Delgado Community College
Practical Nursing Program

Information Bulletin
Updated 9/2015

Sixteen (16) months is all that is needed to begin a wonderful 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). Deadline to submit all application materials for Fall will be the third week of May.

Where will I attend classes?

Classes are held at the Practical Nursing Center of Excellence, 5200 Blair Drive, Metairie, LA 70001 and Sidney Collier, 3727 Louisa Street, New Orleans, LA 70126.

When should I apply?

An application should be submitted when the student has successfully completed English, Math and Reading remedial courses.

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 profile system. Ranking for admissions will be based on the HESI-PN exam, pre-nursing entrance/placement exam, Math, English and Reading composite scores, Delgado GPA, and the number of courses (BIOL 161, BIOL 163, and DMTP 101) successfully completed with a grade of “B” or higher. Final approval is based on your profile score and turning in all necessary forms. Applicants are selected in descending order until all available student spaces are filled, and will be notified by letter of the admission decision.

Note: A sample profile 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 the 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-remedial before they apply.

- A DCC GPA of 2.000 for all college work attempted

- Applicant must be in good health.

- Human Anatomy & Physiology and Nutrition courses cannot be older than three years old.
• HESI (Health Education System Inc.) PN or RN Admissions Assessment (A²) score of 65% or higher
  ▪ More information on this examination can be obtained from the Advising and Testing Centers at City Park:(504) 671-5080 / West Bank (504) 762-3198 or online: [http://www.dcc.edu/student-services/testing/hesi.aspx](http://www.dcc.edu/student-services/testing/hesi.aspx)

• Minimum scores must be achieved on the pre-nursing admissions exam. We accept TABE, COMPASS, and ACT for the PN program.
  
  ▪ TABE minimum scores are Math (12.0), Reading (12.0) and Language (12.0).
  ▪ COMPASS minimum scores are Pre-Algebra (55) or Algebra (33), Reading (85), and Language (70).
  ▪ ACT minimum scores are Math (18), Reading (20), and Language (17)
  ▪ The exams must be taken within three (3) years of application.
  ▪ The COMPASS exams will be administered at the Delgado Community College City Park Campus Testing and Assessment Center (Bldg. 2, Room 302, 504-671-5080) or our Westbank Campus (Bldg. 2, Room 103, 504-762-3198). The TABE exam is administered through the Jefferson Parish Adult Literacy Office, 504-466-0697.

• 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?

It is recommended that you take Introductory Anatomy and Physiology (BIOL 161 and 163) and Medical Nutrition (DMTP 101) before you start your program. However, you will have time to take these classes the semester you start the nursing 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 “B” 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. All students are required to be available for clinical hours.

Scheduled time to study must be allocated to keep the “C” (80%) 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.

Transcripts of applicants who have defaulted on previous student loans will not be sent to the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners (LSBPNE); therefore, the student is not eligible to take the licensing exam and cannot practice as a Practical Nurse.

How am I notified of acceptance or advised the class is closed?
Letters will be mailed to all students notifying them of their application status.
## II. CURRICULUM

### A. Program Curriculum Pattern

**Fall Admission:**
- PRNU 101 Intro. to Practical Nursing 3
- BIOL 161 Intro. Anatomy & Physiology 3
- BIOL 163 Intro. Anat. & Physio. Lab 1
- DMTP 101 Medical Nutrition Therapy 3
- PRNU 103 Essential Nursing Skills 3
- NURS 110 Intro. to Pharmacology & Drug Dosage 1
  - Total: 14

**Spring:**
- PRNU 110 Med-Surg. Nursing I 16
- NURS 111 Pharmacotherapy and Nursing 2
  - Total: 18

**Summer:**
- PRNU 117 Pediatric, Obstetrics, & Mental Health Nursing for Practical Nursing 10

**Fall:**
- PRNU 124 Med-Surg. Nursing II 14
- PRNU 128 Career Preparation for the Practical Nursing Student 3
  - Total: 17
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):

1. Uniforms $350.00
2. LSBPNE initial fees $51.00
3. Student Liability Insurance/Health/Drug Screening $300.00-$500.00*
4. Books $700.00
5. CPR $35.00 - $50.00
6. Credential evaluation $48.50
7. LSBPNE- First time writer $100.00
8. Licensure exam fee $200.00
9. Nurse Cap $12.00
10. Fingerprinting $10.00/card X 2
11. FBI Check $16.00
12. Cap and Gown $50.00
13. Graduation Fee $50.00
14. Nurse Pin $50.00 - $100.00

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

How do I get started?

1) Schedule to take the HESI-PN (A²) exam and a pre-nursing entrance/placement exam and successfully pass.
2) Find the PN application online through www.dcc.edu, click under location for Charity School of Nursing. The PN application is under the PN tab.
3) Type and complete the PN application and print out the PN check list.
4) Bring the completed PN application, checklist, official high school or high school equivalency transcript, birth certificate a copy of HESI-PN score, and COMPASS, TABE or ACT scores to: 450. S. Claiborne Ave., Room 613C, New Orleans, LA 70112 (Charity Campus).
   If birth certificate is in another language, it must be translated from an official translation service. All official college transcripts must also be provided to the Admissions Office.
**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 different opportunities.

1. DCC PN graduates may receive credit for the first semester of nursing courses and can enroll in second level RN courses.
2. An LPN with one year of clinical experience may challenge nursing courses in theory and clinical via exam.
3. An LPN with two years of experience may choose a transition course.

All RN program admission requirements must be met. There are certain time frames. Information is available online or from the Admissions Office.

**Questions???**
**Contact:**

DCC/CSN Practical Nursing Program  
Koren E. Thornton - Admissions Coordinator  
450 S. Claiborne Avenue, Room 613-C  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
(504) 571-1270 – Office (504) 568-5494- Fax  
http://www.dcc.edu/campus/charity/  
www.dcc.edu
Delgado Community College
Practical Nursing Program
Applicant Evaluation and Profile Form

Student Name________________________________________LoLA # __________________

DCC GPA

Minimum Score Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admission Test</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TABE</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPASS (Pre-Algebra)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPASS (Algebra)</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>70</td>
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</table>

Admission Test Taken: ________________________________

Math: ______  Reading: ______  Language: ______  Average: ______

Average of Math, Language and Reading Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPASS Pre-Algebra</th>
<th>COMPASS Algebra</th>
<th>TABE</th>
<th>ACT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>71-79____ 5 pts</td>
<td>64-74____ 5 pts</td>
<td>12.1-13____ 5 pts</td>
<td>19-20____ 5 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89____ 10 pts</td>
<td>75-85____ 10 pts</td>
<td>13.1-14____ 10 pts</td>
<td>21-22____ 10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 90____ 15 pts</td>
<td>≥ 86____ 15 pts</td>
<td>&gt;14____ 15 pts</td>
<td>&gt;22____ 15 pts</td>
</tr>
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HESI Score: ______

Nutrition Credit - Medical Nutrition Therapy (DMTP101)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HESI Score</th>
<th>Nutrition Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65-69.99____ 5 points</td>
<td>1st Attempt Nutrition DMTP (B or &gt;) _______ 25 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74.99____ 10 points</td>
<td>2nd Attempt Nutrition DMTP (B or &gt;) _______ 20 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75.79-99____ 15 points</td>
<td>3rd Attempt Nutrition DMTP (B or &gt;) _______ 15 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥80____ 20 points</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

HESI Points _____________  Nutrition Points ____________

Human Anatomy and Physiology Credit (BIOL 161, 163, 251, 253, 252, and 254) - No points given for “C” or lower. Credit can only be given for courses taken within the last three (3) years.

A & P (251, 253, 252 and 254) completed (B or >) _______ 20 points maximum
A & P (251/253 or 251/252 or 251/254 or 252/254 or 252/253) Partial credit given for 2 courses completed______ 10 points
A & P (161 and 163) Completed (B or >) ______________________ 20 points maximum
A & P 161 completed- Partial credit given for 1 course (B or >) __________________ 10 points
A & P 163 completed- Partial credit given for 1 course (B or >) __________________ 10 points

Total A & P Points ______

Bonus Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English 101 completed</th>
<th>Math 120 completed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
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Total Bonus Points ______  Total Profile Score ______

Profiler’s name _______________________

Recommend □  Do Not Recommend □