LPN – RN Bridge Nursing Program

Associate in Applied Science in Nursing
One Year, 3 Consecutive Semesters

Information Packet

For further information and questions, please contact the Nursing Office:

Mrs. Carol Griffin, Administrative Assistant  
Phone: 757-569-6731  
E-mail: cgriffin@pdc.edu

Nursing Office, Room 136K  
Paul D. Camp Community College  
Box 737  
Franklin, Virginia 23851

Official transcripts are REQUIRED for admission to the College. Prospective students should request that official transcripts from high school, GED scores, as well as all colleges and adult education centers attended be sent to the Nursing Department, Attention: Carol Griffin, POB 737, Franklin, VA 23851.

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
The LPN Bridge Program

**Degree:** Associate in Applied Science in Nursing (ADN)

**Length of Program:** One year involving 3 Semesters: Summer, Fall, Spring

The concept of our LPN Bridge Program is articulation between the knowledge and skills that a Licensed Practical Nurse has acquired and the scope of practice of the Registered Nurse. It is intended to allow licensed practical nurses an opportunity for educational advancement. Upon completion of the program, graduates have met the educational requirements necessary to be eligible to take the national examination for registered nurse licensure, the NCLEX-RN.

The first two semesters will contain units in maternity and newborn, medical surgical nursing, psychiatric nursing as well as cardiac, renal, and emergency nursing. The last semester which will include parent/child nursing, advanced medical surgical nursing, as well as a Preceptorship and a course on the professional elements of nursing

**Steps for Applying to the PDCCC Nursing Program**

Note: Application to the Nursing Program requires *a separate and additional process* beyond being admitted to the College. The necessary nursing program application forms are included at the end of this packet.

1. Complete high school or get a GED [submit scores] (General Education Certificate). Must submit official copy of HS transcript and GED scores to be considered for admission.

2. Submit an application to Paul D. Camp Community College [PDCCC]

3. **Submit an application** along with 3 letters of recommendation and passing Kaplan Scores to the PDCCC RN Nursing Program:
   
   The Nursing Office, Room 136K  
   Paul D. Camp Community College  
   Box 737, 100 North College Drive  
   Franklin, Virginia 23851

4. Arrange for **ONE OFFICIAL COPY OF EACH** of the following to be sent to the Nursing Department,  
   Attention: Carol Griffin, POB 737, Franklin, VA 23851.
   
   1. High school transcript or GED certification scores  
   2. LPN School transcript and license  
   3. Transcripts from all colleges (other than Virginia Community College Schools {VCCS}) or adult education centers attended

5. College Placement Assessment Tests if you have not done so already. If it has been several years, repeat the tests to update your profile. If you have already taken through Math 05 (algebra), you do not have to take the math placement test. If you have already taken English 111 (English Composition) at PDCCC or another college, you do not need to take the Writing Test. All students must take the reading placement test regardless of documented college courses.

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
To schedule an appointment to take the placement tests, call the admissions office in Franklin (569-6707 or 6722), Suffolk (925-6312 or 6313), or Smithfield (925-6340) or go to any of the admissions offices. Take your copy of the placement test results to the nursing office to be placed in your files and for advising as necessary.

6. Consult one of the financial aid offices if you intend to apply for financial aid or scholarships. Call toll free # 1-855-877-3918 or email financialaid@pdc.edu

7. Arrange to meet with a nursing advisor (569-6731) to make a plan for the courses you will take each semester. **YOU MUST FIRST TAKE THE DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES RECOMMENDED BY PLACEMENT TEST SCORES.** You need to take math courses through Math 05, but not beyond.

8. Take pre-requisites courses that are not already on your high school or college transcript. You must have:
   1. General Chemistry – high school or Chemistry 01 or a higher level college chemistry with a C or better
   2. General Biology – high school or Bio 01 or Bio 100 or Bio 101 higher level college general biology with a C or better.
   3. Math 05 or math placement test scores that does not recommend taking through Math 05.
   4. Any other developmental courses recommended by the placement tests (writing and reading test results).

9. Maintain a cumulative and curricular GPA of 2.5 or better in the general education courses in the nursing curriculum (See page 4). If you have not taken courses in the nursing curriculum, the GPA from your most recent education experience will be used. The grades on nursing required general education courses taken at other institutions will be used in the calculation of your curricular GPA.

10. Arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent to the nursing office by people who have interacted with you in the past two years. At least one must be an academic teacher or guidance counselor or work supervisor. The letters are to be sent to the nursing office by **February 24, 2017.**

11. Submit all transcripts, recommendations, and application materials well in advance of **February 24, 2017.** Check by email (cgriffin@pdc.edu) or phone (757-569-6731) to be sure all paperwork has arrived.

12. Take the Kaplan Entrance Exam nursing preadmission test. The test is offered from September to February and scheduling is done through the Nursing Office: Carol Griffin (757-569-6731) or cgriffin@pdc.edu. Call for information on testing dates and times. There will be no cost for this exam. The minimum acceptable score on each of the four testing areas (math, reading, writing, and science) is 45th percentile. Students who score below the 45th percentile in any of the areas will not be eligible for admission. **You will need your photo id and PDCCC student id number to take this test. Students may test only once a semester and a total of two attempts.**

If you have all prerequisites, general education course except BIO 150 (Microbiology) and have taken all developmental courses recommended by placement testing, you have met the **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS** for the Nursing Program. Your application will be included in the next round of applications reviewed **IF all paperwork for the application process (including all placement testing,** Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
transcripts, recommendations, current LPN license, Kaplan Entrance Exam, and etc.) is received in the Nursing Office by **February 24, 2017** prior to the May in which you hope to begin the program.

**Admission Criteria**

Once all required paperwork is submitted to the Nursing Office and you have completed all pre-requisite classes, each student will be considered for admission using some or all the following methods:

a. Performance on the nursing preadmission test (Kaplan Entrance Exam).

b. Academic achievement as shown by cumulative and curricular GPA* or most recent GPA if no current curricular GPA has been established. Candidates, who have taken any general education courses required for the degree and receive a grade of “D” or less, **must repeat** the course and successfully pass with a **C or better** before being granted final admission to the program.

c. Grades of “C-” and below are **not** transferable into the nursing curriculum.

d. Evaluation of recommendations required by the application process.

e. Number of courses taken at PDCCC

Priority will be given to students who attend PDCCC and reside in its service area. Applicants from other parts of Virginia and applicants from other states will be considered only after service region students are considered.

**Enrollment Details**

Qualified applicants will be advised by letter from the Nursing Office of additional preadmission procedures inclusive of but not limited to:

a. Completion of the preadmission physical examination inclusive of laboratory testing and required immunizations.

b. Preadmission mandatory orientation session.

c. Ordering uniforms, name pins, and skills lab bag.

d. Proof of CPR certification as “Health Care Professional” through the American Heart Association (AHA).

e. Official State Police Criminal Records (Criminal History Request and Sex Offender Crimes against Minors) Background checks and drug testing are required by clinical facilities. An independent agency will conduct these checks and they must be completed prior to the start of nursing classes.

Once enrolled in nursing courses, students must comply with the rules and regulations as outlined in the College Catalog and Nursing Student Handbook. Students must minimally maintain:

a. **Current** CPR certification in “Health Care Professional” status through AHA.”

b. At least 2.5 curricular GPA

c. Satisfactory clinical performance

d. Satisfactory physical and mental health

e. Documentation of certain immunizations to include yearly Tb test or chest x-ray.

f. Professional demeanor and attendance (as measured by tests and instructors’ observations).

Attendance standards for both class and clinical experience must be met. Students must pass each curricular nursing course to proceed to the next. Students must pass tests on dosage calculations and clinical skills, and must demonstrate clinical competence in nursing courses with clinical components.

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
Any student who receives a final grade lower than “C” in any of the courses required for the nursing degree will not be permitted to continue in the nursing program until the grade is a “C” or better. In order to resume, students must write a letter to the Nursing Program Head to request re-admission.

**Students are responsible for additional fees charged for:**

a. Required standardized testing (Kaplan: $6000.00 payable directly to Kaplan and fees are subject to change)

b. Official State Police Criminal Records background checks (Criminal History Request and Sex Offender Crimes against Minors) and urine drug testing are student expenses (~$110.00 payable through Certified Backgrounds).

**Curricular GPA** is calculated by only using the information from courses in the nursing curriculum (not including ITE 115). Add up the number of hours of the classes you have taken. The number of hours of the class is the number stated in registration information (for example ENG 111 has 3 hours and BIO 141 has 4 hours). Add up the number of credits you have obtained from each of the curricular classes. Credits are determined by the grades you get on each course. For A - 4 credits per hour; for B - 3 credits per hour; for C - 2 credits per hour; for D - 1 credit per hour; for F - 0 credits per hour). For example, BIO 141 has 4 hours. If you get a B on BIO 141, you multiply the number of hours (4) by the credits per hour (3): 4 hours multiplied by 3 credits per hour equals 12 credits. Divide the total credits from all curricular classes by the total number of hours for all curricular classes.

Ex. ENG 111 with a C is 3 hours and 6 credits (3 x 2 for a C)
BIO 141 with a B is 4 hours and 12 credits (4 x 3 for a B)
PSY 201 with an A is 3 hours and 12 credits (3 x 4 for an A)

The curricular GPA with these classes would be 30 credits divided by 10 hours = 3.000

**NURSING CURRICULUM**

Program Requirements: To graduate, **students must complete all nursing courses and general education courses listed below. Note: This curriculum is subject to minor changes. Please consult the nursing office from time to time for updates.**

| GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (28 CREDITS)¹ – TAKEN PRIOR TO ENTRANCE INTO BRIDGE PROGRAM |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| BIO 141-142                                  | Human Anatomy and Physiology I-II | (8)                 |
| BIO 150 or 205                               | Introductory Microbiology       | (4)                 |
| ENG 111                                      | College Composition I           | (3)                 |
| HUM EEE/Recommend HR ENG 112                 | Humanities Elective* (ART, ENG, FRE, HUM, PHI 115, REL, SPA) | (3)                 |
| PSY 201/PSY 202                              | Introduction to Psychology      | (3)                 |
| PSY 230/PSY 235                              | Developmental Psychology        | (3)                 |
| CST 100                                      | Principles of Public Speaking   | (3)                 |
| SDV 100/SDV 102                              | Orientation (College Success Skills) | (1)                 |

**Program Requirements – taken only after entry into the BRIDGE Program.**

| NUR 115                                      | LPN-RN Bridge                 | (7)                 |
| NUR 111                                      | Advanced Placement Credit     | (8)                 |
| NUR 136 – 137                                 | Course Substitution Credit    | (2), (1)            |

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
NUR 170  Advanced Placement Credit     (4)
NUR 180  Advanced Placement Credit     (4)
NUR 201  Psychiatric Nursing           (4)
NUR 202  Medical Surgical Nursing I    (4)
NUR 212  Second Level Nursing II       (8)
NUR 246  Parent Child Nursing          (4)
NUR 254  Dimensions of Professional Nursing (2)

Minimum Credits Required: 57

* HUM EEE – “Humanities Elective” means a transferable course in Art, Drama, Literature, Humanities, Foreign Language, Music, or Philosophy. “Elective” means any course for which a student can receive credit at the school to which he/she intends to transfer. “Literature Elective” means one of these courses: ENG 241, 242, 243, 244, 251, or 252. Students intending to transfer to complete a BSN or higher degree should check with the potential transfer colleges for their specific requirements.

* General Education Courses - Students have to successfully complete these general education courses before entering nursing classes. The sciences (Bio 141, Bio 142, Bio 150) and Eng 111 are recommended to be taken before other general education classes. However, it is strongly recommended that you only take one science course per semester.

**SEQUENCE OF CLASSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Total Credit Hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 115</td>
<td>NUR 212</td>
<td>NUR 202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPN-RN Bridge</td>
<td>Second Level Nursing II</td>
<td>Medical Surgical Nursing I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 201</td>
<td>NUR 212</td>
<td>NUR 246</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric Nursing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Child Nursing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NUR 254</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dimensions of Professional Nursing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester Total: 7  8  4  11  8  2  10  29

**NOTE**: In addition, all students must meet computer competency requirements. The computer literacy course, ITE 115, Basic Computer Literacy, meets all of those requirements. Students may attempt to test out in the four competency areas: work processing, spreadsheet, database, and internet. The contact for competency testing: Ms. Antoinette Johnson, Franklin Campus Room 120H, 757-569-6772.

**Approximate Costs for Students in the Nursing Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Description</th>
<th>In State</th>
<th>Out-Of-State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$9,980.85</td>
<td>$23,408.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Examination (varies with practitioner)</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books (approximate)</td>
<td>Entire program $3000.00</td>
<td>first semester, $1500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms (uniform, white shoes, name pin, lab coat, polo, etc.)</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Pin (cost depends on price of gold or silver)</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Lab Kit</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Entire program $600.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

1. **Is this program affiliated with Tidewater Community College?** No, all students are PDCCC graduates.

2. **Can any student enroll in the nursing classes (classes listed in the schedule with the NUR prefix)?** No, each student is required to go through a separate application process to be admitted specifically to the Nursing Program before he/she can begin to take nursing classes. Only accepted students can register for NUR classes.

3. **What courses should I take in high school?** Focus on algebra, biology, and chemistry. You will need to make at least a C+ in these courses.

4. **What does your grade point average have to be to get into the program?** A curricular and cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 college grading scale.

5. **What do I need to do to be admitted to the program?** Carefully review and follow the steps described on the second and third pages of this packet.

6. **Are there any scholarships or other funds available to help me with school related expenses?** Yes, the college has state and federal financial aid programs as well as several scholarship programs. Some hospitals have scholarship programs and forgivable loans. You can discuss your needs with the college’s financial aid office. Consult one of the financial aid offices if you intend to apply for financial aid or scholarships. Call toll free # 1-855-877-3918 or email financialaid@pdc.edu

7. **Are there any tests that I need to take?** You will have to take the Kaplan Entrance Exam. We will take the TEAS V if not expired (two years).

8. **How long will it take me to get through the program?** If you have all the high school requirements and do not need any developmental courses based upon placement tests, and have had or tested out of computer competencies, it is possible to complete the program in 1 years or 3 continuous semesters. However, there is competition for the slots available and not all students get in on first attempt that would delay program completion by at least one year.

Students must successfully complete all prerequisites and developmental courses along with general education requirements prior to entering the Bridge Program.

---

**Testing fees (Kaplan: integrated throughout program) including Live-NCLEX-RN Review Exam**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Each semester</th>
<th>$200.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCLEX-RN Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>$350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Nursing Application</td>
<td></td>
<td>$350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for Licensure fee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPR Certification (2yr</td>
<td></td>
<td>$144.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>certification)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal History &amp; Sex</td>
<td></td>
<td>$110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offender Background &amp; Drug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening Checks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Approximate Totals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>State residents</th>
<th>$15,535.50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Out-Of-State</td>
<td>$28,962.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

subject to change.

FINANCIAL AID and SCHOLARSHIPS: Consult one of the financial aid offices if you intend to apply for financial aid or scholarships. Call toll free # 1-855-877-3918 or email financialaid@pdc.edu
and Bio 142), Microbiology (Bio 150) along with the following courses prior to entry in the first nursing course: ENG 111, STD 100, PSY 201, PSY 230, CST 100, and a humanities elective and ITE 115.

9. **What degree is awarded?** The college awards an Associate Degree in Applied Science in Nursing. Graduates are eligible to sit for the national licensing exam administered through the National Council License Examination to become Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN)

10. **How many of your graduates have passed the licensing test?** The Virginia Board of Nursing post the passage rates for all programs on their web site. If you go to http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing/nursing_edprogs.htm you will find the following:

| THE PASSAGE RATES FOR PDCCC NURSING PROGRAM FROM 2007-2011 |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year            | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| RN Program      | 73.53% | 91.6% | 88.8% | 80% | 86.7% |
| LPN-RN Program  | 100% | 81.8% | 66.6% | 90.9% | 87.5% |

11. **How many days a week and when will I be in school once I begin the nursing courses?** Students will attend minimally 4 days a week – lecture twice a week and skills laboratory or clinicals twice a week. Classes will be scheduled between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. On-campus Skills Labs will run between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Clinical in the hospital may run from 6:30 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. or from 2:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M. There are occasionally 12 hour clinical days (one day a week instead of 2).

12. **How long are the lectures?** Lectures will be 2 to 3 hours per session.

13. **Can I take some of my prerequisites while I am still in high school?** Yes, if you take biology and chemistry in high school and get a C or better, you will meet the minimum science prerequisites. If your grade in high school algebra is a “C” or better **AND** you score sufficiently high on the College math placement test (and do NOT score at or below a Math 05 requirement), you will meet the minimum math requirement prerequisite.

To become better prepared for the rigorous nursing curriculum, you can, if your high school offers these courses, take the following (listed in order of importance):
- Dual Enrollment Biology (BIO 101-102) or AP Biology
- Dual Enrollment English (ENG 111 – 112) or AP English
- Dual Enrollment Chemistry (CHM 111-112) or AP Chemistry

You will receive college credit from PDCCC (or other community colleges) for the dual enrollment classes. In most high schools the tuition for these classes is an expense of the student and his/her family.

Also be aware that high school students 16 and older may enroll in regular community college courses if they have a letter recommending such from their principal. Among the courses that could be considered in preparation for the RN program are any of the general education courses in the RN curriculum (see page 6) as well as ITE 115, Computer Literacy. That course, or a comparable course, is required for the nursing program.

Be aware that the semester calendars for community college courses are significantly different from high school calendars, and any student attempting to take regular college courses must adapt to the college calendar.

14. **Will I be able to work and go to school at the same time?** It can be done but it is not highly recommended.

Updated 2-27-12; rev 9-25-12 cmr; 6-10-14, 10-1-14 chg, 12-15-14 cra; 1/28/15 cra
15. How many credits are required for the program? 69 credits. See page 6 for the list of courses.

16. Will my credits help me and be transferable if and when I go for my BSN? Yes! The College has an articulation agreement with ODU and Western Governors University. In addition, many of our previous graduates have graduated from VCU and Chamberlain College of Nursing with their BSN.

17. If I have a GED, can I still be accepted into the nursing program? Yes. You will need to take the following mandatory high school courses before you enter the program if you have not completed them with a C or better: Algebra I and one other math, Chemistry, and Biology. If you do not have credit for those classes, you must take the equivalents in college.

18. Where will my clinicals take place? The hospitals most used will be Sentara Obici in Suffolk and Southampton Memorial Hospital in Franklin. For pediatric nursing and mental health/psychiatric nursing, clinicals will likely be in Portsmouth, Suffolk, Zuni, Newport News, and Norfolk.

19. If you miss a semester for some reason can you come back into the program? Yes, if you do not stay out for more than a year and you have not withdrawn from or failed a nursing course twice (2).

20. What happens if you fail a course? If you withdraw from or fail a course one time, you may request readmission and retake the course. If you withdraw from or fail the course twice, you will be unable to continue in the program or to be readmitted.

21. How much of my life do I have to give up while in nursing school? There are at least 20 hours of homework per week for nursing classes (NUR) alone. This does not include library time or driving time.

22. How much will I have to study? At least 20 hours per week for major nursing courses (NUR courses).

23. How many different teachers will I have? You will have a different teacher for almost all of the general education courses. In nursing you will have a minimum of 5 nursing lecture instructors and 4-6 clinical instructors over the course of the program.

24. Will my teachers be registered nurses (RNs)? Yes. The Virginia State Board of Nursing requires that all nursing educators have a master’s degree with a bachelor’s degree in nursing (BSN). Nursing clinical faculty must minimally have a BSN.

25. What extra money do we have to anticipate spending? Some expenses to consider are: gas, car repair, food, pens, paper and computer supplies, and babysitter to name a few.

26. How much does the program cost? An approximate cost subject to change is $15,535.50 for in-state, $28,962.90 for out-of-state. The first semester is the most expensive because of items listed in the next question. If you have to take the full 18 hours in the first semester, the total cost could be as high as $3,500 in-state depending on whether or not you have good medical insurance.

27. What costs are required? The purchase minimally of uniforms, nursing shoes, laboratory skills supplies, nursing textbooks, liability insurance, CPR, standardized exams (Kaplan), police background checks with urine drug screening, physical examination, and laboratory screening tests.

28. How many times may I take the RN preadmission exam? Two times maximum but only once per semester.
29. **What if I have had a lot of traffic tickets?** Minor traffic offences are not a problem. However if you have been convicted of other criminal offences you need to confidentially speak with the Nursing Program Head. Health care facilities require a criminal background check and urine drug screening and will not allow those with prior conviction to work in their facilities. However, this does not prevent you from attending the nursing program. Once you have completed the program the Virginia State Board of Nursing (also requires a separate background check) will review your case individually and decide if you will be allowed to obtain a license to practice nursing.

A copy of the “Barrier Crimes” which affect your ability to obtain a license and/or employment can be found on the Virginia Board of Nursing website: [https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing/.../90-55CriminalConvictions.doc](https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/nursing/.../90-55CriminalConvictions.doc)