What is the Nursing Program?

HCC's Nursing Program is a Maryland State Board of Nursing approved program designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and understanding necessary to function effectively in all areas of professional nursing. Graduates of the nursing program are eligible to apply to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Individuals who excel in this program have excellent critical thinking skills, great attention to detail, and display both compassion and confidence in their work.

How is the curriculum designed?

The LPN to RN transition course sequence prepares the qualified LPN to enter the HCC Registered Nursing Program with advanced standing. The curriculum is divided into several broad areas of study and consists of lecture, laboratory, and clinical experiences. Emphasis is on the use of the nursing process to meet the needs of individuals, family members, and the community. Courses in general education provide students with the scientific and social background to function as effective health care providers.

What is the employment outlook for this career?

Overall job opportunities for registered nurses are expected to be excellent. Employment of registered nurses is projected to grow 12 percent from 2018 to 2028. Hundreds of thousands of job openings will result from the need to replace experienced nurses who leave the occupation or retire (source: *www.bls.gov/ooh*).

What do registered nurses earn?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median wage for a registered nurse is $71,730 per year. The lowest 10 percent earned less than $50,800, and the highest 10 percent earned more than $106,530.

Why should I choose HCC?

Nursing is a profession that is open to men and women with various career interests. HCC's Registered Nursing Program is accredited with the Maryland State Board of Nursing and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

HCC prepares nurses to meet the challenges of today's health care industry and lay the foundation to rise to future challenges as new knowledge and technologies occur. Successful completion of the HCC Nursing Program enables the graduate to apply for the NCLEX-RN for licensure as a Registered Professional Nurse (RN). You must have a social security or tax ID number to sit for this exam.

This program of study is designated as a Health Manpower Shortage Program; therefore, some residents of Maryland enrolled in this program of study on the first day of the term may be eligible for in-county tuition rates for courses required for program completion.

Pre-Admission Requirement

Students must complete the nationally normed test for nursing students known as the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). The TEAS is a scholastic aptitude assessment in the areas of math, reading, English, and science. Students will not be considered for admission to the program until they achieve the required scores on the TEAS. Applicants should consult the HCC website at *www.hagerstowncc.edu/teas* for specific information about the TEAS, including score requirements. This requirement should be completed prior to submission of the *Supplemental Application*, but no later than the application deadline.

Admission Requirements

Admission to HCC does not guarantee admission to the Division of Nursing. The requirements below must be completed and submitted to the Office of Admissions, Records and Registration by the application deadline (January 15 for summer entry).

- Submit a completed program application known as the *Supplemental Application for the LPN to RN Transition Program*

- Official transcripts from all colleges attended (students who took classes at HCC do not need to submit official HCC transcripts)

- Completion of any previously earned, required science credits within seven years prior to program admission

- All general education courses completed or in progress at the time of application

- A minimum cumulative grade point average for all college coursework of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and a minimum grade point average of 2.5 for all program courses is required

- A grade of "C" or higher is required for all general education requirements

- Foreign educated students must have their college and high school transcripts evaluated by World Education Services (WES)

- Must have an active LPN license

- Verification from an employer of at least six months full-time employment as an LPN or an equivalent number of hours within the past five years

- Submit TEAS scores to the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Management

- Satisfactory letter of recommendation from most recent nurse manager.

Program Requirements

Students practice selected procedures on each other in the college laboratory. All nursing students must receive:

1. A minimum overall grade of 75 percent in each nursing course.
2. A minimum exam grade average of 75 percent in each nursing course.
3. A minimum grade of 75 percent on 50 percent or more of the total exams for the course during the second year of the program (NUR-126, NUR-228, and NUR-231).
4. A minimum grade of 90 percent on a drug calculation exam each nursing course.
5. A mark of satisfactory for both the simulation laboratory and clinical experiences. Students who receive a final mark of unsatisfactory in the clinical laboratory or clinical experience, or fail the drug calculation exam, despite a passing theory grade, will not be permitted to progress in the nursing program and will receive a final grade of "F" for the course.
6. Upon completion of nursing coursework, students must achieve an adjusted individual score of 71 percent or higher on the ATI Comprehensive Predictor Exam. Students who do not achieve this score will be allowed to retake the exam after appropriate remediation until they achieve the required score.

Students who do not meet program or course standards that result in termination from the Nursing Program by the director of Nursing are not eligible for readmission. This includes students who cannot meet safety standards, and students who violate the college's Honor Code and Standards of Conduct, the nursing program's Standards of Conduct, and the American Nurses' Association Code of Ethics for Nurses.

Are there any disqualifying crimes for this major?

There is no specific list of disqualifying crimes for this profession. However, any felony conviction or drug-related or violent misdemeanor makes it exceedingly difficult to work in this field. Criminal history of any kind will likely result in a delayed licensing process and extra paperwork. Students with a criminal history who do choose to pursue a career in this field will be best-served by a solid work history (post-conviction) and several professional and character references.

Additional Information

Additional information on program requirements including selection criteria, final acceptance, criminal background checks, drug screening, readmission to the Nursing Program, and transferring from another college or nursing program can be found at *www.hagerstowncc.edu/nursing.*

A.S. Degree

LPN to RN Transition Program

This program is for licensed practical nurses (LPN) who wish to complete a registered nursing program with an associate of science degree. The nursing program is a Maryland State Board of Nursing and ACEN approved program designed to provide students with the knowledge, skill, and understanding necessary to function effectively in all areas of professional nursing. Graduates of the nursing program are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

General Education Requirements   33 credits

Arts/Humanities
Select one Arts/Humanities course from approved General Education course list................ 3

Behavioral/Social Sciences
PSY 101   General Psychology........................... 3
PSY 204   Developmental Psychology: Lifespan Human Development......... 3
SOC 101   Introduction to Sociology................. 3

Biological/Physical Science
BIO 203   Human Anatomy and Physiology I ... 4
BIO 204   Human Anatomy and Physiology II .. 4
BIO 205   Microbiology 4

English
ENG 101   English Composition 3
(ELL 101 is an approved substitution for ENG 101)
*A minimum grade of "C" or better is required for ENG 101 and ELL 101
ENG 102   Composition and Literature............. 3

Mathematics
Select from approved General Education course list   3

Nursing Course Sequence

Program Requirements   37 credits

First Year – Semester 1
NUR 195   LPN/Paramedic/Military Medic/ Corpsman to RN Transition.............. 8
Upon successful completion of NUR 195, students will be granted 17 additional credits based on prior learning and skills from previous work experience. (There will be a fee charged to have credits awarded.)

First Year – Semester 2
NUR 126   Nursing Care of Women & Children.4
NUR 224   Pharmacology for Nursing Practice.. 2

First Year – Semester 3
NUR 228   Contemporary Trends in Nursing and Leadership... 2
NUR 231   Nursing Care of the Acute and Chronically ill Adult III...................... 4

Degree Requirement................................70

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Recommended Professional Resources

American Nurses Association (ANA):
www.nursingworld.org

Accreditation Commission for
Education in Nursing (ACEN):
www.acenursing.org

Registered Nurse RN:
www.registerednursern.com

National Council of
State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN):
www.ncsbn.org

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