

Dear PN Applicant

We are happy to have received your inquiry for information concerning the Practical Nursing Program at North Arkansas College. The PN Program has been granted full approval by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and traditionally has a 100% pass rate on the NCLEX-PN. We offer two classes a year (January & August) and the program is 11 months in length. Enclosed is additional information concerning the program.

The following information must be completed and returned by April 15 for the August class and October 15 for the January class in order to be considered for the program:

- College Admission
- PN Program Application
- ACT, ASSET or COMPASS test results
- High School Transcript or GED Scores
- All College Transcripts

You will also need to submit the following information on the first day of class if selected for the program:

- Health Statement Form (enclosed)
- Immunizations
 - Hepatitis B Vaccine Series or sign waiver
 - MMR or Positive Rubella Titer for antibodies
 - Tuberculin (TB) Skin Test
 - Tdap
 - Varicella Verification or sign waiver
- Current CPR certification

If you have questions, please call Debbie Day, the Director of the Practical Nursing Program at (870) 391-3369. The PN Program faculty wishes you the best in completing the admission process.

Sincerely,

The PN Program Faculty
North Arkansas College

North Arkansas College
Practical Nursing Program

CURRICULUM - AUGUST CLASS

- A. Fall Semester
 - 1. Classroom – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday.
 - 2. Clinical – Nursing Home Experience – 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wednesday’s and Friday’s, 7th – 15th week.
- B. Spring Semester
 - 1. Classroom – Monday and Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - 2. Clinical – 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Wednesday - Friday
- C. Summer Semester
 - 1. Classroom – Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - 2. Clinical – Tuesday – Friday, 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CURRICULUM -JANUARY CLASS

- A. Spring Semester
 - 1. Classroom – 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday.
 - 2. Clinical – Nursing Home Experience – 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wednesday’s and Friday’s, 7th – 15th week.
- B. Summer Semester
 - 1. Classroom – Monday and Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 - 2. Clinical – 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Wednesday - Friday
- C. Fall Semester
 - 1. Classroom – Monday and Tuesday, 8:00 – 3:00 p.m. for 1st 8 weeks; Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for 2nd 8 weeks.
 - 2. Clinical – Wednesday – Friday 6:40 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for 1st 8 weeks then Tuesday – Friday for 2nd 8 weeks.

The curriculum in the PN Program is a full-time program, requiring full-time commitment from the students. The faculty of the PN Program strongly discourages students from full-time or part-time employment. Students with financial difficulties should discuss alternatives to employment with the Financial Aid Office. The students schedule requires a flexible lifestyle as clinical experience is held at area facilities during assigned hours which may include days and/or evenings. Because of this, transportation, child care, and any employment should be considered prior to entry into the program. Some classes may require more than the scheduled

time (i.e. individual practice time in the nursing lab) for an individual student to meet the learning objectives. Students should plan schedules to be able to meet these learning expectations.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for admission into the PN Program the student must:

1. be accepted as a student in the college (see admission procedures).
2. complete and submit the PN Program application by April 15 for the August class and October 15 for the January class. The written application for admission must be renewed yearly. Applicants applying after the deadline will be considered for admission if space is available and they meet the admission criteria as stated in the admission requirements.
3. have completed the ACT, COMPASS or ASSET Test and have scores sent to Northark (see College Requirements for Placement). Transfer students must submit a complete transcript.
4. must complete all college preparatory classes based on scores on the ACT, COMPASS or ASSET test with a "C" or above before being accepted into the PN Program.
5. have official high school transcript or GED scores sent to the Registrar's Office at Northark.
6. have official transcripts from colleges/universities attended sent to the Registrar's Office at Northark. Must hold a 2.5 grade point average or higher for entry into the program.
7. complete the prerequisite course BIOL 1434 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology or BIOL 2214 Anatomy and Physiology I and BIOL 2224 Anatomy and Physiology II with a minimum grade of a "C". It must be successfully completed within five years of entry into the program.
8. submit a completed health form on the first day of class verifying good physical and mental health which may also include a negative drug screen.
9. submit the following immunizations on the first day of class:

- a. MMR – Two MMRs or a positive rubella titer for antibodies
- b. Hepatitis B series or sign a waiver
- c. Tdap within the last 10 years. The Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) immunization is needed every 10 years to remain protected.
- d. Tuberculin (TB) skin test within the last year. The TB skin test is required annually and must remain current throughout the program. If a negative TB test cannot be provided, a negative chest x-ray must be provided to the program.
- e. Varicella – verification of having chickenpox, a positive titer or signing a waiver must be provided.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure immunizations are current for the duration of the program. Students who are not in compliance with these requirements will be unable to meet clinical requirements and will be dismissed from the program.

10. be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) "Healthcare Provider Course" prior to entry in the PN Program. Students must maintain certification throughout the program. CPR must be obtained through the American Heart Association.
11. students must carry malpractice insurance which is obtained each semester when paying fees.
12. students who are offered a place in an entering class must accept by phone or in writing by the date indicated on the acceptance letter or the position will be given to the next alternate.
13. attend an all day orientation session prior to starting the program.
14. submit to a Federal and Arkansas criminal background check during the last 8 weeks of the PN Program. All persons seeking initial licensure as a nurse in Arkansas are required to undergo a Federal and Arkansas criminal background check.

If you have plead guilty or been convicted of a crime, you must check this on the PN Program application. If an applicant has been convicted, plead guilty, or nolo contendere to any offense listed in Act 1208 or 1999, he/she is not eligible for Arkansas licensure. Act 1208 of 1999 provides opportunity to request a waiver of eligibility criteria related to a criminal background in certain circumstances. If you need additional information contact the Director of the PN Program.

15. falsification of any information in the application process may result in dismissal from the program.

ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM:

Once the completed application file is submitted to the PN program, acceptance into the program will be based on the following:

Grade Point Average

$$4.0 - 3.5 = 50$$

$$3.4 - 3.0 = 40$$

$$2.9 - 2.5 = 30$$

Points for completing BIOL 1434 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology

$$A = 50$$

$$B = 30$$

$$C = 20$$

Points for completing BIOL 2214 Anatomy and Physiology I and BIOL 2224 Anatomy and Physiology II

$$A = 25$$

$$B = 15$$

$$C = 10$$

Points for completing Medical Terminology, CNA and other science courses (These courses are not PN Program required pre-requisites, but will help to increase points for acceptance)

$$A = 15$$

$$B = 10$$

$$C = 5$$

All applicants will be ranked numerically and placed into the 24 available openings according to their rank. All applicants will be notified as to whether they have been accepted into the program, an alternate (will be accepted if a position opens) or denied.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IMPLICATION FOR NURSING MAJORS:

Students with documented disabilities who are applying for admission to North Arkansas College Nursing and Allied Health Programs will be welcomed according to the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Reasonable accommodations will be made for students who are disabled, but who have the abilities to assume the role of the professional nurse. These abilities include verbal and written communication, critical thinking, nursing assessment of physical and psychosocial health status of patients, and performance of nursing procedures including cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Student with disabilities will be evaluated on an individual basis by the faculty of the Department of Nursing as to their potential for success in a career in professional nursing after admission to the program.