

Practical Nursing Admission Criteria

This is a selective and competitive admission program. Admission to the college doesn't guarantee admission to the clinical component of the program. You will be admitted as a pre-practical nursing student and work with your advisor to apply to the clinical/core component of the program.

Minimum Criteria to Apply: See the point system

Advising: Students must meet with a practical nursing advisor

For appointments:

Gettysburg - (717) 337-3855 x 3001

Harrisburg - (717) 780-1124

Lancaster - (717) 358-2988

Lebanon - Debra Schneider (717) 270-4222

York – Kate Chronister (717) 718-0328 x 3513

Application: Application is completed on-line August 1 - August 31, 2012 (Program offered in Harrisburg, Lancaster and Gettysburg.) Clinical start is Spring semester.

Application Deadline: August 31, 2012

Class Selection Date: Mid to late October

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO STARTING THE CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM (after acceptance)

Additional information and required forms will be provided to you upon acceptance into clinicals. Failure to provide all the necessary documentation before the established deadline could lead to denial of admission into the clinical program. The following must be completed (at your own expense) after you have been selected for, but prior to starting the clinical portion of the program:

Physical Examination and Required Immunizations

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must submit a health examination form completed by a physician/nurse practitioner/physician's assistant with immunization history including verification through blood work. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Background Checks

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance. Students with criminal backgrounds interested in admission into the clinical portion of any health career program at HACC must follow the Prohibitive Offense Procedure for Health Career Programs, effective for admission into the clinical portion of any health career program after May 1, 2011.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a drug and alcohol screen annually at the laboratory specified by the program on or before the stated deadline. This lab is used to protect the integrity of the results being reported. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Current Certification in Adult, Infant and Child Healthcare Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) (American Heart Association recommended)

Any candidate not meeting these criteria will be denied admission into the program.

**HACC
Practical Nursing Program
Point System - Spring 2013**

Students will be considered for admission into the practical nursing program who have:

- Documented high school diploma or GED or equivalent foreign education as verified by a HACC-approved credential evaluation service
- 2.5 overall GPA
- Documented proficiency, C or better, in English through the 051 level
- Documented proficiency, C or better, in Math through the 020 level
- Met with a nursing advisor or health career counselor, reviewed and signed the Nursing Essential Qualifications and signature page (retain a copy for your records)

All practical nursing program applicants will be ranked on the following criteria:

Points	Criterion
27	BIOL 111 or 121 with C or better
1 to 3	* Grade in BIOL 111/121 A = 3, B = 2, C = 1
<i>*Note: All transferred courses are equivalent to a "C" grade at HACC</i>	
1	BIOL 100 or 221 with "C" or better
3 to 4	ENGL 101 with C or better Completed at HACC = 4 Transferred in = 3
3 to 4	PSYC 101 with C or better Completed at HACC = 4 Transferred in = 3
3 to 4	SOCI 201 with C or better Completed at HACC = 4 Transferred in = 3
2.5 to 4.0	GPA at time of selection (Minimum GPA of 2.5)
1	Associate degree or higher completed at a regionally accredited school
2	Alternate status previous year (new application must be submitted to be considered)
-1 (per occurrence)	*Minus one for each W, D or F in BIOL 111/121 and BIOL 100/221 (within the last 7 years)
Total Score (50 Max)	

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- Any student who has only transfer credits for review will be considered a transfer student. A minimum of a 2.5 GPA from the transfer institution is required. (Note: Removal of transfer credits may affect financial aid status.)
- For all transfer students (see above) a 2.0 will be assigned in the calculation of this admission criteria.

In the admissions process, AP credit awarded for English 101, Psychology 101, and Sociology 201 will be treated as HACC courses.

The accepted time limit for science courses (HACC or transfer) for use in health career program requirements is 7 years.

Revised 10/1/10
Approved LMM, JLB 6/21/06

HACC does not discriminate in employment, student admissions, and student services on the basis of race, color, religion, age, political affiliation or belief, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, place of birth, General Education Development Certification (GED), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other legally protected classification.

Nursing Essential Qualifications

Any candidate *not* meeting these criteria will be denied admission into or continued enrollment in the nursing programs.



Legal Qualifications

Legal Qualifications for Nursing Programs – Students entering nursing programs will be required to **undergo a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check, and State Police Criminal Record Check**. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance

Legal Limitation on Qualification for Licensure - The Professional Nursing Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania states that the Board of Nursing may refuse to license a person who has been found guilty or pleaded guilty to felony charges. The application for licensure asks, "Have you been convicted * of a misdemeanor, felony; felonious act; an illegal act associated with alcohol, an illegal act associated with substance abuse(s)?"

*Convicted includes judgment; admission of guilt; pleas of nolo contendere; probation without verdict; incomplete ARD (this refers to both RN and LPN licensure applications)

Applicants should be aware of these limitations **prior** to entering the nursing programs. Practice of deceit in the application procedure is cause for dismissal from the program.

Essential Qualifications

All individuals, including persons with disabilities, who apply for admission to the nursing or practical nursing program must be able to perform specific essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation.

The following outlines the abilities and behavioral characteristics necessary for the student to be admitted to, continue in, and graduate from, the nursing programs at HACC. These are standards of admission.

The applicant should carefully review the essential qualifications for the program and ask questions if not familiar with the activities or functions listed. The applicant must decide if he or she has any limitations that may restrict or interfere with satisfactory performance of any of the requirements. It is ultimately the applicant's responsibility to meet these essential qualifications if accepted into the program.

The applicant should consult with the program director or the director of clinical education to discuss any individual situation if he or she may not be able to meet these essential qualifications. Requests for reasonable accommodation will be considered. Contact the nursing program director if you have any questions about this matter.

I. Behavioral / Social skills

Performing under Stress

Ability to perform under stress when confronted with emergency, critical, unusual, or dangerous situations. Maintain emotional stability to function effectively in situations in which working speed and sustained attention are critical aspects of the job while experiencing the stresses of task-related uncertainty and a distracting environment.

Interpersonal

Demonstrate the ability to relate to others verbally to exchange information clearly and concisely to present ideas, facts and technical information.

Behavioral/Social

Demonstrate the ability to maintain general good health and self-care.

Psychological/Emotional Stability (Compassion, Concern, Respect, Flexibility, Adaptability)

Possess the emotional health required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities, exercise good judgment, adapt to changing environments.

II. Communication and Ethical Standards

Communication – verbal, nonverbal, reading, and writing

1. Able to communicate in English orally and in legible writing with clients and members of the health-care team using correct grammar, punctuation and spelling.
 - a. Able to quickly, accurately, and independently follow verbal and written instructions.
 - b. Actively participate in group discussions.
2. Verbal communication must be clear and easily understood.
3. Able to accurately read and comprehend written material in English
4. Able to quickly and accurately clarify information and reconcile conflicting information.
5. Able to accurately convey and interpret nonverbal communication.
6. Able to use communication equipment – telephone, computer, translation device.

Ethical

Ethical Standards: Demonstrate professional demeanor and behavior (refer to Health Career Code of Ethics). Able to practice the profession with honesty, integrity, and accountability, promoting the right of privacy for all.

III. Intellectual, Cognitive, and Critical Thinking Skills

Cognitive (Problem Solving)

The position requires strong concentration skills. The individual must have the ability to voluntarily sustain concentration to a task over an extended period of time as a result of an effortless and usually deliberate heightened and focused state of attention

Critical Thinking

Demonstrate critical thinking and ethical decision making ability under stressful conditions, and to apply quick reaction time in an emergency situation. Requires ability to apply principles of logical thinking to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions. Problem solve – able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, integrate and apply information.

Organizational Skills

Demonstrate the ability to handle multi-tasks simultaneously and to operate in a logical, sequential, and orderly manner.

Intellectual Skills

Possess these intellectual skills: comprehension, measurement, mathematical calculation, reasoning, integration, analysis, comparison, self-expression, and criticism. Be able to exercise sufficient judgment to recognize and correct performance. Demonstrate the ability to read, write, speak and understand English at a level consistent with successful course completion and with the development of positive patient-student relationships.

Commitment to Learning

Demonstrate a positive attitude toward decision-making policies and program operating rules and procedures, as applied, as well as learn new concepts and abilities within the program's operational policies and methods.

Knowledge

Demonstrate the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data. This requires that the student can interpret, problem solve, and demonstrate critical thinking, self-evaluation, and life-long learning. Comprehension of three-dimensional and spatial relationships is necessary. Consistent, accurate and quick integration of information is required especially in an emergency situation.

Numerical Ability/ Math Skills

Requires the ability to determine time and weight, and to perform practical applications of fractions, percentages, ratio and proportion as well as basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division operations.

IV. Physical Abilities and Motor Skills

Hearing

Able to hear and understand patients and staff; interpret messages not solely based on visual cues. Communicate in English and interact with patients, staff and families from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

- Assess and monitor patient sounds.
- Follow verbal instructions; This includes when the person giving directions is not facing the student or is wearing a surgical mask.
- The ability to distinguish between a variety of sounds including but not limited to phones, voices and beepers.
- Use a stethoscope to hear heart and breath sounds.
- Hear a variety of equipment alarms and cardiac monitors sounds.

Visual

Able to efficiently function in various degrees of light, from dark to bright lighting. Differentiate colors, varying shades of same color, and shades of black, white and gray. Monitor and assess patient and equipment function to provide safe and effective care.

- Visually assess and describe patient's skin color and wounds.
- Read written instruction/orders in English
- Read fine print, and less than legible hand writing.
- Observe demonstrations and patients close up and at a distance.
- Use depth perception
- Use peripheral vision
- Visual acuity and intellectual ability to discriminate between a variety of alarms and acquire information from documents such as charts, radiographs, computer images and other modes of delivery.
- Chart (write) procedures and observations legibly in a permanent medical record in English.

Smell

Smell-Able to detect and distinguish odors from clients and environment.

Tactile

Ability sufficient for physical assessment.

- Distinguish textures, degrees of firmness, temperature differences, pulse rate, vibrations and strength.
- Apply massage strokes and assess client's muscle tonicity and changes in physiological status.
- Manipulate small objects and syringes
- Feel anatomical landmarks and veins.

Mobility

Mobile and strong enough to safely support and move patients. Able to work remaining in a standing position and/or prolonged sitting for 60-90 minutes at a time and/or at least 80% of a shift. Able to move quickly from place to place to perform patient care in various settings and in emergency situations.

- Able to move freely and safely about assigned work area
- Transfer and mobilize mobile and non-mobile patients
- Exert up to 20-50 pounds of force
- Maneuver around the assigned work area and patient care settings and sustain professional activities for up to 8 hours
- Reach equipment and parts of the patient's body
- Reach above shoulder level to manipulate equipment
- Reach below waist level to manipulate equipment.
- Bend, stoop, and squat
- Unrestricted movement of upper and lower extremities, back, hips, and knees
- Perform CPR

Motor skills, fine and gross

Perform multiple motor tasks simultaneously. Fine and gross skills sufficient to handle equipment and provide safe and effective patient care; steady arm and hand movements while manipulating objects or assisting patients. Able to lift a minimum of 50 pounds.

- Lift, assist, move, and transfer patients of all ages and sizes safely
- Operate and manipulate equipment accurately to include, but no limited to turn knobs, press small buttons, write with a pen, operate a keyboard or small tools
- Perform multiple tasks at a time
- Push/pull hospital beds and hospital equipment
- Manipulate a syringe and needle to prepare and administer medications
- Prepare, manipulate, and use blood collection devices
- Manipulate, guide, place, and count large and small objects such as surgical tools and medications (small and large pills)
- Separate sheets of paper, turn pages of a book, and file papers and folders in alphabetical order
- Squeeze fingers
- Perform airway management and CPR
- Have good hand/eye/foot coordination
- Able to utilize both hands in a steady manner simultaneously

Nursing Essential Qualifications

Review of qualifications for nursing programs

As an applicant to this program or student in this program, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the essential qualifications as described on the Health Careers website (www.hacc.edu/healthcareers).

I acknowledge that I am capable of performing the abilities and skills outlined in this document with or without reasonable accommodation and understand that my status as a student in this program depends on my continued ability to successfully demonstrate these abilities and skills. **I understand that if I am no longer able to meet these essential qualifications I will immediately notify the program director.** _____ (Initial)

I have read and understand the program admission criteria as posted on the HACC Health Careers website. _____ (Initial)

I have read and understand the Legal Qualifications for Nursing Program and Licensure. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a drug and alcohol screen annually at the laboratory specified by the program on or before the stated deadline. This lab is used to protect the integrity of the results being reported. The test is at the cost of the student. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check, and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance. _____ (Initial)

I understand that students accepted into the clinical component of the program may perform procedures which may expose them to bloodborne and airborne pathogens, ionizing radiation and potentially hazardous materials. _____ (Initial)

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must have the following immunizations: Hepatitis B, MMR, DPT, Varicella, and an annual TB screen. _____ (Initial)

Applicant Signature

Date

Print Name

HACCid

HACC does not discriminate in employment, student admissions, and student services on the basis of race, color, religion, age, political affiliation or belief, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, place of birth, General Education Development Certification (GED), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other legally protected classification.