



NURSING PROGRAMS

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (ADN)
Practical Nursing Certificate (PN)

ADMISSION PROCESS

All students are required to attend a mandatory nursing information session in order to apply for any of the programs; dates, times, and locations are listed on our web site. The admission process is designed to admit students who are most likely to be successful in the academically challenging nursing curriculum and to do so in an impartial manner. The process includes prerequisite requirements and an admission procedure. It is strongly recommended that all students see their student advisor to develop a personal academic plan for completing prerequisite course requirements.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described below are representative of those that must be met by the nurse or student nurse to successfully perform the essential functions of both the job requirements of a nurse and the required clinical experiences of a student nurse. While performing the duties of the nursing program/job, the student nurse is regularly required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; talk; and hear. The student nurse is frequently required to sit, reach with hands and arms, stoop, kneel, crouch, and/or crawl. The student nurse/nurse must regularly move up to ten pounds, frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds, and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds.

It is the responsibility of the student applying for admission to the nursing program to notify the Associate Dean, Nursing/Allied Health in his/her Request for Admission to the Nursing Program any concerns regarding the physical, mental, or emotional health of the applicant that could impact the student's success in the program.

REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BEFORE APPLICATION TO THE PROGRAM:

1. A GED certificate or high school diploma and an official, final high school transcript must be on file in the HCC Admissions Office.
2. The first level student's score on the TEAS must be an 85%* or higher in reading and 75%* or higher total score. The second level student's score must be an 60%* or higher on the ATI LPN-STEP Test.
3. The student's Grade Point Average (GPA) must be 2.5 overall.
4. Prerequisite Courses: Some courses may be in progress at the time of application. Students are not admitted until all prerequisite courses are completed. All courses must be completed with at least the grade of "C" (2.0).
5. HCC placement test results indicating that the applicant does not need any reading development course, does not need any math course below MATH 162, and does not need any English communication course below ENGL 121. Successful completion of appropriate courses will satisfy any deficiencies identified by placement tests.
6. A current CNA certificate must be on file in the Nursing Coordinator's Office. This can be found at: <http://www.idph.state.il.us/nar/home.htm>.
7. Submission of transcripts from all colleges attended must be submitted to the Admissions Department and Nursing Department.

* Score values are tentative and may change.



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ADMISSION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Students must see their student advisor to register for any nursing core courses.

1. A Request for Admittance into the Nursing Program must be received by the Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator by the deadline to be considered for admission to the nursing program and indicating the semester he/she wishes to begin the core nursing curriculum. Applicant must specify to which preference (day or evening ADN or PN) they wish to be admitted.
 - NIOIN deadline: October 15
 - Nursing LPN/APN/LPN-R deadline: April 1
2. When the Request for Admittance is received and all prerequisite courses are completed and TEAS results are on file, the selection committee (Associate Dean of Nursing/Allied Health and Nursing Faculty) will make the decision regarding admission. The applicant will be notified of the committee's decision by U.S. Mail. Incomplete folders will not be reviewed.
3. Applicants are ranked according to a point system. Points are awarded in the manner shown in the column on the right.
4. Applicants who are not selected may reapply the succeeding year, but need to attend an additional information session to hear about new changes. Individuals may take the TEAS exam up to two (2) times per application year.
5. All individuals are welcome to apply for the Highland Community College Nursing Program, but we accept all in-district students who qualify and meet our criteria first. If there is room left, out-of-district applicants will be reviewed for admittance into the program. For the nursing program, in-district is defined as "students who meet the residency requirements and/or work 20 or more hours a week in our district."
6. Readmission: Applicants who are admitted into a nursing program, but do not complete the program in the normal sequence, may request a second chance contract which gives students the option to withdraw and come back the following year to pick up where they have left off. This option is only available one time and the decision is made by the selection committee on what they feel best meets the needs and abilities of the candidate.

Point System Grid

Category	Exceptional Suitability for Nursing	Adequate Suitability for Nursing	Marginal Suitability for Nursing
Grade Point Average	2	1	Will not be considered
TEAS Reading (1st level)	2	1	Will not be considered
TEAS Total Score (1st level)	2	1	0
ATI PN Comp. (2nd level)	2	1	Will not be considered
Personal Statement	2	1	0
Experience in a Health Care Field	2	1	0
Service to Others	2	1	0
Letters of recommendation	2	1	0

Total Possible Points = 14 (first level) or 12 (second level)

* It is important to note that the application process is the applicant's responsibility – not the responsibility of the institution. Our responsibility, as an institution, is to fully consider and evaluate each application carefully for admission into our programs. Our responsibility is not to gather appropriate data, but rather to review that data. Data gathering is the responsibility of the person who wishes to be considered for admission.



NURSING (421)

Associate of Applied Science

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN) prepares students to take the NCLEX-RN exam. Upon successful completion of the exam, the student is eligible to become licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN).

NATURE OF WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

Positions are available for RNs in long-term care facilities, home health, hospitals, physicians' offices, and clinics. Employment is available nationwide. There is a critical nursing shortage that is expected to continue until at least 2020. Nurses may continue their formal nursing education by going on for a baccalaureate degree at a number of institutions. HCC nursing graduates may want to consider pursuing a Master's degree in nursing instead of a Bachelors, an option that is becoming more readily available. Students should check with a student advisor or the Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator for more information regarding transfer to other institutions and what requirements may be needed before transfer is possible.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Students entering the health care professions (i.e. nursing, medical assistant, emergency medical technician) must have a positive attitude about the importance of the work that they are being prepared to do. In part, a professional attitude involves personal integrity, the use of positive communication techniques, flexibility in regards to clinical assignments, and taking on a leadership role when necessary.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Call Highland for the following program contacts:

- Donna Kauke, NNP-BC, MSN, RN, Associate Dean, Nursing/Allied Health, 815-599-3688
- Heather Moore, Nursing Program Student Advisor, 815-599-3512
- Ms. Cassie Mekeel, B.S., Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator & Learning Specialist, 815-599-3679
- Ms. Jessica Larson, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3467
- Ms. Barbara Merhley, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3439
- Ms. Mary Kate Shore, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3475
- Ms. Kay Sperry, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3684
- Ms. Chrislyn Senneff, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3685
- Ms. Lynda Shiro, M.S., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3458
- Ms. Maggie White, M.S.N., Nursing Faculty, 815-599-3626
- Ms. Joani Bardell, Division Secretary, 815-599-3433

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE PROGRAM, STUDENTS MUST HAVE:

1. A completed high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) on file with the Admissions Department.
2. Submission of transcripts from all colleges attended must be submitted to the Admissions Department and Nursing Department prior to acceptance.
3. The first level student's score on the TEAS must be an 85%* or higher in reading and 75%* or higher total score. The second level student's score must be an 60%* or higher on the ATI LPN Comprehensive Test.
4. Completion of MATH 065 or equivalent as determined by the College Placement Test.
5. HCC placement test results indicating that the applicant does not need any reading development course, does not need any math course below MATH 162, and does not need any English communication course below ENGL 121. Successful completion of appropriate courses will satisfy any deficiency identified by placement tests.
6. Completed all prerequisite courses and a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
7. Current CNA certificate on file in the Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator's Office. <http://www.idph.state.il.us/hav/home.htm>



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8. Submission of three satisfactory references. This includes letters from a Director of Nursing or Unit Supervisor, RN, and service to others supervisor for all working LPNs and CNAs. For all others, one service-to others supervisor, and two of the following: Instructors or teachers, immediate supervisors, and community leaders.
9. Submission of a personal statement responding to the following questions:
 - a. What are ideal attributes of a nurse? and
 - b. What would be your contribution to nursing?
10. Proof of service to others which may include, but not be limited to volunteer work, community activities, leadership experience with projects that affect others, and other similar activities.

* Score values are tentative and may change.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITE COURSES

11/12 Credit Hours

* BIOL	117	Basic Nutrition	3
* BIOL	120	Foundations of Anatomy & Physiology	5
* CHEM	120	General, Organic, & Bio Chemistry	3/4

NOTE: CHEM 101, high school chemistry, or permission of instructor and one year of high school algebra or MATH 065 or placement into MATH 162 are the prerequisites to CHEM 120.

SUPPORT COURSES

17 Credit Hours

***BIOL	211	General Microbiology	4
** ENGL	121	Rhetoric & Composition I	3
** MATH	065	Basic Algebra	4
*** PSY	161	Introduction to Psychology	3
*** PSY	262	Human Growth and Development	3

NOTE: PSY 161 is a prerequisite for PSY 262

CORE CURRICULUM

Fall - First Year 14 Credit Hours

BIOL	103	Introduction to Pharmacology	1
NURS	185	Mental Health Nursing Concepts	1
NURS	188	Pathophysiology	3
NURS	191	Clinical Development I	6
NURS	194	Gerontology	3

Spring - First Year 15 Credit Hours

BIOL	104	Pharmacology	3
NURS	192	Clinical Development II	9
NURS	296	Physical Assessment for Nurses	3

Fall - Second Year 13 Credit Hours

NURS	292	Clinical Development IIIA	7
NURS	293	Psychiatric Nursing	5
NURS	298	Perspectives and Leadership in Nursing	1

Spring - Second Year 12 Credit Hrs

NURS	291	Family Nursing	5
NURS	294	Clinical Development IIIB	7

Total Hours =

82/83

- * Course MUST be taken prior to program entry
- ** Course may be taken prior to program entry
- *** Course must be completed prior to beginning the third semester of the core curriculum



NURSING PROGRAMS

PN to ADN Option

Graduates of Highland's PN program may transfer their first two semesters of nursing core courses of the PN program into Highland's ADN program. However, there are limitations.

1. The LPN must submit a new Request for Admittance into the Nursing Program .
2. All ADN admission criteria must be met.
3. Current LPN license must be on file in the Nursing office.
4. A GPA of 2.5 overall.
5. All LPN applicants are required to complete the ATI LPN STEP Exam. The exam is taken in the nursing department and the cost is \$35.00 (cost is subject to change). Contact the Nursing/Allied Health Coordinator to schedule testing. ATI LPN STEP Exam is the test administered to all PN students applying for acceptance. The exam is highly predictive of ADN success. Applicants may be required to repeat nursing courses depending on results of the ATI LPN STEP exam.
6. Three acceptable references from those who are familiar with the applicant's nursing practice. This includes letters from a Director of Nursing or Unit Supervisor, RN, and service-to-others supervisor.
7. Admission into ADN program is not guaranteed and is based on a number of factors, including grades on the above named pre-requisite courses, space availability, ATI score, and residency.

Practicing LPNs who have been out of nursing school for more than 5 years, in addition to the requirements listed above will also be reviewed by the admission committee to determine if the student needs additional nursing courses and/or clinicals prior to the ADN program.

Transfer Nursing Students

Students transferring into Highland Community College nursing programs who have completed nursing courses at another school will be considered for admission on an individual basis. Students must have a completed admission file turned in by April 1 for the succeeding fall semester. The admission committee will review the individuals file to determine which nursing courses will transfer.