

# Delgado

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Charity School of Nursing

New Orleans, Louisiana

### Associate Degree Nursing Program

### Information Bulletin



Revised August 2023

## ABOUT THIS BULLETIN

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information about the Associate Degree Nursing Program, and direction to the individual interested in the R.N. program at Charity. It does not constitute a binding agreement on the part of Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing.

The information in this bulletin is intended to be complete and accurate. However, since the program is part of a dynamic professional field and educational system, substantive and procedural matters are subject to change. Any changes in the policies or procedures subsequent to the printing of this document will be filed in the offices of Admissions and/or Registrar and printed in the ADN Student Handbook.

This bulletin is to be used in conjunction with the Delgado Community College Catalog and DCC Class Schedule. Once the applicant is admitted, this bulletin is to be used in conjunction with the Charity School of Nursing ADN Student Handbook.

Delgado Community College is accredited by The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4500) to award Certificates and the Associate Degree. (Letters of Accreditation on file in Moss Memorial Library for student review).

Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing has full approval from the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge LA 70810; Phone: 225-755-7500) and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (3390 Peachtree Rd. NE Suite 1400, Atlanta, Georgia 30326: 404-975-5000).

***Delgado Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religious or political affiliation, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship, age, disability, marital or veteran's status, pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions, and the sickle cell trait in the admission to, participation in, or employment in the programs and activities of this College. Title IX Coordinator can be reached at 615 City Park Ave., O'Keefe Administration Bldg., New Orleans, LA. 70119, (504) 76-3004 and 504/ADA Coordinator can be reached at 615 City Park Ave., Bldg. 2, Room 102, New Orleans, LA 70119, (505) 671-5161.***

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for your interest in nursing and the R.N. program at Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing. We are proud of our school, our students and the graduates who complete the programs.

Historically, Charity Hospital School of Nursing was founded as a diploma program in 1894 through the cooperative efforts of the Charity Hospital New Orleans (CHNO) Board of Administrators, the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul, and the Louisiana State Legislature. In 1989, in response to a nursing shortage in Louisiana, officials from Delgado Community College (DCC) announced their intentions to start an associate degree in nursing (ADN) program. In July 1990, the nursing school was officially transferred from CHNO to DCC and renamed Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing.

The courses in the nursing major are designed to build upon one another and are taken over a five semester period. The school offers day classes and day and evening clinicals. As of May 2020, over 6,200 students have graduated from the Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing.

Once a student successfully completes the program, the graduate applies to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing for permission to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Once permission is granted and the graduate successfully passes the exam, the graduate has the right and privilege to use the title "RN". Traditionally, a high percentage of the graduates of Charity School of Nursing pass the NCLEX-RN as first-time writers, consistently surpassing the state and national average.

Semester credit hours earned at Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing are accepted at other institutions of higher learning. These institutions will evaluate the credits for applicability to their particular programs of study.

## **THE PROFESSION OF NURSING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Many employment opportunities are available for registered nurses. Graduates of Charity School of Nursing find employment in a variety of health care settings. These include full and part-time positions in hospitals, long-term care facilities, hospices, outpatient clinics and home health agencies. The salary scale varies according to the type of facility, its size and location as well as the shift and days the nurse works. Information on salaries can be obtained from the health care facilities in the area.

## **MISSION STATEMENTS**

### **DELGADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Delgado Community College, a comprehensive community college, offers programs through the Associate degree. The College provides a learning-centered environment through face-to-face and distance education to prepare students from diverse backgrounds to attain their educational, career, and personal goals, to think critically, to demonstrate leadership and to be productive and responsible citizens.

### **CHARITY SCHOOL OF NURSING**

The nursing programs prepare students of varied backgrounds in a learner centered environment through face-to-face and distance education to provide caring and competent nursing in entry level positions to meet the health-care needs of a diverse community.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF CHARITY SCHOOL OF NURSING**

The faculty of Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing upholds the mission of Delgado Community College in supporting the educational and lifelong learning needs of a diverse multicultural community. Charity School of Nursing strives to prepare competent, technically-skilled graduates invested in a lifelong pursuit of knowledge, the achievement of personal excellence, and a commitment to service to humankind by providing compassionate, culturally-relevant nursing care.

We believe that nursing is an applied discipline that works with diverse persons as patients across diverse environments to promote, maintain, and/or restore health. Nurses, applying both art and science, must provide holistic patient-centered care. Incorporating the qualities of compassion, cultural sensitivity, and competence, the nurse functions as a caregiver, change agent, leader, and role model who possesses the ability to anticipate needs and synthesize knowledge in diverse environments.

The faculty affirms that nursing is a profession that exists in dynamic diverse environments which requires lifelong learning, internalization of professional standards, and promotion of clinical competency through experience. Nurses must safely, legally, and ethically practice in an interdisciplinary atmosphere amidst mutual trust and respect. Open communication, collaboration, and teamwork are integral to safe care, as well as to the emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and social development of persons. A strong sense of caring and community enables the nurse to adapt, manage conflict, and commit to the professions.

The faculty knows that nurses serve persons as patients and their communities. Persons are unique multi-dimensional individuals and deserving of dignity, respect, and care regardless of any other consideration. Persons are also members of families or other aggregates that share mutual supports and beliefs, especially in relation to health.

The faculty recognizes that the educational process empowers persons to be self-directed and to expand knowledge. The learner must assume an active role in a learning-centered environment that promotes interaction, reflection, mutual respect, and intellectual curiosity. Nurses, supported by evidence-based knowledge, combine experiential learning with life experiences to enhance clinical reasoning. As the dynamic environments are constantly changing and evolving, the nurse must stay informed, committed to continued education and lifelong learning, and use informatics to achieve positive patient outcomes while constantly striving to improve the quality of care.

### **END of PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Individualize holistic health care using the nursing process while incorporating best practices with the patient as an active participant.
2. Manage the delivery of health care by using sound clinical judgment and leadership skills.
3. Exemplify personal, professional and ethical responsibility.
4. Communicate effectively with health care team and individuals.
5. Formulate clinical decisions utilizing information technology and research.
6. Collaborate effectively with the interdisciplinary team members to advocate for positive health outcomes.
7. Ensure adherence to principles of quality improvement to promote excellence and safety in health care.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

Students should seek advising from the appropriate source as they move toward the goal of acceptance into the School of Nursing. Pre-nursing advisors are available at the City Park, West Bank and Sidney Collier sites.

A student admitted to the nursing program is assigned a nursing faculty advisor. Academic advising is also readily available from the Level Coordinators and clinical instructors.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- High school diplom or High school equivalency.
- An overall grade point average of 2.500 in any general education and required related courses in the School of Nursing curriculum.
- Grade of "C" or higher in all required related courses and general education courses
- Delgado Community College GPA of 2.000 or higher, if applicable.
- Nursing School Admission Exam (Kaplan) scores
  - Kaplan Exam MUST be taken at Delgado Community College, before submitting online application.
  - The admission exam may be taken only once during each application period.
  - More information on this examination can be obtained from the DCC Office of Advising and Testing Center on the City Park Campus. The phone number is (504) 671-5080 or <http://www.dcc.edu/student-services/testing/default.aspx>
- Ability to meet the technical standards as attested to on the nursing application.
- A student may not have four or more enrollments resulting in grades D, F or W in Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II (BIOL 251, 253, 252 and 254) or the equivalent, taken within the last 5 years of possible entry into the program.
- **Completion** of at least 4 credit hours of Anatomy and Physiology I – BIOL 251/253 (3hrs. of lecture; 1 hr. lab), 3 credit hours of English Composition – ENGL 101 and 3 hours of non-remedial Mathematics are required **before** applying. MATH 120,128,130 or 133 or 203 are accepted.

**Generic Level I Requirements:** Completion of 4 credit hours of Anatomy and Physiology I - BIOL 251/253 (3 credit hrs. of lecture; 1 hr. of lab), English 101 (3 credit hrs.), Math (3 credit hrs. of non-remedial Math) are required before applying. MATH 120,128,130 or 133 or 203 are accepted. (10 Credit Hours)

**Transitions Requirements:** Must be a licensed LPN in good standing with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Completion of all 32 credit hours of general education and required related courses.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Go to [www.dcc.edu](http://www.dcc.edu) and complete online application for admission to the College if not already a Delgado student.
2. Complete a Kaplan Pre-Nursing Exam prior to submission of your Nursing application.
3. Go to the RN program page of the Delgado website and complete the online application and Curriculum Self-Assessment form.
4. Transfer students will need to submit a Transfer Reference Form if they have attended another clinical Nursing Program within the last 5 years. Email the supporting documents following the directions on the RN Admissions Requirements form.
  - Be sure to complete the document packet for the correct program to which you are applying.

- No applicant will be considered for admission until **all** of the required documents are received in the admissions office.
- Application and all supporting documents must be received by the close of the application period in order to be considered for admission.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all transfer credits have been approved by the Registrar's Office and are posted on their LOLA online transcript. Coursework not posted on the LoLA transcript will not be included in the application evaluation process.

**Note: Falsification of any admissions requirements documentation will result in denial of admission into the program. The student may be subject to a judicial procedure through the College.**

## SELECTION PROCESS

Acceptance to the School of Nursing is based on the criteria listed in this Bulletin. Applicants are considered for admission by the Admissions Committee of Charity School of Nursing. Applicants are identified by a number and not by name during the selection process. **Selection of applicants is based on the applicant's Charity School of Nursing "Applicant Rating System" which is composed of the following:**

1. GPA of 2.5 or higher for any of the general education and required related courses in the School of Nursing curriculum and an Institutional (DCC) GPA of 2.0 for all college work attempted.
2. Number of grades of D's and/or F's in courses taken over the **past 5 years** that are required in the School of Nursing curriculum. **Even if the course has been repeated with a higher grade, or if academic amnesty/renewal has been granted, the D or F is still counted.**
3. Number of withdrawals in courses taken over the **past 5 years** that are required in the School of Nursing curriculum. **Even if the course has been repeated with a passing grade, or if academic amnesty/renewal has been granted, the W is still counted.**
4. Number of completed credits in the required related and general education courses in the nursing curriculum.
5. Admission exam scores
6. Bonus points are added to the rating total for attainment of LPN license or college degree from a regionally-accredited college.

## LIMITED ENROLLMENT

When the number of qualified applicants exceeds the enrollment capacity, the committee will accept the most qualified applicants (highest rating totals) for the class. Applicants not admitted will be required to submit a new application packet for consideration for the next class.

## DEFERMENT OF ENTRY

An applicant, who is accepted to the School of Nursing for a particular class and is unable to enroll, may request one (1) postponement of entry. A written request to defer entry must be received before the official census day. Accepted applicants who wish to defer a second time must submit a new RN application and be re-accepted by the Admissions committee.

## DEFINING THE CATALOG YEAR

Delgado students taking their pre-requisites at the College under the nursing major and accepted for a specific class at the School of Nursing, continue in the same catalog **if** their major has been nursing and the student did not have a break in semesters (e.g. Fall or Spring) before coming into the program. Continuing Delgado students, who declared a major other than nursing while taking their pre-requisites, enter as a nursing major under the catalog in effect at the time they begin the

nursing program. Catalog year begins with the Fall Semester and ends with the summer session. For example, if a student starts in spring 2020 or summer 2020 at the College, the catalog year beginning fall of 2019 must be followed.

Transfer students enter under the catalog in effect at the time of entrance to the nursing program.

## **TECHNICAL STANDARDS**

Students must meet the required technical standards of nursing practice. Technical standards reflect the abilities required to provide safe, competent nursing care. The student must have

1. Communication skills in speech and writing, in the English language.
2. Speaking ability to be able to converse with a patient about their condition and to relay information about the patient to others.
3. Interpersonal skills to adapt and interact with individuals, families and groups from various socioeconomic, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
4. Hearing ability with auditory aids to understand the normal speaking voice without viewing the speaker's face (to ensure that the nurse will be able to attend to a patient's call for help either softly or as a cry) and to hear high and low pitched sounds with a stethoscope.
5. Visual acuity with corrective devices to identify visual changes in a patient's condition/color, perceive depth of injections, or to see small numbers on medical supplies.
6. Sense of smell sufficient to detect odors.
7. Sense of touch sufficient to perform palpation, percussion, and distinguish temperature changes.
8. Strength and psychomotor coordination necessary to perform technical nursing procedures and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (at floor or bed level) including lifting and carrying (at least 20 lbs.) and pushing or pulling an adult patient of average weight in a wheelchair or on a stretcher.
9. Motor skills requiring manual dexterity such as putting on sterile gloves, preparing medications in syringes, giving injections, or inserting various tubes and catheters.
10. Emotional ability to manage stress and adapt to changes in the environment or a patient's behavior/health status in an effective, therapeutic manner including responding to anger, fear, hostility, and violence of others.
11. Problem solving/critical thinking ability to:
  - a. Collect, read and interpret data.
  - b. Use the data to plan and implement a course of action.
  - c. Prioritize and adapt care.
  - d. Evaluate the action taken.
12. Stamina to fulfill the requirements of the program and customary requirements of the profession, e.g. sit, stand, stoop, kneel, climb and/or bend for a period of time and work in areas that are confined and/or crowded during a clinical experience which may last up to 12 hours.

## **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

Upon entry into the nursing program, students are beginning their socialization into the profession and must abide by a strict code of professional conduct. The discipline of nursing requires a high level of academic and personal integrity. Students must adhere to the ANA code of Ethics for Nurses, Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice, Louisiana Nurse Practice Act, DCC Student Judicial Code, and Charity School of Nursing Honor Code. Students are required to adhere to the policies and procedures of the College, courses and affiliated clinical agencies.

During the course of study in the School of Nursing, a student will be required to provide supervised care to persons with communicable diseases, such as but not limited to, tuberculosis and hepatitis, and to persons who are HIV positive. Please consider your willingness to give compassionate care to all persons, regardless of status or medical diagnosis before beginning a nursing career. Additionally, the student must be free of health problems that would interfere with the safety and welfare of patients.



## **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Patients have a right to expect that nurses entrusted with their care will be honest and trustworthy.

After acceptance to a school of nursing and prior to enrolling in a clinical nursing course, the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) requires the student to complete an online application for permission to enroll in a clinical nursing course that includes questions about arrests, citation, summons, previous licensure, medical, physical, mental, emotional or psychiatric history, use of mood altering substances, including drugs and alcohol.

If “yes” is answered to any of the questions, the LSBN will require additional documentation. LSBN requires fingerprinting and a criminal records background check (Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Federal Bureau of Investigation) upon initial enrollment and again before licensure. Based on the criminal history record, the LSBN may approve the student to enroll in clinical nursing courses in accordance with the individual program guidelines, or the LSBN may deny, delay or otherwise restrict the enrollment of the students in clinical nursing courses.

## **DRUG SCREENING**

Drug screening is required before a student can attend a clinical experience. The screening is done after acceptance and is at the student’s expense. A positive result may affect a student’s enrollment in the nursing program. Drug screening for cause, or at random, may occur during program enrollment.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTED STUDENTS**

Prior to enrollment in the first nursing courses, the following health documentation must be submitted by the designated deadline:

- Physical Exam (due date to be determined upon admission and updated annually once enrolled)
- Hepatitis B Titer (If you haven’t received the immunization series, it is 3 injections given over a 6 month period. After the series, you can get the titer)
- MMR titer
- Varicella titer
- Tdap booster within 10 years
- Tuberculosis Skin or blood test (updated annually once enrolled)
- Flu Vaccination (updated annually once enrolled)
- Covid Vaccination Status
- CPR (American Heart Association, Basic Life Support)
- Liability Insurance (updated annually once enrolled)

Upon acceptance, the applicant will receive further information regarding legal and health requirements. A student may be denied enrollment if the health requirements are not fulfilled and documented by the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the health requirements cannot be guaranteed placement in clinical facilities, therefore, completion of the program may be impacted.

## BODY ART

Body art that is extremely large, numerous or portrays slogans or pictures that may be perceived as vulgar or offensive must be covered. Clinical agencies may not allow body art to be visible while in uniform. Students must follow the policy of the clinical agency in regard to body art. Because clinical agency policies vary, clinical placement may be affected. If a student cannot be placed in a clinical site, the student may not be able to continue in the program.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

### **NON-NURSING COURSES**

Academic credits are accepted from other regionally accredited institutions of higher learning and will be evaluated for equivalency to DCC courses. Courses deemed not equivalent cannot be applied toward the required courses in the Nursing curriculum. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all transfer credits have been approved by the Registrar's Office and are posted on their LOLA online transcript. Coursework not posted on the LoLA transcript will not be included in the application evaluation process.

### **NURSING COURSES**

Nursing courses completed at another regionally accredited registered nursing program will be evaluated for equivalency to the nursing courses at CSN upon request. Students wishing to transfer from another school of nursing must do the following:

1. Meet the DCC and CSN admission requirements. All Admission and Academic policies apply to the transfer student including those courses that are considered NURS in the CSN curriculum.
2. Submit an application to the school of nursing
3. Submit a letter of good standing from the Dean or Director of the accredited School of Nursing to include the following information:
  - a. applicant's status at time of withdrawal
  - b. eligibility to return to nursing school
  - c. disciplinary action, if any, taken against applicant
  - d. any academic probations or suspensions
4. Present documentation of content for the nursing courses completed. The documentation should be in the form of course syllabus (theory and clinical) and catalog descriptions.

### **STUDENTS ACCEPTED FOR TRANSFER:**

1. Must meet all health requirements, CPR and all insurance requirements.
2. Must meet the time limit of 5 years to complete all the nursing courses.
3. May enroll pending availability of space in the course(s).

Transfer students who have not been enrolled in a nursing program for 3 or more semesters must request admission to first year nursing courses.

**Note:** The appropriate Level Coordinator and the Dean will make the final determination of the transferability of the nursing course(s). No partial credit will be given.

## OPTIONS FOR LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES

LPNs have the option of completing the Charity School of Nursing curriculum through **one of two tracks**:

1. Generic - complete the entire curriculum
2. LPN-RN Transition

These tracks are described in more detail below. Admission to Charity School of Nursing and proof of current unencumbered LPN licensure are required for Track 2.

**Track 1:** The student completes the Generic Curriculum Plan as described in this bulletin.

**Track 2: NURS 132: "TRANSITION"** This option provides an opportunity to complete a 4-credit hour transition course, NURS 132, and earn life experience (LEAP) credit for up to 17 hours of nursing courses. The transition course covers content from NURS 113 (Nursing I), NURS 125 (Nursing II) and NURS 129 (Special Populations I) as well as role transition. LPNs entering this track may request proficiency testing for Pharmacology. In the event that proficiency in Pharmacology is not demonstrated, the student must enroll in NURS 133.

**Graduates of Delgado Charity School of Nursing LPN program, are guaranteed admission to the ADN-RN program after meeting program requirements. Placement in Level I or Transitions will be determined based on the rating total of the applicant.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR TRACK 2:**

Applicants to the LPN to RN option must:

1. Possess current, unencumbered, unrestricted Louisiana LPN license, with no disciplinary action taken.
2. **Admission requires that all 32 hours of general education and required related courses be completed before application submission.**

## NURSING CURRICULUM

The total curriculum for the associate degree program is 72 credit hours consisting of general education, required related and nursing courses designed to be completed in five semesters. The non-nursing courses may be completed prior to admission to the School of Nursing or within the time frame shown in the curriculum plan. The nursing courses can be completed in 4 semesters and must be completed within 5 years of enrollment in the first nursing course.

### **RATIO OF CREDIT TO CONTACT HOURS**

In order to gain the knowledge and abilities needed to practice nursing safely, there is a ratio of contact (clock) hours to credit hours for the clinical/lab component of the nursing courses. One credit hour is equal to 3 contact (clock) hours for the clinical component. For example, NURS 113 is an 8-credit hour course consisting of 4 credit hours of classroom material and 4 credit hours of lab and clinical instruction. Therefore, the student spends 4 hours per week in a classroom setting and 12 hours per week in lab and/or a clinical setting.

## GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

See the current DCC College Catalog for eligibility and pre-requisites for these courses. Grades of “C” or higher required.

- ENGL 101: English Composition I (3 hours)
- ENGL 102: English Composition II (3 hours)
- \*MATH 120 or higher: (6 hours) (Math 120, 128, 130 or 133, 203)
- \*\*Humanities Elective: (3 hours)
- \*\*Fine Arts Elective: (3 hours)

\*Six credit hours of college-level math are required. Math courses may be selected from MATH 120, 128, 130 or 133, or 203. To facilitate transferability to some baccalaureate nursing programs, a math course at the level of 130 or higher is recommended.

\*\*See the current DCC College Catalog for a listing of courses that are classified as Humanities and Fine Arts.

### REQUIRED RELATED COURSES (grade of C or higher required)

- \* BIOL 210 or 211: Microbiology (3 hours)
- \*\* BIOL 251: Anatomy & Physiology I (3 hours)
- \*\* BIOL 253: Anatomy & Physiology I Lab (1 hour)
- BIOL 252: Anatomy & Physiology II (3 hours)
- BIOL 254: Anatomy & Physiology II Lab (1 hour)
- PSYC 127: General Psychology (3 hours)

\*To facilitate transferability to some baccalaureate nursing programs, Biol 210 is recommended

\*\* Pre-requisite: A “C” or better in Biol 141 and 143 or equivalent, or a composite ACT score of 22 or higher and passed Biology in high school with a grade of “B” or better, or passing score on the Biology Placement exam.

### CURRICULUM PLAN: [Track I] Generic

<b>First Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
BIOL 251	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
BIOL 253	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1
ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
Math 120 or higher	Math	3
PSYC 127	General Psychology	3
Fine Arts or Humanities Elective		<u>3</u>
		<b>16</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
BIOL 252	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
BIOL 254	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1
NURS 113	Nursing I	8
NURS 117	Pharmacology I	<u>2</u>
		<b>14</b>
<b>Third Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
ENGL 102	English Composition II	3
BIOL 210 or 211	Microbiology	3

NURS 125	Nursing II	7
NURS 129	Special Populations I	2
NURS 127	Pharmacology II	<u>1</u>
		<b>16</b>

<b>Fourth Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
MATH 128 or higher	Math	3
NURS 220	Nursing III	7
NURS 223	Special Populations II	2
NURS 225	Pharmacology III	<u>1</u>
		<b>13</b>

<b>Fifth Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
Fine Arts or Humanities Elective		3
NURS 235	Nursing IV	9
NURS 267	Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making	<u>1</u>
		<b>13</b>

**CURRICULUM TOTAL: 72 credit hours**

\* (3 Credit hrs. of Fine Arts and 3 Credit hrs. of Humanities - One elective must be completed before Level III and the remaining elective must be completed before Level IV.)

**CURRICULUM PLAN: LPN-RN Transition Program [Track 2]**

**Prerequisites to Enrollment: "C" or better in 32 hours of general education and required related courses**

<b>First Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
NURS 132	Transitions in Nursing	4
NURS 133	Pharmacology for Transitions	<u>3</u>
		<b>7</b>

<b>Second Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
NURS 220	Nursing III	7
NURS 223	Special Populations II	2
NURS 225	Pharmacology III	<u>1</u>
		<b>10</b>

<b>Third Semester</b>		<b>Credit Hours</b>
NURS 235	Nursing IV	9
NURS 267	Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making	<u>1</u>
		<b>10</b>

**CURRICULUM TOTAL: 72 credit hours**

## NURSING COURSES

See the Delgado Community College Catalog for complete course descriptions and prerequisite information.

**NOTE: Each course has the requirements of Basic Life Support (CPR) validation, student nurse liability insurance documentation, and completion of health requirements.**

### **NURS 113 Nursing I**

8 credit hours: 4 theory hours per week and 12 hours clinical skills lab/nursing experience per week

This course provides learning experiences in the classroom, clinical skills lab, community based nursing settings, long-term and acute care facilities. Learners are introduced to nursing, persons as patients, health and environment along with designated concepts and mandates which form the basis of the nursing curriculum. The course is designed to foster the development of fundamental nursing skills, attitudes and knowledge necessary to achieve basic competencies in patient centered care, collaboration, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice and safety.

### **NURS 117 Pharmacology I**

2 credit hours: 2 theory hours per week

This course provides learning experiences in a classroom setting. It introduces the learner to the basic concepts related to pharmacology and the nurse's role in the safe administration of medications. Pharmacodynamics, drug classifications and drug calculations are included.

### **NURS 125 Nursing II**

7 credit hours: 4 theory hours per week and a total of 135 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

This course provides learning experiences in the classroom, clinical skills lab and a variety of health care settings. Classroom and clinical experiences are concurrent and build upon previously learned knowledge and skills. The course builds on the concepts of the nursing curriculum. Exemplars of chronic health conditions are used to further explain each concept.

### **NURS 127 Pharmacology II**

1 credit hour: 1 theory hour per week

This course builds on previously learned concepts related to pharmacology and the nurse's role in the safe administration of medications. Pharmacodynamics, drug classifications and drug calculations are included.

### **NURS 129 Special Populations I**

2 credit hours: 1 hour theory per week and a total of 45 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

Learners are introduced to special populations in health care in the classroom and clinical setting. Special emphasis is given to assessment, nutritional, mental health, health language and community considerations in the care of patients with chronic health status, specifically those experiencing threats to their psychosocial integrity.

### **NURS 132 Transitions in Nursing (Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse)**

4 credit hours: 3 theory hours per week and a total of 45 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

This course is offered as a summer session and in the fall and spring semesters to LPNs who are admitted to the LPN to RN Transition or Advanced Placed track. See further information in the section *Options for LPNs*.

Learners are provided with concurrent learning experiences in the classroom, clinical skills and simulation labs. Content introduces the learner to the concepts of nursing, persons as patients, health, environment, and the designated concepts and mandates which form the basis of the nursing curriculum. Exemplars of chronic health conditions are used to further explain each concept and enhance the learner's understanding of the biological, psychological, social and professional dimensions of nursing. The learner is introduced to special populations in health care. Key issues unique to the LPN to RN transition are discussed.

### **NURS 220 Nursing III**

7 credit hours: 4 theory hours per week and a total of 135 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

Classroom and clinical experiences build on the concepts learned in all previous courses. Exemplars of acute non-life threatening health conditions are used to further explain each concept. The focus of the course is on both adult and pediatric patients.

### **NURS 223 Special Populations II**

2 credit hours: 1 hour theory per week and a total of 45 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

This course builds on information presented in first and second level nursing courses with special emphasis given to the care of patients with acute health status, specifically women throughout the life span. Classroom and clinical experiences correlate with content presented in Nursing III and Pharmacology III.

### **NURS 225 Pharmacology III**

1 credit hour: 1 theory hour per week

This course builds on content presented in Pharmacology I and Pharmacology II and the nurse's role in the safe administration of medications. Pharmacodynamics, drug classifications and drug calculations are included.

### **NURS 235 Nursing IV**

9 credit hours: 4 hours theory per week and a total of 225 hours of clinical skills lab/nursing experience for the course

This course continues to build on the concepts of nursing, persons as patients, health, environment, the designated concepts and mandates which form the basis of the nursing curriculum. Exemplars of acute, life threatening health

conditions are used to further explain each concept and enhance the learner's understanding of the biological, psychological, social and professional dimensions of nursing.

## **NURS 267 Clinical Reasoning and Decision Making**

1 credit hour: 1 hour theory per week

Assists student to refine clinical reasoning skills and make patient care decisions based on clinical data. Students apply knowledge, skills, and critical concepts as they master a variety of practice questions aligned with the registered nursing licensure test plan blueprint. Prepares students to attain their educational, career, and personal goals of becoming a registered nurse.

## **PINNING CEREMONY/COMMENCEMENT**

The culmination of the nursing program is celebrated with every graduating class at the ADN program Pinning Ceremony and the College Commencement Exercises where faculty, administrators and families recognize the accomplishment of the graduates.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE**

Upon completion of the nursing program, graduates are eligible to apply to write the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Final determination of the applicant's ability to sit for the licensing exam and to become licensed to practice in Louisiana is made by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Delgado Community College Charity School of Nursing cannot assure licensure.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Students who apply and are eligible for financial assistance as determined by the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" (FAFSA) may be offered a package containing a combination of grants, loans, scholarships and/or student employment. Information on financial assistance can be found on the College website at [www.dcc.edu/departments/financialaid/](http://www.dcc.edu/departments/financialaid/)

### **LEARNING RESOURCES**

Charity School of Nursing has many services intended to enhance learning:

- Library
- Media Center
- Computer Lab
- Nursing Skills Labs
- Human Patient Simulator Lab
- Success Coaching
- Test-taking and test anxiety reduction and learning styles inventory sessions

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Students are responsible for their own health care.



### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

It is the general policy of Delgado Community College to assure equal opportunity for all qualified persons. Reasonable accommodations for qualified persons with disabilities will be made provided the students have self-identified with the *Office of Disability Services* and have provided required documentation. Individual instructors will modify the methods, requirements and procedures of courses and examinations appropriately to accommodate the special needs of students with disabilities, provided the academic integrity of the course or examination is not violated and the health and welfare of all students and patients is safeguarded. More information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Disability Services. See the Technical Standards for the nursing program.

## **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Charity School of Nursing is proud to sponsor several student organizations.

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA):**

All students belong to this organization by virtue of enrollment at DCC. This association provides a link between students, faculty and administration. This is open to all Charity students.

### **CHARITY ASSOCIATION OF STUDENTS NURSES (CASN):**

This organization is part of the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses (LASN) and National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). It focuses on nursing and health care issues. The members become involved in local, state and national projects. Students are encouraged to join this pre-professional organization.

### **SPECTRUM:**

This organization was founded to unite men, African-American and other minority students. It is a service organization open to all nursing students.

### **SIGMA ALPHA CHI (SAC):**

This is the honor society of Charity School of Nursing. This is an invitation only organization for AND students who achieve a 3.1 GPA in their nursing courses as they enter Level III. The members offer tutoring to nursing students.

### **PHI THETA KAPPA**

Those students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 are invited to join the Omega Nu Chapter of the college's Phi Theta Kappa honor society. Open to all Charity students.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Students attending the School of Nursing must have reliable transportation. Students will be attending classes at the Charity Campus as well as going to many different clinical agencies in the Greater New Orleans area. The School of Nursing does not provide transportation.

## CRIME STATISTICS

Student safety is a major goal at the Charity School of Nursing campus. Officers of the Delgado Campus Police force are on the premises of the School of Nursing during the hours that the School of Nursing is in operation. Full details regarding crime statistics for the School of Nursing campus can be found on the Delgado Community College website ([www.dcc.edu](http://www.dcc.edu)), click on Campus Police and then on crime stats.

## TUITION AND FEES

For tuition costs and fee breakdown, please refer to the Delgado Community College web site [www.dcc.edu](http://www.dcc.edu) and choose "Handbook".

In addition to the tuition and fees, other **approximate** costs for attending the nursing program are:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Textbooks (Course Complete - \$25/ credit hour   | Approx. \$250/sem. Course Complete \$25/cr.hr |
| • Basic Cardiac Life Support course  | Approx. \$100 (valid for 2 years)             |
| • Nursing Student Liability Insurance  | \$25 - \$50 annually                          |
| • Uniforms & equipment including lab coat & patch, name tag, scissors/hemostat/penlight, stethoscope and blood pressure cuff to be used throughout the program | \$500   |
| • Health requirements (e.g., vaccinations, titers, physical exam)  | Varies according to provider                  |
| • Health requirements tracking   | \$110 (valid for 2 years)                     |
| • Application to enroll in clinical nursing courses through the LA State Board of Nursing  | \$90  |
| • Fingerprinting   | \$20 - \$40                                   |
| • Licensure application  | \$100   |
| • Pin (if participate in Pinning ceremony)   | \$60 and up                                   |
| • Examsoft   | \$43  |
| • NCLEX Exam   | \$200   |

## COMPLAINTS

Any complaints regarding any aspect of the nursing program should be placed in writing, signed, dated and sent to the Dean, Charity School of Nursing, 450 South Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, La. 70112. Each complaint will be handled on an individual basis.

## PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL OF ADMISSIONS DECISION

### POLICY

Charity School of Nursing has the legal right and responsibility to establish admission requirements and to limit enrollment. An applicant who alleges that an admission decision was arbitrary or capricious or was in violation of stated guidelines may request a review of the decision. Requests for review which involve waiving admission requirements or challenging the limited enrollment will not be considered.

### PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL

1. An applicant must write a detailed letter including the request and explaining the conditions and circumstances of the appeal. The letter must be addressed to the Dean of the School of Nursing and sent with original documentation by certified mail.
2. The Dean will determine if the admission decision was arbitrary or capricious or was in violation of stated guidelines.
3. Applicants will be notified by mail of the final decision.



### SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Classes are offered on various days and times depending on the course

#### Clinical (hospital) experience

- 12 – 15 hours per week depending on the specific courses
- Clinical experiences may begin as early as 5AM, may extend for 6 to 8 hours two days per week; some afternoon, evening, night, weekend or 12 hour clinicals may be necessary in certain courses depending on clinical unit availability.

#### Other

- Skills practice and patient assignments and study times are in addition to class/clinical times.
- Clinical may begin earlier or later in the day in a selected course in order to meet learning outcomes.

**Note:** Clinical experience has a strict attendance requirement. The times and days for clinical experience are subject to availability of sites for patient care; times may be changed if necessary. Class will usually be on non-clinical experience days.

In first level courses, a schedule might look like this:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Lab/Clinical for 6 hours	Lab/Clinical for 6 hours	Nursing I class from 8:30AM to 10:20AM and Pharmacology I class from 10:30AM to 12:20PM	Nursing I class from 8:30AM to 10:20AM	

OR like this:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Nursing I class from 10:30AM to 12:20PM and Pharmacology I class from 1:30PM to	Nursing I class from 10:30AM to 12:20PM	Lab/Clinical for 12 hours

			3:20PM		
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Most semesters of the curriculum will follow a similar class pattern, with two days per week in the classroom and two 6-8 hour days or one 12 hour day per week in the lab/clinical area. Days for class, lab and clinical vary according to semester.

### IMPORTANT ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Charity School of Nursing  
615 City Park Avenue, Building 14  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119  
(504) 571-1270

Sidney Collier  
3727 Louisa Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70126  
(504) 941-8500

Louisiana State Board of Nursing  
17373 Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge, La. 70810  
(225) 755-7500

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing  
3390 Peachtree Rd. NE Suite 1400  
Atlanta, Georgia, 30326  
404-975-5000