

NURSING

Associate of Applied Science degree



Program and Career Description:

Registered Nurses assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. RNs administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients and advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or management. Registered nursing is a profession that requires licensing by a state board of nursing. The RN is required to observe professional standards or practice and adhere to a code of ethics.

How long is the program?

The traditional track of AAS Nursing core courses may be completed in as few as four semesters. Qualifying LPNs may complete AAS Nursing core courses in as few as three semesters. Learning support requirements and completion of additional non-NRSG courses prior to program enrollment extend the completion timeline in either pathway.

What does the program provide?

- Affordable pathway to a career in nursing.
- Classroom instruction in vital areas prior to clinical rotations.
- Hands-on experiences at clinical sites within approximately 60 miles of Columbia State.
- Introductory rotations in specialty areas (Obstetrics, Labor & Delivery, Newborn Nursery, Mental Health, Pediatrics).
- Skills competencies in campus labs including Human Patient Simulators.
- Numerous scholarship opportunities.

How is the job market?

Nursing is poised to change the face of health care as never before. Demand for quality Registered Nurses continues to escalate. Employment of RNs is projected to grow 15% from 2016 to 2026, faster than the average for all occupations according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov).

Career	Beginning Salary	Experienced Salary Median
Registered Nurse (TN)	\$43,670	\$60,600
Registered Nurse (US)	\$47,120	\$68,450

For additional information about education requirements and preferred work styles and abilities for these careers check out www.bls.gov. Salaries are not guaranteed.

How do I apply to the Nursing Program?

All nursing program candidates must first complete all Columbia State admission requirements.

Students seeking admission to the traditional program must additionally:

- Complete and submit an application to the Nursing program (February & August annually)
- Attach copy of ACT/SAT composite score
- Possess a minimum cumulative GPA 2.75 (on 4.0 scale). Attach unofficial copies of transcripts of all previously attempted college credit to the nursing application.
- Submit a high school transcript IF fewer than 12 college credits have been earned.

LPN entering via the Career Mobility Track Must:

- Pass the Challenge Examination for Nursing (Foundations) successfully.
- Possess a minimum GPA 2.75 (on 4.0 scale) including pre-requisite general education courses.

Opportunities

Columbia State's nursing program prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX) administered by state boards of nursing. Graduates may pursue additional formal education (certifications, BSN or MSN degrees) at other institutions through traditional or online formats. Future employers may also offer on the job training in various specialty areas.



NURSING

Major in Nursing (A.A.S.)

(Designed for the student who does not intend to transfer into a baccalaureate degree program.)

Program Requirements

Note: Students may elect to complete any or all non-NRSG course work prior to Admission into the Program.

The courses below are applicable to degree requirements. Students may be required to take additional Learning Support courses.

Communication Requirement
ENGL 1010 or 1020

Humanities/Fine Arts (Take 1 course)

ART 1035, 2000, 2020

ENGL 2055, 2130, 2160, 2235, 2310, 2320, 2860

HUM 1010, 1020

MUS 1030

PHIL 1030, 1040, 2200

THEA 1030

Natural Sciences Requirements (BIOL 2010 and 2020 must have been completed no more than five years prior to program entry)
BIOL 2010, 2020, 2230

Social/Behavioral Sciences
PSYC 1030*, 2130

*Math 1530, PSYC 1030, BIOL 2010 and COLS 101 must be completed prior to admission to the Career Mobility tract for LPNs.

Major Required Courses

COLS 101

MATH 1530*

NRSG 1320, 1330, 1340, 1360, 1620, 1710, 2240, 2630, 2640

(Nursing courses must be repeated if three or more years have elapsed since completion)

Additional Pre-requisite for Career Mobility Tract for LPNs

- Foundations of Nursing LPN Challenge Exam within three (3) years prior to the semester seeking entry.

Requirements for Graduation include:

- earning 25% of total program credits in residence at Columbia State
- earn a GPA of at least 2.0 in program courses.
- earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- taking the mandatory Exit Exam.

If you have completed TN eCampus courses, run a degree audit from the student tab in myChargerNet to determine how these courses apply to this program.

Sample Academic Plan

Traditional

First Semester

___ NRSG 1710*	Fundamentals of Nursing	7
___ BIOL 2010	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
___ MATH 1530	Introductory Statistics	3
___ PSYC 1030	Introduction to Psychology	3
___ COLS 101	Columbia State College Success	1

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Second Semester (LPNs Bridge into 2nd Semester)

___ NRSG 1620*	Medical-Surgical Nursing I	6
___ NRSG 1340	Mental Health Nursing	3
___ NRSG 1360	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
___ BIOL 2020*	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4

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Third Semester

___ NRSG 2630	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	6
___ NRSG 1320*	Women's Health & the Childbearing Family	3
___ BIOL 2230 *	Microbiology	4
___ PSYC 2130	Lifespan Psychology	3

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Fourth Semester

___ NRSG 2640	Medical-Surgical Nursing III	6
___ NRSG 2240	Professional Practice in Nursing	2
___ NRSG 1330	Pediatric Nursing	3
___ ENGL 1010*	English Composition I <u>or</u>	
___ ENGL 1020	English Composition II	3
___ Humanities/Fine Arts Elective		3

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Total Credit Hours 67

**Critical Courses: Mastery of content and earned grades in these courses are linked to an increased likelihood of program completion.*

To Be completed prior to LPN to RN Bridge Admission:

LPN Bridge Option

___ Foundations of Nursing LPN Challenge Exam		
___ BIOL 2010	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
___ MATH 1530	Introductory Statistics	3
___ PSYC 1030	Introduction to Psychology	3
___ COLS 101	Columbia State College Success	1

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**Detailed information is available via
www.columbiastate.edu/nursing**