

PRACTICAL NURSING

Program Description

The Practical Nursing (PN) 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. 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. Students are enrolled into the program once a year beginning with the fall semester.

The UAM-CTC PN Program is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) with regular evaluations to ensure a quality education in the nursing field. The curriculum of the program is standardized to meet the approval of the ASBN, and the program evaluation and annual pass rate of graduates on the licensure exam must be within ASBN's established standards for the program to receive continued approval.

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) has the authority to deny licensure to any person who has been convicted of a crime. Conviction of a crime may prevent a student from taking clinical courses, the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN) or becoming licensed to practice as an LPN. Successful completion of this program does not assure ASBN's approval to take the NCLEX-PN per ACA 17-87-312. If you have any questions or have been convicted of a crime of any type, go to the website provided below for more information. You must make an appointment with the Chairperson of the Practical Nursing program to discuss convictions. Any violations or convictions during nursing school may result in dismissal from the program.

http://www.arsbn.arkansas.gov/forms/Documents/NURSEPRACTICEACT_2013.1.2014.pdf

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 and declare PN Track (either AASN or Technical Certificate).
- Successfully complete all prerequisites with a grade of "C" or higher. With the exception of mathematics, English, and computer courses, all Practical Nursing program prerequisites must have been completed within the past five (5) years.

NOTE: Applicant must meet one of the following criteria in regard to the NA 1017 Nursing Assistant course prerequisite:

- A. Successful completion of a Nursing Assistant class that has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Health, Office of Long-Term Care. This class must award a minimum of seven (7) college credit hours, and completion must have occurred within the previous two years;

OR

- B. Successful completion of a High School Medical Professional Nursing Assistant program that has an approved Articulation Agreement on file with the University of Arkansas at Monticello within the previous three years;

OR

- C. Provide proof of certification in the State of Arkansas as a Certified Nursing Assistant AND provide proof of successful employment as a nursing assistant performing nursing or nursing related services for pay for a minimum of 400 consecutive clock hours within the previous two years.

- Take an entrance exam (ASSET, ACT, COMPASS, SAT, ACCUPLACER or ACCP_NXTGEN) and make a score that meets the minimum requirements specified in the chart below.

<u>Test</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Writing or English</u>	<u>Math</u>
ACT	17	16	17
ACCUPLACER	79	72	81
ACCP_NXTGEN	251	250	257
ASSET	40	40	40
COMPASS	76	48	43
SAT		Verbal-400	480

If prerequisite English (ENGL 1013, Composition I or above) and math (MAT 1203, Technical Mathematics or above) classes are completed with a “C” or above **before** the Practical Nursing placement test is administered, those grades can substitute for the Writing and Math portions of the entrance exam. There is no substitute for the Reading subtest.

- Schedule and take a PN placement exam if eligible. The exam can only be taken a maximum of two (2) times within the time frame published each year. The PN placement exam must be taken on either the UAM College of Technology-Crossett campus or the UAM College of Technology-McGehee campus. Entrance exam requirements must be met to be eligible to take a placement exam.

Currently, the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is used as the Practical Nursing placement exam. Information and study manuals are available at atitest.com, and study manuals are in the UAM-CTC counselor’s office. **NOTE:** Any placement exam ties will be broken with the grade point average of the prerequisite classes.

The top-ranking applicants on the PN placement exam, not to exceed twenty (20) in accordance with ASBN guidelines, will be notified of their status. Those candidates will be accepted into the Practical Nursing Program provided they have completed all the following conditions/requirements*:

- Submitted transcripts as proof of high school graduation or GED®
- Submitted transcripts from all colleges and/or technical schools attended as proof of prerequisite completion
- Attended a scheduled nursing career orientation
- Attended a scheduled Practical Nursing Program orientation
- Completed a personal conference with the UAM-CTC Practical Nursing Program Committee
- Completed a Student Acknowledgement Statement Form
- Completed a scheduled individual learning assessment
- Submitted proof of immunization against measles, mumps, and rubella (two doses of each)
- Provided a current TB skin test (and a chest x-ray if TB skin test is positive)
- Signed a Hepatitis B acknowledgement waiver or provide 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 (AASN) or an Associate of Applied Science in General Technology (AASGT) degree.

Estimated costs for the 42-credit hour technical certificate program are approximately \$5,900 tuition and fees and approximately \$2,600 for books and supplies (does not include pre-requisites).

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.

Students wishing to enter the Practical Nursing program must complete the approved prerequisites. Prerequisites should be elected based on selection of Practical Nursing Technical Certificate only or Practical Nursing Technical Certificate AND Associate of Applied Science in General Technology.

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Required Prerequisites for the UAM-CTC Practical Nursing Program

NUR	1514	PN Anatomy and Physiology or higher-level course	4
NA	1017	Nursing Assistant	7
PE	2113	Nutrition OR	3
NUR	1603	PN Nutrition and Wellness	
COM	1203	Tech Communication OR	3
ENGL	1013	*Composition I	
CFA	1103	Tech Computer Fundamentals OR	3
CIS	1013	*Introduction to Computer-based Systems	
MAT	1203	Technical Mathematics OR	3
MAT	2213	*Advanced Industrial Mathematics	

***Required for Associate of Applied Science in General Technology degree**

The following courses are not required prerequisites for the Practical Nursing Technical Certificate; however, they are requirements for the Associate of Applied Science in General Technology.

COM	1023	Composition II	3
PSY	1013	Intro to Psychology (or other Social Science elective)	3

Major Requirements for Students Seeking a Practical Nursing Technical Certificate

			<u>Credit Hours</u>
<u>Fall Semester</u>			
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

If a student in the technical track subsequently pursues the UAM Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN), the UAM Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Degree, or a Registered Nurse (RN) program, he/she would be required to complete all prerequisites required for those individual programs. Information about these degree programs can be found in the UAM Catalog under the Division of Nursing.