

HEALTH CAREERS ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

How do I sign up for the nursing program?

Selection for the West Hills College Lemoore (WHCL) Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program is calculated using a merit-based point system that is available on our website at <http://www.westhillscollge.com/lemoore/academics/health/index.asp>. Points are assigned by the Health Careers Counseling Department based upon grades, with the point category of the four prerequisite courses (Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, and English) being weighted the most heavily.

When can I turn my application packet in?

The application period for each of our three offered ADN Programs are typically:

- Traditional ADN Program
 - November - Early February
- Licensed Vocation Nurse (LVN)-ADN Bridge Program
 - October - Early February

Specific application dates and deadlines will be updated periodically on our website at <http://www.westhillscollge.com/lemoore/academics/health/index.asp>. There are no bonus points available for turning your application packet in early! By the same token, please do not wait until the last day to submit your packet. If, due to unforeseen circumstances, you are not able to submit a complete packet, your application will be denied.

Where do I turn my application packet in?

It is preferred that you submit your application in person to our West Hills College Lemoore Health Careers Office – Room 823. If you choose to send it via mail then it is strongly recommended that you send your application packet by CERTIFIED MAIL to the address below before the deadline date/time:

***West Hills College Lemoore
Health Careers Office
555 College Ave.
Lemoore, CA 93245***

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What are my odds of being selected?

HEALTH CAREERS

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

That will depend on the number and qualifications of each applicant pool:

- Traditional ADN Program: 24 slots available - Begins once a year in August.
- LVN-ADN Bridge Program: 12 slots available - Begins once a year in June.

Thus, the 24 Traditional ADN students, the 12 LVN-ADN Bridge students with the highest number of points are the students who are selected for each class.

We also select several alternates each year. If an alternate is prepared to begin the program, but is not called upon by the second week of the first term, he/she is guaranteed a slot for the following year. It is important for selected alternates to update any contact information with the Lemoore Health Careers Office so we may contact you for your next start date. Also, please inform us if at any time during your alternate status, you are no longer interested.

LVN-ADN Bridge Students - Please note: We received a grant to serve an additional number of LVN-ADN Bridge students who will begin in May. If you believe you qualify for this program, please check the Lemoore Health Careers website at <http://www.westhillscollge.com/lemoore/academics/health/index.asp> for additional application information such as application dates, etc.

How long is the program?

- Traditional ADN Program
 - 2 Years; Four semesters, with the summer off between semesters two and three.
- LVN-ADN Bridge Program
 - 1 Year; Three semesters - Beginning in June and ending the following May.

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Which courses do I need to take to be eligible to apply?

Required courses are listed on our website. There are four prerequisite courses (Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology and English) and seven GE courses, (Chemistry, Intermediate Algebra, Psychology, Sociology, Humanities, Speech/Communication and Nutrition).

I'm not sure which prerequisite and General Education (GE) classes I should register for first, or the order I should take them in.



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Our science and nursing faculty have developed a “recommended sequence of courses” for WHC students which lists the order of science courses that they believe will help you be most successful. In addition, we encourage all students to complete a Student Educational Plan (SEP) once they have completed 12 units at WHCL. You may contact a Health Careers Counselors to make a reservation to attend a Ed Plan Workshop:

Counselor	Phone	email
Rupinder Rai	(559)925-3908	rupinderrai@whccd.edu
Marta Hendrickson	(559)925-3280	martahendrickson@whccd.edu
Janet Young	(559) 925-3216	janetyoung@whccd.edu
Mandy Hubanks	(559) 925-3654	mandyhubanks@whccd.edu

What if I’ve attended another school for my Prerequisites and GE courses and the course names and numbers don’t match up?

Course numbering will likely be different, but in general, the course titles are usually comparable. If you’ve attended a community college in our local area, a matrix listing comparable courses is listed on our website. If you’ve attended a school that is not listed, you may contact Health Careers Counselors.

I have Anatomy and Physiology combined together in the same course. Will that count?

No, you must have at least four semester units of Anatomy and at least four semester units of Physiology. **IF** you have taken two separate A&P courses totaling 8 semester units (e.g., A&P I and A&P II) then they will suffice.

I have a three semester unit Anatomy course and a five semester unit Physiology course, so the combination of the two courses is eight units. Is this okay?

Please contact Health Careers Counselors.

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The school I attended was on the quarter system. How do I convert my quarter units to semester units to make sure my Biology courses equal four semester units?

HEALTH CAREERS

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

Take your quarter units and divide by 1.5 for the equivalent semester units. For example, a 5 quarter unit Anatomy course will equal 3.33 semester units. Thus, your Biology courses must be at least six quarter units to be converted to the minimum of four semester units required.

I have my application packet ready to turn in but I'm waiting to receive my transcripts in the mail. Why can't I turn it in now and the transcripts after they arrive?

Tracking hundreds of applications, transcripts, supporting documents, and ensuring they are properly included in each applicant file takes more time than we have clerical support to provide. If you do not yet have all items needed to complete your packet, DO NOT submit it until it is complete. **All incomplete application packets will be denied.**

How are bonus points determined for prior healthcare experience?

We use the point system published on our website and require documentation of your experience. **Letters from employers must be on official letter head. PLEASE NOTE: Your letter(s) is/are not a recommendation about why you would be an excellent candidate for our program! Rather, it documents your job duties, length of employment, and title.**

How is my cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) calculated?

Using official transcripts from all schools attended, we add your grade points earned divided by your units attempted.

What if I've attended a school outside of the US?

All students who have attended an institution of higher education must submit an official foreign credentials evaluation. A list of official, accredited educational document agencies is available at the Student Services counter in the Lemoore Administration Office, Bldg. 100.

I'd like to earn an Associate Degree before I apply to the program. Which major is the best for me?

The Health Science-General major is closely aligned with the Pre-nursing courses at WHCL. GE requirements for an Associate Degree, plus elective units, to equal 60 total units will make you eligible to petition to graduate with an Associate Degree in Health Science-General.

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What is the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)?



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The TEAS is an objective, "multiple-choice assessment of basic academic knowledge in Reading, Math, Science, English, and language usage. The objectives assessed on the TEAS are those which Nurse Educators deemed most appropriate and relevant to measure entry level skills and abilities of Nursing Program applicants." For additional information, please see the ATI website at <https://www.atitesting.com/Solutions/PreNursingSchool/TEAS.aspx>.

Which version of the TEAS will WHCL accept? The current version used is version V, and the minimum passing rate is 62%. Test results must be within the past six months of the application ending date to be considered current.

When do I take the TEAS?

If you have been notified that you have been preliminarily selected for any program, arrangements will be made for you to take the TEAS free of charge. This will be coordinated through the Health Careers office.

What if I've already taken and passed the TEAS?

If you have already taken the TEAS, you may contact ATI to have your scores sent to WHCL directly. Test results must be within the past six months to be considered current.

Are there additional testing requirements for entrance into the ADN Program for PT-ADNs?

The PT-ADN applicants are required to complete a five skills competency test and score a minimum of 67% on the ATI TEAS Nursing Fundamentals and Pharmacology exam.

How much does it cost to attend the WHCL Nursing Program?

Approximate cost for tuition, uniform, books and other requirements is just under \$7,000.00 total.

Are there any scholarships available for nursing students?

Please consider submitting an application for a WHCCD Foundation Scholarship during their annual application period. Applications and additional information is available at: <http://www.westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/scholarships/index.asp>.

The Health Professions Education Foundation offers scholarships and loan repayment programs at www.healthprofessions.ca.gov or 800-773-1669.

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Will I be able to work while attending the WHCL Nursing Program?



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Yes, some students are able to manage a part-time job while attending the program. If you plan to work while enrolled, please note that it is recommended that you work no more than 16 hours/week.

What is the typical class schedule for a first semester student?

First semester students attend lecture classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8AM-3PM; clinical hours vary. (Lecture/clinical days/times subject to change).