

Practical Nursing – AAS

Contact Information

Barb Diederick, department chair
alliedhealthcareers@ndscs.edu
701-671-2967
Mayme Green Allied Health Center 213F

Delivery Methods

Face-to-Face: Wahpeton
Face-to-Face: **Fargo
Combination
** Fargo cohort is offered on a periodic basis. Contract program for future start dates.

This **two-year** program is available to high school graduates or transfer students who are interested in pursuing a career in nursing. The curriculum is five 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. Application deadlines are April 1 (starting fall semester) and October 15 (starting spring semester). Practical nurses have excellent job opportunities, which include: employment in hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, home health, hospice, schools, and industry.

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 three semesters of the program include clinical affiliations in adult, maternal-child, psychiatric, long-term care, home health, and clinic nursing. Interactive Video Network (IVN) classroom course work is utilized in Wahpeton or Fargo. Tutoring is available at the Academic Services Center (ASC) for many general education and some nursing courses.

Criminal background checks will be required. A previous conviction may affect clinical rotations and a state board of nursing could deny an application for licensure as a Practical Nurse. If arrested, charged and/or convicted of any felony, the applicant is required to meet with the department chair. A federal criminal history background check will also be required to test for the NCLEX-PN.

The NDSCS Practical Nursing program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326, 404-975-5000, and has full approval from the North Dakota Board of Nursing, 919 South 7th Street, Suite 504, Bismarck, ND 58504, 701-328-9777.

This program requires access to a personal computer capable of completing the assignments required by the nursing program (Windows 10 Operating System or newer).

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	2
NURS 250	Leadership in the Long-Term Care Setting	2
NURS 251	NCLEX-PN Review	1
PHRM 205	Pharmacology for Nursing	3

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
FYE 101	Science of Success	1
*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 66

*This course has an expiration date of completion when transferring into the program. Check with the program.

**A placement test may be required if you have not met the ENGL (110 or higher) requirement.

Practical Nursing (NURS) courses must be taken in sequence. Sequencing is available on the program website at www.ndscs.edu/nursing.

Equal opportunity policy

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

Admission Requirements*

Applicants will be admitted to the program following a selection process which needs to be completed prior to the deadline date(s) of **October 15 or April 1**. Applicants that apply after the deadline(s) can complete the admission requirements and be placed on a waiting list. If openings become available they may be selected, based on points, until the first day of class.

1. Complete the NDSCS Application Process for Admission. Refer to the NDSCS website at www.ndscs.edu/admissions for details.
2. Applicants without a United States high school transcript (four years), will be required to complete English language proficiency exam(s) and meet the benchmark score(s) prior to continuing the selection process. Contact the program to schedule the assessments if this applies.
3. Complete the Supplemental Program Application for the Practical Nursing Program.
4. Submit a high school transcript /GED with a 2.0 GPA or higher. If an applicant fails to meet the high school /college GPA of a 2.0, the following requirement applies: they must complete, or be in the process of completing, at least 12 general education credits from the nursing curriculum and achieve a "C" or higher to apply to the program.
5. Submit official ACT and/or placement testing results to Enrollment Services. Results must meet the criteria to enroll in ASC 93 Algebra Prep III the first semester of the program OR submit an official transcript with ASC 93 completed with a "C" or higher.
6. Complete a program admission assessment examination and meet the program benchmark composite score of 45. Exam can be retaken once.
7. Review Essential Functions for Practical Nursing Students and submit the Essential Functions Verification form.

Criteria for Selection

A point system is utilized based on the following criteria: High School GPA or GED, assessment scores, most current college GPA (12 credits or more), grades in college level BIOL 220/220L, 221/221L and MICR 202/ 202L.

It is highly recommended the applicant contact the program periodically during the selection process to assure file completion. Incomplete files will not be considered for selection.

For accepted students, specific immunizations, background checks, CPR certification (American Heart Associate BLS Provider OR American Red Cross Professional Rescuer for Healthcare Provider ONLY) are required and must remain current while in the program. Additional prerequisites (e.g. drug screening/finger printing) may be required dependent on site-specific student prerequisites. All requirements will be at the students' expense.

Selection process details contact information and forms are in the Practical Nursing-AAS Program Information and Selection Process Booklet available at www.ndscs.edu/nursing (click on Program Selection Process) or contact the program at alliedhealthcareers@ndscs.edu.

Program Admission Requirements are subject to revision. Please check the department or program website under Program Admission Requirements for current information.

Award

Upon successful completion of the required courses ("C" or higher), students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Practical Nursing, and be eligible for the National Council Licensure Exam for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).

Revised: April 2019