



**NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ASSOCIATE DEGREE REGISTERED NURSE PROGRAM**

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***The Nursing Program is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.***

*Make a career decision for life ~~ Choose Nursing ~~ Choose NWACC!*

**GENERAL RN PROGRAM INFORMATION**

***Come to a Pre-Nursing Advisement Session or contact the Nursing Department!***

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing is designed to prepare graduates to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) and to function as Registered Nurses in providing client care at the beginning staff level position. One of NWACC's program outcomes is to prepare Nursing graduates who will have the necessary background to continue their professional growth on an individual basis.

**A maximum of 40 students are accepted into the General RN Nursing Program (traditional track) each Fall semester. A maximum of 30 students are accepted into Access Nursing (accelerated track) each Summer. (Refer to the next page for more information about Access Nursing).** Students must meet both the NWACC admission criteria, stated in the College Catalog, and the criteria for admission to the Nursing Program (see next page). All Nursing Program applicants must have a high school diploma or G.E.D. College transferable credits need to be evaluated for equivalency to NWACC prerequisites. The Admissions and Records Office completes a Degree Audit upon request.

**\*\*Students wishing to pursue an Associate Degree in Nursing must apply to the Nursing Department. Application forms may be picked up at the Nursing Department, Room 2050, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Burns Hall at One College Drive, Bentonville, Arkansas. Applications for Summer and Fall will be available mid January each year. Deadline for application completion for the Summer and Fall class is March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.**

**\*\*The application process is subject to revision.**

Applicants must meet the minimum criteria for either track **by the end of Spring semester of application** in order to be considered eligible for admission into the respective Summer or Fall semester. Some general education classes have prerequisite requirements; please check the *College Catalog* or *Class Schedule* before enrolling.

**After the application deadline, applicants contact the Nursing Office to schedule mandatory testing (TEAS-Test of Essential Academic Skills).** Testing is scheduled in the month of March. Applicants accrue points based on the number of pre/co-requisite courses completed, course grades, and the TEAS score. They are then placed in ranked order. Selection for admission is made by the Nursing Admission Committee in descending order of scores until the class is filled. **A letter informing the applicant of the Committee's decision is mailed in late May for Access Nursing and by mid-June for the Fall class.** An alternate list is maintained for filling positions that are declined. The alternate list is on file only until the immediate class selection process is completed. **The alternate list is not maintained as a waiting list.**

The Nursing Department offers an advanced placement track with two options for Licensed Practical Nurses. Please contact the Department of Nursing at (479) 619-4151 for additional information.

**STATE BOARD OF NURSING ADVISORY - ANY INDIVIDUAL HAVING BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF A CRIME MAY BE INELIGIBLE TO WRITE THE NCLEX EXAM FOR LICENSURE AS A REGISTERED NURSE.**

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY TO THE GENERAL RN PROGRAM

### Pathway A: Collegiate Credits in General Education (15-plus credit hours, minimal GPA of 2.5)

1. **Math requirement** \*:
  - College Algebra (MATH 1204) **or** Survey of College Mathematics (MATH 1103) **or** a higher level math i.e. MATH 1213, MATH 2043, etc.
2. **Science requirements** \* (at least one of the three completed):
  - Anatomy and Physiology I (BIOL 2214) \*\*
  - Anatomy and Physiology II (BIOL 2224) \*\*
  - General Microbiology (MBIO 2014)

\* As prerequisite or corequisite of semester of application.  
\*\* Anatomy & Physiology credit must be no older than 5 years.  
(If A&PI and/or A&PII are older than 5 yrs, consult with the Director of Nursing Education)
3. **General education requirements** (at least seven hours in addition to math/science):
  - English Composition I (ENGL 1013)
  - English Composition II (ENGL 1023)
  - General Psychology (PSYC 2003)
  - Human Growth and Development (PSYC 2103)
  - Intro to Computer Information (CISQ 1103) **or** Keyboarding (OSIM 1003) **or** CISQ Challenge Exam
  - Elective (3 credit hours, college level, transferable)

### Pathway B: Assessment Test Scores in Reading, Writing and Math (Less than 15 credit hours)

**Students interested in this pathway will meet with the Director of Nursing Education before applying to the Nursing Program to review their assessment test scores, i.e. ACT, or COMPASS.** Students being admitted via this pathway must follow the curriculum plan as outlined in the Nursing Degree Sequence. Students must have College Algebra and Anatomy & Physiology I credits prior to Fall entry into the Nursing Program. This is a full-time semester load commitment!

### Access Nursing

Access Nursing is a pilot program funded by a grant awarded under the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. Students, regardless of ethnicity, who meet program requirements are eligible to apply, but Access Nursing especially seeks students fluent in both English and Spanish. To be eligible, for Access Nursing, the student must have completed all the general education courses with at least a "C" or better by the end of the Spring semester and have an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or better prior to the start of Fundamentals of Nursing in the Summer. In addition, the Nursing Program strongly recommends that Access Nursing students be willing to limit outside employment to 12-15 hours per week or less.

**Many students have found it quite advantageous to complete most of the general education prerequisite courses prior to beginning the Nursing Program.**

Students should plan to devote at least 40-50 hours per week to the Nursing Program sequence. Full-time employment during the Nursing Program is strongly discouraged.

Students entering the Nursing Program are required to have verification of a Tuberculin (PPD) skin test and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification through the American Heart Association, Health Care Provider Modules 1-4. It is also recommended that students have current vaccinations for Hepatitis B. The Tuberculin test can be performed at a physician's office or county health unit. The education department of most area hospitals offers CPR certification classes.

All ESL students seeking admission into program tracks in Health Professions are required to complete the **COMPASS ESL Listening Test**. The **ESL** listening test is a component of the COMPASS test which is a college placement and diagnostic test in mathematics, reading and writing skills in addition to the ESL placement component. Interested students can receive more information and/or schedule to take this test through the NWACC testing center. The ESL listening test is designed to assess a student's ability to understand Standard American English. **A level 4 score is recommended for ESL students seeking entrance into Health Professions Programs at NWACC.** The level 4 score indicates the ability to understand linguistically complex discussions, including academic lectures and factual reports. **All ESL students seeking career paths in Health Professions scoring below a level 4 are required to meet with the Program Director in their specific Health Professions career track for advisement and assistance in finding resources to enhance this necessary skill.**

Pre-Nursing students are invited to join the **Arkansas Nursing Students' Association (ANSA)**, the state chapter of the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). Contact the District II Director for information about joining the NWACC chapter. The ANSA website is [www.ark-nursing-students.com](http://www.ark-nursing-students.com), and the NSNA website is [www.nsna.org](http://www.nsna.org)

## ESTIMATED STUDENT EXPENSES FOR NURSING PROGRAM

### **TUITION & FEES (as of May 2006)**

Approximate costs and subject to change. See *College Catalog* or *Class Schedule* for current costs.

In-District (Rogers/Bentonville School District) -----	\$58.00 per credit hour
Out-of-District -----	\$90.00 per credit hour
Contiguous County-----	\$90.00 per credit hour
Out-of-State -----	\$127.00 per credit hour
International -----	\$127.00 per credit hour

(Note: an additional \$15 per credit hour is added for International students)

General Education = 33 or 34 Hours

Nursing = 38 Hours

**Total Program = 71 or 72 Hours**

*The totals below are based upon the 72 hours outlined in the Nursing Degree Sequence.*

In-District-----	\$4,176.00
Out-of-District/Contiguous County-----	\$6,480.00
Out-of-State -----	\$9,144.00
International-----	\$10,224.00

(Note: total reflects an additional \$15 per credit hour for International students)

Other fees: course, testing, technology, learning support and facility as applicable.  
Refer to current schedule of classes.

### **OTHER EXPENSES FOR A.D.N. PROGRAM**

In addition to the general college expenses, i.e., tuition and fees, Nursing students have the following estimated needs. These expenses are subject to change and/or economic inflation.

Uniforms/Shoes -----	\$300.00
Miscellaneous -----	\$80-\$200.00
(Stethoscope, scissors, watch with second hand, etc.)	
Standardized Examinations -----	\$400.00
Liability Insurance -----	\$45.00
Textbooks -----	\$800.00
Graduation Expenses -----	\$700.00
(Picture, school pin, Pinning Ceremony costs, licensure fees)	

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Revised 1/2007