



Dabney S. Lancaster
Nursing Program
Information Packet

Revised January 2010

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INSTITUTIONAL POLICY FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Dabney S. Lancaster Community College declares and affirms a policy of equal educational opportunity and non-discrimination in the administering of all educational programs and supporting services. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, sex, age, or handicap in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1964. Dabney S. Lancaster Community College is further committed to ensuring equal treatment and equal access to its educational programs and facilities by all students.

Revised Spring 2010

An Overview of the Nursing Programs

1. The Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing (PN) program at DSLCC consists of three semesters (47 semester credit hours) of full-time study. After successful completion of this program, students earn a Certificate in Practical Nursing and are eligible to take the National Council Licensing Examination for practical nursing. The Practical Nursing Program is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing.

Upon completion of the PN program, many students chose to continue their education and become registered nurses (RNs). By entering the Associate Degree program at DSLCC, students will only need two more semesters of class work!

2. The Associate Degree Nursing Program

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program at DSLCC is for students who have completed a Certificate in Practical Nursing and who want to become registered nurses (RNs). This program consists of two semesters of study (24 semester credit hours).

Students who successfully complete this program earn an Associate of Applied Science Nursing Degree. They are then eligible to take the National Council Licensing Examination for registered nursing. The ADN Program is fully accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), which may be reached at (404) 975-5000 or 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326.

Students who received their certificate in practical nursing from another school, or who completed their certificate more than a year ago may enter the ADN program after completing the LPN Bridge program.

3. The LPN Bridge Program

The LPN Bridge Program is a three-credit class that helps to prepare LPNs who completed their certificates at other schools of nursing, or who have been out of the DSLCC nursing program for a year, prepare to enter the ADN Program. There are several classes that must be completed before admission to the LPN Bridge program.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONAL ABILITIES

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. has determined the following categories of functional abilities are essential for licensure and job performance of a member of the nursing profession. A brief description and examples of representative activities/attributes are included.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
Gross Motor Skills	Gross motor skills sufficient to provide the full range of safe and effective nursing care activities, such as moving within confined spaces, reaching above shoulders, reaching below waist, standing, and maintaining balance
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor skills sufficient to perform psychomotor skills, such as grasping small objects with hands, keying/typing, pinching, picking, twisting, and squeezing with fingers
Physical Endurance	Physical stamina sufficient to perform client care activities for entire length of work role such as standing during surgical or therapeutic procedure, or performing CPR
Physical Strength	Physical strength sufficient to perform a full range of motion and client activities such as pulling and pushing 25 pounds, supporting and lifting up to 25 pounds, moving objects weighing up to 50 pounds and squeezing with hands to operate
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from place to place in a quick manner and to maneuver by twisting, squatting, climbing, and walking
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of client health needs, which includes hearing faint body sounds, faint voices, hearing situations when not able to see lips, and hearing auditory alarms
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for accurate observation and performance of nursing care, which includes seeing objects up to 20 inches away and 20 feet away, depth perception, peripheral vision, and ability to distinguish color and color intensity
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of health care needs which include feeling vibrations, detecting temperature and feeling differences in surface characteristics, sizes, and shapes

Smell	Olfactory ability sufficient to detect significant environmental and client odors
Reading	Reading ability sufficient to comprehend the written word at a minimum of 10 th grade level
Arithmetic	Arithmetic ability sufficient to do computations at a minimum of an 8 th grade level which includes reading and understanding columns of writing, reading graphic printouts and digital displays, calibrating equipment, converting numbers to and/or from the metric system, measuring time, counting rates, using measurement tools, reading measurement marks, computing fractions, and using a calculator
Emotional stability	Emotional stability sufficient to assume responsibility/accountability for actions, which includes establishing therapeutic boundaries, dealing with the unexpected, adapting to changing environment/stress, focusing attention on a task, performing multiple responsibilities concurrently, and handling strong emotions
Analytical thinking	Reasoning skills sufficient to perform deductive and inductive thinking for nursing decisions, which includes transferring knowledge from one situation to another, processing information, problem solving, evaluating outcomes, prioritizing tasks, and using short term and long term memory
Critical thinking skills	Critical thinking skills sufficient to exercise sound nursing judgment which includes identifying cause-effect relationships, planning/controlling activities for others, synthesizing knowledge and skills, and sequenced information
Interpersonal skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups respecting social, cultural and spiritual diversity
Communication skills	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in written and oral form, which includes teaching, explaining procedures, giving oral reports, and conveying information through writing

The Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing Program at DSLCC is designed to prepare selected students to qualify as contributing members of the health team in a variety of health service facilities. Practical nurses render safe, direct patient care to patients with usual or expected outcomes under the supervision of practitioners with higher degrees.

After successful completion of the PN program, students will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination leading to licensure as a practical nurse (LPN). The Virginia State Board of Nursing has the power to deny the opportunity to take the exam if the applicant has willfully committed a felony/misdemeanor under laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia or of the United States.

The PN program is three semesters long. The program begins each year in August and is completed the following August.

ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE DOES NOT MEAN ADMISSION TO THE PN PROGRAM.

IMPORTANT: DENIAL OF LICENSE

Code of Virginia # 54-367.32: The Nursing Board shall have the power to deny . . . (a nursing license) . . . upon proof that the person:

- a. Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license;
- b. Is guilty of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude;
- c. Is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence, habits or other causes;
- d. Is addicted to the use of alcohol or habit-forming drugs
- e. Is mentally or physically incompetent; or
- f. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct

The Practical Nursing Program Curriculum

Semester	Required Courses	Credit Hours	Total Credits
Semester I (Fall)	SDV 100 Orientation	1	
	BIO 141 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	
	ENG 111 College Composition I	3	
	HLT 138 Principles of Nutrition	1	
	PNE 161 Nursing in Health Changes I	6	
	NUR 105 Nursing Skills	2	
	NUR 135 Drug Dosage Calculations	<u>1</u>	
		18	18
Semester II (Spring)	BIO 142 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	
	PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	3	
	PNE 162 Nursing in Health Changes II	<u>11</u>	
		18	36
Semester III (Summer)	ENG 112 College Composition II	3	
	BIO 149 Microbiology for Allied Health*	1	
	PNE 188 Nursing Concepts III	6	
	PNE 143 Applied Nursing Skills	<u>1</u>	
		11	47

*Students who plan to continue their education and ultimately get their baccalaureate degree may wish to substitute BIO 150: Introductory Microbiology (4 credits) in place of BIO 149.

Taking Classes Prior to Admission to the PN Program

Non-nursing Courses

Students are encouraged to take classes that do not have a PNE or a NUR prefix prior to admission to the nursing program. Examples of these courses are SDV 100: Orientation and BIO 141: Anatomy and Physiology I. Admission preference will be given to students who have completed Anatomy & Physiology I (BIO 141), Nutrition (HLT 138), and either Anatomy & Physiology II (BIO 142) or Drug Dosage Calculations (NUR 135).

NUR 135: Drug Dosage Calculations

Students may take this course before entering the nursing program. If the student does not enter the nursing program within two years after completion of the course, the student must either retake or challenge the course. Pre-requisite: all required remedial math.

Non-curricular Courses that are used to calculate GPA

Courses that are not part of the nursing curriculum, but are used when calculating the curricular GPA include HLT 250, HCT 110, HLT 106, HLT 121, HLT 143/144, and HLT 145.

Admission Requirements for the PN Program

1. Graduation from high school or GED

Students must have either graduated from high school or have completed their GED. High school seniors may apply for admission to the program and may be admitted pending their graduation.

2. High School Courses

In order to be admitted to the nursing program, you must have at least a “C” average in high school. If you have completed 10 or more college credits, your college grades will be considered rather than your high school grades. There are also three courses that you will need to have completed with at least a “C”. These courses may be taken either in high school or at DSLCC.

<i>HIGH SCHOOL COURSE</i>	<i>DSLCC EQUIVALENT</i>
Biology	BIO 20*
Algebra	MTH 03
Chemistry	NAS 05

*The requirement for BIO 20 may be waived if the applicant has successfully completed BIO 141 and BIO 142 prior to admission to the nursing program.

3. Transcripts

You must provide transcripts from your high school and from any other colleges that you have attended. You will need to contact these schools and ask that an official copy of your transcript be sent to DSLCC. The address is:

*Nursing Office
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
1000 Dabney Drive
Clifton Forge, VA 24422-1000*

4. Admission to the College

You must be admitted to DSLCC before you can be considered for admission to the nursing program. **ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE DOES NOT GUARANTEE ADMISSION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM.**

5. Academic Placement Test Scores

You will need to take placement tests to determine if you need any remedial work. If remedial work is required, it must be completed before you will be considered for admission to the nursing program.

<i>PLACEMENT TEST</i>	<i>REQUIRED SCORE</i>
Compass Reading Test	89 or higher
Compass Writing Test	78 or higher
Compass Pre-Algebra Test	30 or higher
Compass Algebra Test	35 or higher
Asset Reading Test	44 or higher
Asset Writing Test	44 or higher
Asset Pre-Algebra Test	41 or higher
Asset Algebra Test	28 or higher

6. Nursing Entrance Exam – Upon completion of all academic placement testing and remedial requirements, the nursing assessment test must be passed successfully before admission is considered. Call the nursing office to sign up for this test (540-863-2838).

7. Preference will be given for completion of BIO 141, HLT 138, and BIO 142 or NUR 135 prior to fall enrollment. Admission may be granted contingent upon completion prior to entering the nursing program and maintenance of required GPA.

UPON COMPLETION OF ALL ABOVE REQUIREMENTS, A STUDENT MAY PROGRESS TO THE NURSING APPLICATION PHASE:

1. Nursing Application Form

You will need to complete a nursing application form. These forms are available from the nursing secretary or on-line at www.dslcc.edu/VPISS/tech_allied/tech_allied_programs/nursing/index.html

2. Interview with the Nursing Program Head

After you have met the other requirements, you will need to set up an appointment for an interview with the nursing program head. The nursing secretary can assist you with this.

3. Admission Ranking

Students will be ranked for admission according to the courses completed and curricular GPA.

4. Health Form - Once you have met other admission requirements for the nursing program, you will need to complete a health form. It will include immunization requirements. A drug screen will be required after the nursing orientation. The ppd (TB test) and drug screen is required yearly. The drug screen may also be required randomly. This form must be received by the nursing office prior to the commencement of classes.

5. CPR – Current CPR certification inclusive of adult, child, and infant CPR must be received by the nursing department prior to the commencement of classes.

6. Applications for admission to the PN program will be accepted beginning the first Monday of January of each calendar year from those who have met or will meet all pre-requisite requirements prior to the commencement of fall classes. Applications will be accepted until the admitting class is filled.

The Associate Degree Nursing Program

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program at DSLCC is a two-semester program designed to prepare graduates of a PN program for practice as a registered nurse (RN). Students who successfully complete this program will be awarded an Associate of Applied Sciences degree.

The nurse who completes an ADN program is a technical nurse who provides safe, direct nursing care in acute and non-acute settings. The technical nurse makes independent nursing assessments and may delegate care activities to health team members with similar or less academic preparation.

After successful completion of the ADN program, students will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination leading to licensure as a registered nurse (RN). The Virginia State Board of Nursing has the power to deny the opportunity to take the exam if the applicant has willfully committed a felony/misdemeanor under laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia or of the United States.

IMPORTANT: DENIAL OF LICENSE

Code of Virginia # 54-367.32: The Nursing Board shall have the power to deny . . . (a nursing license) . . . upon proof that the person:

- a. Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license;
- b. Is guilty of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude;
- c. Is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence, habits or other causes;
- d. Is addicted to the use of alcohol or habit-forming drugs
- e. Is mentally or physically incompetent; or
- f. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct

Students who have successfully completed the PN program at DSLCC are automatically eligible for admission to the ADN program if they have attained a minimum of B average on nursing courses. However, those who wait a year or more before entering the ADN program will be required to have two recommendations from faculty and will need to take the LPN Bridge course. Students who completed their certificate of practical nursing at another school will also need to complete the LPN Bridge program.

Students who have not attained a minimum of a B grade on PNE 161, PNE 162, and PNE 188 or NUR 115 may attempt a medical-surgical entrance exam (2 attempt limit). If successful, admittance to the ADN portion will be granted.

Students must have completed a Certificate in Practical nursing before entering this program. If the Certificate was earned from another school, or was earned more than one year ago, students must enter through the LPN Bridge program.

The Associate Degree Nursing Program Curriculum

Semester	Required Courses	Credit Hours	Total Credits
Semester I (Fall)	_____ Humanities Elective	3	
	NUR 205 Introduction to Second Level Nursing	6	
	NUR 226 Health Assessment	<u>2</u>	
		11	11
Semester II (Spring)	_____ Social Science Elective	3	
	ITE 115 Computer Literacy	3	
	NUR 208 Acute Medical Surgical Nursing	6	
	NUR 254 Dimensions of Professional Nursing	<u>1</u>	
	13	24	

The LPN Bridge Program

LPNs from other programs may be admitted to the second level of the program in the fall semester if they meet the following requirements:

1. Completion of the admission requirements for the PN program.
2. Copy of LPN license
3. Current CPR Certification
4. Completion of the required courses listed in the LPN curriculum grid on the following page.

Students may test out of some or all of these courses. Credits-by-exam are available to LPNs for BIO 141, BIO 142, BIO 149, PSY 230, HLT 138, and NUR 135 at no charge. If you are interested in testing out of any of these courses, please see the nursing secretary.

CLEP exams are available in ENG 111 and ENG 112. There is a charge for taking these exams. Please see an academic advisor in Student Services for further information.

Courses taken at other institutions may be transferred to DSLCC according to the policy described in the college handbook. In order to earn a nursing degree at DSLCC at least 17 credits must be earned at the college.

5. NUR 115: LPN Transition, will be offered in the spring semester and is required prior to enrollment in the nursing program.

Students who are LPNs and have previously attended an RN program will be required to complete all nursing courses required in the Bridge after acceptance into the program. If the student attended a VCCS ADN program and successfully completed any of these courses within the past two years, an exemption from the course will be made if the course average was 85 or above, and a credit-by-exam may be attempted if the course average was between 80 and 84.

LPNs who have previously completed the first level of the DSLCC nursing program and who are **re-entering** the college to complete the RN portion of the program will also need to meet these requirements.

The LPN Bridge Program Curriculum

Students must have completed a Certificate in Practical Nursing before entering this program.

Semester	Required Courses	Credit Hours	Total Credits
Courses Required Before Entering the Bridge	SDV 100 Orientation	1	
	BIO 141 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	
	ENG 111 College Composition I	3	
	BIO 142 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	
	ENG 112 College Composition II	3	
	PSY 230 Developmental Psychology	3	
	HLT 138 Principles of Nutrition	1	
	BIO 149 Microbiology for Allied Health*	1	
	NUR 135 Drug Dosage Calculations	<u>1</u>	
		21	21
Spring	NUR 115 LPN Transition Course	3	24
Semester I (Fall)	_____ Humanities Elective	3	
	NUR 205 Introduction to Second Level Nursing	6 <u>2</u>	
	NUR 226 Health Assessment	11	35
Semester II (Spring)	_____ Social Science Elective	3	
	ITE 115 Computer Literacy	3	
	NUR 208 Acute Medical Surgical Nursing	6	
	NUR 254 Dimensions of Professional Nursing	<u>1</u>	
		13	48

*Students who plan to continue their education and ultimately get their baccalaureate degree may wish to substitute BIO 150: Introductory Microbiology (4 credits) in place of BIO 149.

Important Names and Numbers

Nursing:

Ann May, RN, MSN, FNP-C
Nursing Program Head
540-863-2802
amay@dslcc.edu

Julia Carter
DSLCC Nursing Secretary
540-863-2838
jcarter@dslcc.edu

Academic Advisor:

Joy Broyles
863-2861

Other:

Lorri Wilhelm Ferguson
DSLCC Registrar
540-863-2823

Cynthia Boteler
Testing Administrator
540-863-2828

DSLCC Bookstore
540-863-2908

DSLCC Financial Aid Office
540-863-2821

DSLCC Library
540-863-2864