Nursing, AAS
School of Health Professions

Admission to the nursing program is selective and enrollment is limited by the clinical placement necessary to complete the nursing course requirements. All applicants must meet specific criteria before being admitted to any of the program options.

The program is approved by the PA State Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326; phone 404-975-5000; anenursing.org. The ACEN is responsible for the specialized accreditation of nursing education programs: Associate Degree. The ACEN is nationally recognized as a specialized accrediting agency for both postsecondary and higher degree programs in nursing education. The Nursing program utilizes Standardized testing to evaluate student performance.

Admission Criteria for the Associate Degree Nursing Program Guidelines

Purpose: Admission to the nursing program is a selective process because enrollment is limited by the clinical placement necessary to complete the nursing course requirements. Therefore, all applicants applying for admission must meet the criteria.

Guidelines: Applicants to the associate degree nursing program must submit the appropriate forms to the Admissions Office.

Application Process for Health Profession Programs

- Complete and submit an Application for Admission to Westmoreland County Community College
- Complete and submit an application for the specific Health Profession Program
- Students must attend a placement assessment and educational planning session and complete any developmental courses that may be required based on the placement evaluation prior to applying for the Nursing program.
- Submit all required documents to the Admissions Office by the deadline.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, GED programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school.
- Qualified applicants must take a preadmission examination administered by Westmoreland; eligible candidates will be notified of the testing dates once all required information has been submitted.
- Students who test into developmental courses must complete them with a "C" or better prior to application deadline.
- Applicant must earn a "C" grade or better in any general education and/or support course taken or attempted to be eligible to take the entrance exam.

For Fall Start:

Application Deadline January 12 prior to fall start Acceptance Notification Mid-March

For Spring Start

Application Deadline May 15 prior to spring start Acceptance Notification Mid-August

Admission Criteria

- Graduate of accredited secondary school program or hold a graduate equivalency degree (GED) certificate prior to selection.
- High school transcript validating the successful completion of academic work equivalent to a standard high school program with a minimum of 16 units:
  o English (4 units)
  o Social studies (3 units)
  o Mathematics (2 units, one each in algebra required)
  o Science (2 units in chemistry and biology with related laboratory)
  o If high school algebra, chemistry and biology were not successfully completed with a "C" grade or better, applicants may meet these application requirements by completing MTH 052, MTH 052A, CHM 107, and BIO 107 with a "C" grade or better.
- Applicants who have completed credit courses must attain a 2.5 GPA:
  o Only credit courses necessary to meet the requirements for the nursing program are considered when calculating GPA.
  o If GPA is less than 2.5, one or more of these courses may be repeated to meet the requirements before testing.
  o Transfer courses are not calculated into the GPA.

Nursing, AAS
School of Health Professions

Final Admission Criteria

Students accepted into the School of Health Professions including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing are required to have a criminal background check, child abuse history and drug screening at the student's expense.

The Program Director of each Health Profession Program gives the accepted student directions for setting up a password-secure Castle Branch Account.

Castle Branch is the background screening and compliance tracking company, which provides Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs with student background screening services.

Castle Branch background screening and compliance management includes:
- Background Checks (FBI Fingerprint Check, Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearances)
- Urine Drug Screen
- Immunization and Record Tracking
- Houses PPD (TB screening)
- CPR Training Documentation
- Liability Insurance (if applicable for program)
- Houses the results of the Required Health Physical.

Final admission is conditional pending receipt of Urine Drug Screen and receipt and evaluation of Criminal Background Check to determine if there is any conviction that may bar the applicant from entering the Health Profession Programs.
- Positive Urine Drug Screen will result in denial of admission.
- Any record of child abuse will result in denial of admission.
- According to federal sentencing guidelines, any punishment over one year indicates a felony.
- Any felony conviction within the past 10 years will result in denial of admission to any Health Profession Program.
- Any misdemeanor will be evaluated based on the nature of the offense, length of time since the offense and explanatory letter/material submitted by the applicant.

Essential Cognitive, Physical and Behavioral Functions

The Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing require that students meet certain functional abilities essential to each program. A detailed list is available in each program's handbook.

Program Learning Outcomes

Caring (QSEN: Patient Centered Care)
1. Provide safe, quality, evidenced-based, patient-centered care with respect for diversity across the lifespan.

Competency (QSEN: Safety)
2. Implement technical aspects of care by following the standards of safe, professional practice.

Communication (QSEN: Teamwork and Collaboration)
3. Implement therapeutic and professional communication when participating in the collaborative care of patients and their families.

Clinical Judgment (QSEN: Evident-Based Practice and Informatics)
4. Use the nursing process, critical thinking, and clinical reasoning to manage patient care.
5. Use information technologies to coordinate safe care for individuals and their families.

Commitment (QSEN: Quality Improvement)
6. Incorporate nursing actions within the legal and ethical framework of nursing practice by conducting self in a civil and professional manner.

Fall Entry/Day Program

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
			Apply to Nursing Program by January 12 for Fall Start				
Summer	1	BIO 171	Anatomy & Physiology I	4	F, Sp, Su	CHM 107, 155, 264 or HS Chemistry & ENG 095 or Placement	
	2	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3	F, Sp, Su		
1st Fall	3	BIO 172	Anatomy & Physiology II	4	F, Sp, Su	BIO 171	
	4	NSG 112	Intro to Professional Nursing & Healthcare Across the Lifespan	3	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
	5	NSG 114	Health & Physical Assessment	3	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
	6	NSG 116	Foundations of Nursing Care	7	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
1st Spring	7	ALH 120	Pharmacology	3	F, SP, Su	MTH 050, 050A or Placement	
	8	PSY 160	General Psychology	3	F, Sp, Su		
	9	NSG 124	Medical Surgical Care of the Adult	9	F, Sp	BIO 171, 172, CPT 150, NSG 112, 114 & 116	

Nursing, AAS
School of Health Professions

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
2nd Fall	10	ENG 161	College Writing	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 085 or Placement	
	11	NSG 225	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family/Infant/Child	4	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	12	NSG 240	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	13	NSG 255	Advanced M/S Aging Adult	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	14	BIO 265	Microbiology	4	F, Sp, Su	BIO 155 or 171; CHM 107, 155, 264 or HS Chemistry; & ENG 085 or Placement	
2nd Spring	15	NSG 260	Advanced M/S Care of Chronically Ill	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	16	NSG 270	Advanced M/S Care of Acutely Ill	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	17	ENG 164	Advanced Composition	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 161	
	18	Elective	Mathematics Elective: MTH 157 or 160 Recommended	3	F, Sp, Su	Placement	
	19	NSG 280	Manager of Nursing Care	4	F, Sp	All Level I & II ADN Nursing & Support Courses	

Total Program Credits   72

PDV 101 – First Year Seminar is required for all first-time credential-seeking students.

Nursing, AAS
School of Health Professions

Spring Entry/Part-Time Evening Program

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr.	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
1st Fall	1	BIO 171	Anatomy & Physiology I	4	F, Sp, Su	CHM 107, 155, 264 or HS Chemistry & ENG 095 or Placement	
	2	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3	F, Sp, Su		
1st Spring	3	BIO 172	Anatomy & Physiology II	4	F, Sp, Su	BIO 171	
	4	ENG 161	College Writing	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 085 or Placement	
	5	PSY 160	General Psychology	3	F, Sp, Su		
Apply to Nursing Program by May 15 for Spring Start							
Summer	6	BIO 265	Microbiology	4	F, Sp, Su	BIO 155 or 171; CHM 107, 155, 264 or HS Chemistry; & ENG 085 or Placement	
2nd Fall	7	ENG 164	Advanced Composition	3	F, Sp, Su	ENG 161	
	8	ALH 120	Pharmacology	3	F, SP, Su	MTH 050, 050A or Placement	
	9	Elective	Mathematics Elective: MTH 157 or 160 Recommended	3	F, Sp, Su	Placement	
2nd Spring	10	NSG 112	Intro to Professional Nursing & Healthcare Across the Lifespan	3	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
	11	NSG 114	Health & Physical Assessment	3	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
	12	NSG 116	Foundations of Nursing Care	7	F, Sp	BIO 171 & CPT 150	
3rd Fall	13	NSG 124	Medical Surgical Care of the Adult	9	F, Sp	ALH 120, BIO 171, 172, CPT 150, NSG 112, 114 & 116	
3rd Spring	15	NSG 255*	Advanced M/S Aging Adult	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	15	NSG 225*	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family/Infant/Child	4	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	16	NSG 240*	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
4th Fall	17	NSG 260*	Advanced M/S Care of Chronically Ill	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	18	NSG 270*	Advanced M/S Care of Acutely Ill	3	F, Sp	All Level I ADN Nursing & Support Courses	
	19	NSG 280**	Manager of Nursing Care	4	F, Sp	All Level I & II ADN Nursing & Support Courses	

Total Program Credits   72

PDV 101 – First Year Seminar is required for all first-time credential-seeking students.

* Level II Nursing Courses - must be completed with a "C" grade or better prior to beginning NSG 280**