

PRACTICAL NURSING

Program Description

The Practical Nursing (PN) program is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing with regular evaluations to ensure a quality education in the nursing field. The program is designed to prepare qualified individuals to meet community nursing needs and perform those functions which are generally recognized as being within the scope of practical nursing and where the skill of registered nursing is not required. Practical nursing is a career that offers many rewards including the satisfaction that comes from helping others. The practical nursing student is prepared for giving direct and primary nursing care under the immediate supervision of the instructor/clinical instructor, physicians, and staff nurses of the cooperating clinical facilities.

Student Learning Outcomes

Successful completers of this program will be able to:

- utilize the nursing process when providing nursing care to a variety of patients across the life span.
- safely and efficiently perform skills and procedures within the scope of LPN practice.
- practice within the accepted ethical-legal nursing framework.
- assume responsibility for continuing personal and professional growth.
- use effective communication skills in interactions with patients, families, and other members of the health care team.
- function effectively as a member of the health care team.

To be considered for the Practical Nursing program, applicants must take the ACT, ASSET, COMPASS, or SAT exam. Applicants will be ranked for program acceptance based upon academic and other specific criteria outlined in a separate publication. The top applicants, not to exceed the Arkansas State Board maximums for instructor-student ratio, will be accepted into the Practical Nursing program provided all of the following conditions are met:

- Applicant must be a high school graduate or high school equivalency (GED) graduate;
- Applicant must complete UAM enrollment requirements;
- Applicant must attend and complete all orientations, appointments, assessments, and study sessions required; and
- Applicant must declare their chosen PN track in writing and meet all prerequisite courses required.

Applying for the Practical Nursing Program

Applicants must complete the following activities (not necessarily in the order listed) to apply for the UAM CTC Practical Nursing program:

- Submit an admission application to UAM CTC and meet all admission requirements.
- Submit an application to the Practical Nursing program at UAM CTC.
- Declare PN Track (AASN or Technical).
- Successfully complete all prerequisites (with the exception of mathematics and English) within the past five (5) years with a grade of "C" or higher.
- Have an ASSET, ACT, COMPASS, or SAT test that meets the minimum requirements specified in the chart below. See supplemental handout for additional testing information.

<u>Test</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Writing or English</u>	<u>Math</u>
ACT	17	15	17
ASSET	40	40	40
COMPASS	76	48	43
SAT		Verbal-400	480

Students are enrolled into the program once a year beginning with the fall semester. The curriculum of the program is standardized to meet the approval of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. Regular evaluations are conducted by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) to ensure continued quality education. The program evaluation and the annual pass rate of graduates on the licensure exam must be within ASBN's established standards in order for the program to receive continued approval.

**Prerequisites for the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing or the
Practical Nursing Technical Certificate:**

BIOL	2233	Anatomy & Physiology I (Corequisites: ENGL 1013; BIOL 1063 recommended)
BIOL	2291	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab (Corequisite: BIOL 2233)
BIOL	2243	Anatomy & Physiology II (Prerequisites: BIOL 2233; CHEM 1023 Corequisite for CHEM 1023: ENGL 1013; MATH 0183 or equivalent)
BIOL	2301	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab (Corequisite: BIOL 2243)
ENGL	1013	Composition I (or higher-level composition course)
MATH	183	Intermediate Algebra (or higher-level mathematics course)
PE	2113	Nutrition
NA	1017	Nursing Assistant
CIS	1013	Introduction to Computer-based Systems (or higher-level computer course)

OR

Prerequisites for Practical Nursing Technical Certificate Only:

COM	1203	Tech Communication (or higher-level composition course)
MAT	1203	Tech Mathematics (or higher-level mathematics course)
NUR	1514	PN Anatomy & Physiology
PE	2213	Nutrition
NA	1017	Nursing Assistant
CFA	1103	Tech Computer Fundamentals (or higher-level computer course)

Applicants eligible for consideration should schedule a placement exam. The exam can be taken only once per year. Entrance exam requirements must be met to be eligible to take a placement exam. The top ranking applicants, not to exceed twenty (20), will be accepted into the Practical Nursing program provided all of the following conditions are met:

- Submit transcripts as proof of high school graduation or GED
- Submit transcripts from all colleges and/or technical schools attended
- Attend a scheduled nursing career orientation
- Attend a scheduled Practical Nursing program orientation
- Complete a personal conference with the UAM CTC Practical Nursing program Committee
- Complete a *Student Acknowledgement Statement Form*
- Complete a scheduled individual learning assessment
- Complete scheduled study skills sessions at UAM CTC
- **Provide evidence of the following:**
 - Proof of immunization against measles, mumps and rubella (two doses each).
 - A current TB skin test (and a chest x-ray if TB skin test is positive)
 - A signed Hepatitis B acknowledgement waiver or evidence of the first of three shots

NOTE: If candidates do not meet stated conditions/requirements, other candidates—designated as alternates—will be enrolled provided they have met all enrollment conditions/requirements. Alternates accepted will not exceed the enrollment maximum.

Practical Nursing students may choose to continue their studies and earn an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing or an Associate of Applied Science in General Technology degree.

Estimated program costs for the 42 credit hours are approximately \$3,597 for tuition and fees and approximately \$2,172 for books and supplies (does not include pre-requisites).

**PRACTICAL NURSING
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Please Note: Prerequisites for the Associate of Applied Science Nursing Degree and the Practical Nursing Technical Certificate are listed on **page 25:**

**Major Requirements for Students Seeking an
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree
or a Practical Nursing Technical Certificate**

<u>Fall Semester</u>			Credit Hours
NUR	1162	PN Nursing of Geriatrics/Management	2
NUR	1231	PN Nursing of Mother & Infant	1
NUR	1117	PN Basic Nursing Principles & Skills	7
NUR	1002	PN Pharmacology	2
NUR	1242	PN Nursing of Children	2
NUR	2264	PN Clinical I	4
<u>Spring Semester</u>			
NUR	1317	PN Adult Medical-Surgical Nursing I	7
NUR	1101	PN Vocational/Legal/and Ethics	1
NUR	1203	PN IV Therapy	3
NUR	2151	PN Mental Health & Illness	1
NUR	2326	PN Clinical II	6
<u>Summer I Term</u>			
NUR	2422	PN Adult Medical-Surgical Nursing II	2
NUR	2414	PN Clinical III	4
Exit: Practical Nursing Technical Certificate			42