

# Nursing (421)

## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

### About Our Program

The Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN) prepares students to take the NCLEX-RN exam. Upon successful completion of the exam, the student is eligible to become licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN).

The nursing education program is a candidate for accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)  
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850  
Atlanta, GA 30326 404-975-5000  
acenursing.org

### Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the Associate Degree in Nursing Program at Highland Community College, the graduate will be able to:

- Provide safe, client-centered care in a variety of settings across the lifespan through evidence-based practice.
- Demonstrate personal and professional accountability and responsibility for nursing judgments and actions within an ethical and legal framework.
- Collaborate with others in healthcare and educational communities, demonstrating open communication and mutual respect, with an evolving ability to participate in decision making, resulting in optimization of client health outcomes.
- Communicate effectively to deliver relevant, accurate, and complete information to clients, families, and the health care team, utilizing verbal and nonverbal language and informatics.
- Use knowledge, judgment, and clinical reasoning to ensure safe clinical decisions throughout the nursing process.

### Nature of Work and Employment

Positions are available for RNs in long-term care facilities, home health, hospitals, physicians' offices, and clinics. Employment is available nationwide. Nurses are encouraged to continue their formal nursing education by going on for a baccalaureate degree at a number of institutions. HCC nursing graduates may want to consider pursuing a Master's degree in nursing in addition to a Bachelors, an option that is becoming more readily available.

Students should check with a student advisor or the Nursing/ Allied Health Coordinator for more information regarding transfer to other institutions and what requirements may be needed before transfer is possible.

### Special Considerations

Students entering the health care professions (i.e. nursing, medical assistant, emergency medical technician) must have a positive attitude about the importance of the work that they are being prepared to do. In part, a professional attitude involves personal integrity, the use of positive communication techniques, flexibility in regards to clinical assignments, and taking on a leadership role when necessary.

### Physical Demands

The physical demands described below are representative of those that must be met by the nurse or student nurse to successfully perform the essential functions of both the job requirements of a nurse and the required clinical experiences of a student nurse. While performing the duties of the nursing program/job, the student nurse is regularly required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; talk; and hear. The student nurse is frequently required to sit, reach with hands and arms, stoop, kneel, crouch, and/or crawl. The student nurse/nurse must regularly move up to ten pounds, frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds, and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds or more.

### Program Contacts

Call Highland for the following program contacts:

- Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, 815-599-3439
- Alicia Kepner, Nursing and Allied Health Coordinator, 815-599-3657
- Jessica Larson, MSN, RN Nursing Faculty
- Shelly Morgan, MSN, RN-C Nursing Faculty
- Kay Sperry, MSN, RN-BC Nursing Faculty
- Chrislyn Senneff, MSN, RN Nursing Faculty
- Stephanie Eymann, DNP, RN, Nursing Faculty
- Brittany Petrelli, MSN, RN, Nursing Faculty
- Jessica Schneiderman, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC, CCRN-K, Nursing Faculty
- Beth Groshans, Student Advisor, 815-599-3483

# Nursing Programs

## To be considered for the Program, students must have:

1. A completed high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) on file with the Admissions Department.
2. Official transcripts from all colleges attended must be submitted to the Admissions Department and an unofficial copy to the Nursing/Allied Health Department.
3. HCC placement test results indicating that the applicant does not need any reading development course, does not need any math course below MATH 158, and does not need any English communication course below ENGL 121. Successful completion of appropriate courses will satisfy any deficiency identified by placement tests.
4. Completed all prerequisite courses and a GPA of 2.75 or higher by the end of the semester in which they are applying.
5. Complete program entrance exam.
6. Active on the IDPH CNA registry or equivalent.
7. Submit application & other admission requirements to the Coordinator of Nursing & Allied Health by March 1st for full-time or October 1st for part-time.

\*\*Program requirements are subject to change. For the most current admission criteria see our web page.

## Admission to the Nursing Program

All students are required to attend a mandatory nursing information session in order to apply for any of the programs; dates, times, and locations are listed on our website. The admission process is designed to admit students who are most likely to be successful in the academically challenging nursing curriculum and to do so in an impartial manner. The process includes prerequisite requirements and an admission procedure. Students must meet with an advisor to develop a personal academic plan for completing prerequisite course requirements.

1. A Request for Admittance into the Nursing Program must be received by the Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator by the deadline to be considered for admission to the nursing program.
  - Nursing (ADN Full-time) deadline: March 1
  - Nursing (ADN Part-time) deadline: October 1
2. The nursing admission assessment will include: Academic Requirements, Pre-Requisites and Support Courses, Recommendations Letters, Entrance Exam test scores, and CNA Requirements. All of the above must be turned in to the nursing office no later than March 1 for the full-program and October 1 for the part-time program.
3. Applicants who are not selected may reapply the succeeding year, but need to attend an additional information session to hear about new changes.
4. All individuals are welcome to apply for the Highland Community College Nursing Program, but we accept all in-district students who qualify and meet our criteria first. If there is space available, out-of-district applicants will be reviewed for admittance into the program. For the nursing program, in-district is defined as "students who meet the residency requirements and/or work 20 or more hours a week in our district."

\*\*Please note the application process is the applicant's responsibility – not the responsibility of the institution. Our responsibility, as an institution, is to fully consider and evaluate each application carefully for admission into our programs. Our responsibility is not to gather appropriate data, but rather to review that data. Data gathering is the responsibility of the person who wishes to be considered for admission.

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## \*PROGRAM PREREQUISITE COURSES

**14 Credit Hours**

|      |     |                              |   |
|------|-----|------------------------------|---|
| BIOL | 213 | Anatomy and Physiology I     | 4 |
| CHEM | 120 | Elementary General Chemistry | 4 |
| ENGL | 121 | Rhetoric & Composition I     | 3 |
| PSY  | 161 | Introduction to Psychology   | 3 |

NOTE: One year of high school algebra, completion of MATH 067 or MATH 070, or placement into MATH 090 or higher are the prerequisites to CHEM 120.

## \*\*SUPPORT COURSES **11 Credit Hours**

|      |     |                              |   |
|------|-----|------------------------------|---|
| BIOL | 214 | Anatomy & Physiology II      | 4 |
| BIOL | 211 | General Microbiology         | 4 |
| PSY  | 262 | Human Growth and Development | 3 |

## CORE CURRICULUM

### Fall - First Year **12 Credit Hours**

|         |     |                                     |   |
|---------|-----|-------------------------------------|---|
| NURS    | 103 | Pharmacology                        | 2 |
| NURS    | 191 | Fundamentals of Nursing             | 8 |
| NURS    | 296 | Physical Assessment                 | 2 |
| ** BIOL | 214 | Anatomy & Physiology II (if needed) |   |

### Spring - First Year **13 Credit Hours**

|        |     |  |   |
|--------|-----|--|---|
| NURS   | 192 | Health & Illness I                     | 8 |
| NURS   | 291 | Family Nursing                         | 5 |
| ** PSY | 262 | Human Growth & Development (if needed) |   |

### Fall - Second Year **13 Credit Hours**

|      |     |                     |   |
|------|-----|---------------------|---|
| NURS | 292 | Health & Illness II | 8 |
| NURS | 293 | Psychiatric Nursing | 5 |

### Spring - Second Year **10 Credit Hours**

|         |     |   |   |
|---------|-----|---|---|
| NURS    | 294 | Health & Illness III                      | 8 |
| NURS    | 298 | Professionalism and Leadership in Nursing | 2 |
| ** BIOL | 211 | General Microbiology (if needed)          |   |

**Total Credit Hours = 73**

\* All prerequisite courses must be successfully completed prior to program entry.

\*\* Support courses marked (\*\*) can be taken during the core curriculum. These courses must be successfully completed with a grade of "C" or better in the semester in which they are shown above to be allowed to continue in the nursing program. Support courses (to the left) are not counted in semester credit hour totals.

• Please note that core nursing classes designated with the NURS prefix follow a different grading scale requiring an 80% to successfully complete the course and continue on in the nursing program.

• The curriculum is planned sequentially so that if a student drops, withdraws from, or fails any core course, he/she will need to withdraw from the nursing program. Please consult the Nursing Student Handbook for more details regarding withdraw policy and failed courses.

## Previously Licensed LPNs

Licensed practical nurses may apply to Highland's ADN program. However, there are limitations.

1. The LPN must submit a new application to the Nursing Program.
2. All ADN admission criteria must be met.
3. Current LPN license must be on file in the Nursing office.
4. A GPA of 2.75 overall.
5. LPN students will be subject to the same admission criteria as other students. Individuals may request to test for prior learning credit for some nursing classes at the discretion of the Dean. All LPN to ADN students will be evaluated on an individual basis. Official transcripts from previous programs must be on hand. The student must meet with the Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, to review their individual situation and develop a course plan to meet graduation requirements. An administrative fee and/or per credit hour tuition fee may apply.

## Transfer Nursing Students

Students transferring into Highland Community College nursing programs who have completed nursing courses at another school will be considered for admission on an individual basis. Students must have a completed admission file turned in by March 1 for the succeeding fall semester for the full-time program or a completed admission file turned in by October 1 for the succeeding spring semester for the part-time program. The admission committee will review the individuals file to determine which if any nursing courses will transfer. All students will be held to the same standards of admission, regardless of where prerequisite courses or other nursing courses were taken.