

Nursing, Practical Nursing Diploma

School of Health Professions

Program Description

Westmoreland County Community College Practical Nursing program provides the academic and clinical preparation necessary to start a career in entry-level nursing positions. Upon completion of the practical nurse diploma program, graduates meet the first step in eligibility to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) leading to the licensure to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse (LPN). Nursing students are equipped with the basic skills needed to assess clinical scenarios, navigate patient interactions and work collaboratively with other healthcare professionals to improve patient outcomes. Enrollment is limited by the clinical placement necessary to complete the nursing course requirements.

The Practical Nursing Program is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. State Board of Nursing P.O. Box 2649 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649, phone: 1-833-DOS-BPOA, ST-NURSE@pa.gov

The Practical Nursing program utilizes Standardized Testing to benchmark student performance.

This is a selective admission program. Please see the college website for details.

Program Learning Outcomes

The graduate of the Practical Nursing Diploma Program is prepared to assume the role of the practical nurse in various environments. The program is designed to prepare the graduate to:

- 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 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 Judgement (QSEN: Evidence 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.

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	Options Available
Spring	1	NPN 101	Practical Nursing I	9	HS Level BIO and CHM with Labs; or Equivalent with a C or better. Co: BIO 171, CPT 150	
	2	BIO 171	Anatomy & Physiology I	4	CHM 107, CHM 150/151, CHM 225 or HS Chemistry (C or better) and ENG 095 or Placement	
	3	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3		
Summer	4	NPN 151	Practical Nursing II	9	NPN 101; Co: PSY 160, BIO 172	
	5	BIO 172	Anatomy & Physiology II	4	BIO 171 (C or better)	
	6	PSY 160	General Psychology	3		
Fall	7	NPN 201	Practical Nursing III	12	NPN 151, PSY 160, BIO 172; Co: ENG 161	
	8	ENG 161	College Writing	3	ENG 085 with Permission of Instructor, ENG 095 or Placement	

Minimum Program Credits

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NPN