child Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Successful completion of all third-semester nursing courses and PSY 230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Credits 67

¹BIO 141, BIO 142 and BIO 150 – A grade of "C" or higher is required. These courses must be repeated if they were taken more than eight years prior to application for admission to program.

²Lists of courses that fulfill the requirement for Humanities Elective can be found on the second page of the curriculum sheet Nursing Program Curriculum. Introductory (101 or 102 level) foreign language courses will not meet the Humanities Elective requirement for this program.

³Students are expected to take NUR 100 in summer prior to taking NUR 108 in the fall.

⁴NUR 201 has a prerequisite of ENG 112. The course (NUR 201) fulfills the Writing Intensive Course (WIC) requirement for this degree program. Students who are awarded transfer academic credit for this course at another institution may fulfill the Writing Intensive Course (WIC) requirement for this degree program by completing another Writing Intensive Course (WIC).
Factors Considered for Admission Decisions

Admission to the Nursing Program is competitive and will be based on a ranking system that includes student performance on all of the Nursing Program prerequisites. Each student’s past and potential educational achievement is measured against all other students applying. Applicants must submit all official documentation and demonstrate minimum requirements for consideration by the posted deadline to be considered for acceptance. Coursework in progress at time of deadline will not be considered during the application process. Students meeting all of the minimum requirements for admission are not guaranteed acceptance. Priority for admission is given to students who are residents of the PVCC service region (Albemarle, Buckingham, Charlottesville, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson).

Due to the large number of applicants, Nursing Program personnel are not able to schedule individual appointments to review application documents. In an effort to provide students with the most current and comprehensive data, information sessions are held throughout the fall and early spring semesters. During these sessions, the Director of Nursing Programs will review the application process, prerequisites and the competitive ranking criteria. All applicants are highly encouraged to attend one of these sessions. This information will also be available as an online presentation. In addition, there are advisors available in PVCC’s Admissions and Advising Center in the Main Building on weekdays.
Evaluation Process

1. Nursing applicants complete online Nursing Program application and complete all required prerequisites prior to February 16 deadline. Applications or documentation received after the deadline will not be considered. THIS PROGRAM APPLICATION IS IN ADDITION TO THE PVCC COLLEGE APPLICATION.

2. The Director of Nursing Programs conducts a preliminary screening of all applicants to determine those who have met the minimum prerequisites and thus are eligible for admission.

3. Applicants are ranked according to the following criteria in order of importance:
   a. The number of general education courses completed by the application deadline
   b. The GPA earned in those completed courses
   c. The number of science courses completed by the application deadline (BIO 141, BIO 142, BIO 150). These courses must be completed within the last eight years.
   d. The GPA earned in those completed science courses
   e. The TEAS scores
   f. The quality of the nursing essay
      The 300-word nursing admission essay is intended to evaluate each applicant’s written communication skills. The essay is prompted by a choice of questions and is completed in word-processing format in the PVCC Testing Center by appointment. It is not a test of knowledge and cannot be prepared ahead of the scheduled appointment.

4. Applicants will be accepted, placed on the waiting list, or not accepted. Notification of status will be emailed to students’ VCCS email address on April 15, 2015. Letters to all applicants will be mailed the week of April 15, 2015.

   a. A waiting list of qualified applicants will be maintained in the event that selected students are not able to accept their place in the program. The waiting list will only be maintained until the first week of August 2015 and is not continued from year to year. Students not admitted for their desired year will have to reapply for admission in subsequent years.

   b. Students seeking readmission into the program or advanced placement transfers will be considered on a space-available basis. Applicants for readmission must have submitted a letter requesting readmission by November 15 for spring readmission and April 15 for fall readmission. Students desiring readmission into NUR 108 must apply as new applicants.
1. WHAT COURSES SHOULD I TAKE IF I AM PREPARING FOR ADMISSION INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM?

Any developmental courses which are recommended as a result of assessment testing should be taken immediately.

An important factor considered in admissions decisions is the amount of general education coursework (and the grades earned in those courses), particularly in the sciences, completed by the applicant by the February 16, 2015 application deadline. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to take at least some of the general education courses (especially the science courses) required for nursing, both to lighten the student’s course load once admitted to the Nursing Program and also to strengthen the student’s qualifications for admission.

2. HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO COMPLETE THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM?

The Nursing Program curriculum, including general education courses, can be taken within a two-year period. However, this full-time course load is a very difficult and time-consuming one, especially if the student has work or other non-school obligations. For this reason, many students elect to take many or all of their general education courses before beginning the sequence of nursing courses. The number of general education courses, particularly in the sciences, which have been successfully completed is one of the factors used to make admission decisions.

3. AM I A REGISTERED NURSE WHEN I COMPLETE AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM?

NO. Once you have earned the Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing, you are eligible to take the State Board Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN). You must pass this examination in order to receive your registered nursing license.
4. WHAT ARE THE COSTS INVOLVED IN THE NURSING PROGRAM?

In addition to tuition and the cost of transportation to clinical sites and parking, students are responsible for the following items (estimated):

Books
(including Kaplan online learning system): $3,583
Supplies: $100
Health Screening: $100-$500 (depending on health care provider and immunizations required)
Background Check/Drug Screen: $112
NCLEX-RN Exam: $200
Virginia License Application: $130

5. WHERE ARE THE CLINICAL ASSIGNMENTS IN THE PROGRAM?

Martha Jefferson Hospital, University of Virginia Health System, Western State Hospital, Kluge Children’s Rehabilitation Center, Westminster-Canterbury of the Blue Ridge, The Colonnades, The Laurels, Our Lady of Peace, HealthSouth and Augusta Health are settings where students do clinical rotations. Other facilities may also be used. Please note that while we make every effort to consider driving distances in all clinical assignments, we cannot guarantee to accommodate any individual schedule or site request. Carpooling with fellow students is highly encouraged. STUDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO ATTEND CLINICAL SITES THAT MAY BE OUTSIDE OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE AREA.

6. IF I AM TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE, CAN I GET CREDIT FOR SOME OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES?

Yes. Once your transcripts are on file in PVCC’s Office of Admissions and Records, you MUST request that the Registrar complete a transcript evaluation and send you written confirmation of courses accepted for transfer to PVCC. The Transcript Evaluation Request form can be found online at http://www.pvcc.edu/files/media/form_transcript_evaluation_request.pdf.

7. IF I AM TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER NURSING PROGRAM, CAN I GET CREDIT FOR SOME OF THE NURSING COURSES?

Yes, you may be able to get credit for some nursing courses. Once your transcripts are on file in PVCC’s Office of Admissions and Records, make an appointment with the Director of Nursing Programs. Nursing courses with identical course numbers taken within the VCCS will automatically be transferred if the grade is a “C” or higher. The Director of Nursing Programs and nursing faculty will evaluate nursing coursework taken elsewhere. You will be required to provide course outlines, syllabi and skills checklists in order to determine what work may transfer. Please keep in mind that all nursing courses must be completed within a five-year time limit and that includes nursing courses taken outside PVCC.
Transfer students are admitted on a space-available basis, and priority will be given to those who transfer without a failure at another school. Please note that transfer students who failed at another Virginia community college nursing program will have only one admission to the PVCC Nursing Program with no offer of readmission. Transfer students who have not failed at another Virginia community college nursing program will be allowed the standard one readmission to our program.

8. IF I AM GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN JUNE, WHAT SHOULD I DO TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMISSION INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM?

All previously identified program prerequisites must be completed by February 16, 2015.

It is highly recommended that students coming immediately out of high school enroll and complete the majority of the general education requirements of this program before actual admission into Nursing.

9. IS THERE FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE TO NURSING STUDENTS?

Yes. There are a number of financial aid opportunities. For further information, please contact the Financial Aid Office (434.961.6545) at your earliest convenience. It is best to complete your financial aid application by March 31 for the following fall semester.
Recommendations from Current Nursing Students for Prospective Nursing Students

The Piedmont Virginia Community College Nursing Program requirements are rigorous, stressful and time consuming. In order to make your program more satisfying, we, who have learned through experience, urge you to consider the following recommendations:

- Be sure you are competent in basic math skills before entering the program. These skills are very important when giving medications.

- Complete the BIO 141-142 series and BIO 150, if possible, before beginning the Nursing Program. Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology and Nursing all have a heavy workload.

- Complete all your general education requirements, if possible, before beginning the Nursing Program. Nursing theory has much reading required.

- Try not to work more than a maximum of 16 hours/week at an outside job. Students who work more than this are often unable to pass the nursing courses.

- Be sure to keep the evening before clinical days open for clinical preparation. These will not be evenings when you should schedule yourself to work!

- Make good use of the Kaplan online resources and practice tests. They really help you prepare for the class exams and help to reinforce the class concepts.

- Make sure you have Internet access or can schedule sufficient time to use the computers at the College. Much of the course content in nursing is web-enhanced.
A Message from the PVCC Math Department Regarding Placement Tests

Dear Student,

Please keep in mind the following suggestions as you prepare to take your placement exam. Most students place appropriately. On occasion, however, students are not prepared and do not place into the proper level. This letter is written especially to help prevent placing below your true level.

- Take the exam very seriously. The exam determines your starting level in mathematics and, therefore, how many mathematics courses you will need to finish your program.

- Give yourself the time you need. The test is not timed! If you are pressed for time, come back early on a different day and take the test when time will not be a factor. Use the time to carefully and seriously answer the questions. A little time wisely spent on the placement exam can save a semester or more of work!

- Brush up on your mathematics before the test, but don’t try to cram and learn things beyond your knowledge. You can obtain practice problems from PVCC’s Testing Center. The Jessup Library at PVCC has math texts on reserve for your review. You may also visit the PVCC First Quadrant Math Center for personal assistance prior to taking the math placement test. The Testing Center is located in PVCC’s Main Building, room M607. The First Quadrant Math Center is located in M253.

- Many students will have to take both mathematics and English placement tests. Consider taking these placement tests on separate days to minimize the effect of test fatigue.

- Test scores are valid for two (2) years after the date of the test. Students who take the placement test and who do not enroll in developmental math are allowed to take one (1) retest within twelve (12) months. Students who attempt developmental mathematics will be ineligible for a retest.

- In summary, do yourself justice and place where you truly are in math by being serious and smart about your time.
# Nursing Program Admission Checklist

Attach this checklist to any supporting documents and deliver to Health and Life Sciences Division Office by 5 p.m., February 16, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLICANT NAME: ____________________________</th>
<th>ID# __________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## PREREQUISITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ways prerequisites can be met</th>
<th>How did you meet prerequisite?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion of science prerequisite requirement</td>
<td>(1) HS transcript, (2) college transcript, (3) completion of NAS 2 or (4) test-out of NAS 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of English prerequisite requirement</td>
<td>(1) Placement test, (2) college transcript, (3) SAT or ACT score</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of math prerequisite requirement</td>
<td>(1) Placement test, (2) college transcript, (3) SAT or ACT score</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Application Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>How Met?</th>
<th>Completed?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete PVCC Application</td>
<td>Online Application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete Nursing Program Application</td>
<td>Online Application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit official transcript(s) for non-VCCS colleges to PVCC Office of Admissions and Advising. Request transcript evaluation for transfer credit (for any college other than PVCC).</td>
<td>Have colleges send official transcripts to PVCC Office of Admissions and Advising. Complete request form <a href="http://www.pvcc.edu/files/media/form_transcript_evaluation_request.pdf">here</a> to have courses evaluated for transfer credit.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include official or unofficial transcript(s) for non-VCCS colleges and/or high school in packet for Health and Life Sciences Division Office. (High school transcript needed only if being used to document science prerequisite.)</td>
<td>Obtain official or unofficial transcripts from college(s) and/or high school.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If non-native English speaker, include copy of results of TOEFL iBT in packet for Health and Life Sciences Division Office. (TOEFL iBT scores are valid for up to two years.)</td>
<td>To find test site, go to TOEFL iBT web site at: <a href="http://www.ets.org/bin/getprogram.cgi?test=toefl">here</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit packet of supporting documents along with this completed checklist to Health and Life Sciences Division Office: - non-VCCS college transcripts (official or unofficial) - high school transcript (if used to document science prerequisite) - SAT or ACT scores (if used to document math or English prerequisites) - TOEFL iBT scores (if required)</td>
<td>Deliver complete packet to Health and Life Sciences Division Office by 5 pm on application deadline.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please list documents you are providing:

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________________________________