

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

Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) School of Registered Nursing currently has full accreditation from the Texas Board of Nursing. SWTJC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools of which the School of Registered Nursing is a part. SWTJC is also approved by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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 15
7. Interview with assigned faculty advisor prior to April 1
8. All prerequisites must be completed prior to admission into the program. Enrollment in prerequisites during Spring semester prior to admission is acceptable
9. Science courses older than 5 years will be evaluated and recommendations provided to applicant
10. Complete the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) TEAS examination that is used as one criterion for admission
11. Complete the ATI LVN Step Test and the Anatomy and Physiology Exam that will provide additional information for admission selection
12. Criminal Background Check
13. Current Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS)
14. Current immunizations including Hepatitis B Series
15. Health report from primary care giver and recommendation from physician or accredited health provider
16. Negative tuberculin screen or chest x-ray
17. Negative drug urine screen
18. Liability Insurance
19. Work experience as an LVN
20. Additional forms and tests may be requested of applicants to identify students at risk that may need additional assistance throughout the program.

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 (Nursing)		40
LVN Licensure Advanced Placement Credit Hours ¹		10
Total Credit Hours for A.A.S.....		71

Program of Study

Prior Semesters	Credit
ORIE 0100 π New Student Orientation	
or	
COLS 0300 College Success Skills	
BIOL 2401 ² Anatomy & Physiology I.....	4
PSYC 2301 ² General Psychology	3
BIOL 2402 ² Anatomy & Physiology II.....	4
PSYC 2314 ² Lifespan Growth & Development	3
BIOL 2421 ² Microbiology for Science Majors.....	4
ENGL 1301 ² Composition I.....	3
PHIL 2306 ^{2,3} Introduction to Ethics	
or	
HUMA 1301 Introduction to Humanities	3
RNSG 1311 ³ Nursing Pathophysiology	3
Total	27

Advanced Placement Credit Courses	Credit
RNSG 1205 Nursing Skills I.....	2
RNSG 1413 Foundations for Nursing Practice	4
LVN Advanced Placement Credit Hours ¹	6

Summer Session I	Credit
RNSG 1201 Pharmacology	2
RNSG 1227 Transition from Vocational to Prof. Nursing	2
RNSG 1244 Nursing Skills II.....	2
Total	6

Summer Session II	Credit
RNSG 1248 Concepts of Clinical Decision-Making	2
RNSG 2213 Mental Health Nursing	2
RNSG 2260 Clinical – Nursing - RN Training / Mental Health.....	2
Total	6

Fall Semester	Credit
RNSG 2331 Advanced Concepts of Adult Health	3
RNSG 2361 Clinical – Nursing - RN Training/ Adv. Concepts of Adult Health.....	3
RNSG 1343 Complex Concepts of Adult Health.....	3
RNSG 2360 Clinical – Nursing – RN Training/ Complex Concepts of Adult Health.....	3
Total	12

Spring Semester	Credit
RNSG 2201 Care of Children and Families	2
RNSG 2362 ³ Clinical – Nursing -RN Training/ Care of Children and Families	3
RNSG 2308 Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women's Health	3
RNSG 2363 Clinical –RN Training – Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women's Health.....	3
RNSG 2221 ⁴ Management of Client Care	2
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 HUMA 1301 or PHIL 2306 will meet the humanities requirement for the Associate of Applied Science Degree; however, if the applicant wishes to continue in a BSN program PHIL 2306 Ethics is usually a requirement.
 4 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. Listed below are some additional fees and expenses that are required throughout the program. Some of these amounts are actual costs and some are approximate to assist the student in financial aplanning:

Summer Semesters:

1. Entrance ATI examination \$25.00
2. LVN Step Examination..... \$18.00

3. Anatomy & Physiology Assessment Examination	\$18.00
4. Criminal Background Check	\$49.50
5. Required Physical Examination	\$80 - 100.00
6. Immunizations (Hepatitis B series).....	\$80.00
7. Drug Screen	\$60.00
8. Uniforms (ordered through nursing department)	\$150.00
9. White Lab Coat.....	\$30.00
10. White shoes, scrubs	\$100.00
11. School Patch (available at bookstore) each	\$5.00
12. Textbooks	\$300.00
13. Nursing Equipment (stethoscope, bandage scissors, hemostats, penlight, calculator, watch with second hand).....	\$150.00
14. Liability Insurance	\$24.00
15. Post-course ATI examination	\$134.00
Total.....	\$1,243.50

Fall Semester:

1. Post-course ATI examination	\$109.00
2. SNA Dues.....	\$100.00
3. Textbooks	\$300.00
4. Allied Health Surcharge	\$300.00
Total.....	\$809.00

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.....	\$50.00
7. Class Pin.....	\$100.00
8. Allied Health Surcharge	\$300.00
Total.....	\$1,474.00

Approximate Total (without tuition) \$3,526.50

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.

Throughout the program, ATI practice and proctored examinations will be administered to assist with success throughout the program and to serve as a predictor for successful completion NCLEX-RN. Benchmark achievements recommended for these ATI examinations are identified in each course syllabus that will contribute to successful progression throughout the program.

Students must achieve an average of 80% on course examinations including the mid-term and final examination in all nursing courses. If 80% is not achieved, the student will not be able to progress in the nursing program and the grade for the course will not exceed the average received on examinations.

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 courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better to qualify for graduation.
- 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.
- The affidavit forwarded to the Texas Board of Nursing to verify that you have completed the requirements to take the NCLEX-RN will be sent after your assigned counselor for Virtual ATI indicates that you have successfully completed the benchmark for each area of content.

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.

reasoning skills. Reading 0303 may not be counted for local credit toward an associate degree or certificate and is not transferable. Three lecture and one laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M0; R2; W0. Prerequisite: None. **Lab Fee: \$16.25**

RNSG 1201 - Pharmacology - 2 sem. hrs. (2-0-0)

Introduction to the science of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of each drug classification. Topics include the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in safe administration of medications within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to either a blocked or integrated approach. Two lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 1227, 2213, 2260.

RNSG 1205 - Nursing Skills I - 2 sem. hrs. (1-2-0)

Study of the concepts and principles essential for demonstrating competence in the performance of nursing procedures. Topics include knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. One lecture and two laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: None.

Lab Fee: \$24

RNSG 1209 - Introduction to Nursing – 2 sem. hrs. (1-2-0)

Overview of nursing and the role of the professional nurse as a provider of care, coordinator of care, and member of a profession. Topics include knowledge, judgment, skills and professional values with a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. One lecture and two laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: None.

Lab Fee: \$24

RNSG 1227 - Transition from Vocational to Professional Nursing - 2 sem. hrs. (2-0-0)

Topics include health promotion, expanded assessment, analysis of data, nursing process, pharmacology, multidisciplinary teamwork, communication, and applicable competencies in knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework throughout the life span. This course lends itself to either a blocked or integrated approach. Two lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: Vocational Nurse Licensure and admission into the Registered Nursing Program.

RNSG 1244 - Nursing Skills II - 2 sem. hrs. (1-3-0)

Study of the concepts and principles necessary to perform intermediate or advanced nursing skills; and demonstrate competence in the performance of nursing procedures. Topics include knowledge, judgment, skills and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. One lecture and three laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 2213, 2260, 1227.

Lab Fee: \$24

RNSG 1248 - Concepts of Clinical Decision Making 2 sem. hrs. (1-3-0)

Integration of previous knowledge and skills into the continued development of the professional nurse as a provider of care, coordinator of care, and member of a profession. Emphasis on clinical decision making for clients in medical-surgical settings experiencing health problems involving gastrointestinal disorders, endocrine and metabolic disorders, reproductive and sexual

disorders, musculoskeletal disorders, eye-ear-nose-throat disorders and integumentary disorders. Discussion of knowledge, judgment, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. One lecture and three laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 2213, 2260, 1227. **Lab Fee: \$24**

RNSG 1311 – Nursing Pathophysiology – 3 sem. hrs. (3-0-0)

Basic principles of pathophysiology emphasizing nursing applications. Topics include principles of homeostasis related to body systems (WECM). Three lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisites: BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402

RNSG 1343 - Complex Concepts of Adult Health 3 sem. hrs. (3-0-0)

Integration of previous knowledge and skills related to common adult health needs into the continued development of the professional nurse as a provider of care, coordinator of care, and member of a profession in the care of adult clients/families in structured health care settings with complex medical-surgical health care needs associated with each body system. Emphasis on knowledge, judgments, skills, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. Three lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 2213, 2260, 1227, 1244, 1201, 1248. Co-requisite: RNSG 2360.

RNSG 1413 - Foundations for Nursing Practice 4 sem. hrs. (3-3-0)

Introduction to the role of the professional nurse as provider of care, coordinator of care, and member of the profession. Topics include but are not limited to the fundamental concepts of nursing practice, history of professional nursing, a systematic framework for decision making, mechanisms of disease, the needs and problems that nurses help patients manage, and basic psychomotor skills. Emphasis on knowledge, judgment, skills and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. Three lecture and three laboratory hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: None. **Lab Fee: \$24**

RNSG 2201 - Care of Children and Families 2 sem. hrs. (2-0-0)

Study of concepts related to the provision of nursing care for children and their families, emphasizing judgment, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. Two lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 1227, 2213, 2260, 1343, 2360, 1144, 2231, 2361, 1201, 2221. Co-requisite: RNSG 2362.

RNSG 2208 - Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women's Health - 2 sem. hrs. (2-0-0)

Study of concepts related to the provision of nursing care for normal childbearing families and those at risk, as well as women's health issues; competency in knowledge, judgment, skill, and professional values within a legal/ethical framework, including a focus on normal and high-risk needs for the childbearing family during the preconception, prenatal, intrapartum, neonatal, and postpartum periods, and consideration of selected issues in women's health. This course lends itself to a blocked approach. Two lecture hours per week. TSI Requirement: M3; R3; W2. Prerequisite: RNSG 1227, 2213, 2260, 1343,

2360, 1144, 2231, 2361, 1201, 2221. Co-requisite: RNSG
2363.