

LPN to RN ASSOCIATE IN NURSING



MISSION

To produce innovative Associate Degree nurses who provide safe quality care to diverse populations, invest in continued professional learning to maintain excellence, and inspire others in the profession of nursing. The nursing program will accomplish this through evidenced based nursing education in an environment that promotes caring, diversity, ethics, excellence, holism, integrity and patient centered care.

ACCREDITATION

This program is approved by the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, Georgia 30326.

CONTACTS

Healthcare Advisors

253.566.6091
advising@tacomacc.edu

Nursing Admissions

253.566.5218
nursing@tacomacc.edu

Dean of Nursing

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Each individual, upon entering the practice of nursing, assumes a measure of responsibility and public trust and the corresponding obligation to adhere to the standards of nursing practice.

TCC'S LPN to RN program prepares the student for a career as a Registered Nurse. Upon satisfactory completion of the curriculum, the student is awarded an Associate in Nursing – Direct Transfer Agreement/Major Related Program (DTA/MRP) degree and is eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for Registered Nursing.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING STUDENTS

The nursing profession is a highly respected field. The reasons for this are many, but largely because patients put their lives in our hands. Nurses must be worthy of that trust. The nursing program has the responsibility to assure the public that its students and graduates are competent in all of these areas.

The law relating to nursing care states in WAC 246-840-700, "Each individual, upon entering the practice of nursing, assumes a measure of responsibility and public trust and the corresponding obligation to adhere to the standards of nursing practice. The nurse shall be responsible and accountable for the quality of nursing care given to clients. This responsibility cannot be avoided by accepting the orders or directions of another person." Nursing students and graduates are held to this law.

The TCC Nursing Program curriculum is intended to lead to a student's eligibility for licensure as a registered nurse. The curriculum requires students to engage in diverse, complex, and specific experiences essential to the acquisition and practice of essential nursing skills and functions. These abilities are essential as they constitute core components of nursing practice. There is a high probability that negative consequences will result for patients/clients under the care of nurses who fail to demonstrate these abilities. A program preparing students for the practice of nursing must attend to these essential functional abilities in the education and evaluation of its students.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

This statement of Technical Standards identifies the functional abilities the TCC nursing faculty deem to be essential to the practice of nursing. The Technical Standards are reflected in the Nursing Program Learning Outcomes, which are the basis for teaching and evaluating all nursing students. The TCC Nursing Program's Mission and Program Learning Outcomes are available for reference at tacomacc.edu/academics-programs/programs/nursing/dta-mrp/mission-values

Students with disabilities who have questions about or may require reasonable accommodations in meeting the Technical Standards of the Nursing Program should contact TCC's Access Services Office to discuss the process of identifying reasonable accommodations. Students should seek reasonable accommodation advising as soon as possible so that a plan for reasonable accommodation can be in place at the beginning of the program. The phone number for the Access Services Office is 253-460-4437. The email address is access@tacomacc.edu. The list of essential requirements can be found at tacomacc.edu/academics-programs/programs/nursing/dta-mrp/essential-requirements.

NURSING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) who wish to become Registered Nurses may apply for advanced standing in the program. LPNs are admitted into the full time program once a year in winter quarter. The first quarter is level three of a six level program.

The nursing courses in the LPN to RN Bridge program are taught in a four-quarter sequence over a one-year period.

WINTER	LEVEL 3
SPRING	LEVEL 4
SUMMER	LEVEL 5
FALL	LEVEL 6

It is recommended that students work less than 20 hours per week.

Application Deadline

- Winter Quarter (LPN full-time)
Accepting applications
July 1 - October 1

Cost

Figures are estimates for the four-quarter LPN to RN Bridge program only and are subject to change. Nursing program courses are consistently fully enrolled, do not have “space available” and cannot allow for tuition waivers per RCW 28B.15.558. Any request for tuition waiver in this program will be denied.

TUITION & FEES

- \$5,272 — Resident Tuition
- \$6 per credit, \$80 max — Technology fees per quarter

ADDITIONAL COURSE FEES

- \$900

TESTING & LICENSING FEES

- \$350- Testing fees
- \$92—Washington State licensing fee
- \$200- NCLEX exam

MISCELLANEOUS:

- \$1,205 (Books, VSim, CoursePoint, Prep U, DocuCare)
- Immunizations - varies with insurance
- \$200-\$800 — eReader or tablet
- \$100 — Background checks
- Drug screening (clinical requirement)
- Misc. student uniform & equipment - varies
- Graduation - minimal to \$250 of optional items

Tacoma Community College values diversity and is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator. Tacoma Community College provides equal opportunity in education and employment and recognizes its responsibility for investigation, resolution, implementation of corrective measures, and monitoring the educational environment and workplace to stop, remediate, and prevent discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, perceived or actual physical or mental disability, pregnancy, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, creed, religion, veteran or military status, or use of a trained guide dog or service animal. To this end, Tacoma Community College has enacted policies prohibiting discrimination against and harassment of members of these protected classes. Any individual found to be in violation of these policies will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the college or from employment. Prohibited sex discrimination includes sexual harassment (unwelcome sexual conduct of various types). Tacoma Community College provides reasonable accommodations for qualified students, employees, and applicants with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Federal Rehabilitation Act. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Stephen Smith, Title II and Title IX, Building 14, 253-566-5055; Kathryn Held, Section 504 Officer, Building 7, kheld@tacomacc.edu.

NURSING PROGRAM **ADMISSION PROCESS**

BEFORE APPLYING to the Program

- Nursing Information Sessions** are held on a regular basis and last approximately 1½ hours. Applicants will be given information on the nursing profession and the nursing program application procedures. Check the website for dates and times: tacomacc.edu/academics-programs/programs/nursing/
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- APPLY TO TCC.**
Apply online or in person (Bldg. 8). tacomacc.edu/costs-admission/admission-process/
NOTE: It takes 24-48 hours for the system to generate your student ID number and access to the student portals.
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- TCC student ID number and email**
Check your email for a welcome message from TCC.
You'll receive an assigned TCC student ID number for the ctcLink and myTCC portals.
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- Healthcare Pathway Advisor**
Make an appointment and meet with your advisor. Be sure to bring your Placement test scores or unofficial transcripts. Call 253.566.6091 or email advising@tacomacc.edu.
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- COMPLETE ALL PREREQUISITES.**
All prerequisite coursework (see page 4) must be complete, and all official transcripts (see page 5) must be sent to TCC before the application deadline. There will be no exceptions to this. Do not apply to the program until you have completed all prerequisite courses.
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- Cumulative college-level GPA of 2.5 or higher**
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- Submit official transcripts from other institutions by the published application deadline.**
Official transcripts must be sent to Enrollment Services before the application deadline (see page 5).
Do not send transcripts directly to the nursing program.

Coursework completed at other colleges must be evaluated by TCC Enrollment Services office. After applying to TCC, applicants should submit official transcripts from the originating college to TCC. If you attended another Washington State Technical or Community College, you must still apply to TCC and submit official transcripts to us from those schools.
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- APPLY TO THE NURSING PROGRAM**
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NURSING PROGRAM **ADMISSION PROCESS**

PREREQUISITES TO COMPLETE Before Applying

Before applying to the Associate of Nursing DTA/MRP program, students must complete thirteen prerequisites.

PREREQUISITES that require a grade of 'B' (3.0) or higher	
PSYC& 200 (5)	Lifespan Psychology
CHEM& 121 (5)	Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry
OR CHEM 161 (5)	General Chemistry
BIOL& 241 (5)	Human Anatomy and Physiology I
BIOL& 242 (5)	Human Anatomy and Physiology II
BIOL& 260 (5)	General Microbiology

ENGLISH PREREQUISITES	Must take two of the four English classes listed below achieving at least a 'B' in one course and at least a 'C' in one course.
ENGL& 101 (5)	English Composition I
and ENGL& 102 (5)	Composition II
OR ENGL& 103 (5)	Composition III
OR ENGL& 235 (5)	Technical Writing

PREREQUISITES that require a grade of 'C' (2.0) or higher	
BIOL& 160 (5)	General Cell Biology <i>NOTE: If you are a Tacoma Community College student and have taken a higher level Biology class, you can contact Ken Cushman to arrange taking a challenge exam for BIOL&160 credit.</i>
OR BIOL& 211	Majors Cellular
OR BIOL& 222 (5)	Introduction to Cellular & Molecular Biology
PSYC& 100 (5)	General Psychology
CMST& 101 (5)	Introduction to Communication
OR CMST& 210 (5)	Interpersonal Communication
OR CMST& 220 (5)	Public Speaking
OR CMST 110 (5)	Multicultural Communication
OR CMST 320 (5)	Professional and Organizational Communication
NUTR 250 (3)	Nutrition in Healthcare I
OR NUTR& 101	Human Nutrition
MATH& 146 (5)	Introduction to Statistics
HUMANITIES (5)	any 5 credits from the Approved Distribution List

The college awards credit to students who have tested in AP courses coming out of high school. Test scores received by students will be used to calculate a grade point value as follows:

Numerical Grade	AP Testing Score
4.0	5
3.0	4

NURSING PROGRAM **ADMISSION PROCESS**

Criteria for Admissions*

Students will be evaluated and scored by the following criteria:

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION	POINTS POSSIBLE
Completion of prerequisites that require a 3.0 (B) grade or higher	required
Completion of prerequisites that require a 2.0 (C) grade or higher	required
Combined GPA (Grade Point Average) of 3.5 for BIOL& 241, BIOL& 242, and BIOL& 260	2
Documented Veteran/Current Military (must have honorable discharge)	2
Documented low income or low socioeconomic (SES) household	2
Documented Recent Healthcare Experience	2
Students who have earned TCC college level credits (courses 100 or above): 15-29 credits would receive 1 point. 30 or more credits would receive 2 points	1-2
Documented Community Service, or paid work, with underrepresented populations	1
Caregiver for a Family Member	1
Bilingual/Multilingual	1
1st Generation college student	1
A maximum of one point will be added to an applicant's score if they have submitted a complete application to the new holistic admission process in the last year. Applicants would be eligible for this point starting in the Winter 2025 traditional application cycle.	1

* See Document & Submission Requirements, pages 5-6

Document & Submission Requirements

1. Base Requirements

- Documented Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
Upload documentation from the Department of Health ([Provider Credential Search](#))
- Upload official transcripts from all colleges/ universities attended.
- When you are sending official transcripts to Tacoma Community College, send them to:
 ----- Enrollment Services, Bldg. 7,
 ----- in person,
 ----- by email: credeval@tacomacc.edu.
 Transcripts must be submitted before the application deadline.

2. Combined GPA for BIOL& 241, BIOL& 242, and BIOL& 260

This will be calculated during transcript review. No documentation is required.

3. Documented Veteran/Current Military

Must be active-duty military or a veteran with an honorable discharge.

If you are active duty, you will need to upload your current orders in the nursing application. If you are a veteran, a DD214 will need to be uploaded to the nursing application. Personal information can be redacted.

4. Documented Low Income

An agency award letter or other documentation must be uploaded to the nursing application showing that you or one of your dependents are receiving any of the following benefits: Reduced or free school lunch, Unemployment, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Basic Food & Employment Training (BFET), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), State Food Assistance Program (FAP), Social Security Income (SSI), Pell Grant, Washington Opportunity Grant, Childcare Subsidy Program, or Medicaid.

NURSING PROGRAM **ADMISSION PROCESS**

Document & Submission Requirements (continued)

5. TCC College Level Credits

This will be calculated during transcript review.
No documentation is required.

6. Documented Community Service or paid work with underrepresented populations

Upload an official agency letter (on letterhead) confirming 100 volunteer hours within the last year.

The program follows the federal governments' designation of underrepresented. The term "underrepresented population" means a population or subgroup that is typically underrepresented in the US population. This may include allocation of goods, social services, healthcare, etc. The subgroup may be identified by race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender, socioeconomic status, persons with limited English proficiency, or persons from rural areas, people with disabilities, people from disadvantaged backgrounds, and underrepresented racial and ethnic groups such as blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

7. Caregiver for a Family Member

Upload an official state agency letter (on letterhead) confirming that you are currently a paid caregiver or were a paid caregiver for a family member within the last 5 years. If you are the legal guardian of a child who requires in-home medical care and you are not paid for this, please upload documentation regarding medical care needed and a letter explaining the healthcare you provide.

8. Bilingual/Multilingual

Bilingualism refers to the ability to speak and understand two languages, while multilingualism encompasses the use of more than two languages by an individual or a community of speakers. To meet this requirement, the applicant must be able to communicate with a patient in at least two languages.

This will be a question that you will answer in the nursing application. No documentation is required.

9. First-Generation College Student

A first-generation college student refers to students whose parents did not complete a 4-year college or university degree.

This will be a question that you will answer in the nursing application

10. Prior Applicant

This point is given to applicants that have previously applied to the nursing program in the new holistic admission process. This will be implemented in the Winter '25 application cycle.

This will be a question that you will answer in the nursing application. No documentation is required.

NURSING PROGRAM INFORMATION

Next Steps

NEW STUDENT NURSING ORIENTATION

If you are selected and accept a position in the nursing program, you will be **required to attend a mandatory orientation**. Specific information regarding this orientation will be sent to your TCC email with your acceptance into the program.

TRANSPORTATION & CHILD CARE

It is the student's responsibility to arrange for dependable transportation to and from the school and clinical sites and have reliable child/dependent care available as needed

CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

The protection of vulnerable populations is paramount in nursing. Students should be aware they will need to meet all minimum requirements of clinical agencies including background checks and health clearance procedures.

BACKGROUND CHECK

Certain conviction history will exclude persons from health care employment. This could also exclude a student from certain clinical sites. Please check the criteria at the following link:

dshs.wa.gov/ffa/disqualifying-list-crimes-and-negative-actions

If you have any charges on the list, please make an appointment with Dr. Jill Edwards, Dean of Nursing, to discuss how this could affect you. Her email address is jedwards@tacomacc.edu.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Several online health and safety courses
- CPR card – Only the American Heart Association "Healthcare Provider" or "Basic Life Support (BLS) for Professional Rescuer" will be accepted. Online courses are not acceptable.
- Health Insurance – Proof of coverage with coverage period. If the name on the card does not match yours (the student) proof of coverage from the provider is required.
- Vehicle Insurance – Proof of coverage.
- Drug Screening – Various healthcare facilities will require drug screening prior to student's clinical assignments. These results are strictly confidential between student and facility. The screening is not required by TCC.

PROOF OF IMMUNIZATIONS

- **Hepatitis B Series** - Proof of immunity by vaccination (3 doses) and positive titer.

If titer is negative you should talk to your doctor about getting a booster or repeating the series (30-60 days after completion you will repeat the titer).

If negative a second time, you are considered a non-responder. Student will be allowed in clinical during repeat series by uploading a Hep B waiver.

- **Influenza** – Proof of immunity by vaccination OR signed waiver. Waiver option can only be used for an egg allergy. You will need to follow additional clinical requirements (i.e. masking, etc.) if you are not vaccinated. This vaccination must be current (based upon current flu season requirements).
- **MMR** (Measles (rubeolla), Mumps, Rubella) – Proof of immunity by vaccination (2 doses) or titer.
- **PPD (TB)** – Proof that you don't have TB by Negative Quantiferon test or 2-step PPD.

You complete a 2-step PPD as follows: If the first PPD is negative then you will need to obtain a second PPD within 1-3 weeks. Yearly annuals are required after your 2-step PPD.

If you have a history of positive TB results through BCG or past infection, you must provide proof of negative TB by chest x-ray and submit negative symptom check every 12 months. If you have no proof of a positive TB test, you will need to retest by PPD or provide a current negative Quantiferon test.

- **Tetanus/Pertussis (Tdap)** – If immunized after 06/10/07. Vaccination must be within 10 years. Will not accept Td.
- **Varicella (Chicken Pox)** - Proof of immunity by vaccination (two doses) or titer.
- **COVID-19** – Proof of two COVID-19 vaccines. Booster vaccines are not required at this time, but this is subject to change. You can submit exemption requests for medical or religious reasons, but clinical sites may not accept them.

LPN to RN PROGRAM SCHEDULE

	COURSE NO.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
LEVEL 3 <hr/> 15 CREDITSV	NURS 103	Health and Illness Concepts III	3
	NURS 124	Clinical Simulation III	2
	NURS 155	Pharmacology III	1
	NURS 193	Clinical III	3
	PHIL 201	Ethics and Policy in Health Care I	3
	SOCS 204	Psychosocial Issues in Health Care I	3
LEVEL 4 <hr/> 12 CREDITS	NURS 201	Health and Illness Concepts IV	4
	NURS 226	Clinical Simulation IV	2
	NURS 256	Pharmacology IV	1
	NURS 294	Clinical IV	3
	PHIL 202	Ethics and Policy in Health Care II	2
LEVEL 5 <hr/> 12 CREDITS	NURS 202	Health and Illness Concepts V	4
	NURS 227	Clinical Simulation V	2
	NURS 257	Pharmacology V	1
	NURS 295	Clinical V	3
	SOCS 205	Psychosocial Issues in Health Care II	2
LEVEL 6 <hr/> 12 CREDITS	NURS 228	Clinical Simulation VI	1
	NURS 244	Preparation for RN Licensure Exam	1
	NURS 287	Professional Concepts VI	2
	NURS 296	Transition to Practice: Clinical	6
	NUTR 251	Nutrition in Health Care II	2

NATIONAL LICENSING EXAM

Eligibility to take the National Licensing Exam for Registered Nurses

Registered Nurses are licensed by the State of Washington. In order to be eligible to take the licensing exam, students must graduate from a state-accredited nursing school. Applicants must file their intent to take the exam 60 days prior to the expected date, with a form supplied by the Associate Dean for Nursing. The exam fees must be paid at the same time. Graduating students must answer the following questions, which are excerpted from the Nursing Practice Law:

1. Do you have a medical condition, which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? If yes, please explain.
“Medical condition” includes physiological conditions or disorders such as, but not limited to, orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental retardation, emotional or mental illness, learning disabilities, HIV disease, tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.
 - 1a. If you answered “yes” to question 1, please explain whether and how the limitations or impairments caused by your medical condition are reduced or eliminated because you received ongoing treatment (with or without medications).
 - 1b. If you answered “yes” to question 1, please explain whether and how the limitations and impairments caused by your medical condition are reduced or eliminated because of your field of practice, the setting, or the manner in which you have chosen to practice.
If you answered “yes” to question 1, the licensing authority (Board/ Commission or Department as appropriate) will make an individualized assessment of the nature, the severity, and the duration of the risks associated with an ongoing medical condition, the treatment ongoing, and the factors in “1b” so as to determine whether an unrestricted license should be issued, whether conditions should be imposed or whether you are not eligible for licensure.
 2. Do you currently use chemical substance(s) in any way, which impair or limit your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety?
If yes, please explain.
“Currently” means recently enough so that the use of drugs may have an ongoing impact on one’s functioning as a licensee, and includes at least the past two years.
“Chemical substances” includes alcohol, drugs, or medications, including those taken pursuant to a valid prescription for legitimate medical purposes and in accordance with the prescriber’s direction, as well as those used illegally.
 3. Have you ever been diagnosed as having or have you ever been treated for pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism or frotteurism?
 4. Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances?
“Currently” means recently enough so that the use of drugs may have an ongoing impact on one’s functioning as a licensee, and includes at least the past two years.
“Illegal use of controlled substances” means the use of controlled substances obtained illegally (e.g., heroin, cocaine), as well as the use of legally controlled substances, not taken in accordance with the directions of a licensed healthcare practitioner.
 5. Have you ever been convicted, entered a plea of guilty, nolo contendere or a plea similar effect, or had prosecution or sentence deferred or suspended, in connection with:
 - a. The use or distribution of controlled substances or legend drugs?
 - b. A charge of a sex offense?
 - c. Any other crime, other than minor traffic infractions (including driving under the influence and reckless driving)?
 6. Have you ever been found in any civil, administrative, or criminal proceeding to have:
 - a. Possessed, used, prescribed for use, or distributed controlled substances for legend drugs in any way other than for legitimate or therapeutic purposes, diverted controlled substances or legend drugs, violated any drug law or prescribed controlled substances for yourself?
 - b. Committed any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption?
 - c. Violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a healthcare profession?
 7. Have you ever been found in any proceeding to have violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a healthcare profession? If “yes,” explain and provide copies of all judgments, decisions, and agreements.
 8. Have you ever had any license, certificate, registration, or other privilege to practice a healthcare profession denied, revoked, suspended or restricted by a state, federal or foreign authority, or have you ever surrendered such credential to avoid or in connection with action by such authority?
 9. Have you ever been named in any civil suit or suffered any civil judgment for incompetence, negligence, or malpractice in connection with the practice of a healthcare profession?
- Students who answer “yes” to any of the questions, should make early application to the Washington State Nursing Commission. The Commission acts on each case individually at the time of application for licensure. Provide an explanation and copies of all judgments, decisions, orders, agreements, and surrenders.
- A dishonest answer to any of the questions is grounds for revocation of a license in and of itself.