

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING GRADUATES SPRING PINNING CEREMONY



Graduates of Wharton County Junior College's Associate Degree Nursing program include, front row, left to right, Megan Smith of Richmond, Maria Palomares of Midfield, Briana Morales of Rosenberg, Karyna Salinas of Sugar Land, Kathleen Pham of Missouri City, Jodi Dryden of Wharton, Adriana Espinosa of Eagle Lake and Alexandra Bella of Katy. Middle row, left to right, are Kristin Reed of Richmond, Ashley Kutac of Weimar, Jacqueline Granados of El Campo, Elizabeth Vargas of Sealy, Jessica Sloan of Richmond, Lizeth Gallegos of Sealy, Skye Dawson of Wharton and Amy Cardenas of El Campo. Back row, left to right, are Ian Bandalan of Stafford, Adrienne Dover of Sugar Land, Felicia Hopes of Rosenberg, Mark Knesek of Richmond, Madison Bartlett of El Campo, Ashley Collins of Wharton and Kendall Owens of Lake Jackson. Not pictured are Killi Chastain of West Columbia and Philip Torres of Sheridan.

Twenty-five students have earned their Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing from Wharton County Junior College. A pinning ceremony was held at the conclusion of the Spring 2023 semester on the Wharton campus.

Graduates included:

- Austin County: Elizabeth Vargas of Sealy and Lizeth Gallegos of Sealy.
- Brazoria County: Kendall Owens of Lake Jackson and Killi Chastain of West Columbia.
- Colorado County: Adriana Espinosa of Eagle Lake, Ashley Kutac of Weimar and Philip Torres of Sheridan.
- Fort Bend County: Megan Smith of Richmond, Briana Morales of Rosenberg, Karyna Salinas of Sugar Land, Kathleen Pham of Missouri City, Alexandra Bella of Katy, Kristen Reed of Richmond, Jessica Sloan of Richmond, Ian Bandalan of Stafford, Adrienne Dover of Sugar Land, Felicia Hopes of Rosenberg and Mark Knesek of Richmond.
- Matagorda County: Maria Palomares of Midfield.
- Wharton County: Jodi Dryden of Wharton, Jacqueline Granados of El Campo, Skye Dawson of Wharton, Amy Cardenas of El Campo, Madison Bartlett of El Campo and Ashley Collins of Wharton.

The Associate Degree Nursing program begins in August at the Wharton campus and in January at the Sugar Land campus. A 12-month LVN-ADN transition program begins in May for students already licensed as vocational nurses. Median pay according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is around \$75,000 annually.