

Nursing, Vocational

VN

Degree:

A.S. – Nursing, Vocational

Certificate of Achievement:Nursing, Vocational
LVN-RN 30-Unit Option**Division of Science and Allied Health**

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**Nursing, Vocational
Associate in Science Degree
Certificate of Achievement****Program Information**

The Vocational Nursing Program at Sacramento City College is approved by the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians. Upon successful completion of the three-semester, 53-unit program, the student is eligible to apply for the National Licensing Examination to qualify as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Students enrolled in this program are required to complete nursing courses with related clinical experiences. The program issues a certificate upon completion and prepares the graduate for employment. With completion of additional requirements, an Associate in Science Degree may be achieved. In addition to regular expenses such as enrollment fees, living costs, activity fees, and books, nursing students have the expense of uniforms, equipment, malpractice insurance, graduation, and licensing costs. Students are also responsible for their physical examination, immunizations, background check, and drug screen, as well as transportation to and from clinical agencies for day and evening learning experiences. All students must have a current CPR with Automated External Defibrillator (AED) from the American Heart Association or Professional Rescuer American Red Cross.

Students with a conviction record will be required to disclose this information to the State Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). The board reviews individual circumstances on a case-by-case basis to determine whether a person is qualified to be licensed as a Vocational Nurse. For further information consult the BVNPT website at http://www.bvnpt.ca.gov/licensees/enforcement_faq.shtml

The nursing program is a full-time rigorous course of study. In order to ensure academic success and to protect students' health, full time employment is not advisable. It is recommended that students who must continue outside employment reduce their hours to 8-12 hours or less per week.

Informational meetings are held several times each semester and provide prospective students with information on program prerequisites, enrollment process, and other facts about the program. For information call (916) 558-2271 or visit the SCC web site at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu>.

Recommended high school preparation: classes in biology, mathematics, and English.

Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as a licensed vocational nurse. The LVN may work in hospitals, doctors' offices, ambulatory care settings, skilled nursing facilities, or extended care facilities to provide basic patient care to clients of all ages under the supervision and direction of physicians or registered nurses. The specific procedures performed vary greatly depending on the work setting.

Gainful Employment

For more information about program costs, graduation rates, median debt of program graduates, and other important information regarding gainful employment, please visit: <http://www.losrios.edu/gainful-emp-info/gedt.php?major=051202C01>

Recommended High School Preparation

Classes in biology, mathematics, and English.

Enrollment Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Complete program application and submit by due date to be considered for acceptance into the program
- 12th grade or equivalent as granted by the California State Department of Education
- BIOL 100 with a grade of B or better; or BIOL 430 and BIOL 431 with grades of "B" or better
- AH 110, FCS 324, NUTRI 300, and PSYC 300 with a grade of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in these four (4) courses
- ENGRD 11 or eligibility for ENGRD 110 as determined by the reading assessment process for applicants who do not have an Associate Degree or higher
- In-progress grades will not be accepted for prerequisite courses. Courses taken for Pass/No Pass (P/NP) will be calculated into the GPA as a "C" grade.
- It is highly recommended that the student take a medical dosage calculation class prior to beginning the program.
- A grade of 75% or better is mandatory in each required course for progression in the vocational nursing program. If the clinical performance is "unsatisfactory," the semester grade will be "F" regardless of achievement in theory.
- Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), latest version, developed by the Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI). A minimum composite score is necessary to be eligible for application to the program. Additional information is available from the SCC Nursing website at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/>
- The SCC Nursing Program reserves the right to make changes in the enrollment criteria, academic requirement, grading standards, and other processes without notice at any time.
- Admission, Reentry or Transfer: please see SCC Nursing website at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/>

Enrollment Process

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- A Los Rios Community College District student identification number is required to access the online application. Enrollment eligibility consists of successful completion of prerequisite courses in order to qualify for the random selection pool from which a class is selected. Students must reapply each semester. There is no waiting list.
- Successful completion of the online application, along with all supporting documents as stipulated on the online page, must be submitted to the Science and Allied Health Division by the posted due date. Please see the nursing website at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/> for information about the enrollment eligibility, re-entry, and transfer.
- Students accepted into the program will be required to undergo a criminal background check and a 10-panel urine drug screen prior to their clinical laboratory experience.
- NOTE: Vocational Nursing courses must be taken in sequence.

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- utilize the nursing process within organized health care systems to help patients with common illnesses meet their basic human needs through direct patient care services.
- provide individualized nursing measures to assist patients in need of rehabilitation, including lifestyle changes in the hospital, home, or in the community.
- apply established standards of care, critical thinking skills, and scientific knowledge when performing nursing functions or procedures.
- maintain therapeutic communication essential to the achievement of health related patient and/or organizational goals.
- demonstrate the ability to accurately report and document patient assessments, interventions, changes in patient status, and outcomes of care in the written and electronic medical record (EMR).
- act as a patient advocate and teacher in assisting patients and families to prevent illness and maintain their optimum level of functioning and health.
- organize care for a group of patients and participate in providing direction for personnel with less preparation or experiences in other than acute care settings.
- apply knowledge of cultural patterns, beliefs, and practices in providing culturally sensitive competent care.
- assume responsibility for his/her own professional development and function with accountability within the legal boundaries of LVN practice.

Prerequisite Courses	Units
BIOL 100 Introduction to Concepts of Human Anatomy and Physiology	3
AH 110 Medical Language for Health-Care Providers.....	3
FCS 324 Human Development: A Life Span (3) or PSYC 370 Human Development: A Life Span (3).....	3
NUTRI 300 Nutrition (3) or NUTRI 480 Nutrition Honors (3)	3
PSYC 300 General Principles (3) or PYSC 480 General Principles Honors (3).....	3
Prerequisite Courses Units	15

Required Program	Units
VN 120 Meeting Adult Basic Health Needs.....	12
VN 130 Meeting Health Needs of All Age Groups.....	12
VN 140 Meeting Complex Adult Health Needs.....	12
Subtotal Units	36
Total Units Required	51

Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree

The Associate in Science Degree may be obtained by completing the required courses listed above, plus the general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See SCC graduation requirements.

Certificate of Achievement

The Certificate of Achievement may be obtained by completion of the required program with grades of "C" or better.

Admission, Reentry or Transfer

Contact the Director of Vocational Nursing, Sacramento City College, 3835 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95822 or call 916-558-2271.

**LVN-RN 30-Unit Option
Certificate of Achievement****Program Information**

The 30-unit option provides the Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) the opportunity to qualify for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). This option is available to LVNs entering the SCC Nursing Program but does not meet the requirements for an associate degree in nursing.

In addition to regular expenses such as enrollment fees, living costs, activity fees, and books, nursing students have the expense of uniforms, equipment, malpractice insurance, graduation, and licensing costs. They also are responsible for their physical examination, immunizations, background check, and drug screen, as well as transportation to and from clinical agencies for day and evening learning experiences. All enrolled students must have a current health provider CPR with Automated External Defibrillator (AED) card. The nursing program is a full-time rigorous course of study. In order to ensure academic success and to protect students' health, full time employment is not advisable. It is recommended that students who must continue outside employment reduce their hours to 8-12 hours or less per week.

A 75% passing grade is mandatory in theory and clinical of each nursing course for progression in the program.

NOTE: In accordance with Regulation 480 of the State Board of Registered Nursing, a person convicted of any offense, other than a minor traffic violation, may not qualify to be licensed as a Registered Nurse. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact the State Board of Registered Nursing or visit their website at www.rn.ca.gov.

Enrollment Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Possession of a current clear and active California Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) license at the time of application and throughout program completion.
- Completion of a minimum of six months recent LVN work experience, preferably in the medical-surgical area.
- Completion of BIOL 431 or equivalent 4-5 semester-unit physiology course and BIOL 440 or equivalent 4 semester-unit microbiology course with a grade of "B" or better prior to enrollment in the nursing courses.
- Completion of the current curriculum planning summary sheet including the semester in which the pre-enrollment packet is being submitted.

Enrollment Process

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Contact the Nursing department at 916-558-2272 for an appointment with the Program Director.
- Complete an application to the registered nursing program. Provide official transcripts and course descriptions of physiology, microbiology, and a previously attended licensed vocational nursing (LVN) program prior to the appointment.
- Provide proof of current California LVN licensure.

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- integrate the nursing process with critical reasoning skills, in direct and indirect nursing care to meet the patient's developmental and basic human needs.
- revise individualized nursing interventions to safely provide care to assist patients of all ages in need of preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative patient centered care.
- incorporate evidence-based practice, patient care standards, informatics, and critical thinking skills to enhance safety, quality improvement, and effectiveness in nursing care.
- generate therapeutic, respectful, and caring communication with patients and families, while promoting collegiality with peers and colleagues.

- formulate accurate and timely documentation and reporting of patient assessments, interventions, progress, and outcomes of care in the written and electronic medical record.
- design patient-centered teaching plans and assist patients and their families in developing self-advocacy skills necessary to maintain optimum levels of functioning and health.
- manage the nursing care for a group of patients, utilizing leadership skills, collaboration, teamwork, resource utilization, and supervision of team members consistent with their scope of practice.
- prioritize patient care needs, using critical thinking and time management skills, to organize and provide safe nursing care in a responsible and accountable manner.
- integrate ethical provisions, legal boundaries, and cultural competency in all areas of nursing practice.
- assess his or her own learning needs through reflective thinking and use resources to engage in continuous improvement in skills and knowledge.

Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as an entry-level staff nurse in hospitals, physician's offices, skilled nursing or long-term care facilities, surgery centers, ambulatory care settings, occupational health, and other related agencies. Registered nurses provide nursing care to clients and groups of clients throughout the lifespan. The State of California allows the LVN-RN 30-unit option student to be eligible for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN). The LVN seeking this path to RN licensure may not receive reciprocal RN licensure in other states. LVNs considering moving out-of-state are encouraged to consult with that state's board of nursing for RN licensure requirements before committing to the 30-unit option.

Required Program

	Units
BIOL 431 Anatomy and Physiology.....	5
BIOL 440 General Microbiology.....	4
NURSE 308 LVN-RN 30-Unit Option.....	8
NURSE 437 Nursing in Complex and Multiple Patient Care.....	12
Total Units Required	29

Certificate of Achievement

The Certificate of Achievement may be obtained by completion of the required program with grades of "C" or better.

Vocational Nursing (VN)

VN 120 Meeting Adult Basic Health Needs 12 Units

Prerequisite: See Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitation: BIOL 100 with a grade of "B" or better; or BIOL 430 and BIOL 431 with grade of "B" or better; AH 110, FCS 324, NUTRI 300, and PSYC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in these four (4) courses. ENGRD 11 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through the assessment process if applicant does not have an AA Degree or higher; and, acceptance into the Vocational Nursing Program.

Hours: 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

This course is an orientation to Vocational Nursing and the role of the Vocational Nurse within the health care team, including historical, ethical, and legal aspects. Theory and practice introduce the nursing process and related concepts of basic human needs, life-cycle development, health-illness continuum, and major health problems related to cardiovascular, respiratory, nutrition-elimination, mobility, hormonal disturbances, and surgical interventions. Fundamental skills and responsibilities involved in patient care, including medication administration, principles of communication, health teaching, cultural diversity, and human sexuality are included. Emphasis is on assessment of patient needs and basic nursing interventions for adults of all ages.

VN 130 Meeting Health Needs of All Age Groups 12 Units

Prerequisite: VN 120 with a grade of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing program

Hours: 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

Students apply theory in utilizing the nursing process to meet the needs of: 1) adult patients with major health problems related to more complex regulatory, cardio-vascular/respiratory, and reproductive disturbances; 2) mothers during the maternity cycle and newborns; 3) hospitalized children of various ages. Emphasis is on increasing independence in the implementation of care of the patient. Focus is also directed at enhancing the contribution of data to the care plans under the supervision of the Registered Nurse. Concepts and principles related to legal and ethical aspects of nursing care, communications, health teaching, cultural diversity, and human sexuality are applied in a variety of clinical settings and with patients of all ages.

VN 140 Meeting Complex Adult Health Needs 12 Units

Prerequisite: VN 130 with a grade of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing program

Hours: 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

Students apply theoretical concepts in utilizing the nursing process to meet the needs of adult patients of all ages with major health problems related to more complex regulatory, elimination, cardiovascular/respiratory, and nutritional disorders. Emphasis is on understanding all steps of the nursing process and identifying the role of the Vocational Nurse as it relates to the nursing process. Principles related to legal and bio-ethical aspects, communication, health teaching, cultural diversity, and human sexuality are included. Management principles, the Vocational Nursing Practice Act, professional organizations, resume writing, and job search are presented.

VN 150 Intravenous Therapy and Blood Withdrawal 1.5 Units

Prerequisite: VN 140 with a grade of "C" or better; or current LVN license.

Hours: 27 hours LEC; 9 hours LAB

This course will provide the student with the knowledge and skills to start and superimpose intravenous fluids and withdraw blood. The course meets the requirements of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians for Licensed Vocational Nurses to become certified in IV therapy and blood withdrawal.

VN 299 Experimental Offering in Vocational Nursing .5-4 Units

Prerequisite: None

Hours: 90 hours LEC

See Experimental Offerings