Nursing - LPN to Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing
Overview

PURPOSE: The Nursing AAS program is designed to prepare diverse individuals to practice evidence-based nursing successfully as a professional member of the interdisciplinary health care team. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, the student is eligible to apply to take the licensing examination (NCLEX-RN®) required to become a registered nurse.

OCCUPATIONAL OBJECTIVES: To secure and sustain employment as a professional nurse providing nursing care to individuals, families, communities, and populations in a variety of health care settings.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: General college curricular admission and program-specific criteria.

PROGRAM NOTES: The Virginia State Board of Nursing has the authority to deny licensure to any applicant who has violated any of the provisions of 54.1-3007 of the Code of Virginia. Any student convicted of illegal offenses other than minor traffic violations should discuss and clarify these matters with the coordinator of the Nursing AAS program prior to admission. A background check is required to apply for the NCLEX-RN® licensure exam.

A criminal background check and drug screen are required of all entering students, and, depending on the facility, random drug screens may occur. A student with an unsatisfactory background check and/or drug screening will be unable to progress in the Nursing AAS program.

A student who has an absence greater than 12 months within the Nursing AAS program must meet current admission and curriculum requirements. A student seeking to resume enrollment must meet with the coordinator of the Nursing AAS program prior to reenrollment.

A student accepted to the LPN to Nursing AAS program must sign an Assumption of Risk document that serves to provide a general outline of hazards encountered within nursing. This list includes exposures to infectious, biological, chemical, environmental/mechanical, and psychosocial hazards, as well as loss of personal property.

Non-nursing courses must be completed prior to or concurrent with the approved curriculum sequence.

Once admitted, BIO 150, ENG 112, and a humanities/fine arts elective (CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227) must be completed prior to or within the identified semester with the co-requisite nursing courses.

A minimum grade of "C" is required in each course within the program of study. Students receiving less than "C" in a general education course will be unable to continue in the Nursing program until the grade requirement is met.

Reynolds offers part-time and full-time LPN to AAS in Nursing degree options.

• The full-time option is offered during the day and typically admits students in the spring if a sufficient qualified applicant pool is identified. This option is designed for students who do not have to work full-time and can be completed in two academic years (four semesters).
• The part-time option anticipates an admission cycle each spring. This option was established to facilitate the student who has family and employment obligations and seeks a student commitment of approximately 10 to 14 hours per week of class and clinical experiences.

Student Outcomes for Nursing AAS Degree (LPN to AAS in Nursing):

Students who complete the Nursing AAS degree will be expected to:

1. Provide patient-centered care promoting therapeutic relationships, caring behaviors, and self-determination across the lifespan for diverse populations;
2. Practice safe nursing care that minimizes risk of harm across systems and client populations;
3. Demonstrate nursing judgment through the use of clinical reasoning, the nursing process, and evidence-based practice in the provision of safe, quality care;
4. Practice professional behaviors that encompass the legal/ethical framework, while incorporating self-reflection, leadership, and a commitment to recognize the value of lifelong learning;
5. Manage client care through quality improvement processes, information technology, and fiscal responsibility to meet client needs and support organizational outcomes; and
6. Demonstrate principles of collaborative practice within the nursing and interdisciplinary teams fostering mutual respect and shared decision-making to achieve stated outcomes of care.

Admission to the Nursing AAS program is competitive, and only a limited number of students will be accepted. Fully qualified students will be ranked according to Kaplan Nurse Entrance Test achievement and a complete application. It is imperative that applications be complete, that all procedures be followed, and that applicants prepare themselves academically to be competitive in the review process.

Application requirements are the following:

1. Selection of Health Science I CSC (plan code 221-190-01) on the Reynolds admission application.
2. High School Diploma, Home School Certificate of Completion, or General Equivalency Diploma (GED) completion with official verification on file in Admissions & Records
3. Completion of all Reynolds Community College admission requirements
4. Science Requirements: Evidence of completion with a grade of “C” or higher, high school biology or transferable college-level science course
5. Math Requirements: Evidence of Virginia Placement Test at level 5 or higher, or successful completion of the developmental modules, or meet waiver criteria per the Reynolds Catalog
6. Complete the test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT) with a standard score of 84 or above, and a minimum speaking score of 26 is required for ALL non-native English speakers. Completion of ENG 111 does not satisfy this requirement. 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 up to two years.

7. Submission of official college transcripts to Admissions & Records for consideration of transfer credit for courses required by the Nursing AAS program. All decisions for transfer credit are determined by Admissions & Records. The applicant is solely responsible for reviewing transfer credits posted by Admissions & Records.

8. Completion of the Kaplan Nurse Entrance Test with the following minimum scores: reading--73% or higher; math--75% or higher; science--55% or higher; writing--52% or higher. This application test is free and available through the Reynolds testing center. Testing center dates and times are provided on reynolds.edu/get_started/programs/snah/announcements.aspx. The Kaplan Nurse Entrance Test may be repeated once. After the second attempt, a student must wait at least 24 months before reattempting.

9. Applications are ranked based on Kaplan admission scores. The required math, reading, and science scores are each weighted 30%; the writing score is weighted 10%.

10. Cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

11. Curricular GPA of 2.5 or higher in the fifteen (15) general education credits with a grade of “C” or above in each of the following courses; BIO 141, BIO 142, ENG 111, SDV 100, and PSY 230.

12. Mandatory attendance at an LPN to Nursing AAS Program Information Session within six (6) months of applying to the Nursing AAS program. Information sessions will be posted on this website once an admission cycle is identified.

13. Provide proof of unrestricted license as a practical nurse in Virginia.

14. An accepted student must accept or deny admission electronically, as directed, via the Accepted Student Response Form by the identified date or will forfeit their seat.

Qualified applicants who were not admitted may reapply for admission to the LPN to Nursing AAS degree program for a future class.

**FUNCTIONAL SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Students entering the LPN to AAS degree in Nursing must possess the following functional skills:

- Sufficient eyesight to observe patients, read records, manipulate equipment, and visually monitor patients in dim light;
- Sufficient hearing to communicate with patients and members of a health care delivery team, monitor patients using electronic equipment, hear necessary sounds during operation of equipment, and hear a patient whispering;
- Satisfactory speaking, reading, and writing skills to communicate effectively in English in a timely manner;
- Sufficient bilateral finger dexterity to manipulate equipment;
- Ability to lift, stoop, or bend in the delivery of safe nursing care;
- Satisfactory physical strength and endurance to be on one’s feet for extended periods and to move immobile patients; and
- Satisfactory intellectual and emotional functioning to ensure patient safety and to exercise independent judgment and discretion in performing assigned care.

**Application Deadlines for LPN to AAS in Nursing:**

LPNs interested in this program should continue to watch for an update when an application deadline and LPN to AAS Nursing Information Sessions are identified by the coordinator for nursing in consultation with the AAS Nursing faculty and the dean for the School of Nursing and Allied Health.

**EXPECTATIONS:** The student is required to complete a sequence of courses and learning experiences provided at the college and selected community agencies, such as acute care (hospitals), rehabilitation or long-term care facilities, clinics, or comparable agencies and facilities. During these experiences, the nursing faculty will observe, monitor, and evaluate the student’s ability to achieve program outcomes through direct patient care experiences. Professional conduct and meeting program and course requirements related to dress code, program, and health care orientation are required.

**SPECIAL TEST TO DETERMINE COURSE SEQUENCE:** The AAS Nursing faculty are identifying a testing option that will permit students who achieve an established minimum score after receiving a grade of C, or above in NSG 115 and NSG 200 to receive credit for Semester 2 nursing courses. The successful student would complete NSG 115, NSG 200, NSG 150, and transition to Semester 3 to take ENG 112, NSG 210, and NSG 211. The last semester would require completion of the humanities elective, NSG 230, NSG 252, and NSG 270.

The LPN to AAS Nursing student who does not achieve the minimum score will be required to enroll in Semester 2 courses, and complete BIO 150, NSG 152, and NSG 170, prior to advancing to Semesters 3 and 4.

**CLINICAL CONTRACTS:** Individual contracts are in effect with each affiliate clinical agency, and these contracts differ in requirements for students. In general, contracts include the following:

1. Clinical agencies reserve the right to dismiss a student from their agency at any time with due cause. This will be done with advance notice, except in an emergency.
2. Student must wear the proper uniform, conforming to program and health care agency standards.
3. Student must follow published hospital policies.
4. Student must meet health, immunity, and immunization requirements.
5. 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. (Assessment of Risk document is signed and on file once the student is accepted into the program.)
6. Student is financially responsible for any medical care required while in the clinical setting.
7. Student must have a current American Heart Association CPR BLS for Health Care Provider Certification.
8. Demonstration of professional behavior is expected at all clinical learning experiences. Faculty will direct a student to leave the learning environment if unacceptable behaviors are observed.
9. Student must complete a criminal background check and drug screen, which may be repeated during the program of study. The health care agency may deny a student participation in direct patient care based on results of background and drug screen.
10. Student must attend the health care agency's orientation as scheduled to remain enrolled in a clinical nursing course.
11. Student must submit required clinical documents with each clinical rotation. A student who does not meet published deadlines for submission forfeits his/her enrollment.
12. If a student is dismissed by a clinical facility, alternate placement will require disclosure of information related to the dismissal. The student must consent to disclosure through completion of a FERPA form.

Contracts for each agency are available in the School of Nursing and Allied Health Office in the Division Office and may be reviewed by students upon request.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS: In addition to the regular college tuition and fees, the nursing program requires the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms, Shoes, and Stethoscope</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Testing across the Curriculum</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Exam, Proof of Immunity, Immunizations, TB Testing (student's own physician) -- varies depending on health insurance coverage</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCLEX-RN Application (licensure exam and initial RN license)</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castlebranch®, Document Manager®, Background Check, Drug Screening, and Re-checks</td>
<td>$225.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These costs are approximate and subject to change. The student should also consider transportation and parking costs for clinical assignments.


PROGRESSION THROUGH THE PROGRAM: Reynolds offers this program in affiliation with the health care agencies and practitioners in the communities the college serves and relies on its community affiliates to provide clinical education opportunities for its many courses. The rapid changes in health care law, standards of practice, technology, content of credentialing examinations, and availability of qualified faculty increasingly necessitate sudden changes in the program's course content, policies, procedures, and course scheduling. As a result, the college cannot guarantee every student 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. Additionally, the college may have to change the instructor for courses after instruction has started.

CONTINUATION IN THE PROGRAM:

- Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0.
- Students must achieve a course grade of at least “C” (80) in each nursing course and at least “C” in each non-nursing course to progress through the Nursing AAS degree.
- The clinical portion of designated nursing courses is evaluated as “Pass/Fail.” A student who does not meet the clinical learning outcomes will fail the course.
- Students may take some general education courses with nursing courses. Students are eligible for progression to the next semester at the conclusion of each course in the program based on successful completion of the prerequisite and co-requisite courses.
- Students who fail any two nursing courses or are not successful after two attempts (withdraw or fail) in the same course may not continue in the Nursing AAS.
- Students may enroll in only one clinical nursing course at a time.
- Students who fail clinical based on any aspect of professional behavior will not be eligible for readmission.

PROGRESSION STATUS: Reynolds has entered into an implied contract with all accepted Nursing AAS students via the Reynolds catalog. The catalog indicates that once accepted into the Nursing program a student can complete the program within two years, assuming the student attends four consecutive semesters. (Summer is a session, not a semester.) Continuation in the program is conditional upon those factors identified in the “Progression through the Program” statement.

Progression 1 students are those who have never failed, dropped, withdrawn, or taken a leave of absence for any reason. Progression 1 students may register for any available space in a course for which they are eligible during the assigned registration period.

Progression 2 students are those who have withdrawn, failed, or taken a leave of absence. These students have stopped program progress and will be enrolled based on a random lottery drawing for available seats. Progression 2 students will not participate in the online registration process. The Nursing AAS degree’s Promotion and Graduation Committee will place these students into available seats via a random lottery drawing. Progression 2 students will return to Progression 1 status after successful completion of the course from which they withdrew or failed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Program Yearly Pass Rates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AAS in Nursing (traditional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>81.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>88.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>96.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>94.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>92.64</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*NA = No graduates in this category tested that year

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION: The program is
- approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, VA 23233-1463, (804) 367-4515; and
- accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing may be contacted at 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326, (404) 975-5000.

Roadmap
Full-time LPN to Nursing AAS Program Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
<th>CRS.</th>
<th>CRE.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Prerequisites for Application
| PSY 230 | Developmental Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| ENG 111 | College Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SDV 100 | College Success Skills | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| BIO 141 | Human Anatomy and Physiology | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIO 142 | Human Anatomy and Physiology | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| TOTAL  |       | 13 | 6 | 15 |
| Semester 1
| BIO 150 | Introductory Microbiology | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| NSG 115 | Healthcare Concepts for Transition | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| NSG 200 | Health Promotion and Assessment | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| TOTAL  |       | 8 | 12 | 12 |
| Semester 2: Potential “Test-Out” Semester
| NSG 152 | Health Care Participant | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| NSG 170 | Health/Illness Concepts | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| TOTAL  |       | 6 | 9 | 9 |
| Semester 3
| ENG 112 | College Composition II | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| NSG 210 | Health Care Concepts I | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| NSG 211 | Health Care Concepts II | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| TOTAL  |       | 9 | 12 | 13 |
| Semester 4
|        | Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227) | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| NSG 252 | Complex Health Concepts | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| NSG 230 | Advanced Professional Nursing Concepts | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| NSG 270 | Nursing Capstone | 0 | 12 | 4 |
| TOTAL  |       | 9 | 12 | 13 |
| PROGRAM TOTALS |       | 48 | 51 | 64 |
| Total Minimum Credits for AAS Degree in Nursing |       | 64 |      |      |

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Part-time LPN to Nursing AAS Program Option: Please meet with your nursing advisor for an update on this curriculum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
<th>CRS. CRE.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 230</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 111</td>
<td>College Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDV 100</td>
<td>College Success Skills</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 141</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 142</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
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Semester 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 150</td>
<td>Introductory Microbiology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 115&lt;sup&gt;2,3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Healthcare Concepts for Transition</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 200</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Assessment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
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Semester 2: Potential “Test-Out” Semester<sup>3</sup>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
<th>CRS. CRE.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 152&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Health Care Participant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 170&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Health/Illness Concepts</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
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Semester 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG 112</td>
<td>College Composition II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 210</td>
<td>Health Care Concepts I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>8</td>
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Semester 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LEC. HRS.</th>
<th>LAB. HRS.</th>
<th>CRS. CRE.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities/Fine Arts Elective (CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 211</td>
<td>Health Care Concepts II</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester 5

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<sup>1</sup>Prerequisites for BIO 141: Grade of “C”/passing score in high school biology and chemistry or BIO 1 and CHM 1 within past seven (7) years, TEAS science sub-score of 75%, or BIO 101.

<sup>2</sup>American Heart Association BLS for Health Care Providers CPR required to participate in clinical.

<sup>3</sup>Upon acceptance into the Nursing AAS program, the LPN will receive two credits-by-able.

<sup>4</sup>The student who is successful with mastery testing will receive credit-by-able for this course.

<sup>5</sup>Humanities/Fine Arts Elective--CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227.