

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services and Emeritus Institute
Procedure for Application & Admission to the Nursing Program
NURSING PROGRAM ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDENT (LVN & TRANSFER)

ADMISSION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Students will be admitted to the nursing program on a space available basis. Qualified students must have met the following criteria:

- Complete all the steps and requirements as stated below.
- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of admission.
- Be in adequate health to perform the duties of a nurse. The student must have a physical examination within three months of the date of admission into the nursing program.
- Qualifying GPA of 2.5 for transfer students
- Transfer students must provide a letter of reference from previous program administrator stating as a student you provided safe nursing care.
- GPA of 2.5 in Bio 11, Bio 12, Bio 15 & English 1A
- Completion of N 162 with grade of “C” or better
- LVN must have current LVN California license
- LVN must show proof of 1 year of direct patient care experience as an LVN prior to program entry
 - Required for proof of employment as LVN
 - ♦ W2
 - ♦ Letter from employer validating direct patient care activities/responsibilities
- Complete personal background check per program policy at least one month prior to entry.
- Pass the TEAS test after invitation into program, but before enrollment. If remediation is necessary, student will have one year to complete remediation and re-take the test for admission.

APPLICATION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Step #1

Read the **Saddleback College Catalog** sections dealing with matriculation services, academic regulations, graduation requirements, and the Associate Degree nursing program. Catalogs are available for student review in Counseling, the Library and are available for purchase at the **College Bookstore** (949-582-4715).

Step #2

Make an appointment with a counselor in **Counseling Services** (949-582-4572). Bring **ALL** official college transcripts to your appointment. Counseling Services will determine the status of **non-nursing courses completed elsewhere**. Matriculation testing should be taken as soon as possible so that English placement can be determined and that any suggested remediation can be completed prior to entry into the nursing program.

Step #3

Transfer students must schedule an appointment with the **Director of Nursing** (949) 582-4701) to determine the point of entry into the program and obtain a completed Guidance Record. **LVN’s must attend an LVN-RN Guidance Session**. For transfer students, the following items should be brought to the appointment for review:

- Copies of **ALL** college transcripts
- College catalogs from years of attendance
- Syllabi from completed nursing courses
- Letter of reference from previous program director if transferring from another program

Step #4

You will be eligible to apply when the following criteria have been met:

- Completion of nursing courses taken to date (including pre-requisites) with an overall GPA of 2.5 or better
- N162 Successful Transition to Nursing (must be completed within 3 semesters of entry).
- English 1A or the equivalent
- Letter of Clinical Safety from the last program attended(Transfer students only)
- Advanced Placement LVN/Transfer Nursing Guidance record from counseling on file in the Nursing Office.
- Proof of 1 year of direct patient care experience as an LVN (LVNs only)
- Proof of CA LVN license (LVNs only)
- Application to the College and receipt of a student ID number.
- Passing the TEAS at or above the designated cut score of 67%. Students taking the TEAS test at other schools prior to invitation into Saddleback College Nursing Program will only be allowed to submit their first two scores for admission.

When eligible to apply, make an appointment with the Director or Assistant Director of Nursing.

- All transcripts must be on file
- **Transcripts for courses taken at other colleges after a nursing program application has been submitted should be sent directly to the Saddleback College Office of Admissions & Records, Attention Nursing Transcript Evaluator.**
- All pre-admission courses must be completed before invitation into the program
- Your guidance record will be reviewed

PRE-ADMISSION TESTING

Prior to admission to the program, all applicants must:

- Take the **ATI Medical-Surgical and Pharmacology Exam** to evaluate their knowledge base related to nursing care for the adult medical-surgical patient. The results are used to place the applicant at the appropriate point of entry. **
- Take the **ATI**, Test of Academic Skills (**TEAS**) and Critical Thinking exams prior to entry into the program. Students who do not meet the cut scores will have one year to remediate and re-take the exam. Those not meeting the cut score for the second time will not be eligible for entry into the program.
- Pass a **math-medication exam with 80%**. **
- Pass a practical **skills test** that includes simulated clinical situations and skills demonstration. Safety and proficiency regarding basic principles of nursing must be demonstrated. **
 - ** This test will be provided during N 162 Successful Transition to Professional Nursing
 - ❖ Applicants may attempt satisfactory completion of the skills test a maximum of two times.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATION

- **LVN's:** IV Therapy and Management of Assaultive Behavior (may enroll in HSC 291 to complete certification).
- **TRANSFER:** Management of Assaultive Behavior if N171 Mental Health Nursing is required (may enroll in HSC 291 to complete certification) and IV therapy if entering second year of nursing program

Once the application to the nursing program is submitted and reviewed, the applicant will be assigned to the appropriate nursing course. Names are placed on this list in the order that applications are received and admission is on a space available basis.

ACCEPTING OR DECLINING ADMISSION

The Director or Assistant Director of Nursing will telephone students to invite them into the program. Students will receive a follow up letter from the Health Sciences Division Office. Students must accept or decline admission according to the directions given in the Division Office letter.

- Students who decline admission have one (1) opportunity to decline and remain at their current point on the wait list. Additional declines will result in the student being renumbered and placed at the bottom of the wait list.
- Students who decline admission two times will be removed from the wait list until counseled by the Director or Assistant Director of Nursing to clarify and facilitate education and career goals.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Students should notify the Health Science Division Office to:

- **Withdraw** as an applicant.
- **Change name, address, or telephone number.** This must be completed in the **HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION OFFICE. Please bring your drivers license or Student ID to complete this process.**

The **expenses** for the LVN to RN nursing student average \$1500 or more. Students in need of **financial assistance** should **immediately** contact the **Saddleback College Financial Aid Office** (949-582-4860). Scholarships are available for nursing students once they have been admitted to the program. At the completion of the program, the cost for the Board of Registered Nursing application, Licensure exam, Interim Permit and RN License is approximately \$300 or more. Personal background checks cost between \$50-70.

The following immunizations/titers are required before enrolling in the nursing classes: Measles, Rubella, Varicella, TB skin test and Td(tetanus toxoid diphtheria). Flu Shot and Hepatitis B are recommended. If flu shot or Hepatitis B is declined, the student must sign a declination form.

Students who have been **convicted of a misdemeanor or felony** are required to disclose this information on their application to take the RN licensure exam. A conviction may affect your eligibility to take this exam. In the State of California, a convicted child abuser will never be allowed to obtain a RN license. Students who have concerns about these circumstances should contact the **Board of Registered Nursing** (916-322-3350) **before** starting the nursing program.

Students who are known to be a current child, spouse or elder abuser, or known to be dealing drugs, will not be admitted into the program. Students in the program who are found to be a current child, spouse or elder abuser, or found to be dealing drugs may not remain in the nursing program.

BRN RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1429 – Preparation Required for Licensed Vocational Nurses

- (a) An applicant who is licensed in California as a vocational nurse is eligible to apply for examination for licensure as a registered nurse if such applicant has successfully completed the courses prescribed below and meets all the other requirements set forth in Section 2736 of the Code. Such applicant shall submit evidence to the Board including a transcript, of successful completion of the requirements set forth in subsection (C) and of successful completion or challenge of courses in physiology and microbiology comparable to such courses required by licensure as a registered nurse.
- (b) The school shall offer objective counseling of this option and evaluate each licensed vocational nurse applicant for admission to its registered nursing program on an individual basis. A school's determination of the prerequisite courses required of a licensed vocational nurse applicant shall be based on an analysis of each applicant's academic deficiencies, irrespective of the time such courses were taken.
- (c) The additional education required of licensed vocational nurse applicants shall not exceed a maximum of thirty (30) semesters or forty-five (45) quarter units. Courses required for vocational nurse licensure do not count toward fulfillment of the additional education requirement. However, other courses comparable to those required for licensure as a registered nurse, as specified in Section 1426, may be counted toward fulfillment of the additional education requirement.

Nursing courses shall be taken in an accredited school and shall be beyond courses equivalent to the first year of professional nursing courses. The nursing content shall include nursing intervention in acute, preventive, remedial, supportive, rehabilitative and teaching aspects of nursing. Theory and courses with concurrent clinical practice shall include the following areas of nursing: advanced medical-surgical, mental health, psychiatric nursing, and geriatric nursing. The nursing content shall include basic standards for competent performance prescribed in Section 1443.5 of these regulations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR LVNS SEEKING RN LICENSURE

In order to take the NCLEX-RN licensure exam, one of the following curriculum options must be completed:

1. Associate Degree in Nursing (graduate)

- Prerequisite courses
- Required core courses
- General education requirements

2. Registered Nurse Certificate (non-graduate)

- Prerequisite courses
- Required core courses

Students who complete only the registered nurse certificate will take the NCLEX-RN as a non-graduate. Some states require an Associate Degree ("graduate") status before allowing licensure by reciprocity. ***In other words, non-graduates may not be allowed to practice nursing as an RN in another state with their California license.*** For that reason, completion of the associate degree in nursing is highly recommended.

3. LVN 30-Unit Option

See Procedure for Application and Admission to the Nursing Program (LVN 30-unit option).

- Prerequisite courses
- Required core courses

The advantages of completing the 30-unit option are:

- a) Less required courses
- b) Possible earlier admission to program

The disadvantages of completing the 30-unit option are:

- a) Jeopardized ability to become licensed in some states
- b) Considered a non-graduate of Saddleback College and its nursing program
- c) Ineligible to participate in the Saddleback College nursing program pinning ceremony
- d) A less well-rounded education to meet the needs of clients
- e) Possible difficulty pursuing advanced degrees
- f) Not posted on your official Saddleback College transcript

Declaration of Admission Option

I, the undersigned, have decided to complete the following curriculum option of the Saddleback College nursing program. **I am aware that I may not change this option once I have entered the program.**

- Associate Degree in Nursing (graduate)
- Registered Nurse Certificate (non-graduate)
- LVN 30-Unit Option

Signature

Date

Witness

Date

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services and Emeritus Institute
LVN TO RN NURSING PROGRAM CURRICULUM

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Course ID	Title	Units
BIO 11	Human Anatomy	4
BIO 15	General Microbiology	5
BIO 12	Human Physiology**	4
N162	Successful Transition to Professional Nursing	1.5
ENG 1A	English 1A	3
Total Units		17.5

REQUIRED CORE COURSES(*Effective August 2007*)

Sem	Course ID	Title	Units
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSYC 1 • N 171 	Introduction to Psychology	3.00
		<i>Mental Health Nursing</i>	<u>3.00</u> 6.00
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GERO 101 • N 173 • N 174 	<i>Lifecycle I: Fundamentals of Aging</i>	1.50
		<i>Nursing Care of Children & Families</i>	<u>3.50</u>
		<i>Women's Health Nursing</i>	<u>8.50</u>
III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SP 1(<i>or</i>) SP 5 • N 176 	Communication Fundamentals (<i>or</i>)	3.00
		Interpersonal Communication <i>Advanced Nursing</i>	<u>8.00</u> 11.00
Total Units			25.50

RECOMMENDED COURSES

Course ID	Title
HSC 228	Calculations for Medication Administration
HSC 102	Comprehensive Health Assessment
HSC 291	Management of Assaultive Behavior
N 160	Pharmacology
N161	Lifecycle II: Growth and Development
PSYC 7	Dev. Psych of Childhood and Adolescence
N 244	IV Therapy Techniques for LVNs
N 263	Skills Lab- Basic
FN 161	Nutrition for Health Occupations
FN 50	Fundamentals of Nutrition
HSC 217	Cardiac Dysrhythmias
HSC 226	Advanced Cardiac Life Support

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

American Institutions	3	units
Fine Arts and Humanities (1 course each from Group A and Group B) (Cultural Diversity requirement should be chosen from one of these two courses)	6	units
Life Skills	Waived	
Survey and Assessment of Fitness (KNES 107)	<u>1</u>	units
	Total	10 units
Demonstration of Mathematics and Reading Competency required as listed in the College Catalog. Information Competency for nursing is met with PSYCHI.		

NOTE: N171-N176, and GERO 101 must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better prior to or concurrent with the semester for which they are listed.

**Human Physiology must have been completed within the last 7 years.

Note: Applicable courses that were previously required, when taken prior to August 2007, will be grandfathered into the program.

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services and Emeritus Institute
LVN – 30 UNIT OPTION NURSING PROGRAM CURRICULUM

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Course ID	Title	Units
BIO 15	General Microbiology	5
BIO 12	Human Physiology	4
N 162	Successful Transition to Professional Nursing	1.5
Total Units		10.5

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Sem.	Course ID	Title	Units
I	• N 171	<i>Mental Health Nursing</i>	<u>3.00</u>
	• N 173	<i>Nursing Care of Children & Families</i>	<u>3.50</u>
	• N 174	<i>Women's Health Nursing</i>	<u>3.50</u>
			10.00
II	• GERO 101	Lifecycle I: Fundamentals of Aging	1.50
	• N 176	<i>Advanced Nursing</i>	<u>8.00</u>
			9.50
		Total Units	19.50

RECOMMENDED COURSES

Course ID	Title
HSC 228	Calculations for Medication Administration
HSC 291	Management of Assaultive Behavior
N 160	Pharmacology
N161	Lifecycle II: Growth and Development
PSYC 7	Dev. Psych of Childhood and Adolescence
N 244	IV Therapy Techniques for LVNs
HSC 102	Comprehensive Health Assessment
HSC 217	Cardiac Dysrhythmias
HSC 226	Advanced Cardiac Life Support

TOTAL UNITS

Prerequisite Courses	10.50	units
Required Core Courses	<u>19.50</u>	units
Total	30.00	units

NOTE: N171-N176 and GERO 101 must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better prior to or concurrent with the semester for which they are listed.

Note: Applicable courses that were previously required, when taken prior to August 2007, will be grandfathered into the program.

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services and Emeritus Institute
NURSING PROGRAM TRANSFER STUDENT NURSING PROGRAM CURRICULUM

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Course ID	Title	Units
BIO 11	Human Anatomy	4
BIO 15	General Microbiology	5
BIO 12	Human Physiology**	4
N162	Successful Transition to Professional Nursing	1.5
ENG 1A	English 1A	3
Total Units		17.5

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Sem	Course ID	Title	Units
I	• N 160	Pharmacology	2.50
	• GERO 101	Lifecycle I: Fundamentals of Aging	1.50
	• N 170	<i>Nursing Process</i>	7.75
	• N 171	<i>Mental Health Nursing</i>	<u>3.00</u> 14.75
II	• PSYC 1	Introduction to Psychology	3.00
	• N 161	Lifecycle II: Growth & Development	1.50
	• N 172	<i>Medical-Surgical Nursing</i>	<u>8.75</u> 13.25
III	• N 173	<i>Nursing Care of Children & Families</i>	3.50
	• N 174	<i>Women's Health Nursing</i>	<u>3.50</u> 7.00
IV	• SP 1(or) SP 5	Communication Fundamentals (or) Interpersonal Communication	3.00
	• N 176	<i>Advanced Nursing</i>	<u>8.00</u> 11.00
	Total Units		46.00

RECOMMENDED COURSES

Course ID	Title
N 263	Skills Lab-Basic
FN 161	Nutrition for Health Occupations
FN 50	Fundamentals of Nutrition
HSC 102	Comprehensive Health Assessment
HSC 228	Calculations for Medication Administration
N 245	IV Therapy Techniques for Nurses
Psych 7	Developmental Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence
HSC 217	Cardiac Dysrhythmias
HSC 226	Advanced Cardiac Life Support
Total Units	

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

American Institutions	3	units
Fine Arts and Humanities (1 course each from Group A and Group B) (Cultural Diversity requirement should be chosen from one of these two courses)	6	units
Life Skills	Waived	
Survey and Assessment of Fitness (KNES 107)	<u>1</u>	units
	Total	10 units
Demonstration of Mathematics and Reading Competency required as listed in the College Catalog. Information Competency for nursing is met with PSYCH I.		

NOTE: N171-N176, and GERO 101 must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better prior to or concurrent with the semester for which they are listed.

****Human Physiology must have been completed within the last 7 years.**

Note: Applicable courses that were previously required, when taken prior to August 2007, will be grandfathered into the program.