

Practical Nursing DIPLOMA

Program Overview

Under the supervision of registered nurses and physicians, licensed practical nurses provide bedside care, monitor patients, gather information, evaluate patient needs and contribute to the patient's care. Licensed practical nurses administer medications and perform treatments. Licensed practical nurses utilize observation, critical thinking, decision-making and communication skills in caring for patients.

The Practical Nursing Diploma is designed to meet the requirements to become licensed as a Practical Nurse.

Career Opportunities

Employment of LPN's is expected to increase faster than the average for all occupations. The best opportunities will occur in nursing care facilities and home health care services. This is in response to the long-term care needs of an increasing elderly population.

Graduates may be employed in long-term care centers, clinics, home care agencies, hospice, hospitals and transitional care units. Upon completion of the program, the graduate will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).

Licensing or certification exams are independent of graduation requirements.

Program Outcomes

1. The graduate will participate in the nursing process of assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation to provide basic safe and effective nursing care to patients.
2. The graduate will communicate effectively with patients, families, significant others and health care personnel.
3. The graduate will meet the student learning outcomes of the Nursing program.
4. The graduate will be prepared to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam.
5. The graduate will be prepared for job placement in nursing care.

This program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

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Program Faculty

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Part-time/Full-time Options

Part-time and full-time options are available. PRNS theory courses are scheduled days and evenings. Clinical experiences may be scheduled both days and evenings due to clinical site availability. Costs differ depending on part-time or full-time enrollment. All PN Saint Paul College students have the option of days or evenings.

Days: Saint Paul College

Evenings: Minneapolis Community and Technical College

Application Process

Prior to submitting the Application to Practical Nursing Major form, an applicant must:

1. Complete the ACCUPLACER assessment and meet Minimum Program Entry Requirements (see below box).
2. Complete all pre-requisites prior to PRNS courses (listed on the back of this guide) Pre-requisites must meet a GPA of 2.75 or better.
3. Complete the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS score of Basic, Proficient, Advanced, or Exemplary).
4. Nursing Assistant certification or active Minnesota Nursing Assistant Registry is required starting spring 2018.
5. Submit a record of the required immunizations prior to the semester in which the student registers for clinical courses.

The nursing admissions committee will review each application and determine admission on the basis of overall academic performance, including all previous college course work, GPA, ACCUPLACER assessment scores and Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS VI) scores. Notification of acceptance into the Practical Nursing major will be sent approximately 2-3 weeks after the admissions committee has met.

Required CPR course

Students are required to successfully complete a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course prior to registering for PRNS 1482 Clinical 2.

See back of this guide for Program Requirements and Course Sequence

*Information is subject to change.
This Program Requirements Guide is not a contract.*

Minimum Program Entry Requirements

Students entering this program must meet the following minimum program entry requirements:

Reading: Score of 78+ or grade of "C" or better in READ 0722

Writing: Score of 78+ on Reading Comprehension or grade of "C" or better in ENGL 0922

Arithmetic: Score of 52+

Assessment Results and Prerequisites:

Students admitted into Saint Paul College programs may need to complete additional courses based on ACCUPLACER assessment results and course prerequisite requirements. Certain MATH, READ, and ENGL courses have additional prerequisites.

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Practical Nursing DIPLOMA *(continued)*

Program Requirements

Nursing Assistant certification taken within the last five years or an active Minnesota Nursing Assistant Registry.

- All classes must be successfully completed with a grade of “C” or better.

Preliminary courses and requirements:

The following four (4) courses and TEAS Test, must be completed prior to submitting your Application to Practical Nursing Major form.

- Check off when completed

<input type="checkbox"/> HLTH 1410 Medical Terminology . . . . .	.1
Health Core Credits . . . . .	.1
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 1: ENGL 1711 Composition 1 . . . . .	.4
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 3: BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 5: PSYC 1720 Psychology Throughout the Lifespan . . . . .	.3
General Education Requirements . . . . .	.10

- TEAS Test: Complete Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

PRNS Core Courses	Cr
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1425 Essentials of Clinical Pharmacology . . . . .	.2
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1435 Foundations of Nursing . . . . .	.4
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1481 Clinical 1 . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of current CPR certification must be presented prior to taking PRNS 1482 Clinical 2.	
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1482 Clinical 2 . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1483 Clinical 3 . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1521 Nursing Care of Adults 1 . . . . .	.4
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1524 Nursing Care of Adults 2 . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 1530 Maternal/Child Health . . . . .	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 2410 Psycho/Social Nursing . . . . .	.2
<input type="checkbox"/> PRNS 2491 Transition to Practice . . . . .	.2
PRNS Core Credits . . . . .	.29
Health Core Credits . . . . .	.1
General Education Requirements . . . . .	.10

Total Program Credits 40

Program Start Dates

Fall, Spring

Course Sequence

The following sequence is recommended; however, this sequence is not required.

First Semester	
HLTH 1410 Medical Terminology	1
Goal 1: ENGL 1711 Composition 1	4
Goal 3: BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems	3
Goal 5: PSYC 1720 Psychology Throughout the Lifespan	3
Pre-Nursing Credits	11
Second Semester	
Practical Nursing Courses	
PRNS 1425 Essentials of Clinical Pharmacology	2
PRNS 1435 Foundations of Nursing	4
PRNS 1481 Clinical 1	3
PRNS 1521 Nursing Care of Adults 1	4
PRNS 2410 Psycho/Social Nursing	2
Evidence of current CPR certification must be presented prior to taking PRNS 1482 Clinical 2.	
PRNS Core Credits	15
Third Semester	
Practical Nursing Courses	
PRNS 1482 Clinical 2	3
PRNS 1483 Clinical 3	3
PRNS 1524 Nursing Care of Adults 2	3
PRNS 1530 Maternal/Child Health	3
PRNS 2491 Transition to Practice	2
PRNS Core Credits	14
Total Program Credits	40