

PRELICENSURE PROGRAMS

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING TO ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

Overview

Program Description

- Provides a dynamic pathway for entry into professional registered nurse (RN) practice.
- Is continually evolving to reflect local community needs and current and emerging healthcare delivery trends.
- Is responsible for instilling the tenets of advocacy, professional involvement, lifelong learning, and leadership.
- Involves evidence-based practice which prepares graduates to employ critical thinking, clinical competence, and technical proficiency in healthcare settings.

The LPN to ASN Program is designed to prepare learners to apply for RN licensure and take the NCLEX-RN® exam. The LPN to ASN Program curriculum is grounded in the National League for Nursing Education Competencies Model (2010) and meets the requirements of the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA).

The blended distance curriculum consists of forty-eight (48) semester credits of nursing core coursework and is delivered over sixty-four (64) academic weeks. Learners are required to take the nursing courses in the sequence prescribed. The LPN to ASN Program requires an additional twenty (20) semester credits of general education coursework. A total of sixty-eight (68) semester credits is required for graduation. The Program is designed to be completed within four (4) academic semesters. However, it may take longer to complete if learners elect to take GE courses at institutions of higher learning that require prerequisites to the Program's mandatory GE coursework.

Note: Learners enrolled in a Supervised On-ground Field Experience (SOFE) must progress through the Program according to the original Program Plan. For each enrolled cohort, a predetermined course schedule outlining the entire Program is established at the time of initial enrollment. The predetermined original Program Plan may not be modified unless extenuating circumstances arise. The College does not guarantee the availability of courses at a specific SOFE and reserves the right to change Program Plans as necessary.

The LPN to ASN Program curriculum was implemented as a result of the call for radical transformation in nursing education presented in *Educating Nurses* (Benner, P., Sutphen, M., Leonard, V., & Day, L., 2010), a Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching study on preparation for the nursing profession, and other literature including the Institute of Medicine and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation report on *The Future of Nursing*. The implementation of concept-based curriculum is an answer to current literature and research on best practices for nursing education.

Upon satisfactory completion of the prescribed LPN to ASN Program curriculum with a minimum grade of "C" in each lower-division nursing core course and having satisfied all other graduation requirements, the learner will earn an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Degree.

The LPN to ASN Program prepares graduates for entry-level nursing practice in hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare settings. An RN with an ASN Degree practices the art and science of nursing by utilizing the nursing process and functions interdependently within the healthcare team. Nursing is a dynamic profession that contributes significantly to the health and well-being of individuals and communities.

Program Objectives

- Graduate future nurses who will improve individual, family, and community health and wellness by applying best-demonstrated, evidence-based skills and knowledge in their practice.
- Facilitate career mobility of graduates and help meet the demand for professional nurses.
- Increase the availability of nursing education opportunities for qualified learners.
- Improve access to nursing education, course scheduling flexibility, and learning efficacy through the utilization of a variety of innovative instruction delivery methods and learning modalities, including asynchronous online engagements, blended distance learning, course structure, and high-fidelity case-based experiential learning.

Program Outcomes

LPN to ASN Program Outcomes are aligned with the Institutional Effectiveness Plan and measure the degree to which the Program achieves its stated mission. For current LPN to ASN Program Outcomes benchmarks, see the [LPN to ASN Program Outcomes Benchmarks Catalog Insert](#).

Program-Level Learner Outcomes

At Program completion, as measured by evaluation activities throughout the Program, the graduate will:

1. Demonstrate quality, competent, client-centered care—always bearing in mind the physical, psychological, spiritual, emotional, cultural, and environmental aspects of the clients' needs.
2. Demonstrate skills of intentional learning, critical thinking, and reflection in order to purposefully perform their duties within the RN role and scope of practice and provide holistic care to the clients they serve.
3. Use current research and nursing's identified best practices; graduates will demonstrate the ability to practice based on evidence in their profession and RN scope of practice.
4. Make decisions demonstrating clinical judgment, within the RN role and scope of practice; taking into consideration ethical, moral, legal, and evidence-based principles.

- Demonstrate leadership, management skills, and attributes appropriate for their role as registered nurses.
- Demonstrate effective communication—therapeutically and professionally—with and without the use of technology in their work as registered nurses.
- Demonstrate the ability to assess, improve, and assure quality and safety situations in their work as registered nurses.
- Collaborate effectively, within the RN role and scope of practice, with others and function as valuable team members of an interdisciplinary team.

Core Competencies

- Client-Centered Care
- Intentional Learning with Reflection
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Decision-Making and Clinical Reasoning
- Organizational, Local, and Global Leadership
- Communication and Informatics
- Quality and Safety Assurance
- Teamwork and Collaboration

Admissions Requirements

Requirements and Procedures

All applicants work closely with an Admissions Advisor to assess career goals, motivation, and commitment to learning.

To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

- Pay the non-refundable application fee as shown below:
- Complete the Application for Admissions. (The application and the paid fee are valid for one [1] year).
- Submit proof of a high school graduation (diploma) or equivalent, as described below, one week prior to the first day of attendance.
- Submit proof of current active unencumbered Practical Nurse or Vocational Nurse (LPN/LVN) licensure from Nursys.com and disclose any encumbered licenses. Nightingale College's PN diploma program graduates may enroll in the LPN to ASN Program on a non-matriculated basis if entrance and HESI testing requirements are met. Learners must become licensed within the first academic semester of the Program to matriculate and progress within the Program.
- Pass the Prelicensure Nursing Entrance Exam.
- Pass the Medical Dosage Calculation (MDC) course.
- All advanced placement LPN/LVN learners must successfully complete the prescribed Medical Dosage Calculation (MDC) self-paced, non-facilitated online course and score 100% on all MDC quizzes prior to the deadline given during the admissions cycle. Learners are limited to three (3) attempts to pass each of the quizzes. The MDC course is available to Advanced Placement prospective learners by requesting access from their Admissions Advisor. Learners who fail to pass all MDC modules may elect to enroll into the BSN program and take the corresponding Pharmacology course. Nightingale College graduates of the PN Diploma Program who enroll in the LPN to ASN program within one year of graduation will not need to complete the MDC course. If more than one (1) year lapses from the time of graduation from the PN Diploma Program, learners must successfully complete the MDC course.
- If requesting transfer of credit, learners must submit official college transcripts for the previous post-secondary coursework by the deadline in accordance with the [Transfer of Credit](#) section of this Catalog.
 - A total of twenty (20) general education semester credits is required for graduation from the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) to Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Program and must be completed prior to the end of the last academic semester in the LPN to ASN Program. Learners may refer to the Curriculum Plan of the [LPN-to-ASN Program](#) section of this Catalog to view General Education requirements for the minimum number of credits required in each of the three (3) required general education (GE) breadth areas. GE courses may be completed at the College or another institution of higher learning concurrent with enrollment in nursing courses.
 - A minimum of eleven (11) GE semester credits are required to enroll in Freshman 2 (F2) nursing courses. Learners may elect to complete the requisite coursework at the College or another institution of higher learning.
 - A minimum of fourteen (14) GE semester credits are required to enroll in Sophomore 1 (S1) nursing courses. Learners may elect to complete the requisite coursework at the College or another institution of higher learning.
 - Official transcripts are required for matriculation into the LPN to ASN Program.
 - Learners admitted without the full twenty (20) semester credits of general education are required to complete at least one (1) general education course per academic semester at the College or another institution of higher learning and provide the official transcript to the Registrar prior to the beginning of the next academic semester to register for the next academic semester. To register for the last academic semester of the LPN to ASN Program, the learner must submit the proof of enrollment in the final general education course to the Registrar and, upon completion, submit an official transcript to graduate.
 - The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and all credits earned at other post-secondary institutions or through course challenge exams.
- Complete Smarter Measure Assessment for evaluation of online learning readiness.
- Meet with a Learner Funding Advisor to initiate the financial aid process.
- Be in good financial standing with the College.

Applicant Type	Application Fee
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PN Diploma Program Alumni; applicants from institutions with a valid articulation agreement	\$0
Licensed Practical Nurse/Vocational Nurse	\$200
LPN/LVN who are active duty servicemembers and veterans of the U.S Armed Forces	\$50

Recognized Equivalents of a High School Diploma

Several equivalents to a high school diploma may be submitted:

- A GED certificate;
- A certificate or other official completion documentation demonstrating that the learner has passed a state-authorized examination such as the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), or, in California, the California High School Proficiency Exam that the state recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma (certificates of attendance and/or completion are not included in this qualifying category);
- An associate degree;
- Successful completion of at least sixty (60) semester or trimester credits or seventy-two (72) quarter credits that does not result in the awarding of an associate degree, but that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree at any institution; or
- Enrollment in a bachelor's degree program where at least sixty (60) semester or trimester credits or seventy-two (72) quarter credits have been successfully completed, including credits transferred into the bachelor's degree program;
- A "secondary school leaving certificate" or similar document from the proper government agency for learners who completed secondary school in a foreign country, accompanied by a foreign credentials evaluation.

Note: The highest level of academic integrity is expected throughout the admissions process. Violations of the academic integrity policy at any point in the admissions process will result in automatic denial of admission. See the [Academic Integrity](#) section of this College Catalog for more details.

Entrance and Placement Exams

Passing of entrance and certain placement exams is required to enroll in the program as indicated below:

Prelicensure Nursing Entrance Exam (ACCUPLACER® Diagnostic Test)

To be admitted to the program learners must achieve the required scores in each academic area of the entrance exam. The entrance exam determines learners' readiness for success in the program by assessing knowledge in three (3) academic areas: Arithmetic, Reading Comprehension, and Sentence Skills. A score of 260 in each of the three (3) areas is required for admission with full matriculation. Learners have three (3) attempts to achieve the required score. Conditional admission is granted to learners who score at least 240 but less than 260 as follows:

- Learners who score below 240 in any of the three (3) areas will not be admitted.
- Learners who score between 240-259 in Arithmetic will be admitted on a non-matriculated basis and will be required to take and successfully complete MAT 90 in the first semester of enrollment.
- Learners who score between 240-249 in Reading will be admitted on a non-matriculated basis and will be required to take and successfully complete ENG 90 in the first semester of enrollment and ENG 95 their second semester of enrollment.
- Learners who score between 250-259 in Reading will be admitted with conditional matriculation and will be required to take and successfully complete ENG 95 in the first semester of enrollment.
- Learners who score between 240-259 in Writing will be admitted with conditional matriculation and will be required to complete ENG 95 in the first semester of enrollment.

The entrance exam voucher fee is included in the application. Scores are valid for one (1) year. Proctoring fees are separate from the voucher and must be paid for each attempt.

Nightingale College graduates of the PN Diploma Program who enroll in the LPN to ASN program within one year of graduation will not be required to take the MDC for the LPN to ASN program. If more than one (1) year lapses from the time of graduation from the PN Diploma Program, learners will be required to take and pass the MDC to be admitted.

Nursing Placement Exams

Advanced placement candidates who are requesting academic credit for courses in ASN 241 and/or ASN 261 are required to pass the corresponding HESI exams as described in the table below:

Course	Exam	Administered During	Passing Score	HESI	Mandatory Remediation HESI Score	Fee
ASN 241	RN Specialty: Health Assessment HESI	Pre-Admission	850		< 900	\$70

ASN 261	RN Specialty: Medical-Surgical Nursing HESI	Pre-Admission	850	< 900	\$70
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Applicants may retake the exam one (1) time after completion of mandatory remediation. The fee to retake an exam is \$70. On the second attempt, the applicant will take a different version of the exam. Free personalized remediation materials are available at www.evolve.elsevier.com after the first exam attempt.

If the score on the second attempt is below the minimum score requirement, the applicant is allowed to retest after one (1) year from the date of the first attempt upon completing a new program application and paying a new application fee. Applicants who do not pass the exams may choose to enroll in the corresponding course(s).

Tuition and Fees

Tuition for the LPN to ASN Program is \$825 per semester credit. Tuition and fees may be changed at any time with a 30-day notice. Audit fees are non-refundable and cannot be paid with Title IV funding.

Program Fees

Additional Program fees are presented in the table below.

Item	Fee
Learning Resources and Proctoring Package per semester	\$965 ¹
General Education Fee per Course (except SCI 220, SCI 221, and SCI 251)	\$125 ²
SCI 220, SCI 221, SCI 251 Fee per Course	\$200
Course Audit Fee (ASN 241, ASN 261, ASN 311, ASN 341, ASN 361)	\$1,000
<p>1.The Learning Resources and Proctoring Package per semester fee does not include uniforms or stethoscope.</p> <p>2.In lieu of the \$125 course resource fee, learners may elect to personally purchase all general education required materials.</p> <p>Nursing kit supplies required to attend experiential learning portions of the course are provided.</p>	

Tuition does not include the non-refundable application and testing fees. In addition, learners are responsible for expenses such as transportation and lodging, if any, associated with the required experiential learning sessions.

Estimated Total Program Cost

The estimated total program cost for a learner who does not transfer in any college-level general education credits and does not test out of ASN 241 and ASN 261 is \$50,960. Learners may use this [calculator](#) to get a customized estimate of total program cost.

Curriculum Plan

General Education Requirements

General Education (GE) courses can be completed at the College or another institution of higher learning accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The College may grant GE academic credit pursuant to the policies described in the [Experiential Learning](#) and [Extra-Institutional and Non-Instructional Learning](#) sections of this Catalog. Twenty (20) GE semester credits are required for graduation. Learners may refer to the Admissions Requirements and Procedures section above for more information.

The nursing core courses progression requirements do not allow the final academic semester of the Program to consist of only GE courses. GE course requirements must be completed prior to or during the final semester of enrollment. GE courses in math, human anatomy, and human physiology must be completed prior to enrollment into any nursing course. Pathophysiology must be completed no later than the first semester of enrollment in the nursing courses.

Physical & Life Sciences	
A minimum of fourteen (14) semester credits is required in this category. The courses listed below as well as other college-level Physical & Life Sciences courses are considered for transfer of credits. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.	
Course	Semester Credits
Human Anatomy*	4

Human Physiology*	4
Pathophysiology*	3-5
Nutrition*	3-5
English & Communication Arts	
A <u>minimum</u> of three (3) credits is required in this category. The courses listed below as well as other college-level English & Communication Arts courses are considered for transfer of credits. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.	
Course	Semester Credits
English Composition*	3-5
Academic Writing	3-5
Communications	3-5
Mathematics	
A <u>minimum</u> of three (3) credits is required in this category. The courses listed below as well as other College Algebra or equivalent courses are considered for transfer of credits. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.	
Course	Semester Credits
College Algebra*	3-5

Standardized Exams

Standardized end-of-course exams are administered at the end of each level of the LPN to ASN Program. Required scores for mandatory remediation on standardized exams are specified in the table below.

Standardized Exam Schedule for Generic LPN to ASN Learners:

Exam	Administered Course	Mandatory Remediation HESI Score
RN Specialty: Health Assessment HESI	ASN 241	<900
RN Specialty: Medical-Surgical Nursing	ASN 261	<900
RN Specialty: Pharmacology	ASN 311	< 900
RN Exit	ASN 361	< 900

Curriculum Plan

The LPN to ASN Program consists of eight (8) lower-division core nursing courses, comprised of forty-eight (48) academic semester credits delivered over four (4) academic semesters or sixty-four (64) academic weeks, and six (6) GE courses, comprised of twenty (20) semester credits. The total length of the Program for learners electing to complete all GE requirements at the College is sixty-eight (68) semester credits, four (4) academic semesters, or sixty-four (64) academic weeks. Other general education and elective courses are available for learners who transfer in the required GE credits (or for any learner who is interested in taking these noncompulsory courses), provided there is room within the individual's semester credit load.

All didactic instruction is delivered via online learning modalities. However, the College may require learners to attend didactic instruction in any course with on-ground components. All experiential learning for the core nursing courses takes place on-ground at a variety of experiential learning sites. For learner residency and course delivery modalities definitions, see the [Learner Residency and Course Delivery Modalities](#) section of this Catalog. A sample curriculum layout is presented in the table below

LPN to ASN Program Sample Curriculum Plan

Course Number	Course Name	Delivery Modality	Semester Credits	Didactic Learning	Remote	Experiential Learning	Total
	LPN LIC II	Advanced Standing for LPN/	12				

		LVN License										
				CBT	ISBP	VCBP	ISB	VCBC	DFC	IP	AFE	
Freshman Term 1 (F1)												
SCI 220	Human Anatomy with Intervention Skill-Based (ISB) Experiential Learning	Distance	4	45	30							75
SCI 221	Human Physiology with Intervention Skill-Based (ISB) Experiential Learning>	Distance	4	45	30							75
ENG 120	English Composition	Distance	3	45								45
MAT 120	College Algebra	Distance	3	45								45
Total			14	180	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	240
Freshman Term 2 (F2)												
SCI 225	Pathophysiology	Distance	3	45								45
ASN 241*	Concepts of Nursing I	Blended	6	35	7	3	30	45	45			165
ASN 261*	Concepts of Nursing II	Blended	6	35	7	3	30	45	45			165
Total			15	115	14	6	60	90	90	0	0	375
Sophomore Term 1 (S1)												
SCI 131	Introduction to Nutrition	Distance	3	45								45
ASN 311*	Pharmacology II	Distance	3	45								45
ASN 331*	Concepts of Professionalism, Management, and Leadership	Distance	2	30								30
ASN 341*	Concepts of Nursing III	Blended	7	44.5	4	4	15	67.5	45		22.5	202.5
Total			15	164.5	4	4	15	67.5	45	0	22.5	322.5
Sophomore Term 2 (S2)												
ASN 361*	Concepts of Nursing IV	Blended	7	53	4	3	15	45	45		22.5	187.5

				CBT	ISBP	VCBP	ISB	VCBC	DFC	IP	AFE	
ASN 391*	Entry into Professional Nursing Practice	Blended	5	30						135	0	165
Total			12	83	4	3	15	45	45	135	22.5	352.5
Nursing Courses Total			48	272.5	22	13	90	202.5	180	135	45	960
GE Total			20	270	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	330
ASN Program with GE Total			68	542.5	82	13	90	202.5	180	135	45	1,290

Satisfactory Academic Progress Table

Total Credits Attempted	Financial Aid Warning or Probation if CGPA is below	Financial Aid Warning or Probation if course completion rate is below
1-12	2.0	67%
13-24	2.0	67%
25-36	2.0	67%
37-48	2.0	67%
49-60	2.0	67%
61-68	2.0	67%

Pre-Dispute Arbitration and Class Action Waiver Disclosure

Nightingale College seeks to resolve disputes or claims between any learner and the College in an efficient, cost-effective, and timely manner. A learner who enrolls at Nightingale College agrees, as a condition of their enrollment, to resolve any dispute through mandatory arbitration that shall not be adjudicated as a class action or a consolidated class arbitration proceeding. However, the College cannot require a learner loan borrower to participate in arbitration or any internal dispute resolution process offered by the institution prior to filing a borrower defense to repayment application with the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e); the College cannot, in any way, require learners to limit, relinquish, or waive their ability to pursue filing a borrower defense claim, pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e) at any time; and any arbitration, required by a pre-dispute arbitration agreement, tolls the limitations period for filing a borrower defense to repayment application pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e)(6)(ii).