

NURSING (R.N.)
Nursing (R.N.) Associate in Science Degree Major Code 2127
LPN-RN Transition Major Code 21271

Program Description

The Associate in Science Degree Nursing Program is designed to prepare the individual student for a career as a professional nurse. The program's mission is to prepare competent, compassionate, and culturally sensitive entry-level nursing graduates whose professional practice encompasses legal and ethical decision-making in the promotion of health in the community. The practice of professional nursing requires the performance of those acts, which require substantial specialized knowledge, critical judgment, critical thinking, and nursing skill, based upon applied scientific principles. The graduate nurse practices holistic nursing incorporating biophysical, psychosocial, spiritual, cultural, and wellness concepts.

The Nursing Program is approved by the Florida Board of Nursing, accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission Inc. (NLNAC), and holds membership in both the Associate Degree Council of the National League for Nursing and the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (N-OADN). The Florida Board of Nursing mailing address is 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3257. www.doh.state.fl.us. NLNAC is located at 3343 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia, 30326. www.nlnac.org.

The student who has met all educational and institutional requirements for an Associate in Science Degree in Nursing from Broward College is eligible to have his/her name submitted to the Florida Board of Nursing to be considered as a candidate for the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). The Florida Board of Nursing is the state agency authorized to determine if the applicant qualifies to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a Registered Nurse in Florida. For licensure requirements, refer to sections 464.008 and 464.009, Florida Statutes (F. S.), Rules 64B9-3.002 and 3.008, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)

The Florida Board of Nursing, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Nurse Practice Act, will determine if a nursing program graduate is eligible for licensure when there is an arrest/conviction record. **All individuals with a criminal or discipline history should read Chapter 464, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapter 64B9, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) as they pertain to the practice of nursing. The Board of Nursing encourages all individuals with a criminal or discipline history to fully understand these requirements. For more information refer to the Florida Board of Nursing web site www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing or call 850-488-0595 or email MQA_Nursing@doh.state.fl.us.**

General Program Information

The Nursing Program offers two **full time** program options for the Associate in Science Degree in Nursing: The Generic Option and the LPN-RN Transition Option. Both program options are offered in the traditional classroom setting and the online/internet setting. The Generic Option is for those student applicants who have no previous nursing education. The LPN-RN Transition Option is for those students who already hold a current Florida Practical Nursing License without restrictions. The LPN-RN Transition program recognizes the Florida Licensed Practical Nurses' knowledge and skill level, and provides them the opportunity to receive experiential learning credits for Nursing Process I/II (Fundamentals of Nursing) and the specialty lab nursing courses.

The Generic Option and LPN-RN Transition Option are both offered in the traditional classroom setting or via the Internet (Online Option). The Online Option offers the nursing program theory as a Flexible Learning course designed for students who prefer a blend of online and on campus learning. The online program objectives and program completion requirements are identical to the traditional nursing program.

Online nursing courses are equivalent to courses taken in the standard contact hour format. The cost of tuition is the same as for those courses offered in the traditional classroom setting. However, students enrolled in online nursing courses may be assessed special fees.

Online nursing is a Hybrid method of delivery for courses and requires on campus meetings for orientations, labs, instruction, and proctored exams. Required meeting dates are listed in the course schedule and in course syllabi. Students enrolled in the online nursing courses must be able to attend clinical experiences in Broward County and come to campus for exams and lab activities.

The nursing program combines studies in general education and nursing education at the college with selected clinical experiences in hospitals and other community facilities. Nursing courses require students to spend a combined 20 to 36 hours per week in the classroom and clinical settings. The program consists of 72 credits. The ratio of clock hours to credit hours in the clinical courses is 3.5 to 1. There are 56 hours of clinical practicum for each credit and 16 hours of theory for each credit. Generic students attend 1008 hours of clinical. LPN-RN Transition students attend 728 hours of clinical. Clinical hours are a combination of nursing experiences in acute care and extended care facilities and nursing campus lab setting. All clinical hours are mandatory and it is expected that students will have made arrangements to meet the total required hours. All nursing students must have internet access and the capability to perform basic computer skills such as word processing, sending and receiving emails, and file management.

Criminal Background and Drug Screenings

Clinical affiliating agency sites require students to be fingerprinted, pass drug screening and background checks, and clear the HHS/OIG list of excluded individuals and the GSA list of parties excluded from federal programs. Compliance with this requirement and satisfactory findings are essential for clinical placement and progression. Students who fail to submit to a background check or students whose background checks indicate a conviction as specified in Florida Statutes Title XXXI, Chapter 435.04; Level 2 Screening Standards may not be eligible for admission and/or may be dismissed from the nursing program for would not be eligible

for clinical agency placement and/or not eligible to take NCLEX-RN for licensure. A history of past arrest and conviction may prohibit students from being licensed in Florida. Students should contact the Florida Board of Nursing to determine their eligibility for licensure based on the criminal background prior to submitting an application to the nursing program.

Broward College Nursing Program acknowledges the problem of substance abuse in our society and perceives this problem as a serious threat to employees, students, and patients. It is the intent of the College to establish and maintain a drug-free educational setting and work place. The College policies related to substance abuse can be found in the current Broward College Student Handbook.

Incoming students for the Nursing Program shall be drug screened through arrangements made by the school and the screening agency. Students are responsible for the cost of all screenings. A student needs to be aware that they may be denied participation and placement at a clinical agency based on the background or drug screening findings and the clinical agency's pre-employment screening policy. Withdrawal from the program will be necessary if a student cannot be placed in a clinical agency to meet program practicum requirements.

A negative drug screen will be required in order to enroll in any nursing course. Additionally drug screening and background checks will be required; at the time of admission or readmission into the Nursing Program with annual updates. Students may be drug tested at any time while in the program. Evidence of substance abuse will result in immediate administrative dismissal from the program. Nursing students must notify the Associate Dean of the Nursing Program if they are taking prescription drugs that have the potential to affect performance in the clinical area. If a nursing student is dismissed from the nursing program for substance abuse, this action may be reported, if appropriate, to the Intervention Project for Nurses of the Florida Board of Nursing and/or another appropriate assisting agency.

ALL NURSING STUDENTS WHO ARE ADMITTED OR RE-ADMITTED TO THE NURSING PROGRAM SHALL ADHERE TO ALL CURRENT DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES.

Criteria for Admission to the Nursing Program

Prior to submitting an application to Health Science Admissions for the Nursing Program the student must:

- Successfully complete the Evolve-Reach A2-RN Admission Assessment Test Powered by Health Education Systems Inc. (HESI) beginning with those students seeking admission to August 2010 class (AY 2010-2011). Information specific to the A2 Entrance Assessment exam is located on the Nursing Program Admission Information webpage.
- Complete all nursing pre-requisite courses with a "C" or better and a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5. (The pre-requisites courses are listed below).
- Students applying for the LPN-RN Transition Option must hold a current Florida LPN License without restrictions.
- In addition, application and admission criteria are posted on the Broward College Website (www.broward.edu).

Eligibility for admission into the nursing program will be dependent upon the following:

- Successful Completion of the Evolve-Reach A2-RN Admission Assessment Test by HESI. Applicants as of August 2010 (2010-2011 AY) and all future applicants will require successful completion of the **HESI A2 Entrance Exam** to be eligible to submit an application for admission consideration to the nursing program. Information specific to the A2 Entrance Assessment exam is located on the Nursing Program Admission Information webpage.
- Ability to meet the Performance Standards for the Nursing Program. In order to insure the safety of both the student and the patient(s) under their care, students must be able to meet Performance Standards to enter and remain in the program. A copy of the Performance Standards for the Nursing Program is posted on the web with-in the Health Science Admissions Medical History –Physical Exam Form.
- The successful completion of the HCP 0130 (Health Care Career Course) 75.0 Contact Hours. Students may be eligible for a waiver of the HCP 0130 course if they have a current Florida or national license in another direct patient-care, health care profession. Therefore contact Health Science Admissions for more information.
- Satisfactory Criminal Background Check, HHS/OIG clearance and Drug Screening.
- GPA 2.0 in degree and overall course work.

The following must be submitted to the Nursing Department on the campus where the student registers and will be attending nursing courses. The due dates for the forms/certificates will be given in the mandatory, general orientation meeting that will be discussed in the acceptance letter provided to students:

- Completion of a Medical History and Physical Examination prior to the start of the first nursing course. Admission into the Nursing Program is provisionally based upon acceptance of the approved health evaluation record. This health evaluation record must be submitted no later than the specified campus due dates.
- BLS-Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers HSC0405 (CAE 0299). The CPR curriculum must be approved by the American Heart Association and/or American Red Cross; 3-8 Contact Hours; HSC0691 (CAE 0474) Domestic Violence 2.0 Contact Hours; HSC0591 (CAE 0382) HIV/AIDS 4.0 Contact Hours; HSC0522 (CAE 0476) (OSHA/TB/Hepatitis) 6.0 Contact Hours; CAE 0528 Prevention of Medical Errors 2.0 Contact Hours. All Certificates are to have Florida Board of Nursing (FBN) approval shown by FBN number.

Graduation Requirements for the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (RN):

- Completion of 72 semester credit hours curriculum plan listed below with a degree GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Complete all courses with a grade of “C” or higher.
- Refer to AS Degree Requirements outlined in the college catalog (BC Webpage)

The following Nursing prerequisite courses must be completed prior to submitting a Nursing Application with a minimum 2.5 grade point average (GPA) in the following 14 credit hours of prerequisite courses:

* ENC1101 English Composition I	3
* CHM 1032 Chemistry for Health Science	3
* BSC1085 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	3
* BSC 1085L Human Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1
* BSC 1086 Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3
* BSC 1086L Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1
Total Semester Credit Hours	14

*HCP0130 Health Career Core (75.0 Contact Hours): This course is not calculated in the grade point average but must be completed prior to submitting an application to the Nursing Program. (Students may be eligible for a waiver if they have a current Florida or national license in another direct patient-care, health care profession).

Additional General Education Courses Required

*MCB 2010 Microbiology	3
*MCB 2010L Microbiology Lab	1
*HSC 1149 Pharmacology	2
*MTB 1370 Math for Health Related Professions	1
Elective Humanities/Fine Arts (& writing requirement)	3
Elective Social/Behavior Science	3
Total Semester Credit Hours	13

GENERIC (RN) OPTION

*NUR 1020 Nursing Process I	3
*NUR 1020L Nursing Process Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1210 Nursing Process II	3
*NUR 1210L Nursing Process II Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1220 Health Alterations I	3
*NUR 1220L Health Alterations I Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1421 Health Care of Women	3
*NUR 1421L Health Care of Women Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1520 Nursing Care of the Psychiatric Patient	3
*NUR 1520L Nursing Care of the Psychiatric Patient Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1310 Pediatric Nursing	3
*NUR 1310L Pediatric Nursing Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 2221 Health Alterations II	3
*NUR 2221L Health Alterations II Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 2222 Health Alterations III	3
*NUR 2222L Health Alterations III Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 2811 Trends, Practices and Roles	3
*NUR 2811L Trends, Practices and Roles Clinical Lab	2
Total Semester NUR Credit Hours	45
Total Program Semester Credit Hours	72

LPN/RN TRANSITION OPTION**

*NUR 2020 Transition Nursing I	2
*NUR 2020L Transition Nursing Clinic Lab	2
*NUR 1220 Health Alterations I	3
*NUR 1220L Health Alterations I Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 1421 Health Care of Women	3
*NUR 1400L Health Care of Women Clinical Lab	1
*NUR 1520 Nursing Care of the Psychiatric Patient	3
*NUR 1500L Nursing Care of the Psychiatric Patient Clinical Lab	1
*NUR 1310 Pediatric Nursing	3
*NUR 1731L Pediatric Nursing Clinical Lab	1
*NUR 2221 Health Alterations II	3
*NUR 2221L Health Alterations II Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 2222 Health Alterations III	3
*NUR 2222L Health Alterations III Clinical Lab	2
*NUR 2801 Transition Nursing IV	3
*NUR 2801L Transition Nursing IV Lab	2
Total Semester NUR Credit Hours	36
Total Program Semester Credit Hours	72

*Requires a pre- or co-requisite. Refer to the course descriptions found online at www.broward.edu.

**LPN-RN Transition students will be eligible for up to 13 Nursing Course Credits for experiential learning. The experiential learning credits are awarded upon successful completion of Nursing Courses.

It is strongly recommended that students see an academic advisor or counselor every term.

Articulation Agreements

There is a statewide articulation between all state supported Associate in Science Degree in Nursing programs and Bachelors in Science in Nursing degree programs.

NOTE: Students majoring in Nursing at the college will meet the oral communication and computer literacy general education requirement by successfully completing all required Nursing (NUR) courses.