Practical Nursing Education
D45660 (Diploma)

The Practical Nursing curriculum prepares individuals with the knowledge and skills to provide nursing care to children and adults.

Students will participate in assessment, planning, implementing, and evaluating nursing care.

Graduates of this program are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) which is required to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Employment opportunities include hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, long term care facilities, clinics, physician’s offices, and home health agencies.

**Academic Admissions and Regulations:**

In addition to regular college admissions requirements and procedures, individuals interested in Practical Nursing Education are also subject to the following admissions requirements, procedures and academic regulations. The PNE Program is a selective program, admitting only 24 students per year to the day entry and 20 students per year to the evening/weekend option.

**Admissions Information:** For class entering 2013, graduating 2014.

All applications must be updated annually. If you have previously applied to the Practical Nursing Education Department, you must re-initiate the application process and must retake the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills). We do not maintain a waiting list. All applicants must complete a PNE priority form indicating preference for day entry, evening/weekend option, or either schedule.

McDowell Technical Community College and the Practical Nursing Education Department follow a semester curriculum plan. The MTCC Practical Nursing Education program is approved by the North Carolina Community College System and the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

The application period for Practical Nursing Education is **June 1, 2012 – Feb 4, 2013.**

**All admission requirements must be met before applicants will be considered for admission to the program.**

Applicants need to be aware that upon admission to a health science program with a clinical component, the clinical agency may require a criminal background check and/or drug testing prior to participation in clinical practice experiences.* McDowell Technical Community College does not guarantee that institutions with student training affiliations will accept any student for training in any clinical program. Furthermore, the inability to complete the clinical portion of the program will result in course failure and dismissal.
from the program. In accordance with the NC General Statute 90-171-48 applicants for initial licensure in North Carolina must have a criminal background check. Applicants with criminal convictions may have limited licensure and employment opportunities.

*The clinical agency reserves the right to refuse someone with a criminal record the use of their facility.

**General Admission Requirements:**

1. Applicants must submit a completed admissions application obtained from the Student Services Office.

2. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. An official high school transcript or GED (General Education Development) certificate must be sent to the college. Student copies of these items are not acceptable.

3. Official transcripts of all previous post-secondary education must be requested by the applicant and sent directly from the forwarding institution to the college. Student copies are not acceptable.

   *The minimum required GPA is 2.0.*

4. Applicant’s must attend a mandatory nursing information meeting before deadline (schedule of meetings will be provided).

5. Applicants must have completed a unit of high school Biology with a grade of “C” or above. College substitutions for this requirement are one semester of:
   
   BIO 111 or a higher level college biology course, with a grade of “C” or above.
   
   Pre-requisite courses are not accepted from the Adult High School Diploma unless the student is a graduate of the program.

   In addition, high school or college level chemistry and math are strongly recommended.


   If an accepted applicant does not meet the listing deadline, the applicant will be moved to an alternate status.

**Institutional Requirement:** Placement testing and all developmental course(s) must be completed by the general admissions deadline. Placement tests must be within the last three years to be considered current.
7. The TEAS exam dates will be provided by Jane Wyatt for all applicants. The cost is **$40.00**. Applicants must score a 55 or higher to be considered for admission to the PNE program. Students whose scores do not meet the required minimum will be counseled by the Student Enrichment Center regarding various career and educational options available to them.

8. Once all other admission requirements are met, applicants will be ranked using a competitive process, according to the Point Rating Tool. The top 44 ranking applicants will be admitted to the PNE program and notified with a letter of acceptance, pending receipt of the “Student Medical Form.” The next 12 applicants will be placed on an alternate list in order of ranking and notified accordingly. Placements in the day or evening/weekend option will be based on the applicant’s first choice. All admission rankings are confidential information.

9. All accepted applicants for admission to the PNE Program and alternates must submit a completed N.C. Community College System “Student Medical Form,” that is available in student services, which includes required immunization records and diagnostic tests, by May 17, 2013. This examination of an applicant’s physical and emotional health is a requirement and the accepted applicant’s status is considered “pending” until this form is turned in to the PNE secretary and screened by the PNE Faculty. Where problematic physical or mental health conditions exist, faculty may require timely medical reports from a physician confirming that the individual is physically and mentally competent to enter the Practical Nurse Education program.

10. Accepted applicants for admission must have or obtain American Heart Association Healthcare provider CPR certification to include Adult, Infant, and child CPR. Courses are routinely offered through the Department of Continuing Education at the college. Students admitted to the program will not be allowed to begin classes without current CPR certification. **Proof of current CPR certification valid for two (2) years (2013 – 2015) must be provided at orientation.**

11. An orientation session is scheduled for all applicants accepted for admission. The orientation date is June 14, 2013 and will be held at 9:00 am in the Dogwood Building (17) in room 104. **(Attendance is strongly recommended.)**

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**McDowell Technical Community College does not discriminate in its admission policies and procedures on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, or handicap. For further information, refer to the MTCC catalog section entitled “Non-Discrimination Policy.”**

**Accepted applicants who are unable to attend the orientation session due to extenuating circumstances must notify the Nursing Program Director and complete all orientation requirements by August 1, 2013. An accepted applicant who fails to meet orientation requirements will forfeit his or her place in the PNE program.**
ACADEMIC REGULATIONS:

1. Students must earn an 80 or above in all NUR courses and a “C” or above in all co-requisites to progress in the Practical Nurse Program.

2. **Pre-requisites and Co-requisites:** Pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to taking a course for which there are pre-requisites. Co-requisite courses may be taken prior to, or must be taken concurrent with, the course for which there is a co-requisite. Course pre-requisites in the nursing curriculum plan are necessary to meet the required sequence of course materials. Students may not take nursing courses (prefix NUR) out of sequence. Should a student fail to successfully complete a non-nursing course which serves as a pre-requisite for another course in the ensuing semester, the student will be withdrawn from the program.

3. Students must pass the theory, lab and clinical portions of nursing courses to receive credit for the course. Failure of any portion of the course will mean course failure.

4. A 2.0 quality point average in the nursing curriculum is required for satisfactory academic standing.

5. A student may repeat one nursing course or one science course one time only.

6. **Students must successfully complete NUR 101 to be eligible to apply for re-entry or to transfer into the PNE program.** Advanced placement students (from an RN program) must have successfully completed NUR 111 and NUR 112 to be eligible for advanced placement into the PNE program. **Students must apply for re-entry a minimum three months prior to the semester.** Re-entry to NUR 102 and 103 will be on a space available basis for those who have a 2.0 quality point average and meet all other admission criteria. Advanced placement (from an RN program), transfer or re-entry students who have been out of a nursing program for more than 2 years will need to take the following challenge exams: NUR 101 Final Exam, Math Competency, and Nursing Lab Skills in order to be admitted to the program. **Minimum required passing score for the NUR 101 final exam and the Nursing Lab Skills exam is 80%. Minimum required passing score for the Math Competency exam is 90%.**

7. Students who do not master calculation of medication dosages with 90% accuracy before completing NUR 101 will be dismissed from the program. Students will be allowed two attempts to pass the math competency test. The first competency test will be in mid-October and the second test in early November, 2013.
**Required Courses**

Students may take these general/related (non-nursing) courses before acceptance into the nursing program or before the specified semester.

General Education:  PSY 150  
ENG 111  
BIO 168  
BIO 169  
ACA 115

Completion of these courses will help prepare students for, but not guarantee, admission to the PNE Program.

**Point Rating Tool**

The Admission Rating Tool is used by the PNE Admission Committee to select applicants for the PNE Program. All general admission requirements must be met, including an acceptable score on the TEAS Exam, prior to use of the Point Rating Tool.

This tool was developed as an objective means of evaluating applicants. The point count criteria are divided into 7 distinct areas:

1. Most recent cumulative overall GPA - college or high school/GED  
2. TEAS score  
3. TEAS Math score  
4. TEAS Science score  
5. TEAS English score  
6. Specified college courses completed with a “C” or better (Med 121 & Med 122, Chm 131 & Chm 131A, Nut 110, Cis 110)*  
7. Current Nursing Assistant II listing with the NC Board of Nursing**

An applicant’s admission rating is confidential information. At no time and with no exceptions will an applicant’s admission rating be discussed with anyone other than the applicant. When an individual’s application is complete, his or her total point count will be calculated. It is this total which will be used in the selection process.

**Please do not call to inquire about your point count.** If you are accepted, you will be notified of your acceptance as outlined in “Selection Process” outlined on the next page. In the event of an identical score for ranking, TEAS V test scores will be used to differentiate tie scores.

1. First preference will be given to the applicant(s) with the highest TEAS math scores.  
2. In the event of a tie in TEAS math scores, preference will be given to the applicant(s) with the highest TEAS science scores.
3. In the event of a tie in TEAS science scores, preference will be given to applicant(s) with the highest TEAS English scores.

*Extra points are given for specified college courses with a “C” or better, but are not required.

**Extra points are given for having current NA II Certification, but NA II Certification is not required for acceptance in the PNE Program.

Admission criteria are reviewed each year and are subject to change from year to year.

Graduates of the PNE Program are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) which is required to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

**Selection Process**

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<th>Selection Process</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. General admissions requirements (#’s 1-6) must be met.</td>
<td>Feb 4, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Written notification will be mailed to eligible students regarding dates and times to sit for the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills).</td>
<td>Feb 11, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. If notified, eligible applicants will report for the TEAS ($40.00 fee). A valid TEAS V score will be accepted for a period of one year at deadline.</td>
<td>Feb 18 – March 1</td>
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<td>4. Final selection for admission is based on the Point Rating Tool (see separate section) and acceptable results of the Student Medical Form.</td>
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<td>5. Written notification of acceptance will be mailed by the Nursing Program Director and the Health Sciences Advisor.</td>
<td>March 29, 2013</td>
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<td>6. Written notification of orientation schedule will be mailed by the Nursing Program Director.</td>
<td>March 29, 2013</td>
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<td>7. Complete Health Forms must be submitted to the Health Sciences Secretary.</td>
<td>May 31, 2013</td>
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Note: Dates subject to change

**IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS CONTACT JANE WYATT, HEALTH SCIENCES ADVISOR AT 828-652-0611**