

Delgado Community College Practical Nursing Program

Information Bulletin

Sixteen (16) months is all that is needed to begin
a nursing career.

The Practical Nursing Program prepares the student for a career as a licensed practical nurse. Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) function as an important part of the health team, providing patient care under the supervision of a registered nurse or a licensed physician.

Practical Nurses take care of patients including: feeding, bathing, and maintaining patient charts. They administer medication and monitor equipment. They also assess and monitor the health and illness of patients.

Practical Nurses are predominantly employed by:

- Physician's Offices
- Home Health Care Agencies
- Nursing Homes
- Hospitals
- Clinics

Clinical experience makes up over 50% of the total program hours. Students learn patient observation skills, treatments, and medications. Clinical sites are at a variety of locations throughout the greater New Orleans and surrounding areas.

When can new students enroll?

Classes begin in Fall (August) at the Jefferson campus and in Spring (January) at the Sidney Collier campus.

Deadline to submit all application materials for Fall will be the third week of May. Deadline to submit all application materials for Spring will be the first week of October.

Where will I attend classes?

Classes are held at the Practical Nursing Center of Excellence, 5200 Blair Drive, Metairie, LA 70001 and Sidney Collier, 3727 Louisa Street, New Orleans, LA 70126.

When should I apply?

An application should be submitted when the student has successfully completed English, Math and Reading developmental courses.

Applicant Selection Process:

The Practical Nursing (PN) Program has a limited enrollment because of the clinical component. Therefore, admission to the PN Program is not automatic, even if applicants have submitted the required documents and may be academically qualified. Applicants are selected by the use of a profile system. Ranking for admissions will be based on the pre-nursing entrance/placement exam, Math, English and Reading composite scores, and the number of courses (BIOL 161, BIOL 163, and HESC 109) successfully completed with a grade of "B" or higher. Final approval is based on maintaining a "C" (2.000 GPA) or higher in all college courses attempted and turning in all necessary forms. Applicants are selected in descending order until all available student spaces are filled, and will be notified by email of the admission decision.

Note: A sample profile sheet is included with this bulletin.

Admission Requirements:

- Be a high school graduate or have high school equivalency
- Be eligible to take MATH 120 and ENGL 101 by the entrance date. Students must have completed or tested out of developmental English, Math and Reading via Delgado Placement Testing or have exempting ACT scores. All students must be non-developmental before they apply.
- A DCC GPA of 2.000 for all college work attempted
- Applicant must be in good health.
- Minimum scores must be achieved on the pre-nursing admissions exam. We accept TABE, ACCUPLACER, and ACT for the PN program.
 - a) TABE minimum scores are Math (10.5), Reading (11.0) and Language (11.0).
 - b) ACCUPLACER minimum scores are Elementary Algebra (48), Reading (65), and Language (74).
 - c) ACT minimum scores are Math (17), Reading (19), and Language (17)
 - d) The exams must be taken within three (3) years of application.
 - e) The ACCUPLACER exams will be administered at the Delgado Community College City Park Campus Testing Office (Bldg.2, Room 302, 504-671-5080), Sidney Collier Testing Office (Bldg. 3, Room 117A, 504-941-8526), or our Westbank Campus (Bldg. 2, Room 103, 504-762-3100). The TABE exam is administered through the Jefferson Parish Adult Literacy Office, 504-466-0697.
 - f) PN Program exam guidelines: Examinees can test a maximum of four (4) times in a lifetime for the DCC Practical Nursing Program. The exams may be taken three (3) times in one year with a waiting period of thirty (30) days between exams.
- Scores from the nursing preadmission exam must be submitted. The scores are good three years from the date taken. The exam may only be taken once per application period.

- Applicants are required to have CPR certification before enrollment in their first nursing course with clinical experience.
- Please note: An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the U.S. The non-citizen applicant must produce a valid permanent resident card. A copy of the card will be required.

What courses should I take?

It is recommended that you take Introductory Anatomy and Physiology (BIOL 161 and 163) and Medical Nutrition Therapy for Nursing and Allied Health (HESC 109) before you start your program. However, you will have time to take these classes the semester you start the nursing program. Please note **BIOL 114** will not be accepted for Nutrition.

An applicant planning to later enroll in an RN program should consider taking BIOL 251, 252, 253, 254 to complete their Human Anatomy and Physiology requirement. Anatomy & Physiology and the Medical Nutrition Therapy classes must be completed within 3 years of enrollment in the Practical Nursing Program and grades must be a "B" or higher.

What is expected of a Practical Nursing Student?

A criminal record check will be required by facilities and agencies. A candidate may not have a record of pleading guilty or no contest to, or convictions of a felony, either prior to or subsequent to acceptance into the Practical Nursing Program. This includes charges or convictions that have been pardoned, expunged, or whether or not sentences have been completed.

Mandatory drug screening and a credentials check are required and may occur periodically while enrolled in the program.

Regular attendance in class and clinical is necessary for completion of the program. Students should have dependable child care for children, and a back-up plan if children become ill. Work requirements and family obligations need to be arranged before you start the program. Students are required to be available for all class and clinical hours.

Scheduled time to study must be allocated to keep the "C" (80%) or better needed to be successful in the program. Students may be required to commute to healthcare facilities outside of the New Orleans area. Reliable transportation is a must. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from clinical sites.

Transcripts of applicants who have defaulted on previous student loans will not be sent to the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners (LSBPNE); therefore, the student is not eligible to take the licensing exam and cannot practice as a Practical Nurse.

How am I notified of acceptance or advised the class is closed?

Emails will be sent to all students notifying them of their application status.

CURRICULUM

Program Curriculum Pattern (*Please refer to the College website for fall and spring course sequencing*):

Courses in Curriculum:

PRNU 101	Intro. to Practical Nursing	3
BIOL 161	Intro. Anatomy & Physiology	3
BIOL 163	Intro. Anat. & Physio. Lab	1
HESC 109	Medical Nutrition Therapy for Nursing/Allied Health	3
PRNU 103	Essential Nursing Skills	3
NURS 105	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
PRNU 110	Med-Surg. Nursing I	16
PRNU 117	Pediatric, Obstetrics, & Mental Health Nursing for Practical Nursing	10
PRNU 124	Med-Surg. Nursing II	14
PRNU 128	Career Preparation for the Practical Nursing Student	$\frac{3}{59}$

How much does this cost?

Tuition and Fees (subject to change)

See the Delgado Community College website at www.dcc.edu for current information on tuition and fees.

In addition to tuition and fees, students will also need: (*All costs are approximate and subject to change without advance notice.*)

1.	Uniforms	\$350.00
2.	LSBPNE initial fees	\$50.00
3.	Student Liability Insurance/Health/Drug Screening/Online Health Management System	\$400.00-\$600.00
4.	Fingerprinting	\$15.00/card X 2
5.	FBI Check	\$38.00
6.	Books	\$700.00
7.	CPR	\$50.00
8.	Credential evaluation	\$48.50
9.	LSBPNE- First time writer	\$100.00
10.	Licensure exam fee	\$200.00
11.	Nurse Cap	\$12.00
12.	Cap and Gown	\$50.00
13.	Graduation Fee	\$50.00
14.	Nurse Pin	\$50.00 - \$100.00
15.	Computer Testing fee	\$25 per semester

*Depending on what is needed and if the student has medical insurance

How do I get started?

- 1) Schedule to take a pre-nursing entrance/placement exam and successfully pass.
- 2) Find the PN application online through www.dcc.edu, click under location for Charity School of Nursing. The PN application is under the PN tab.
- 3) Complete the PN application and submit online
- 4) Email official high school or high school equivalency transcript, birth certificate valid permanent resident card if a non-US citizen, and a copy of ACCUPLACER, TABE or ACT, and admission test scores to: csnadmissions@dcc.edu
**If birth certificate is in another language, it must be translated by an official translation service.
- 5) All official college transcripts must also be sent to the Delgado Community College Admissions Office, 615 City Park Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70119

Is there a way to become an R.N.?

Some LPNs may wish to continue their nursing education to become a registered nurse (RN). Delgado Community College offers different opportunities.

1. DCC PN graduates may receive credit for the first semester of nursing courses and can enroll in second level RN courses.
2. An LPN with one year of clinical experience may challenge nursing courses in theory and clinical via exam.
3. An LPN with two years of experience may choose a transition course.

All RN program admission requirements must be met. There are certain time frames. Information is available online or from the Admissions Office.

Questions????

Contact :

DCC/CSN Practical Nursing Program
Koren E. Thornton - Admissions Coordinator
450 S. Claiborne Avenue, Room 613-C
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 571-1270 – Office (504) 568-5494- Fax

<http://www.dcc.edu/academics/charity-school-nursing/pn-program.aspx>
www.dcc.edu

**Delgado Community College
Practical Nursing Program
Applicant Evaluation and Profile Form**

Student Name _____ LoLA # _____

Minimum Admission Test Score Requirements

<u>Admission Test</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Language</u>
TABE	12.0	12.0	12.0
ACT	18	20	17
COMPASS (Pre-Algebra)	55	85	70
COMPASS (Algebra)	33	85	70
ACCUPLACER	48	65	74

Average of Math, Language and Reading Scores

<u>ACCUPLACER</u>	<u>COMPASS (P)</u>	<u>COMPASS (A)</u>	<u>TABE</u>	<u>ACT</u>	<u>Points</u>
63-75	71-79	64-74	12.1-12.3	19-20	5pts.
76-99	80-89	75-85	12.4-12.7	21-22	10pts.
≥ 100	≥ 90	≥ 86	≥ 12.8	≥ 22	20pts.

Avg: _____

Admission Test Points: _____

KAPLAN INDIVIDUAL TOTAL SCORE

Critical Thinking Score

- 49.99% or less (**0 pts.**)
- 50% - 54.99% (**5 pts.**)
- 55% - 60.99% (**10 pts.**)
- 61% and higher (**15 pts.**) _____

Science Score

- 39.99% or less (**0 pts.**)
- 40-44.99% (**5 pts.**)
- 45% - 54.99% (**10 pts.**)
- 55% and higher (**15 pts.**) _____

Reading Score

- 67.99% or less (**0 pts.**)
- 68% - 72% (**5 pts.**)
- 73% and higher (**10 pts.**) _____

Nutrition Credit - Medical Nutrition Therapy (HESC 109) Must be within the last 3 years

1st Attempt Nutrition HESC (B or >) _____ 20 pts.

2nd Attempt Nutrition HESC (B or >) _____ 15 pts.

Human Anatomy and Physiology Credit – Points are given if you have taken and passed with a B any of the A & P courses below within the last 3 years (20 points maximum)

A & P BIOL 161 _____ 5 pts.

A & P BIOL 163 _____ 5 pts.

A & P BIOL 251 _____ 5 pts.

A & P BIOL 253 _____ 5 pts.

A & P BIOL 252 _____ 5 pts.

A & P BIOL 254 _____ 5 pts.

Total A & P Points _____

Bonus Points

English 101 completed _____ 5 points

3 credit hours of Math (MATH 120 or higher) completed _____ 5 points **Total Bonus Points** _____

Profiler's name _____ **Total Profile Score** _____