

PRACTICAL NURSING

DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Quarter Credit Hours Required = 79.3

This program is designed to prepare the student for employment as a practical nurse. Graduates of this program are eligible to take the national licensure examination to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

The content includes theoretical instruction and clinical experience in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and geriatric nursing in both acute and long-term care situations; personal, family, and community health concepts; nutrition; human growth and development over the life span; body structure and function; interpersonal relationship skills; mental health concepts; pharmacology and administration of medications; legal aspects of practice; and current issues in nursing. The program includes CPR, HIV, and infection control. Fifty percent of the total program is comprised of clinical experience in a health care setting.

Because of the nature of this program, while students are participating in the clinical practice of some subjects, hours of attendance may vary. However, at no time will a student be required to attend more than eight hours in one day.

Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to

- provide personal patient care and perform nursing procedures utilizing safety functions and in accordance with legal and ethical responsibilities specific to the nursing profession;
- provide care for medical/surgical patients, utilizing nursing principles;
- provide care for maternal/newborn patients, utilizing nursing principles;
- provide care for pediatric patients, utilizing nursing principles;
- provide care for geriatric patients, utilizing nursing principles;
- apply the principles of infection control, utilizing nursing principles;
- provide care for pre-operative and post-operative patients, utilizing nursing principles;
- administer medications;
- apply principles of nutrition; and
- provide biological, psychological, and social support to the patient and family.

The Practical Nursing Program consists of 672 hours of classroom and clinical skills training and 678 hours of clinical experience in health care settings including the hospital and nursing home. Full-time students must attend at least 30 hours per week during the classroom and clinical portions of the program.

		Quarter Credit Hours
PRN 1000	Practical Nursing I	22.75
PRN 1500	Practical Nursing II	21.25
PRN 2000	Practical Nursing III	17.5
PRN 2500	Practical Nursing IV	17.8

TOTAL MINIMUM QUARTER CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED 79.3