

northark.edu

Dear RN Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the RN Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS) nursing program. The program is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and accredited by Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Each new class of traditional RN students begins in the fall semester and completes the 4-semester sequence in two years. Each new class of RN Bridge students begins in the spring semester and completes the 3-semester sequence in one year.

The following forms and/or information must be completed and submitted by April 1st for traditional program and September 1st for RN Bridge program, with your application in order to be considered for the program beginning in August.

College Admission (online)

https://www.cognitoforms.com/NorthArkansasCollege1/AdmissionApplication

All College Transcripts

High School Transcript or GED Scores

MMR or Positive Rubella Titer for Antibodies (required by the college for complete admission)

RN Program Application (online)

Carlos Sacolos MSN. PN

https://www.cognitoforms.com/NorthArkansasCollege1/HealthProfessionsAdmissionApplication

RN Bridge students must submit a work verification form

If you have any questions concerning the application process, please call Carla Jacobs, RN Program Director at (870)391-3535, email – cjacobs@northark.edu.

RN Program Director

North Arkansas College 2022 Annual State of the RN Program

www.northark.edu

The RN Program at North Arkansas College is providing this annual State of the Program flyer each year as a means of communicating with and soliciting feedback from our communities of interest. Contact information for questions or for providing input is below.

ACCREDITATION

The RN Nursing Department (Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing [ACEN] and approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing [ASBN]) offers a program leading to the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree. The program is fully accredited with ACEN through Spring 2029. Approval of the program with ASBN is through 2026.



PROGRAM OUTCOMES

GRADUATE SUCCESS ON THE LICENSING EXAM:

Our goal is that our graduate's pass-rate for first-time takers of the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for all first-time test taker will be at or above 80%.

Program	2	020	2021		2022	
	NAC %	National %	NAC %	National %	NAC %	National %
Traditional	78%	82%	97%	79%	84%	78%
Bridge	91%		78%		87%	

STUDENT RETENTION OR COMPLETION RATE:

Our goal is to have a completion rate of 60%. This means that 60% of the students that begin the program will complete the program on time.

	2020	2021	2022
Traditional	61%	68%	66%
Bridge	79%	76%	75%

GRADUATES OBTAINING A JOB:

Our goal is that 93% of graduates responding to the Post-Graduate Survey, 6 months after graduation report employment as a Registered Nurse.

	2020	2021	2022
Traditional	100%	100%	93%
Bridge	100%	100%	93%

END OF PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME	% OF COHORT MEETING THE STANDARD					
	May 2020	December 2020	May 2021	December 2021	May 2022	December 2022
Utilize therapeutic communication and serve as patient advocate to promote patient centered care.	74.6%	72.2%	74%	80%	73%	76%
Apply principles of critical reasoning using collaboration and teamwork to promote safe quality care.	77%	74.3%	69%	76%	75%	74%
Seek out learning opportunities using technology to integrate best current evidence with clinical expertise for the delivery of optimal health care.	84%	84%	83%	86%	85%	84%
Demonstrate professional behavior that reflects accountability, responsibility and ethical nursing practice.	80%	78%	89%	87%	96%	95%

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE RN PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT:

CARLA JACOBS, MSN, RN, CNE **DIRECTOR OF NURSING** PHONE 870-391-3535

cjacobs@northark.edu



NORTH ARKANSAS COLLEGE REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

The curriculum in Nursing is a full-time program, requiring a full-time commitment from its students. The faculty of the Department of Nursing strongly discourages its students from full-time employment. Students with financial difficulties should discuss alternatives to employment with the Financial Aid Office. The student's schedule requires a flexible lifestyle as clinical experience is held at area facilities during assigned hours which may be days, evenings, or weekends. Because of this, transportation, childcare, and any employment should be considered prior to entry into the nursing 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.

Traditional RN Program

RN Bridge Program

	Tar Bridge i rogidin
Be accepted as a student in the college (see admission	Be accepted as a student in the college (see admission
procedures in North Arkansas College Catalog or the	procedures in North Arkansas College Catalog or the
NorthArk web site	NorthArk web site
North Arkansas College Online Application	North Arkansas College Online Application
Complete the nursing application for the coming year before April 1.	Complete the nursing application for the coming year before September 1
Have completed ACT and/or the Accuplacer Test and	Have completed ACT and/or the Accuplacer Test and have
have scores sent to North Arkansas College (see	scores sent to North Arkansas College (see College
College Requirements for Placement). Transfer students	Requirements for Placement). Transfer students must
must submit a complete Official Transcript to the	submit a complete Official Transcript to the Admissions
Admissions Office.	Office.
Must have an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher	Must have an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher
Have an official high school transcript or GED scores on	Have an official high school transcript or GED scores on file
file in the admissions office.	in the admissions office.
Have official transcripts of all colleges/universities	Have official transcripts of all colleges/universities attended
attended sent to North Arkansas College.	sent to North Arkansas College. RN bridge students must
	also have a PN or paramedic school transcript.
N/A	For RN Bridge Program, students:
	a) PN's must present verification of current
	unencumbered licensure as an PN and
	maintain a valid active PN license during the
	program.
	b) Paramedics must hold current certification from
	the Arkansas Department of Health as an
	Arkansas Paramedic and be currently
	registered as a paramedic with the National
	Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians
	and maintain during the program.
	c) Work experience verified to include 1000 hours
	over the last 24 months. The work requirement

	may be waived if the applicant has graduated from a PN or paramedic program in the previous year before application. The applicant must obtain a letter of recommendation from their Program Director.
Have a minimum grade of "C" in each prerequisite course to Nursing 1107 and in each course completed that is in the Nursing Program Degree Plan.	Have a minimum grade of "C" in each prerequisite course to Nursing 2158 and in each course completed that is in the Nursing Program Degree Plan.
Science courses must have been completed within the last five years.	Science courses must have been completed within the last five years. The RN Director may waive the time frame of 5 years for the science courses if the applicant can demonstrate he/she has been practicing in an acute care setting within the last 3 years.
Have submitted: Two MMRs or a positive rubella titer for antibodies	Have submitted: Two MMRs or a positive rubella titer for antibodies
Immunizations required for clinical must be on file by orientation to the program. (see responsibilities upon acceptance)	Immunizations required for clinical must be on file by orientation to the program. (see responsibilities upon acceptance).
The only exception is for medical reasons.	The only exception is for medical reasons.
Students who have been dismissed from another health professions program for academic integrity or behavior problems are required to take ALDH Staying the Course for Nursing and Allied Health, before being admitted to the program.	Students who have been dismissed from another health professions program for academic integrity or behavior problems are required to take NorthArk First Year Experience course, before being admitted to the program.

ACCEPTANCE PROCESS:

Admission to the nursing program is highly competitive. Only official transcripts submitted by the due date are evaluated. Acceptance into the program is based on data, and grades in the following:

- A. Minimum of overall 2.5 GPA (This includes all transcripts and is necessary for the application to be considered.)
- B. Points awarded for Grade Point Average of core curriculum (courses that are part of the degree plan):

4.0 - 3.5 = 50

3.4 - 3.0 = 40

2.9 - 2.5 = 30

- C. Points for completing General Education Courses:
- Mathematics for Career & Technology Or

higher Math (3 credit hrs.)

English Composition I

A = 40

B = 20

C = 10

- D. Points for completing Science Courses:
 - Anatomy & Physiology I
 - Anatomy & Physiology II
 - Microbiology

- Introduction to Information Technology
- General Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- English Composition II
- NorthArk First Year Experience

A = 50 60 if course taken at NorthArk B = 30 40 if course taken at NorthArk C = 10 20 if course taken at NorthArk

E. Points for Boone County Residents = 5

All applicants will be ranked numerically and placed into available openings according to their rank.

****Applicants who have taken or enrolled in a science course more than two times and have not earned a grade of C or better will be advised to consider application to other programs. Withdrawals are counted as an enrollment. A five-year time limit applies to the sciences. The RN Director may review applicant's grades for special admission consideration.

Meeting all criteria and submitting an application does not guarantee admission into the nursing program. The number of students admitted will vary according to resources available prior to registration.

Students must meet all admission requirements and resubmit a new application for admission to the nursing office to be considered for enrollment in the next class. The student will be subject to any revised standards and requirements in effect at the time of re-application or re-entry.

Students who are notified that they are on the alternate list but are not accepted must re-apply if they seek enrollment into nursing courses the next year. Alternate status does not mean that the student will be ranked higher for the next application period. Students must meet all admission requirements and resubmit a new application for admission to the nursing office to be considered for enrollment in the next class. The student will be subject to any revised standards and requirements in effect at the time of re-application. Alternate students should seek the advice from a counselor or the director of the nursing program in regard to improving their chances of acceptance.

Students who withdraw from Nursing 1107 or Nursing 2158 for any reason must again meet eligibility requirements and reapply for admission.

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

*Non-English-speaking students shall meet the same admission criteria as other students and pass an English proficiency exam.

Computer Requirements

All examinations will be administered via ATI or ExamSoft's Examplify software using the student's personal laptop computer. Chromebooks, iPads, Android, Linux or tablet operating systems are not compatible for testing purposes. Students are expected to take each exam on a supported computer with functioning camera and microphone. Students must ensure adequate system requirements to use ExamSoft and ATI prior to the start of the nursing courses.

- Click here for ExamSoft's system requirements. Any questions regarding software should be directed to ExamSoft help resource: (866) 429-8889 (available 24/7). https://examsoft.com/resources/examplify-minimum-system-requirements
- Click here for ATI's system requirements. Any questions regarding ATI software should be directed to ATI help resource; (800) 667-7531. https://atitesting.com/technical-requirements

RESPONSIBILITIES UPON ACCEPTANCE

Once offered a position in the nursing program, the student is responsible for:

- A. returning completed RN Health Statement, and Technical Standards as acceptance, see appendix B. Failure to meet the Health & Technical Standards or provide immunizations will result in forfeiture of admission.
- B. ensuring 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 dropped from any nursing course. The following must be submitted before orientation:
 - Hepatitis B -- consists of 3 injections over a 6-month time-period or laboratory result verifying immunity, Hepatitis B Surface antibody. Two of the 3 injections must be completed prior to the first day of clinical. Arrangements for the first injection must be made immediately and followed with the second one month after the first injection. The third injection of the series must be given 6 months after the first injection. Continuation in the program is contingent on providing proof of the third injection.
 - **Tdap** The Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) immunization is needed every 10 years to remain protected.
 - **TB** Two negative TB test (within the last year) must be on record. The TB test must remain current throughout the program. If a negative TB test cannot be provided, a certificate of health or physicians statement that the student is disease free must be provided yearly to the nursing program. Traditional RN students most recent TB must be valid through May, Bridge RN students most recent TB must be valid through December.
 - Varicella verification of 2 injections must be provided or laboratory result verifying immunity, Varicella Zoster IgG antibody.
 - **Influenza** vaccination is required for all clinical sites. Traditional RN students will receive after starting the program. RN Bridge students must submit proof before orientation.
 - Covid vaccination NorthArk does not require students to receive or report their COVID-19 vaccination. Students who are assigned to clinical facilities must comply with the established COVID-19 clinical procedures and guidelines for their assigned facility and, for those that require COVID-19 vaccinations, students must submit vaccine documentation. Please note that refusal to comply with all the vaccination requirements may limit site placement and could impede progression through your program of study.
 - CPR -- provide current documentation of certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) "HeartCode Basic Life Support" from the American Heart Association. Students must maintain certification throughout the program. If the current certification expires prior graduation, then a new certification is required before the start of the program.
- C. agreeing to complete a 10 Panel UA Drug Screen. The date and time of the drug screen will be announced once the initial nursing semester has started. The drug screen may be administered at any time, without warning to the student. A student taking any prescription drug that will or may show up in a drug screen must be able to produce a valid drug prescription in their name. If the screen comes back positive or if the student refuses a drug screen, the student forfeits their place in the program. Students unable to void after 3 hours will be considered a refusal and will be dismissed form the program.
- D. agreeing to a criminal background check prior to clinical experience. The Nursing and Health Professions students are required to undergo Criminal Background Checks prior to participating in any clinical experiences. Details for background checks will be given during orientation. North Arkansas College has entered an arrangement with Verified Credentials to provide this service to all nursing students and includes screening searches of: County court records, FACIS 1 (OIG, GSA, & other federal sources). ID Trace Pro (current/previous addresses, SSN valid/deceased, aliases, high risk fraud alert), National Criminal Database. National Sex Offender Public Registry.
- E. If for any reason (Criminal Background, previous employment, etc.) a clinical site will not allow the student to attend clinical, then the student will not be able to fulfill the clinical requirements the program and will be dismissed from the program.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Students should be aware that all persons seeking initial licensure as a nurse are required to undergo a federal and state criminal background check which requires fingerprinting. The practice of Nursing is regulated by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, which has the mission to protect the public and act as a public advocate. The Board outlines the conditions in which a newly graduated RN student may apply for an Arkansas license. Even though students may complete a program of study in an RN degree program, this is not a guarantee that the student will be allowed to test or receive a license. All persons seeking initial licensure as a nurse in Arkansas are required to undergo a federal and Arkansas criminal background check. If an applicant has been convicted, pleaded guilty, or nolo contendere to any offense listed in Nurse Practice Act Subchapter 3 17-87-312, he/she is not eligible for Arkansas licensure. Nurse Practice Act Subchapter 3 17-87-312 provides opportunity to request a waiver of eligibility criteria related to a criminal background in certain circumstances (Act 17-87-312 follows). If you need additional information, contact the RN Program Director. If the student is seeking licensure in another state besides Arkansas, the student should contact the State Board of Nursing in which the student is applying for licensure.

If the student has plead guilty or been convicted of a crime, the student must notify the Director of Nursing at the time of application. This is necessary even if the student's criminal record has been expunged.

	<u> </u>	T T	47 07 240 Original hasharasund abaska
			17-87-312 Criminal background checks
(a)	(1)		Each first-time applicant for a license issued by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall apply to the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check, to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
	(2)		At the time a person applies to an Arkansas nursing educational program, the program shall notify the applicant in writing of the provisions and requirements of this section.
(b)			The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards and shall include the taking of fingerprints.
(c)			The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board and shall be responsible to the Department of Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.
(d)			Upon completion of the criminal background check, the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police shall forward to the board all releasable information obtained concerning the applicant.
(e)			For purposes of this section, the board shall follow the licensing restrictions based on criminal records under § 17-3-102.
(f)	(1)		The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit for licensure to a first-time applicant pending the results of the criminal background check.
	(2)		The permit shall be valid for no more than six (6) months.
(g)	(1)		Any information received by the board from the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police under this section shall not be available for examination except by:
		(A)	The affected applicant for licensure or his or her authorized representative; or
		(B)	The person whose license is subject to revocation or his or her authorized representative.
	(2)		No record, file, or document shall be removed from the custody of the Division of Arkansas State Police.
(h)			Any information made available to the affected applicant for licensure or the person whose license is subject to revocation shall be information pertaining to that person only.
(i)			Rights of privilege and confidentiality established in this section shall not extend to any document created for purposes other than this background check.
(j)			The board shall adopt the necessary rules to fully implement the provisions of this section
(k)	(1)		The board may participate at the state and federal level in programs that provide notification of an arrest subsequent to an initial background check that is conducted through available governmental systems.

	(2)		The board may submit an applicant's fingerprints to the federal Next Generation Identification system.
	(3)		The fingerprints may be searched by future submissions to the Next Generation Identification system, including latent fingerprint searches
	(4)		An applicant enrolled in the Next Generation Identification system is not required to re-fingerprint when a subsequent request for a state or federal criminal history background check is required if:
		(A)	A legible set of the applicant's fingerprints is obtained when the applicant enrolls in the Next Generation Identification system; and
		(B)	The applicant is subject to the Rap Back service of the Next Generation Identification system.
(I)			The Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may maintain fingerprints in the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.
			17-3-102. Licensing restrictions based on criminal records.
(0)		1	
(a)			An individual is not eligible to receive or hold a license issued by a licensing entity if that individual has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of any of the following offenses by any court in the State of Arkansas or of any similar offense by a court in another state or of any similar offense by a federal court, unless the conviction was lawfully sealed under the Comprehensive Criminal Record Sealing Act of 2013, § 16-90-1401 et seq., or otherwise previously sealed, pardoned or expunged under prior law:
	(1)		Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
	(2)		Murder in the first degree and second degree as prohibited in §§ 5-10-102 and 5-10-103;
	(3)		Manslaughter as prohibited in § 5-10-104;
	(4)		Negligent homicide as prohibited in § 5-10-105;
	(5)		Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;
	(6)		False imprisonment in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-11-103;
	(7)		Permanent detention or restraint as prohibited in § 5-11-106;
	(8)		Robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-102;
	(9)		Aggravated robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-103;
	(10)		Battery in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-201;
	(11)		Aggravated assault as prohibited in § 5-13-204;
	(12)		Introduction of controlled substance into the body of another person as prohibited in § 5-13-210;
	(13)		Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility, § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;
	(14)		Terroristic threatening in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-301;
	(15)		Rape as prohibited in §§ 5-14-103;
	(16)		Sexual indecency with a child as prohibited in § 5-14-110;
	(17)		Sexual extortion as prohibited in, § 5-14-113;
	(18)		Sexual assault in the first degree, second degree, third degree, and fourth degree as prohibited in §§ 5-14-124 – 5-14-127;
	(19)		Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
	(20)		Felony offenses against the family as prohibited in §§ 5-26-303 5-26-306;
	(21)		Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
	(22)		Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205
	(23)		Permitting abuse of a child as prohibited in § 5-27-221
	(22)		Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 - 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403;
	(23)		Permitting abuse of a minor as prohibited in § 5-27-221(a);
	(24)		Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual

			,
			performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403;
	(25)		Computer child pornography as prohibited in § 5-27-603;
	(26)		Computer exploitation of a child in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-605;
	(27)		Felony adult abuse as prohibited in § 5-28-103;
	(28)		Felony theft of property as prohibited in § 5-36-103;
	(29)		Felony theft by receiving as prohibited in § 5-36-106;
	(30)		Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301;
	_ `		
	(31)		Burglary as prohibited in § 5-39-201;
	(32)		Felony violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, §§ 5-64-101 5-64-510, as prohibited in the former § 5-64-401 and §§ 5-64-419 5-64-442;
	(33)		Promotion of prostitution in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-70-104;
	(34)		Stalking as prohibited in § 5-71-229;
	(35)		Criminal attempt, criminal complicity, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy as prohibited in §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202, 5-3-301, and 5-3-401, to commit any of the offenses listed in this subsection; and
	(36)		All other crimes referenced in this title.
(b)	(1)		If an individual has been convicted of a crime listed in subsection (a) of this section, a licensing entity may waive disqualification or revocation of a license based on the conviction if a request for a waiver is made by:
		(A)	An affected applicant for a license; or
		(B)	The individual holding a license subject to revocation.
	(2)		A basis upon which a waiver may be granted includes without limitation:
		(A)	The age at which the crime was committed;
		(B)	The circumstances surrounding the crime;
		(C)	The length of time since the offense was committed;
		(D)	Subsequent work history: since the offense was committed;
		(E)	Employment references since the offense was committed;
		(F)	Character references since the offense was committed;
		(G)	Relevance of the offense to the occupational license; and
		(H)	Other evidence demonstrating that licensure of the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of the public.
(c)			If an individual has a valid criminal conviction for an offense that could disqualify the
()			individual from receiving a license, the disqualification shall not be considered for more than five
			(5) years from the date of conviction or incarceration or on which probation ends, whichever date
	(4)		is the latest, if the individual:
	(1)		Was not convicted for committing a violent or sexual offense; and
	(2)		Has not been convicted of any other offense during the five-year disqualification period.
(d)			A licensing entity shall not, as a basis upon which a license may be granted or denied:
	(1)		Use vague or generic terms, including without limitation the phrase "moral turpitude" and "good character"; or
	(2)		Consider arrests without a subsequent conviction.
(e)			Due to the serious nature of the offenses, the following shall result in permanent disqualification:
	(1)		Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
	(2)		Murder in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-10-102 and murder in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-10-103;
	(3)		Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;
	(4)		Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility, § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;
	(5)		Rape as prohibited in § 5-14-103;
	(6)		Sexual extortion as prohibited in, § 5-14-113;
	` '		

	(7)	Sexual assault in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-14-124 and sexual assault in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-14-125;
	(8)	Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
	(9)	Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
	(10)	Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205;
	(11)	Adult abuse that constitutes a felony as prohibited in § 5-28-103; and
	(12)	Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301.
(f)		This chapter does not preclude a licensing entity from taking emergency action against a licensee as authorized under § 25-15-211 for the sake of public health, safety, or welfare
(g)		The permanent disqualification for an offense listed in subsection (e) of this section does not apply to an individual who holds a valid license on the effective date of this chapter

PROGRESSION

The nursing curriculum requires that the nursing courses be taken in sequences with the expectation of building on prior learning.

To satisfactorily progress in the Program in nursing, a student must:

A. maintain an overall grade point average of 2.0

B. achieve a grade of "C" or above in the theory component of all Nursing courses.

Grading System
100-90.5 = A
90-83.5 = B
83-78.5 = C
78-69.5 = D
Below 69.4 = F

- C. perform safely and ethically in all nursing course work.
- D. achieve a "satisfactory" in the clinical component of all courses titled Nursing that have corresponding hospital or laboratory experiences. If student is unsuccessful in clinical, the theory grade (if higher than a "D") is automatically lowered to a grade of "D". Students cannot progress in the program.
- E. earn a grade of "C" or above in each course required in the nursing curriculum. Graduation from the nursing program requires a minimum grade of "C" or better in all courses required in the nursing curriculum.
- F. satisfactorily complete all academic prerequisites listed in the degree plan.
- G. must have mental and physical health sufficient to maintain expected program activities. Students with changes in their health after admission, must present a health release from their physician to continue in their clinical nursing course. (examples: pregnancy, surgery, hypertension, etc.)
- H. may re-enter the program one time by compliance with the readmission criteria.
- I. must complete the entire program within (5) five years after admission to the nursing program. If the program is not completed within five years; students may be asked to repeat some nursing and science courses.

J. all nursing courses must be dropped if a student is unsuccessful (below 79%) in any nursing course during the semester.

K. nursing courses cannot be audited.

L. Math Exams in the Registered Nursing Program: Due to the potential for safety errors when administering medication, the RN Program has established the following math exam competency policy.

Traditional RN Program

Students will be given a math exam during NURS1107 Fundamentals of Nursing and during NURS 2128 Medical Surgical Nursing III. The content covered on the exam will be equitable to the math concepts that will have been covered up to that point in the course (s). The student must pass the math exam with a 90% or greater score. The student may take the exam 3 times. A different exam will be given each time but will cover the same content. If the student does not pass the math exam on the 3rd attempt with a 90% or greater, then they will be dismissed from the program. The student is responsible for reviewing the exam and seeking out remediation resources before taking the exam for a second or third time.

RN Bridge Program

Students will be given a math exam during NURS2158 Nursing Process I and during NURS 2178 Nursing Process III. The content covered on the exam will be equitable to the math concepts that will have been covered up to that point in the course (s). The student must pass the math exam with a 90% or greater score. The student may take the exam 3 times. A different exam will be given each time but will cover the same content. If the student does not pass the math exam on the 3rd attempt with a 90% or greater, then they will be dismissed from the program. The student is responsible for reviewing the exam and seeking out remediation resources before taking the exam for the second or third time.

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND DISMISSAL

To complete each nursing course students must fulfill both academic and professional requirements. Professional standards are demonstrated by students when they consistently meet standards described in the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act, the American Nurses' Association Code of Ethics, and the National Student Nurse Association Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct. Professional standards also apply to classroom behavior and any instance when the student represents the nursing program of North Arkansas College. Students who fail to meet course, department or college policies may be placed on an improvement plan.

Students will be informed of behaviors/performances inconsistent with program expectations as well as professional nursing standards and will be placed on an improvement plan as follows.

A. Verbal Improvement Plan: Students exhibiting minor, correctable, <u>isolated</u> unprofessional behavior will be given a verbal improvement plan that is to be documented. Documentation will include constructive feedback for modifying behavior(s) to meet professional standards. This does not require a student's signature. This form will be placed in the student's file. The faculty initiating the behavior improvement warning will inform the course coordinator. The student is

- expected to modify the behavior accordingly. If the behavior is not modified or if new unprofessional behaviors arise, a signed written improvement form will be initiated.
- B. Written Improvement Plan: Students exhibiting <u>repeated</u> or multiple minors, correctable unsatisfactory professional and/or personal behaviors, and/or academic performance issues, require written notification. The behavior(s) will be documented on the Improvement Form. The faculty initiating the improvement form will review the identified academic/professional problem. The student will document their plan of action to correct the issue and both will sign and date written notification. The form will be placed in the student's file and a copy given to them. The faculty initiating the behavior improvement plan will inform the course coordinator. The student is expected to modify the behavior accordingly.
- C. If a student continues to demonstrate the unsatisfactory professional and/or personal behaviors, and/or academic performance issues, the student may be dismissed.

D. Dismissal

A student will be dismissed from the Registered Nursing Program for the following:

- 1. have earned a "D" or "F" in any nursing course
- 2. have earned a "D" or "F" in two required non-nursing courses.
- 3. excessive absences or tardiness as stated as stated in the attendance policy
- 4. breeched confidentiality of the patient, the family, or the agency
- 5. Participates in one or more of the following:
 - a. misrepresentation or falsification of yourself or another student, as well as patient and/or agency records
 - b. sexual harassment
 - c. engages in sexual relations with a patient when a generally recognized professional relationship exists
 - d. act or threat of intimidation, harassment, or physical aggression
 - e. illegal possession, sale, or distribution of prescription or illicit drugs.
 - f. Illegal possession of weapons
 - g. unauthorized possession of examinations
 - h. plagiarism
 - i. theft
 - j. academic cheating, dishonesty, or misconduct
 - k. failure to exhibit acceptable professional behavior or any other activity which is incompatible with professional behavior as indicated in the Code of Ethics for Nurses (Appendix A).
 - I. failure to exhibit safe clinical practice according to the National Student Nurse Association Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct
 - m. activities which are determined to be dishonest, inconsistent with professional responsibility and accountability, and/or may be detrimental to the protection, safety, and welfare of patient and the public or in any situation when representing the Registered Nursing Program of North Arkansas College.
 - n. no call no show. See Attendance Policy
- 6. Positive drug screen without a valid prescription.
- 7. Refusal to submit to a drug screen

E. Petition for Exception

Students who have been dismissed for program policy violations may file a petition for exception. Petition for exception is made to the Director of Nursing. During the petition process, students may continue to attend class and/or clinical at the discretion of the director. After thorough review by the director and faculty the petition is voted on by all full-time faculty. The student may be dismissed or allowed to return to the program with strategies or assignments to improve performance. Students readmitted following a petition for exception will be placed on departmental probation. The terms of departmental probation will be defined by faculty and related to the specific incident.

If a student has been dismissed from the program, they may be ineligible for readmission depending on the circumstances of the dismissal.

F. Academic Grievance

The Registered Nursing Program works with the students in finding fair and just solutions to problems, including any student grievance, appeal, question, misunderstanding, or discrimination. Students may file a grievance according to the North Arkansas College grievance policy that follows: Academic Grievance.

- 1. If a student has a complaint about an academic issue, he or she will go to the instructor to file a complaint.
- 2. If the instructor is unable to resolve the issue, the student will go to the chair or program director of the department (RN Program Director).
- 3. If the chair or program director is unable to resolve the issue, the chair will inform the student they have the right to start a grievance process, beginning with the completion of NorthArk Feedback Forum. Upon completing basic information on the form and pressing Submit, the form will go to the Dean's Administrative Assistant, who will then forward it to the dean, informing the student to make an appointment with the dean to discuss the matter further. (Dean of Health Professions).
- 4. Should the student be unable to resolve the grievance with the dean, he/she may then within five class days of speaking with the dean, request the grievance go to the Academic Grievance Committee facilitated by the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.
- 5. The decision of the Academic Grievance Committee will be communicated to the student within five days. The decision of the Committee is final.

G. Non-Academic Grievance

Any student who believes an injustice or a violation of state, federal, or college policies, laws, or regulations have occurred should try to resolve the problem through informal consultation with the individuals indicated below, in order, before filing a formal grievance.

- Individual or staff member involved
- · Appropriate supervisor of the staff member involved
- Appropriate Dean of the staff member involved

If the student has been unable to resolve the issue, the student may file a formal grievance within five business days by completing the electronic Feedback Forum form located on the website homepage. This completed form is submitted to the appropriate department head for a final attempt at a resolution. If no resolution can be obtained, the issue is presented to the Institutional Standards and Appeals Committee. The Institutional Standards and Appeals Committee, whose decision is final, will notify the student within five business days of their decision. Policy: Non-Academic Grievance.

READMISSION

Re-admission to the nursing program is not automatic and all initial admission criteria applies.

- A. Students can be readmitted to the program providing:
 - 1. reentry allows for completion within 5 years from start
 - 2. the student must repeat all co-requisite nursing courses of the semester they withdrew from to ensure preparation for taking the NCLEX-RN exam.
 - 3. there is available space in the next class.
 - 4. student submits a letter of desire to the RN Director in writing (paper or e-mail) at least 3 months prior to the semester being re-applied
 - 5. student passes the re-entry exam with 79% or higher
 - 6. student performs clinical skills test applicable to the content. After planned practice in the simulation lab, the student must pass the skills test on the first try.
 - 7. must have a 2.5 overall grade point average.
 - 8. the student is accountable for changes in the degree requirements at the time of readmission.
 - 9. the student must meet all academic, professional, and health requirements in effect at the time of readmission.
 - 10. Students who have been dismissed for academic integrity or behavior problems are required to take Northark FYE Course before being readmitted.
- B. Students unable to return within 5-year completion <u>OR</u> students who did not successfully complete the first semester, will need to re-apply, go through the selection process, and take the entire nursing curriculum. The applicants who have previously been admitted to the RN program and failed will be placed on the alternate list for the RN and RN Bridge programs (NURS 1107 & NURS 2158).
- C. Students are allowed one (1) readmission into the program. This applies whether the student withdrew previously in good standing, not in good standing, or not successfully completing a semester.
- D. If a student receives an unacceptable grade (D or below) in a nursing course or withdraws without completing the course work, that student may reapply to the program for the acceptable point of re-entry or reapply to NURS 1107 Fundamentals of Nursing or NURS 2158 Nursing Process I. Example if the student is enrolled in Medical Surgical Nursing I and is unsuccessful then they may re-apply to the course one time or re-apply to the program again.

GRADUATION

The Associate Degree in Nursing is awarded to students who:

- A. earn 66 credits (Traditional RN Class) or 63 credits (LPN to RN Class) with a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or above.
- B. earn a "C" or above in all courses required in the nursing curriculum.
- C. fulfill all nursing program course requirements.
- D. file an application for graduation form with the Registrar's Office within the specified time limits.

The Health Profession Graduation and Pinning Ceremony celebrates the RN graduate's accomplishment and welcomes the new graduate to the profession. This time-honored tradition marks the transition from student nurse to graduate nurse and is, typically, an emotional event to share with family and friends. The ceremony is combined with other allied health professions.

• Date, Place & Time: Designated by college and is published with the academic calendar.

- Dress: cap and gown provided by the college.
- Graduates march into the ceremony led by faculty members.
- Pinning: each member of the graduating class selects a program faculty member or a special registered nurse to place the pin on his/her uniform. Only an RN may pin the student.
- The class recites the Nightingale Pledge as a professional statement of the nurse's mission and values. The Gideons, Int. will provide a "Nursing Testament".
- Graduates are presented and guests invited to a reception in the Bradley Student Center.

TRANSFER

A transfer student is defined as one who has successfully completed one or more nursing courses at another college with at least a letter grade of C. Applicants who have not been successful in another nursing program are not eligible for transfer into upper level nursing courses. They may apply for admission to NURS 1107 or NURS 2158. Transfer students must pass the entrance exam with a 79% or higher; and skill test commensurate with the level of entry that they are applying to. After planned practice in the simulation lab the student must pass the skills test on the first try. Transfer students must meet all the admission criteria and will be considered on an individual basis by the director of nursing after review of transcripts. Placement is based on available space. A letter of reference must be received from the Director of the Nursing program in which an applicant has been attending. The reference form will be sent directly to the RN Program Director. This applies to any health profession program that a student has attended in the past. If the applicant does not receive a positive reference from the previous nursing or health profession program, then they will not be considered for a position in the NorthArk RN Program. Each applicant's status will be reviewed by the RN Program Director and advised for possible entry or transfer into the program.

CLINICAL FACILITIES

The nursing student is required to spend a predetermined number of hours in the clinical setting. Clinical rotations may include skills labs on campus, various area hospitals, simulation in the campus Health Education Simulation Center, physician's offices, mental health agencies, nursing homes, community health settings, etc. Students may have clinical assignments in Boone, Carroll, Baxter or Newton counties in Arkansas and Taney County, Missouri and in other areas within driving distance of Harrison, Arkansas.

The student, upon admission to the program, must be available to attend any of the nursing course's scheduled clinical days and/or clinical sites. This may include evening shift or weekend experiences. Transportation to these facilities is the student's responsibility and student must have access to a safe, reliable motor vehicle during their clinical studies. Travel arrangements, living accommodations, meals, and similar expenses that are associated with clinical assignments are the responsibility of the individual student.

Current acute care clinical facilities include:

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it is at times necessary for students to change to another clinical site other than the one which was originally scheduled. The RN Program reserves to right to schedule clinical experiences as they become available in area hospitals or other area facilities. The RN Program will communicate with students as early as possible regarding clinical changes.

REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS FORM

The provision of safe patient care necessitates the student's ability to respond to multiple sensory and environmental cues. It is essential that the student be able to read, understand, and apply the information in nursing textbooks, and clinical records. It is essential that the student be able to effectively communicate with patients, families, and peers. The student must be able to tolerate stressful and physically taxing workloads. The student may be exposed to communicable or infectious disease, hazardous materials, and injury from performance of assigned duties.

Communication	Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar vocabulary, spelling, and word usage with patients, families, and co-workers.
	Perform mathematical calculation for medication preparation and administration.
	Demonstrate basic computer/information technology skills.
	Must be able to demonstrate the ability to complete assignments within an allotted timeframe.
Vision	Perform close and distance visual activities involving objects, people, and Paperwork, as well as discriminate depth and color perception.
Hearing	Respond and react immediately to auditory instruction, request, and/or monitor equipment; perform auditory auscultation without auditory impediment.
Motor Skills	Lift and transfer patients up to 6 inches from a stooped position, then push or pull the weight up to 3 feet.
	Lift and transfer patients from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed-to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
	Work in a standing position and walk frequently.
	Apply up to 10 pounds of pressure to bleeding sites, or in performing CPR.
Psychological	Perform up to twelve-hours in a clinical/laboratory setting.
Skills	Be able to tolerate various odors.
	Discriminate between sharp/dull and hot/cold when using hands.
	Must be able to use critical thinking skills to interpret and evaluate patient data.
	Make safe decisions under stressful situations.
	Perform effectively and professionally in a stressful environment/situation.
	Work well with others.

North Arkansas College Registered Nursing Estimated Program Cost Analysis 2023

Prerequisites & General Education Requirements
Spring Semester
Tuition (13 hours)
Boone County Residents
Out-of-County Residents\$1625.00
Contiguous County Residents \$1976.00
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)
Out-of-State Residents
Science Lab Fee\$ 32.00
(\$8.00 Per Credit Hour)
Online Course Fee
(\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Hour)
Mandatory Student Fees
(activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, technology fee, &
student government fee per credit hour) Books \$ 277.00
DOURS \$ 211.00
Fall Semester
Tuition (14 hours)
Boone County Residents
Out-of-County Residents\$1750.00
Contiguous County Residents \$2128.00
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)
Out-of-State Residents\$2758.00
Health Professions Program Fee\$ 266.00
(\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Hour)
Registered Nursing Program Fee\$ 280.00
(\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Courses)
Online Course Fee\$ 140.00
(\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Hour)
Science Lab Fee\$ 32.00
(\$8.00 Per Credit Hour)
Mandatory Student Fees\$ 476.00
(activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, technology fee, &
Student government fee per credit hour)
Books\$ 345.00
Immunizations\$ 517.00
CPR Certifications \$ 55.00
Uniform/Name Tag\$ 150.00
Stethoscope
Bandage Scissors\$ 5.00

Watch with Sweeping Second Hand	\$	25.00
Spring Semester Tuition (12 hours)		
Boone County Residents Out-of-County Residents Contiguous County Residents (Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri) Out-of-State Residents Health Professions Program Fee (\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Ho Registered Nursing Program Fee (\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Co Online Course Fee (\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Mandatory Student Fees (activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, tech student government fee per credit hour) Books	\$1 \$1 \$ \$ urse \$ it Ho \$	1500.00 1824.00 2364.00 342.00 360.00 s) 80.00 our) 408.00 ogy fee, &
Fall Semester		
Tuition (15 hours) Boone County Residents Out-of-County Residents Contiguous County Residents (Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri) Out-of-State Residents Health Professions Program Fee (\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Ho Registered Nursing Program Fee (\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Co Online Course Fee (\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Science Lab Fee (\$8.00 Per Credit Hour) Mandatory Student Fees (activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, tech Student government fee per credit hour) Books	\$1 \$2 \$ \$ urse \$ it Ho \$	1875.00 2280.00 2955.00 418.00 440.00 s) 140.00 our) 32.00 510.00 ogy fee, &
Spring Semester Tuition (12 hours) Boone County Residents Out-of-County Residents		

Contiguous County Residents	
Out-of-State Residents	
Health Professions Program Fee	
(\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Cou	
Registered Nursing Program Fee	
(\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registere	d Nursing Courses)
Online Course Fee	\$ 80.00
(\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online	Course Credit Hour)
Mandatory Student Fees	
(activity fee, student services fee, safety & pa	
student government fee per credit hour)	ming 100, toolinology 100, a
Books	\$ 521.00
Program Pin (optional)	
with Guard (optional)	
NCLEX Licensure Application	
State Licensure Application	
Temporary Permit (optional)	\$ 25.00
Pre-License Background Check	
NCLEX Review (optional)	
(1 /	·
Totals	
Boone County Residents	\$16,915.00
Out-of-County Residents	
Contiguous County Residents	\$20,479.00
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)	***
Out-of-State Residents	\$23,449.00

North Arkansas College RN Bridge Estimated Program Cost Analysis 2023

Prerequisites & General Education Requirements Fall Semester

Tuition (16 hours)	
Boone County Residents	\$1568.00
Out-of-County Residents	
Contiguous County Residents	
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)	
Out-of-State Residents	\$3152.00
Science Lab Fee	\$ 32.00
(\$8.00 Per Credit Hour)	
Online Course Fee	\$ 320.00
(\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit	Hour)
Mandatory Student Fees	\$ 544.00
(activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, techr student government fee per credit hour)	nology fee, &
Books	\$ 555.00
Spring Semester	
Tuition (22 hours)	
Boone County Residents	
Out-of-County Residents	
Contiguous County Residents	\$3344.00
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)	
Out-of-State Residents	
Health Professions Program Fee	
(\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Hour	
Registered Nursing Program Fee	
(\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Cour	
Online Course Fee	
(\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit	*
Science Lab Fee	\$ 32.00
(\$8.00 Per Credit Hour)	ф 7 40.00
Mandatory Student Fees	
(activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, techr	lology ree, &
Student government fee per credit hour)	¢ 1152.00
BooksImmunizations	•
CPR Certifications	•
Uniform/Name Tag	
Stethoscope	
Bandage Scissors	
Watch with Sweeping Second Hand	
vvatori with owooping ocoona riana	Ψ 20.00

Summer Semester Tuition (7 hours) Boone County Residents \$ 686.00 Out-of-County Residents \$ 875.00 Contiguous County Residents \$1064.00 (Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri) Out-of-State Residents\$1379.00 (\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Hour) (\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Courses) (\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Hour) Mandatory Student Fees\$ (activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, technology fee, & student government fee per credit hour) **Fall Semester** Tuition (18 hours) Boone County Residents\$1764.00 Out-of-County Residents\$2250.00 Contiguous County Residents \$2736.00 (Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri) Out-of-State Residents\$3546.00 (\$38.00 per Program/Health Professions Course Credit Hour) Registered Nursing Program Fee\$ 440.00 (\$40.00 per Course Credit Hour for Registered Nursing Courses) (\$20.00 Per Online or Hybrid/Blended Online Course Credit Hour) (\$8.00 Per Credit Hour) Mandatory Student Fees \$ 612.00 (activity fee, student services fee, safety & parking fee, technology fee, & Student government fee per credit hour) Program Pin (optional)......\$45.00-\$148.00 NCLEX Licensure Exam\$200.00 NCLEX Review (optional)\$300.00

Totals

Boone County Residents	\$15,428.00
Out-of-County Residents	\$17,129.00
Contiguous County Residents	\$18,830.00
(Barry, Ozark, Stone, & Taney in Missouri)	
Out-of-State Residents	\$21,665.00