

Nursing

Practical Nursing

This program is available to high school graduates or transfer students who are interested in pursuing a career in nursing. The curriculum is four semesters and awards an Associate in Applied Science degree in Practical Nursing. The graduate has an excellent opportunity for immediate entry into the health profession and/or transfer to an associate or bachelor's program for nursing. All general education courses are transferable within the NDUS system. The program enrolls students the beginning of fall semester and the beginning of spring semester. Application deadlines are April 1 and October 15.

Career opportunities

Practical nurses have excellent job opportunities, which include: employment in hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, home health, schools and industry.

Instructional process

The first two semesters of the program consist of classroom, laboratory and clinical instruction at the college and local long-term care facilities. The final two semesters of the program include clinical affiliations in adult, maternal-child, psychiatric, long-term care, home health and clinic nursing along with classroom course work in Wahpeton-Breckenridge or Fargo.

Completed application for the federal and the Minnesota Criminal background check will be required. A previous felony conviction may affect clinical rotations and a state board of nursing could deny an application for licensure as a licensed practical nurse. The applicant must visit with the department chair regarding this issue if it applies. A criminal history background check will also be required to test for the NCLEX-PN.

The NDSCS Practical Nursing program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 61 Broadway, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10006, 1-800-669-1656, ext. 153, and full approval from the North Dakota Board of Nursing. It was the nation's first accredited Associate Degree Practical Nursing program. This accreditation exemplifies high-quality instruction. The majority of the faculty has master's degrees in their areas of expertise. Tutoring is available at the ASC center for many courses.

Note: This program requires a personal computer. Contact program for more information.

Equal opportunity policy

The NDSCS Department of Nursing adheres to the NDSCS college equal opportunity policy as stated in the *NDSCS Catalog*.

Contact information

For specific program information please contact Barbara Diederick, department chair, Department of Nursing, NDSCS, 800 Sixth Street North, Wahpeton, ND 58076-0002. Call at 1-800-342-4325, ext. 3-2967 or e-mail alliedhealthcareers@ndscs.edu.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
NURS 101	Introduction to Nursing	5
NURS 102	Introduction to Adult Nursing	6
NURS 231	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	2
NURS 232	Adult Nursing	5
NURS 233	Adult Nursing Clinical	5
NURS 245	Maternal-Child Nursing	4
NURS 246	Maternal-Child Nursing Clinical	4
NURS 250	Leadership in the Long-Term Care Setting	2
PHRM 205	Pharmacology for Nursing	2

Related/General Education Courses

BIOL 220	Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BIOL 220L	Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
BIOL 221	Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BIOL 221L	Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1
ENGL 110	College Composition I	3
ENGL 120	College Composition II	3
MICR 202	Introductory Microbiology	3
MICR 202L	Introductory Microbiology Lab	1
NUTR 240	Principles of Nutrition (and Diet Therapy)	3
PSYC 250	Developmental Psychology	3
SOC 110	Introduction to Sociology	3
Humanities elective— PHIL 210 Ethics		3

TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS 65

Suggested sequence of study

First Semester	Second Semester
BIOL 220	MICR 202
BIOL 220L	MICR 202L
NURS 101	BIOL 221
PSYC 250	BIOL 221L
Humanities elective— PHIL 210	NURS 102
	PHRM 205

Summer Semester

NURS 231

Third Semester

ENGL 110
NUTR 240
NURS 232
NURS 233

Fourth Semester

ENGL 120
SOC 110
NURS 245
NURS 246
NURS 250

Admission requirements continued

5. A transfer student must have an overall 2.0 grade average to be admitted to the program with a "C" in each course that applies to the nursing curriculum.
6. If an applicant fails to meet any of the admission requirements, they may attend one semester or summer session of college. While enrolled, the student must take at least 12 credits of the nursing curriculum in a full semester or six credits of nursing curriculum in the summer semester and receive a "C" or better in each course that applies to the nursing curriculum. If these requirements are met, the applicant may apply to the Practical Nursing Program.
7. Submit the following to the Department of Nursing:
 - a. documented evidence of measles, mumps, rubella vaccination or rubella titer.
 - b. documentation of hepatitis immunization or a waiver must be submitted.

Criteria for Admission

The criteria for selection is as follows: High School GPA/GED, ACT/ PSB score, college GPA (12 credits or more), grades in BIOL 220-221/220-221L, MICR 202/202L.

Award

Upon successful completion of the required courses, students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Practical Nursing; be prepared to apply theoretical concepts in the provision of safe, basic, technical nursing care to client/patients, utilizing the nursing process within the bounds of the legal definitions of a practical nurse as defined in the Nurse Practices Act; and be eligible for the National Council Licensure Exam for Practical Nurses.

Admission Requirements

Applicants will be admitted to the program following a selection process:

1. Complete the NDSCS Application for Admission.
2. Submit a high school transcript or equivalent form with a minimum "C" average.
3. Submit an ACT score of a minimum of 15, or complete the PSB Aptitude for Practical Nursing Examination and attain the benchmark score. This test should be scheduled with the Department of Nursing.
4. Submit to Enrollment Services, all college transcripts that are listed on your application.

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