

NURSING, ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (NURS)

The mission of the Delaware County Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program is to promote a sense of inquiry and lifelong learning and to provide an education for students, who are committed to the core values of the program and can achieve competencies essential to safe, effective nursing practice in a variety of healthcare settings.

The nursing curriculum prepares students for positions as beginning staff nurses in a variety of settings; i.e. acute- and long-term/transitional care facilities and community settings.

Upon successful completion of the curriculum, students receive an associate in applied science (AAS) degree and are eligible to sit for the state licensure examination to become registered nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Most nursing students attend classes at the College and off-campus sites.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Selected clinical laboratory learning experiences, under the direct guidance of nursing faculty, are provided at a variety of health-care agencies. The purpose of these experiences is to provide the student with the opportunity to apply classroom learning in direct patient-care situations. All nursing applicants are required to complete and submit a criminal record check and a Child Abuse Clearance form.

Under Pennsylvania law, the State Board of Nursing may not issue a license to an applicant who has been convicted of a felonious act prohibited by the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetics Act, or convicted of a felony relating to a controlled substance in a court of law of the United States or any other state, territory or country unless 10 years have elapsed since the date of conviction and the applicant can demonstrate that he/she has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation.

Students who have been convicted of a prohibitive offense contained in Act 13 and/or Act 169 (detailed list available for review in the Admissions and Allied Health offices) may not be able to complete their studies because clinical experiences needed for course/program success may be prohibited. If a student cannot complete their clinical studies, they will not be accepted into the nursing program.

All nursing students who have a course with a clinical component will need to have a complete physical examination including: laboratory tests, a complete blood count, a 10 panel drug screen, serology and TB testing. A complete physical examination is required prior to taking the first nursing course. Additionally, these students must have medical health insurance and be in compliance with recommendations for the Hepatitis B vaccine. Certain manual dexterity and sensory skills that enable the student to competently perform required technical skills are necessary for successful completion of the nursing program. Health problems that can interfere with the applicants ability to demonstrate achievement of program competencies are considered individually.

CPR certification is required for all students in the program. You must take "Health Care Provider" (American Heart Association at 610-940-9540, which is renewable every two years) or "Course for the Professional" (American Red Cross at 610-566-4580, which is renewable annually). "BLS" and "Heart Saver" are not acceptable! Certification must

be inclusive until the end of May. Certifications that expire prior to May will not be accepted even if recertification prior to May is provided by an employer.

Students are responsible for purchasing uniforms and other related materials deemed necessary for the clinical laboratory experiences of the program. Each semester students are assessed additional costs for standardized tests to compare achievement against national norms. In addition, each student must carry professional liability insurance to protect him/herself and the health agency in the event of any legal action following any error in nursing practice. A \$5.00 fee will be added to your tuition bill each semester in which you participate in a clinical experience.

REPEAT COURSES/READMISSION:

Refer to Nursing Student Handbook for guidelines and requirements.

SPECIAL OPTION (LPNS):

Licensed Practical Nurses, corpsmen and candidates who have had one year of successful previous nursing school experience may qualify for advanced placement in the program. In addition, an advanced placement option is available to LPNs who have graduated from an ACEN accredited program. Contact Allied Health and Nursing Office for more information (610-359-5353.)

PROGRAM OF STUDY AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

The degree of associate in applied science is awarded upon successful completion of the nursing course sequence with a grade of "C" or better in all nursing courses; a satisfactory grade for related clinical experiences and satisfactory completion of performance practicums and course requirements; attainment of a grade point average of 2.0 ("C" average) and completion of 71 credit hours. A "C" grade in nursing is equivalent to the numerical grade of 77.

This program requires a special process for admission. Check with Admissions (<https://www.dccc.edu/admissions-financial-aid/admissions/special-application-procedures/>) to submit additional materials and/or follow procedures for admission.

Program Outcomes

Program outcomes are defined and measurable. Upon successful completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Implement safe and effective patient centered care within the patient's environment in a variety of settings for diverse populations.
- Use skills of scientific inquiry, analysis and evidence based knowledge to provide quality patient care.
- Use critical reasoning to offer insights to improve the quality of patient care.
- Use information literacy and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, ensure quality/safety and support decision-making.
- Demonstrate appropriate teambuilding and collaborative strategies when working with interprofessional teams.
- Value the principles of lifelong learning to support excellence in nursing practice.
- Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills to build relationships with individuals, families and communities.
- Advocate for social justice while fostering quality, safe patient outcomes, demonstrating professional standards for ethical, moral and legal conduct and supporting diversity and cultural needs.

Full-Time Academic Plan

Students must progress through the curriculum in sequence.

Prerequisites		Hours
MAT 121	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3
ENG 100	English Composition I	3
PSY 140	General Psychology	3
BIO 150	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
NUS 102	Nursing Mathematics: Dosage Calculation and Drug Preparation	1
Hours		14
First Semester		
NUS 110	Concepts and Practice I (Any remediation in English and reading must be satisfied before beginning course.)	8
All prerequisites must be satisfied before beginning course.		
BIO 151	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
PSY 210	Lifespan Human Development	3
Hours		15
Second Semester		
NUS 111	Concepts and Practice II	10
NUS 221	Pharmacology for Health Care	3
Open Elective		3
Hours		16
Third Semester		
NUS 210	Concepts and Practice III	10
Any Oral Communication designated Communication course		3
Hours		13
Fourth Semester		
NUS 211	Concepts and Practice IV	10
SOC 110	Introduction to Sociology	3
Hours		13
Total Hours		71

Notes

Oral Communication designated courses (https://catalog.dccc.edu/academic-programs/college-academic-learning-goals/#OC_Course_List).

BIO 150/151:

Must be completed within five academic years of the date of beginning the first clinical nursing course:

Code	Title	Hours
BIO 150	Human Anatomy and Physiology I (Must achieve a grade of "C")	4
BIO 151	Human Anatomy and Physiology II (Must achieve a grade of "C")	4

NUS 110:

- Any remediation in English and reading must be satisfied before beginning Fundamentals of Nursing (NUS 110 Concepts and Practice I).
- All NUS 110 Concepts and Practice I students must meet a math requirement either by passing a Math Equivalency Test or by passing NUS 102 Nursing Mathematics: Dosage Calculation and Drug Preparation.
- It is required that NUS 102 Nursing Mathematics: Dosage Calculation and Drug Preparation be taken prior to NUS 110 Concepts and Practice I.

- NUS 102 Nursing Mathematics: Dosage Calculation and Drug Preparation requires mathematics at the developmental level (MAT 050 Mathematics Review).

Accreditation

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing

Delaware County Community College has been approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing since 1968. Full approval is based on pass rates for first-time takers of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). The PA State Board of Nursing requires that all nursing programs maintain an 80% or higher overall pass rate for first time examinees.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
State Board of Nursing

P.O. Box 2649 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Phone: 717-783-7142

Fax: 717-783-0822

<https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing> (<https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/default.aspx>)

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

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The associate degree nursing program at Delaware County Community College at the Marple Campus and Downingtown Campus, located in Media and Downingtown, PA, is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, GA 30326

Phone: 404-974-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the associate degree nursing program is continuing accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program on the ACEN website.

acenursing.org (<http://acenursing.org>)

Questions

Questions and requests for additional information should be directed to Genny Cavanagh, Dean Division of Allied Health & Nursing - Phone 610-359-5181 or AHN@dccc.edu

Career