Program Requirements Guide 2019-2020

Practical Nursing DIPLOMA

Program Overview
Under the supervision of registered nurses and physicians, licensed practical nurses provide bedside care, monitor patients, gather information, evaluate patient needs and contribute to the patient's care. Licensed practical nurses administer medications and perform treatments. Licensed practical nurses utilize observation, critical thinking, decision-making and communication skills in caring for patients.

The Practical Nursing Diploma is designed to meet the requirements to become licensed as a Practical Nurse.

Career Opportunities
Employment of LPNs is expected to increase faster than the average for all occupations. The best opportunities will occur in nursing care facilities and home health care services. This is in response to the long-term care needs of an increasing elderly population.

Graduates may be employed in long-term care centers, clinics, home care agencies, hospice, hospitals and transitional care units. Upon completion of the program, the graduate will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). Licensing or certification exams are independent of graduation requirements.

Program Outcomes
1. The graduate will participate in the nursing process of assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation to provide basic safe and effective nursing care to patients.
2. The graduate will communicate effectively with patients, families, significant others and health care personnel.
3. The graduate will meet the student learning outcomes of the Nursing program.
4. The graduate will be prepared to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam.
5. The graduate will be prepared for job placement in nursing care.

Program Faculty
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Required CPR course
Students are required to successfully complete a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course prior to registering for PRNS 1481 Clinical 1.

At Saint Paul College, HLTH 1432 Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS) 1 credit fulfills this requirement.

Spring Start
Students beginning in the Fall have the option of enrolling in day or evening PRNS theory classes. Clinical experiences are subject to clinical site availability and may be scheduled for day and/or evenings.

Program Requirements, and Course Sequence

Minimum Program Entry Requirements
Students entering this program must meet the following minimum program entry requirements:

Reading: Score of 78+ or grade of “C” or better in READ 0722
Writing: Score of 78+ on Reading Comprehension or grade of “C” or better in ENGL 0922
Arithmetic: Score of 52+ or grade of “C” or better in MATH 0745

Assessment Results and Prerequisites:
Students admitted into Saint Paul College programs may need to complete additional courses based on ACCUPLACER assessment results and course prerequisite assessment. Certain MATH, READ, and ENGL courses have additional prerequisites.

Program Requirements
Prior to submitting the Application to Practical Nursing Major form, an applicant must:

Cabinet of ACEN:
This program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN):
3343 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 850
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
Phone: 404.975.5000
Fax: 404.975.5020
website: www.acenursing.org

This program is subject to change. This Program Requirements Guide is not a contract.
Program Requirements

- All classes must be successfully completed with a grade of “C” or higher.

Preliminary courses and requirements:
The following must be completed prior to submitting your Application to Practical Nursing Major form.

☐ Check off when completed

- HLTH 1310 Communications in Healthcare .......................... 1
- HLTH 1410 Medical Terminology .................................. 1
  Health Core Credits .................................................. 2
- Goal 1: ENGL 1711 Composition 1 ................................. 4
- Goal 3: BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems ...................... 3
- Goal 5: PSYC 1720 Psychology
  Throughout the Lifespan ............................................. 3
  General Education Requirements ................................. 10

☐ Nursing Assistant Certification
  (NAST 1111 & NAST 1112) completed within the
  last five years or active Minnesota Nursing Assistant
  Registry.

☐ TEAS Test: Complete Test of Essential Academic
  Skills (TEAS) with a score of 50 or higher.

☐ Evidence of current CPR certification
  (HLTH 1432) must be presented prior to taking
  PRNS 1481 Clinical 1.

PRNS Core Courses  Cr

- PRNS 1425 Essentials of Clinical Pharmacology .................. 2
- PRNS 1436 Foundations of Nursing ................................. 4
- PRNS 1481 Clinical 1 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1482 Clinical 2 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1483 Clinical 3 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1521 Nursing Care of Adults 1 ............................ 4
- PRNS 1524 Nursing Care of Adults 2 ............................ 3
- PRNS 1531 Maternal/Child Health ................................ 2
- PRNS 2411 Psycho/Social Nursing ................................ 1
- PRNS 2492 Transition to Practice ................................. 3
  PRNS Core Credits ................................................... 28
  Health Core Credits .................................................. 2
  General Education Requirements ................................. 10

Total Program Credits .................................................. 40

Program Start Dates

- Fall, Spring, or Summer - Preliminary courses only

Course Sequence

The following sequence is recommended; however, this sequence is not required.

First Semester

- HLTH 1310 Communications in Healthcare .......................... 1
- HLTH 1410 Medical Terminology .................................. 1
- Goal 1: ENGL 1711 Composition 1 ................................. 4
- Goal 3: BIOL 1730 Human Body Systems ...................... 3
- Goal 5: PSYC 1720 Psychology
  Throughout the Lifespan ............................................. 3

Pre-Nursing Credits ..................................................... 12

- Complete the TEAS Test, Nursing Assistant Certification requirement, and apply to the
  program.
- Evidence of current CPR certification (HLTH 1432)
  must be presented prior to taking PRNS 1481 Clinical 1.

Second Semester (Fall/Spring only)

- PRNS 1425 Essentials of Clinical Pharmacology .................. 2
- PRNS 1436 Foundations of Nursing ................................. 4
- PRNS 1481 Clinical 1 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1521 Nursing Care of Adults 1 ............................ 4
- PRNS 2411 Psycho/Social Nursing ................................ 1
  PRNS Core Credits ................................................... 14

Third Semester (Fall/Spring only)

- PRNS 1482 Clinical 2 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1483 Clinical 3 ............................................. 3
- PRNS 1524 Nursing Care of Adults 2 ............................ 3
- PRNS 1531 Maternal/Child Health ................................ 2
- PRNS 2492 Transition to Practice ................................. 3
  PRNS Core Credits ................................................... 14

Total Program Credits .................................................. 40