

SCHOOL OF REGISTERED NURSING
Uvalde Campus

Purpose

This program is designed to admit practicing licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) and provide: dynamic, interactive classroom information; simulation experiences to enhance clinical capabilities; simulation scenarios to test clinical expertise; and supervised clinical experiences to complete associate degree nursing requirements necessary to become a registered nurse (RN). This transition program is designed to prepare graduates to practice in a complex and ever-changing health care environment. Preparation for practice will be evidence-based theoretical knowledge followed by structured, supervised clinical practice. This educational process will develop the student as an active participant and through the use of innovative teaching approaches, foster a safe, collaborative and interactive educational environment.

The professional standards of care in nursing will provide the foundation for the development of critical thinking skills, clinical judgment, ethical reasoning and therapeutic communication skills. Designated curriculum, integrated with global issues, evidence-based practice, and pathophysiologic concepts, will insure that graduates will be able to actively participate in society as educated, culturally astute and socially responsible individuals. Functioning within a multi-disciplinary health care team requires diversity and compassion in traditional and/or non-traditional health care environments serving clients across the life span.

The program leads to an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree and can be completed in one calendar year. Upon successful completion of the program, the graduate is eligible to apply to write the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Program Objectives/Outcomes

Upon completion of the LVN to RN transition program, the graduate will function within the roles and responsibilities of the Associate Degree nurse and be able to:

1. Implement the standards of care as designated by the Texas Board of Nursing for the State of Texas in a variety of health care settings.
2. Utilize critical thinking, evidence-based practice and cultural diversity knowledge and skill when planning, implementing and evaluating patient care across the life-span.
3. Engage in continuous improvement of cognitive, psychomotor and psychotherapeutic abilities necessary to comprehensively assess and provide safe and effective nursing care.
4. Demonstrate caring behaviors and utilize teaching strategies that promote recovery from illness and the practice of long-term health principles.
5. Communicate and work effectively with patients, family members and the multidisciplinary health care team.
6. Demonstrate ethical and legal principles as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team.
7. Maintain competence as a registered nurse through self evaluation, peer review and continued education.
8. Continue to develop as an accountable and responsible member of the nursing profession.

Accreditation

SWTJC School of Registered Nursing is currently accredited by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Board of Nursing.

Admission Requirements

Students are admitted to this program through regular college admission procedures and by satisfying the following additional requirements:

1. Meet admission requirements to SWTJC
2. Hold a valid/current license to practice as an LVN in the State of Texas
3. Cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
4. Official copies of all transcripts on file at the college and the nursing program offices
5. Three letters of reference
6. File application by March 1
7. Interview with assigned faculty advisor prior to April 1
8. Science courses older than 5 years will be evaluated and recommendations provided to applicant
9. Complete TEAS, a pre-admission evaluation for R.N.'s, provided by Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI)
10. Criminal Background Check
11. Current Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS)
12. Current immunizations including Hepatitis B Series
13. Health report
14. Negative tuberculin screen or chest x-ray
15. Negative drug urine screen
16. Liability Insurance
17. Work experience as an LVN

**REGISTERED NURSE (LVN to RN Transition Program)
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE**

General Education Courses:	<u>Credit</u>
Social & Behavioral Sciences	6
Humanities & Fine Arts	3
Natural Science & Math	12
Other	3
Total General Education Courses.....	24
Technical Education Courses.....	35
LVN Licensure Advanced Placement Credit Hours ¹	12
Total Credit Hours for A.A.S.....	71

Program of Study

Prior Semesters	<u>Credit</u>	Advanced Placement Credit Courses	<u>Credit</u>
ORIE 0100π New Student Orientation		RNSG 1205 ¹ Nursing Skills I.....	2
or COLS 0300 College Success Skills		RNSG 1209 ¹ Introduction to Nursing.....	2
BIOL 2401 ² Anatomy & Physiology I.....	4	RNSG 1413 ¹ Foundations for Nursing Practice.....	4
PSYC 2301 ² General Psychology.....	3	RNSG 1441 ¹ Common Concepts of Adult Health.....	4
BIOL 2402 ² Anatomy & Physiology II.....	4		
PSYC 2314 ² Lifespan Growth & Development.....	3		
BIOL 2421 ² Microbiology for Science Majors.....	4		
Total	18	LVN Advanced Placement Credit Hours ¹	12
Summer Session I	<u>Credit</u>	Summer Session II	<u>Credit</u>
RNSG 1227 Transition from Vocational to Prof. Nursing.....	2	RNSG 1244 Nursing Skills II.....	2
RNSG 2213 Mental Health Nursing.....	2	RNSG 1201 Pharmacology.....	2
RNSG 2260 Clinical – Nursing - RN Training / Mental Health.....	2	RNSG 1248 Concepts of Clinical Decision-Making.....	2
 		Total	6
Total	6		
 		ENGL 1301 Composition I.....	3
Fall Semester	<u>Credit</u>	RNSG 2231 Advanced Concepts of Adult Health.....	2
		RNSG 2361 Clinical – Nursing - RN Training/ Adv. Concepts of Adult Health.....	3
		RNSG 2221 Management of Client Care.....	2

RNSG 1343	Complex Concepts of Adult Health	3
RNSG 2360	Clinical – Nursing – RN Training/ Complex Concepts of Adult Health	3
	Total	16

	Spring Semester	<u>Credit</u>
PHIL 2306	Introduction to Ethics	
or		
HUMA 1301	Introduction to Humanities.....	3
RNSG 2201	Care of Children and Families	2
RNSG 2362 ³	Clinical – Nursing -RN Training/ Care of Children and Families	3
RNSG 2208	Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women’s Health.....	2
RNSG 2363	Clinical –RN Training – Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women’s Health	3
	Total	13
	Total Credit Hours for A.A.S.	71

- Notes: 1 LVN Advanced Placement credits awarded upon successful completion of Summer I and II RNSG courses.
 2 This course must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” prior to applying for admission to the ADN program.
 3 Capstone course that consolidates the student’s learning experiences.
 π All students are required to complete ORIE 0100 or COLS 0300; however, ORIE 0100/COLS 0300 do not count toward degree requirements.

Tuition and Fees

Students enrolling in the Associate Degree Nursing Program pay the regular college tuition, fees and an additional \$300 Allied Health surcharge each fall and spring semester. Additional fees are also required prior to admission and upon acceptance to the program. The following fees are approximate costs identified to assist the student in financial planning:

Summer Semesters:

- 1. Entrance ATI examination \$25.00
- 2. Criminal Background Check \$49.50
- 3. Required Physical Examination \$80 - 100.00
- 4. Immunizations (Hepatitis B series) \$80.00
- 5. Drug Screen \$60.00
- 6. Uniforms (ordered through nursing department)..... \$150.00
- 7. White shoes, scrubs \$100.00
- 8. School Patches (available at bookstore) \$5.00
- 9. Textbooks \$300.00
- 10. Nursing Equipment (stethoscope, bandage scissors, hemostats, penlight, calculator, watch with second hand) \$150.00
- 11. Liability Insurance..... \$24.00
- 12. Post-course ATI examination \$134.00

Fall Semester:

- 1. White Lab Coat \$ 30.00
- 2. Post-course ATI examination \$109.00
- 3. SNA Dues \$100.00
- 4. Textbooks \$300.00

Spring Semester:

- 1. Post-course ATI Examination & Final Assessment \$359.00
- 2. Textbooks \$400.00
- 3. Licensure application \$140.00
- 4. NCLEX Fee..... \$200.00
- 5. Passport Photo for License \$25.00
- 6. Graduation Cap, Gown, Tassel, & Diploma..... \$40.00

Withdrawal and Dismissal Policy

SWTJC Associate Degree Nursing Program reserves the right to request withdrawal of any student whose health, attendance, conduct, personal qualities or scholastic records indicate that it would be inadvisable for the student to continue.

Students withdrawing from the nursing program must comply with the withdrawal procedure as stated in the college catalog under “Changes and Withdrawals.” In addition, nursing students must participate in an exit interview from the nursing program to remain in good standing at SWTJC.

Preparation for Clinical Agency Education & Eligibility to take the NCLEX

All requirements set forth by the Texas Board of Nursing, Southwest Texas Junior College and the Associate Degree Nursing Program must be met before the student is eligible to work in the clinical area or eligible to apply to take the NCLEX examination. Special notation includes the following:

- All students must complete a criminal background check through PreCheck, Inc. before they can enter any clinical agency for educational experience.
- Applicants seeking licensure in Texas by endorsement or Examination are required to submit a complete and legible set of fingerprints on a form prescribed by the Board for the purpose of obtaining a criminal history from the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.
- The rules listed below must be followed:
 - 213.27 Good Professional Conduct
 - 213.28 Licensure of Persons with Criminal Offenses
 - 213.29 Criteria and Procedure Regarding Intemperate Use and Lack of Fitness in Eligibility and Disciplinary Matters
 - 213.30 Declaratory Order of Eligibility for Licensure
(To review this information on-line, the student must go to www.bon.state.tx.us. From the homepage, scroll down to "Nursing Law and Rules". Then right click on "Rules and Regulations". From that page, click on "BON Rules and Regulations". This will lead to a page entitled "Texas Administrative Code", then click on Chapter 213 to find the above rules.)
- All NCLEX applicants with outstanding eligibility issues that could prevent them from taking the NCLEX examination upon completion of a nursing program are urged to complete a Declaratory Order application as soon as possible after acceptance into the Associate Degree Nursing Program. The Declaratory Order process permits the Board to make decisions regarding an applicant's eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program.

Graduation Requirements

Students who have met college graduation requirements and all program objectives are eligible to attend the May commencement ceremony and the nursing pinning ceremony.

All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better to qualify for graduation.