

## Practical Nursing Overview

**HESI will resume for the PN program starting Apr 12 and run through May 14. Please see the HESI Practical Nursing Admission Test page for more detailed information.**

### Certificate

**PURPOSE:** The Practical Nursing Certificate prepares a student to work as a practical nurse. A student who successfully completes the certificate program for practical nursing is eligible to apply for licensing in the state they reside and must pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX®) for practical nurses.

**OCCUPATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** To prepare students to work as licensed practical nurses, participating as an integral member of the nursing or health care team involved in health promotion and maintenance activities for the client. The LPN provides direct care for individual clients experiencing common, well-defined health problems with predictable outcomes, in structured health care settings with supervision. Long-term care, hospitals, physicians' offices, and other comparable structured health care facilities and agencies employ LPNs.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:** General college curricular admission and program specific criteria

**PROGRAM NOTES:** The Virginia Board of Nursing has the authority to deny licensure to an applicant who has violated any of the provisions of 54-367.32 of the Code of Virginia. Health care agencies used for clinical learning experiences also have the right to deny a student participation in direct patient care. Any student entering the program who has committed illegal offenses other than minor traffic violations should discuss these matters with the program head for clarification prior to admission. Criminal background checks are required of all applicants to the Practical Nursing program. Inability to be placed in a clinical site due to a negative background check will result in removal from the program.

### STUDENT OUTCOMES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICAL NURSING:

The Practical Nursing program prepares students to practice in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic community as demonstrated by the college and community demographic data. Upon successful completion of the program, a student will be able to:

1. Provide safe care in multiple settings with a variety of patients including those with cognitive and physical limits (Safety).
2. Support desired health outcomes in patients while respecting dignity, diversity, and self-determination of patients and families (Quality).
3. Collaborate with patients, families, and the interprofessional team to assist in planning, delivery, and coordination of patient-centered care to assigned patients (Team/Collaboration).
4. Demonstrate caring and respect in culturally appropriate, individualized interactions with patients, family, and health care team. (Relationship-Centered Care).

5. Manage system resources to support optimal care for patients (Systems-Based Care).
6. Reflect on individual and professional areas of practice which support self-fulfillment (Personal/Professional Development).

### PROGRAM SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

The following steps must be completed to submit an application to the Practical Nursing program:

1. Selection of Health Science I CSC (plan code 221-190-01) on the Reynolds Community College general admission application. (Please note: Reynolds student email accounts are the only accepted email account for all correspondence)
2. Current certification as a nurse aide in Virginia, with no practice restrictions. A copy of your C.N.A. license must be submitted with the application.
3. Submit official college transcripts, if applicable, to the Admissions office. Courses taken at other colleges that contain equivalent content and credits may transfer to satisfy a program requirement. If a student has attended another VCCS college, a Request for an Evaluation of a VCCS Transcript form (#11-0036) must be submitted with the Application for Admission to the college. This form can be found under student forms on reynolds.edu.
4. If a non-native English speaker, complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT) with a standard score of 84 or above and minimum speaking score of 26. Completion of ENG 111 or ESL courses does not satisfy this requirement. Documentation must be submitted with the application.
  - 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.
  - TOEFL iBT scores are valid for two years.
5. Complete BIO 141, ENG 111, PSY 230, ITE 115, and SDV 101 with a grade of "C" or above. All pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to the program application deadline.
6. Achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and a curricular GPA of 2.5 or higher of the five (5) pre-requisite courses listed above.
7. Completion of the required program admission assessment exam scoring at or above 70% in each required component. The admissions exam may be repeated once. After the second attempt, a student must wait at least 24 months before reattempting. Applications are ranked based on admission scores. Anatomy and Physiology, reading comprehension, and math scores are each weighted 30%; the grammar score is weighted 10%.
8. A selected applicant must accept or deny admission electronically via their Reynolds student email account, as directed, via the Accepted Student Response Form by the identified date or forfeit their seat.

### APPLICATION DEADLINE PROGRAM:

**Fall Semester Start: 4th Monday in May**

Accepted students will receive an acceptance letter with additional program requirements information to complete

# REYNOLDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

prior to enrollment during a mandatory orientation session. It is important to meet the deadlines identified in this letter. Additional program requirements include the following:

- Physical exam
- Evidence of immunity to Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella, and Hepatitis B, and evidence of Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis immunization within the past seven (7) years.
- Tuberculosis screening, with negative results (two-step process required)
- Annual flu vaccination
- Current American Heart Association BLS Certification for Health Care Providers (C.P.R.)
- Background check
- Drug screening
- Signed Assumption of Risk form
- Additional program and clinical agency forms

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF CLINICAL FACILITIES:** Clinical facilities used by the program have additional requirements for students that include updated immunizations, dress codes, and compliance with professional standards. In general, contracts include the following:

1. Clinical agencies reserve the right to dismiss a student from their agency at any time with good cause.
2. Compliance with Practical Nursing Dress Code standard.
3. Strict compliance with all published hospital policies. State and federal regulations and laws mandate some hospital policies. Some violations may result in immediate dismissal from the hospital.
4. Compliance with health care agency physical exam, immunization, TB, and flu requirements.
5. The student releases the facility, its agents, and its employees from any liability for any injury or death to self or damage to personal property arising out of the clinical agreement or use of the facility. (Reynolds' *Assumption of Risk* document is signed and on file, once the student is accepted into the program.)
6. The student is financially responsible for any self-medical care, if needed, while in the clinical setting.
7. The student must maintain a current American Heart Association BLS Certification for Health Care Providers while in the program.
8. Completion of the required criminal background check and drug screen and any re-screening as identified.

**FUNCTIONAL SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Students entering the Practical Nursing program must possess the following functional skills:

1. Sufficient eyesight to observe patients, read records, manipulate equipment, and visually monitor patients in dim light;
2. Sufficient hearing to communicate with patients and members of a health care delivery team, monitor patients using electronic equipment, hear a patient's whisper, and hear necessary sounds during operation of equipment;
3. Satisfactory speaking, reading, and writing skills to communicate effectively in English in a timely manner;
4. Sufficient bilateral finger dexterity to manipulate equipment;

5. Ability to lift, stoop, or bend in the delivery of safe nursing care;
6. Satisfactory physical strength and endurance to stand for extended periods, push equipment, and move immobile patients; and
7. Satisfactory intellectual and emotional functioning to ensure patient safety and to exercise independent judgment and discretion in performing assigned tasks.

## ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE POLICY:

1. A minimum grade of "C" is required for all courses in the Practical Nursing curriculum. A "C" is equal to 80% in all practical nursing courses.
2. Students must obtain permission from the program head to continue in the program under the following conditions:
  - repeating a nursing course with a grade below "C"
  - withdrawing from a nursing course for any reason
3. In accordance with VCCS policy, a student is limited to two attempts of the same course.
4. Additional policies for the program are listed in the Practical Nursing Student Handbook, which is given to students at the mandatory orientation.

**PROGRESSION THROUGH THE PROGRAM:** The college offers this program in affiliation with the health care agencies and practitioners in the communities the college serves. The college relies on its community affiliates to provide clinical education opportunities for its students, expert clinical preceptors, and course instructors for many courses. The often rapid changes in health care law, standards of practice, technology, and content of credentialing examinations increasingly may necessitate sudden changes in the program's course content, policies, procedures, and course scheduling. As a result, the college cannot guarantee every continuous and uninterrupted clinical and course instruction as outlined in the printed catalog curriculum for this program. Circumstances beyond the control of the college may necessitate the postponement of course offerings or changes in the sequencing and/or location of scheduled courses or clinical assignments.

## Reynolds' Graduate NCLEX-PN LICENSURE EXAMINATION PASS RATES:

Year	Number of Candidates who Attempted the Examination	Number of Candidates who Passed on their First Attempt	First Attempt Pass Rate
2018	1	1	100%
2017	16	15	93.8%
2016	9	9	100%
2015	16	13	81.25%
2014	29	24	82.76%

## Roadmap

Order	Course	Title	Credits
1	SDV 101 <sup>1</sup>	Orientation to Health Science	1
2	ENG 111	College Composition I	3
3	PSY 230	Developmental Psychology	3
4	BIO 141	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
5	ITE 115	Introduction to Computer Applications and Concepts	3
6	BIO 142	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
7	PNE 143	Applied Nursing Skills	1
8	PNG 110	Patient-Centered Concepts	2
9	PNG 115	Patient-Centered Concepts Clinical	2
10	PHI 220 <sup>2</sup> or PHI 227 <sup>2</sup>	Ethics or Bio-Medical Ethics	3
11	PNG 120	Patient-Centered Care I	3
12	PNG 125	Patient-Centered Care I Clinical	2
13	PNG 210	Patient-Centered Care II	4
14	PNG 215	Patient-Centered Care II Clinical	2
15	PNG 220	Patient-Centered Care III	4
16	PNG 225	Patient-Centered Care III Clinical	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Practical Nursing Certificate</b>		<b>44</b>

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<sup>1</sup> SDV 100 may be substituted for SDV 101.

<sup>2</sup> Choose one course.