

Delgado Community College Practical Nursing Program

Information Bulletin

Sixteen (16) months is all that is needed to begin
a nursing career.

The Practical Nursing Program prepares the student for a career as a licensed practical nurse. Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) function as an important part of the health team, providing patient care under the supervision of a registered nurse or a licensed physician.

Practical Nurses take care of patients including: feeding, bathing, and maintaining patient charts. They administer medication and monitor equipment. They also assess and monitor the health and illness of patients.

Practical Nurses are predominantly employed by:

- Physician's Offices
- Home Health Care Agencies
- Nursing Homes
- Hospitals
- Clinics

Clinical experience makes up over 50% of the total program hours. Students learn patient observation skills, treatments, and medications. Clinical sites are at a variety of locations throughout the greater New Orleans and surrounding areas.

When can new students enroll?

Classes begin in Fall (August) at the City Park campus and in Spring (January) at the Sidney Collier campus.

The application period for Spring is September 1st-30th. Fall application period is May 1st-31st.

Where will I attend classes?

Classes are held at the Ochsner Center for Nursing and Allied Health, Building 14, on the City Park campus and at the Sidney Collier Campus.

When should I apply?

An application should be submitted when the student has successfully completed English, Math and Reading developmental courses, as well as Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology (BIOL 161/163) and Medical Nutrition Therapy (HESC 109).

Please note that BIOL 161/163 & HESC 109 must be completed with a grade of "C" or better and must be taken within 3 years of entry into the Nursing program.

Applicant Selection Process:

The Practical Nursing (PN) Program has a limited enrollment because of the clinical component. Therefore, admission to the PN Program is not automatic, even if applicants have submitted the required documents and may be academically qualified. Applicants are selected by the use of a ranking system. Ranking for admissions will be based on the Kaplan Pre-Nursing Admissions exam scores and CSN GPA. Additional points are awarded for successful completion of BIOL 161/163 on 1st attempt and HESC 109 on 1st or 2nd attempt. Bonus points are given if ENGL 101 or 3 hours of College level Math have been completed prior to application to the program. Final approval is based on maintaining a "C" (2.000 GPA) or higher in all college courses attempted and turning in all necessary forms. Applicants are selected in descending order until all available student spaces are filled, and will be notified by email of the admission decision.

Note: A sample rating sheet is included with this bulletin.

Admission Requirements:

- Be a high school graduate or have high school equivalency
- Be eligible to take MATH 120 and ENGL 101 by application date. Students must have completed or tested out of developmental English, Math and Reading via Delgado Placement Testing or have exempting ACT scores. All students must be non-developmental before they apply.
- Completion of BIOL 161/163 and HESC 109 with a grade of "C" or better within 3 years of entry into the Nursing program.
- An Institutional (DCC) GPA of 2.00 for all college work attempted at Delgado Community College and a CSN GPA of 2.00 for all courses required for the program.
- Applicant must be in good health.
- **The KAPLAN Pre-Nursing Admissions Exam must be completed prior to submission of the Nursing Program application.**
 - a) The Kaplan exam must be taken within three (3) years of application.
 - b) The Kaplan exam must be scheduled through the Delgado Community College Testing Center.
 - c) The Kaplan exam may not be repeated until 140 days have elapsed from the date of the previous test. The most recent eligible score will be used to calculate your profile score.

- d) Kaplan scores received after submission of the Nursing Program application will not be considered, therefore you must take your Kaplan exam prior to submitting your application.
 - e) If your application is different from the name used to take your Kaplan exam, you must email proof of the name change to csnadmissions@dcc.edu.
- Applicants are required to have CPR certification before enrollment in their first nursing course with clinical experience.
 - Please note: An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident of the U.S. The non-citizen applicant must produce a valid permanent resident card. A copy of the card will be required.

What courses should I take?

You are required to take Introductory Anatomy and Physiology (BIOL 161 and 163) and Medical Nutrition Therapy for Nursing and Allied Health (HESC 109) before you apply to the program. Please note **BIOL 114** will not be accepted for Nutrition.

An applicant planning to later enroll in an RN program should consider taking BIOL 251, 252, 253, 254 to complete their Human Anatomy and Physiology requirement. Anatomy & Physiology and the Medical Nutrition Therapy classes must be completed within 3 years of enrollment in the Practical Nursing Program and grades must be a "C" or higher.

What is expected of a Practical Nursing Student?

A criminal record check will be required by facilities and agencies. A candidate may not have a record of pleading guilty or no contest to, or convictions of a felony, either prior to or subsequent to acceptance into the Practical Nursing Program. This includes charges or convictions that have been pardoned, expunged, or whether or not sentences have been completed.

Mandatory drug screening and a credentials check are required and may occur periodically while enrolled in the program.

Regular attendance in class and clinical is necessary for completion of the program. Students should have dependable child care for children, and a back-up plan if children become ill. Work requirements and family obligations need to be arranged before you start the program. Students are required to be available for all class and clinical hours.

Scheduled time to study must be allocated to keep the "C" or better needed to be successful in the program. Students may be required to commute to healthcare facilities outside of the New Orleans area. Reliable transportation is a must. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from clinical sites.

How am I notified of acceptance or advised the class is closed?

Emails will be sent to all students notifying them of their application status.

CURRICULUM

Program Curriculum Pattern (*Please refer to the College website for fall and spring course sequencing*):

Courses in Curriculum:

BIOL 161	Intro. Anatomy & Physiology	3
BIOL 163	Intro. Anat. & Physio. Lab	1
HESC 109	Medical Nutrition Therapy for Nursing/Allied Health	3
PRNU 101	Intro. to Practical Nursing	3
PRNU 103	Essential Nursing Skills	3
NURS 105	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
PRNU 110	Med-Surg. Nursing I	16
PRNU 117	Pediatric, Obstetrics, & Mental Health Nursing for Practical Nursing	10
PRNU 124	Med-Surg. Nursing II	14
PRNU 128	Career Preparation for the Practical Nursing Student	$\frac{3}{59}$

How much does this cost?

Tuition and Fees (subject to change)

See the Delgado Community College website at www.dcc.edu for current information on tuition and fees.

In addition to tuition and fees, students will also need: (*All costs are approximate and subject to change without advance notice.*)

1.	Uniforms	\$500.00
2.	LSBPNE initial fees	\$50.00
3.	Student Liability Insurance	\$35.00/year
4.	Castle Branch	\$110.00
5.	Health Related Requirements *	\$250-\$400
6.	FBI Check/Fingerprinting**	\$100.00
7.	Books	\$700.00
8.	CPR	\$100.00
9.	Credential evaluation	\$48.50
10.	LSBPNE- First time writer	\$100.00
11.	Licensure exam fee	\$200.00
12.	Nurse Cap	\$12.00
13.	Cap and Gown	\$50.00
14.	Graduation Fee	\$50.00
15.	Nurse Pin	\$60.00 - \$100.00
16.	Computer Testing fee	\$30 per semester

*Depending on what is needed and if the student has medical insurance

** Needed at Admission and Graduation

How do I get started?

- 1) Complete all pre- requisites and a Kaplan Pre-Nursing exam with the Delgado Testing Center before applying.
- 2) Complete the PN online application found on the Delgado Community College website at www.dcc.edu . Click on the Academics tab at the top of the page, then click Academic Divisions, then Charity School of Nursing, then click Programs and choose the PN Program. The application can be found at the bottom of the page.
- 3) All official college transcripts must be sent to the Delgado Community College Registrar's Office, at healthsciencetrans@dcc.edu

Is there a way to become an R.N.?

Some LPNs may wish to continue their nursing education to become a registered nurse (RN). Delgado Community College offers this opportunity.

1. LPNs who have already obtained their license, can apply to the Transition Program. Those applicants whose rating score meets the minimum requirement will enroll in 1 semester of Transitions in Nursing Courses and upon successful completion, will advance to Level III.

All RN program admission requirements must be met.

Questions????

Contact :

DCC/CSN Practical Nursing Program

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**<http://www.dcc.edu/academics/charity-school-nursing/pn-program.aspx>
www.dcc.edu**