

# Certificate Programs

## Practical Nursing

[Gainful Employment Disclosure for Practical Nursing Certificate](#)

**Purpose:** This 11-month program is designed to prepare selected students to qualify as contributing members of the health team, rendering direct patient care as beginning practitioners of practical nursing in a variety of health service facilities. Upon successful completion of the curriculum, students will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination leading to licensure as a practical nurse (LPN).

**Program Outcomes:** At the completion of this certificate program, the graduates will:

### *Integrated Processes*

- Utilize the following processes: clinical problem solving, caring, communication and documentation, and teaching/learning.

### *Client needs*

#### *Safe Effective Care Environment*

- Collaborate with the healthcare team to facilitate safe, effective care to clients.
- Contribute to protecting the client, family, and health care team from infection and other health or environmental hazards.

#### *Health Promotion and Maintenance*

- Apply knowledge of growth and development to individual client situations, promote optimal health, and participate in prevention and/or early detection of health problems.

#### *Psychosocial Integrity*

- Assist with care that supports the emotional and psychosocial well-being of clients and families during stressful events.

#### *Physiological Integrity*

- Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to provide comfort and assistance during activities of daily living.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to administer medications and monitor clients receiving parenteral therapies.
- Take action to reduce the likelihood that a client will develop a complication or health problem resulting from the current episode of care.
- Participate in providing care to clients with acute, chronic, or life-threatening physiological health problems.

*\*Above outcomes were adapted from the two part framework established by the NCSBN (National Council State Board of Nursing). This two part framework includes Client needs and Integrated Processes. This framework was established by the NCSBN to measure the knowledge, abilities, and skills needed by an entry level nurse in order to practice safely and effectively (NCSBN, 2006).*

**Program Approval:** The Nursing Program is approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Richmond, VA 23233-1463, (804) 367-4473.

**Nursing Performance Standards:** Students admitted to the Germanna Community College nursing program can be expected to complete course requirements that prepare students to perform essential job functions as a licensed practical nurse. Those functions or skills that are deemed essential to the profession must be performed with or without accommodations. Any student who thinks he/she does not possess one or more of these functions should contact the Special Needs Counselor in the Office of Student Development Services. Provisions for

accommodations will be made in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

**Occupational Objectives:** Through comprehensive educational experiences, students will emerge as motivated health care providers in their field and possess the potential for lifelong learning. Graduates of the program may, upon licensure, be eligible for employment in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, schools, physician's offices, and other community health settings.

**Admission Requirements:**

- Official high school transcripts validating completion of high school or official documentation of GED on file in the Office of Admissions and Records.
- Official college transcripts for all secondary and postsecondary courses attempted or completed, and a completed request for transcript analyses form must be on file in the Germanna Community College Office of Admissions and Records.
- Applicants must have completed the following courses or their equivalent with a minimum grade of "C" within 5 years of applying for admission; one unit of high school biology with lab, one unit of high school chemistry with lab, and one unit of high school algebra. Equivalents include college BIO 101, CHM 125, and MTE 1-4.
- Applicants must have completed a high school computer literacy skills course or ITE 115 with a minimum grade of "C" within the five years prior to applying to the nursing program. Students completing the high school course must show validation by also successfully passing the GCC Computer Competency Exam.
- Completion of placement tests with scores showing readiness for college-level reading, writing, and math courses. Applicants with previous college courses may be exempt from placement tests.
- Standardized pre-admission nursing tests are required. Scores on the preadmission nursing tests are expected to be at least at the 45th program percentile for admission to the nursing program. Preadmission nursing test scores are accepted for three years. Applicant is responsible for cost of preadmission nursing tests.
- A 2.5 cumulative average in academic work is required.
- Applicants must subscribe to an on-line criminal history report. The summary report results will be communicated to the Nursing Office by the report vendor. Applicants convicted of committing a felony/misdemeanor may not be offered admission. The Board of Nursing may deny any applicant licensure if the applicant has willfully committed a felony/misdemeanor under laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia or of the United States.
- Applicants are to submit the completed Nursing Program application to the Nursing Office by the established deadline. A completed application includes the application itself, a copy of their preadmission nursing test scores, the summary outcomes of the criminal history report, and a copy of all transcripts.
- Applicants must have a signed student/advisor worksheet on file in the Nursing Office prior to applying to the nursing program. Copies of the worksheet may be downloaded from [www.germanna.edu/nursing](http://www.germanna.edu/nursing).
- Requirements for admission into the nursing program are specific and admission is selective and competitive.
- If there are more qualified applicants than space available for offer of admission, applicants with the highest number of credits completed in the Allied Healthcare Preparation Career Study Certificate or equivalent courses will receive priority consideration for offers of admission.
- Residents of Germanna's service region (Caroline, Culpeper, King George, Madison, Orange, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and the City of Fredericksburg) will be offered priority consideration for offers of admission.
- Applicants with GPAs higher than 2.5 will receive priority consideration for offers of admission.
- Applicants who have completed NAS 150, Human Biology, or the anatomy, physiology, and microbiology courses in the Allied Health Care Preparation Career Study Certificate or equivalent courses will receive priority consideration for offers of admission.
- Applicants are expected to have earned "C" or better in all courses in the Allied Health Care Preparation Career Study Certificate or equivalent courses. Nursing students must earn at least "C" in the NUR major courses to remain in the program. The minimum passing grade is 80 (C) in the nursing program.

Applications for the practical nursing program are due by February 1 for summer admission on the GCC Locust Grove Campus and October 1 for January admission at the Eastern View High School location. Applicants' transcripts and nursing pre-admission test scores will be evaluated and ranked according to the priorities listed above.

**The number of qualified applicants offered admission to the nursing program is contingent upon the number of quality faculty and space availability in the classrooms, nursing laboratories, and clinical sites needed to meet the program's learning outcomes.**

An applicant seeking readmission into the nursing program after having left the practical nursing major courses for either academic or personal reasons may apply for readmission at either the February 1, or October 1 dates dependent upon which of the semesters the readmission applicant left the program. If an applicant has been out of the program more than one (1) year, the applicant must demonstrate current proficiencies by testing. The applicant may have to repeat courses. A readmission applicant who has been admitted to the nursing program a total of two times and fails to complete the program following the second offer of admission **will not** be readmitted to the program unless extenuating circumstances can be demonstrated by the applicant and which are deemed valid by the Nursing Program Admission Committee. The offer of admission to a qualified readmission applicant will be contingent upon space available in the classrooms and nursing laboratories, the program's access to sufficient clinical spaces, and the number of qualified nursing faculty. Readmitted nursing students may be required to register for a course where they are expected to demonstrate nursing skill currency and proficiency following the offer of readmission.

A transferring nursing student applicant must be currently enrolled in an approved practical nursing program or equivalent whose graduates are candidates for licensure. A transferring nursing student must have already successfully completed laboratory and clinical nursing major course(s) and meet the GCC requirements for admission to the nursing program. Transferring nursing students must present copies of the completed practical nurse major courses' unit outlines to the Dean of Nursing or designee prior to applying for transfer. Decisions on admission offers to transferring applicants will be determined by the Nursing Program Admissions Committee pending official transcript analysis, review of completed nursing course outlines, and space and faculty availability. A transferring nursing student must demonstrate expected course proficiencies by testing. The transferring applicant may have to repeat courses.

A transferring nursing student must present a letter of recommendation from the administrator of the program from which the student wishes to transfer. Application deadlines for transferring applicants are July 1 and November 1 dependent upon when the course into which the applicant is seeking transfer is offered.

The offer of admission to a qualified transferring applicant will be contingent upon space available in the classrooms, nursing laboratories, and the program's access to sufficient clinical spaces; as well as the number of qualified nursing faculty.

Transferring nursing students are required to register for a course where they are expected to demonstrate nursing skills currency and proficiency following the offers of admission.

Since the nursing program has many applicants and the number of admissions is contingent upon available faculty, classroom, and clinical spaces the expected time it will take a student to earn the degree may exceed one year. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available qualified faculty and the amount of enrollment space available in the program, some applicants may not be accepted even if the minimum requirements for admission are met.

**Program Information:**

Prospective applicants without previous college courses completed should contact the Counseling Office to begin taking pre-nursing courses. Prospective applicants who have completed at least ten college credits should contact the nursing office to begin taking pre-nursing courses.

A current working knowledge of the principles of biology, math, chemistry, and computer literacy is expected. Math, science, and computer literacy prerequisite courses should have been successfully completed within the previous five years. Deficiencies may be corrected through appropriate courses at Germanna prior to admission to the program.

Students will be totally responsible for transportation to and from the College and health agencies utilized for clinical experiences.

Information on scholarships and financial assistance is available in the Financial Aid Office.

Prior to the onset of the first clinical nursing course, the nursing student must provide documentation of:

- Certification of American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation for health care professionals.
- Tetanus Vaccine
- Rubella/mumps/rubella/varicella vaccines or titer/Seasonal flu vaccine
- Hepatitis B vaccines or waiver.
- PPD or Chest X-ray.
- Current professional liability insurance as nursing student
- Urine drug screen
- Other mandatory clinical facility requirements including professional responsibilities and patient confidentiality.
- Personal Health insurance.
- Physical and Dental Examinations- Students must submit a Physical exam and Dental exam.

When a student progresses from one semester of nursing major courses into another semester of nursing major courses, the student is accountable for providing documentation of completed Hep B series vaccination, current CPR certification, liability insurance, health insurance and PPD skin test result.

A transferring or readmitted nursing student must provide current copies of all credentials. In addition, a transferring or readmitted student must complete a new drug screen.

**PRACTICAL NURSING CURRICULUM:**

<b>Program Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
Student Development	SDV 100 or any SDV equivalent <sup>1</sup>	1
English	ENG 111	3
Social Sciences	PSY 230	3
Natural Sciences.	NAS 150	3
Major Requirements.	PNE 130, 145, 161, 158, 162, and 164	32
<b>Total Minimum Credits</b>		<b>42</b>

Applicants are advised to complete the general education courses, especially NAS 150 Human Biology, prior to entering the first nursing major course.

**SUGGESTED SCHEDULING:****Summer**

PNE 161                      6

SDV 100 <sup>1</sup>	1
NAS 150	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>10</b>

**Fall**

PNE 162	11
PNE 130	3
PSY 230	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>17</b>

**Spring**

PNE 164	10
PNE 145	1
PNE 158	1
ENG 111	3
Total Credits	15