

Nursing Program

LPN Mobility Track

2010-2011

Admission and Program Requirements

Inver Hills–Century Colleges
Associate Degree Nursing Program



Admission and program requirements are subject to change without notice.

Revised June 2009

**For additional information contact
Nursing Admissions at**

www.century.edu/icnursing



A MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES SYSTEM



Inver Hills
Community College

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About the Program

Thank you for your interest in the Inver Hills-Century Colleges Associate Degree Nursing Program. The Nursing Program is jointly operated through a unique, cooperative, arrangement between Inver Hills Community College and Century College. The colleges, separated by 20 miles in the suburbs of St. Paul, Minnesota, operate the jointly sponsored Associate Degree Nursing Program. The program and the curriculum are identical on each campus with the nursing faculty teaching on both campuses. The Inver Hills Associate Degree Nursing Program is designed to educate students who are prepared to...

- Begin professional registered nursing careers
- Administer safe nursing care
- Administer culturally competent, patient-centered nursing care
- Work in a variety of healthcare settings in our increasingly diverse communities

Both colleges are accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Nursing Program is approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing. The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission's address and telephone number is 61 Broadway, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10006; 1-800-669-1656; www.nlnac.org.

Mission

The Inver Hills Nursing Program is committed to continuously improving student understanding and capabilities that help students become critical thinkers, culturally competent holistic caregivers, teachers, advocates, interdisciplinary collaborators, leaders/managers, and lifelong learners in a variety of community health care settings. The Inver Hills-Century Colleges Nursing Program values and supports diversity and is committed to the recruitment and retention of diverse students.

Vision

To accomplish this mission, the Inver Hills-Century Nursing Program provides a distinctive curriculum that incorporates health, healing, and holistic nursing. This curriculum reflects our commitment to the following values: (1) care throughout the life cycle; (2) holistic assessment process; (3) therapeutic communication; (4) therapeutic nursing interventions; (5) health promotion; (6) ethical behavior; (7) critical thinking; (8) intuitive thinking.

Goals

Based on our philosophy and beliefs about the Associate Degree in nursing, the faculty has identified seven goals which are congruent with MnSCU and Inver Hills and Century Colleges' mission statements.

1. To prepare associate degree nurses who are capable of administering safe, patient-centered, holistic care in beginning-level positions in nursing practice.
2. To prepare graduates who are qualified to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN®).
3. To provide opportunity for nursing students to recognize their commitment to personal and professional development.
4. To facilitate career mobility of LPNs toward the Associate Degree.
5. To maintain an innovative nursing curriculum.
6. To promote and prepare students for continued formal professional nursing education.
7. To prepare graduates who are culturally competent.

Nursing Program– Mobility Track

The Nursing program has two separate nursing mobility tracks offered to qualified LPNs or Paramedics to prepare them for professional nursing. These mobility tracks require completion of a summer nursing transition course and two semesters of nursing courses and liberal arts requirements. Admission and program requirements are subject to change without notice.

Student success

Of the Inver Hills-Century Nursing graduates who took the Minnesota NCLEX-RN® exam thru December 2008, 85.27 percent passed the exam on the first attempt. The average passing rate to date for all Minnesota Associate Degree Nursing graduates taking the exam was 82.38 percent on the first attempt. Annual employment statistics for the Inver-Century Nursing graduates are available from the college placement office.

Employment outlook

National and state predictions for jobs for new registered nurses continue to be excellent. It is expected that the number of jobs for registered nurses will increase faster than average through the year 2012. The most recent data (www.iseek.org) suggests that the number of registered nursing positions will increase by 30.7 percent in the state of Minnesota and by 27.3 percent nationally from 2002 to 2012. Hospitals and other health care facilities are in great need for nurses, especially those who are culturally diverse or have experiences providing culturally sensitive health care.

Education mobility

Broader career opportunities are available for registered nurses with a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing. Graduates of the Inver Hills-Century Nursing Program have met the lower division general education requirements of a bachelor's degree in nursing for all MnSCU universities. A Minnesota statewide nursing articulation agreement provides "seamless transfer" to students who pursue their bachelor's degree from any baccalaureate nursing program offered through the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System. The Counseling department has transfer guides for baccalaureate nursing programs at other colleges; admissions requirements and course equivalencies may vary.

Admission Requirements

All the admission requirements outlined below must be met before application to the Nursing Program.

Admission Criteria

1. Licensed Practical Nurse

- Graduate of a state-approved Practical Nurse Program with a minimum grade of C or higher in every course.
- Licensure as a Practical Nurse, active status (license may be in any state in the U.S.).
- Equivalent of 5 months full-time LPN work experience required before the first nursing course (NURS 1160); employment history will be verified by the college.

2. Credit and g.p.a. requirement: Completion of a minimum of 10 college-level semester credits from the Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC), with a cumulative grade-point average (c.g.p.a.) of 2.75 or greater (for all course work). This requirement also applies to all course work taken after application up to the start of Nursing Program classes. Credits earned under occupational curriculum, career development, pass/fail, learning lab, study skills, reading, or English as a Second Language (ESL) will not be calculated in the g.p.a.

Students who do not have a cumulative g.p.a. of 2.75 may petition for admission consideration based on their most recently completed Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) credits (minimum 10 semester credits) including required science courses. Completion of credits and submission of petition must be completed by the nursing program application deadline.

3. Science requirement: Completion, with a minimum grade of C, of a four-credit (semester), college-level Introductory/General Chemistry or Introductory/General Biology course with laboratory, such as Inver Hills CHEM 1010 or BIOL 1120 or 1154 or transfer equivalent (transfer equivalents must include laboratory). CHEM 1010 has a mathematics prerequisite, MATH 0094. BIOL 1120 or 1154 are prerequisites for BIOL 2201-2202 Anatomy and Physiology, required courses in the nursing curriculum.

4. Math/Reading/Writing requirement: Basic skills in mathematics and in college-level reading and writing as demonstrated through Inver Hills assessment testing or by successful completion of college courses. Satisfaction of this requirement can be met in the following ways:

- **Previous college work:** If the applicant already has earned a C or higher in a college-level English composition course(s) (Inver Hills ENG 1108) and a college-level mathematics course (Inver Hills MATH 1101 or higher), the student meets the basic skills requirement for writing and math. However, the reading assessment test still is required to demonstrate college-level reading skills.
- **Inver Hills assessment tests and additional course work:** Applicants who have not met the basic skills requirement in reading, writing and mathematics through previous college course work must take the Inver Hills assessment tests. If assessment tests indicate developmental/remedial coursework is necessary this coursework must be completed before application. These courses may include READ/EAP 0093/0094; ENG/EAP 0099; and MATH 0090. These courses are not considered college level; credits do not count toward the credit requirement for admissions (number 1 above) or toward degrees. Assessment scores are valid for 2 years.

Exception: Students with a previous bachelor's degree earned in the United States are exempt from the Reading Comprehension and Writing English assessment testing. If the transcript includes a college-level mathematics course (Inver Hills MATH 1101 or higher) with a minimum grade of C, these students are also exempt from the math assessment test. Otherwise, they must take the math assessment and meet the mathematics requirement through additional coursework if necessary.

Foreign/International applicants are required to take English, Math and Reading assessment, no exceptions. Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by World Education Service (W.E.S.), info@wes.org or 212/966-6311.

For information about completing assessment tests, call 651/450-3687. You are urged to take the assessment tests as soon as possible so you know whether you need to complete developmental courses before applying. You may want to review fractions, decimals, and percents before taking the mathematics assessment. Review materials are available in the bookstore for sale. See sample assessment test questions at <http://www.inverhills.edu/GettingStarted/Assessments/PDFs/SampleQuestions.pdf> or www.google.com and type in Accuplacer practice tests.

Application Requirements

In addition to the admission requirements on the previous page, applicants must complete the application procedures and the requirements after acceptance, as outlined below, by the deadlines indicated to be eligible to begin the Nursing Program.

Selection Process

Admission to the Nursing Program has become highly competitive, and the college may not be able to accept all applicants that meet the minimum admission requirements. Applicants are ranked and selected for admission based on several criteria, including: years of LPN work experience; cumulative grade-point average; grade-point average in selected courses; prior degree completion; liberal arts coursework completed for the A.S. degree by the application deadline; nursing preparatory coursework; and credits completed at Inver Hills. Employment history will be verified by the college.

Applicants who are qualified but not admitted are placed on an alternate list based on their ranking. If spaces become available in the Nursing Program for the term they applied, applicants from the alternate list will be granted admission. Applicants not admitted and placed on the alternate list must indicate in writing to the Nursing Program admissions office their request to be considered for the next application deadline.

Application procedures

Deadlines: At the time of application, students must have completed the minimum admission criteria and must submit transcripts and all other supporting documentation by the published application dates. Students are urged to apply early. Students may apply to either Inver Hills or Century colleges, but not both.

The application deadline for the Mobility Tracks in the Nursing Program class entering Summer 2010 is November 1st.

The Mobility tracks begin in the summer session and then requires two additional semesters of nursing coursework.

Pre-application education requirements: At the time of application, applicants must have completed all the academic requirements listed previously in “Admission Requirements.”

Nursing Program application form: The Nursing Program application form must be completed and submitted. You must include the \$20 college application fee (nonrefundable) if you have never applied to Inver Hills Community College before.

Transcripts: Request official transcripts for all college courses and vocational school work done previously, including any courses in progress. Transcripts must be sent directly from the previous institution to the Nursing Program admissions office. International transcripts must be evaluated by World Education Services to be petitioned for use; contact info@wes.org or 212/966-6311.

Transcripts must show the same name that appears on your application form; notify other institutions of any name change accordingly.

After application/acceptance

Completion of the following requirements is mandatory. Accepted students who do not fulfill these pre-Nursing Program requirements lose their space in the program and forfeit the deposit.

Notification: The college will inform applicants of their admission status approximately 6 to 8 weeks after the application deadline. Applicants selected as students must return the signed acceptance form and a deposit of \$100 (nonrefundable). The deposit will be applied to tuition and fees in the first semester.

Orientation: Admitted nursing students will be notified of the date and time for the required Orientation/Registration session.

Criminal background check: Students must pass this requirement or they are subject to dismissal from the program. The application for the background check is done during required orientation to the program.

Immunization records: Students will receive the Pre-Entrance Nursing Program Immunization Record form for signature by a physician or physician designee. A completed immunization record, along with the required documentation, must be submitted to the Nursing Department.

CPR certification: Current certification in CPR (such as the American Heart Association’s Basic Life Support Health Care Provider Course or the Red Cross’s CPR for the Professional Rescuer) is required prior to the start of the Nursing Program. Inver Hills offers this course as do many other colleges, hospitals, local school districts, and nonprofit organizations. CPR certification must remain current throughout the Nursing Program.

Contact information: Applicants/students are responsible for maintaining current addresses, telephone numbers, and name changes on file with the Nursing office.

Program Requirements/Information

Academic performance:

Students must earn a minimum grade of C in the science admission requirements and in all Nursing (NURS) and science courses required for the degree. **Students also must meet and maintain the 2.75 cumulative g.p.a. requirement for all course work done before beginning the Nursing Program.**

Clinical practicum/experiences

During each semester of the Nursing Program students are assigned specific clinical experiences in various healthcare facilities and community agencies. Each nursing student must follow the specific regulations and rules of each facility and agency. Since nursing students have contact with patients/residents as part of their clinical courses, they are required by law to pass a criminal background study for felony convictions.

Nursing students are not eligible for workers compensation because they are not employees of the college nor are they employees of the health care institutions or community agencies where they perform their clinical experience.

Professional liability insurance is required. The college offers a group policy for which the premium is payable annually.

Essential functions in the nursing program

Nursing is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Essential functions include: use of senses, speech, reading, writing, physical ability, coordination, stamina, ability to problem solve and emotional stability. The Core Performance Standards for nursing students are available in orientation or through the Nursing Program office.

Math requirement for Inver Hills nursing students:

Mobility track nursing students are not required to complete INTS 1080, Medical Dosages. Students will receive exemption from this course based upon transfer of their coursework from their practical nursing program. However, mobility students are required to take the math assessment. If indicated by assessment, completion of a developmental/remedial math course (MATH 0090) is required. Students are encouraged to take the math assessment well in advance of entering the Nursing Program so that any necessary remedial courses can be completed. Completion of remedial courses is required by the application deadline. INTS 1080, Medical Dosages, is strongly recommended for any LPN who has not been recently employed or for any LPN who is weak in math.

Please note that MATH 0094 Introductory Algebra is a pre-requisite for CHEM 1010 Introduction to Chemistry.

General Education/Liberal Arts Requirements:

Students are encouraged to complete as many of the required Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) courses as possible prior to the start of the nursing courses. (Some of these courses have prerequisites.) See the Nursing Program curriculum. If you have specific questions about transfer of previous college credits for the Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) requirements of the Nursing Program, please contact the college registrar at 651/450-3000. Or visit www.mncas.org for further information.

Students must have completed BIOL 2201-2202 Anatomy and Physiology I-II before taking the first nursing course (NURS 1160) in the LPN Mobility Track.

Advanced Standing:

Minnesota Board of Nursing Rules – Advanced Standing (6301.1200). The Minnesota Board of Nursing Rule: “The faculty of a professional program leading to an associate degree shall allow a qualified licensed practical nurse to gain advanced standing for at least one-third of the nursing credits required for graduation.”

Qualified LPN graduates of any state-approved LPN Program will be awarded advanced standing for 11 of the nursing course credits required for graduation from the Associate Degree Nursing Program. A qualified Licensed Practical Nurse is one who has graduated from a Practical Nursing Program, has met the admission requirements of the Nursing Program and whose nursing education and experience have been reviewed. Qualified Licensed Practical Nurses will be granted the 11 nursing credits before beginning the first nursing course (NURS 1160) in the Nursing Program. In addition to the 11 nursing credits, qualified LPNs will receive one additional credit for knowledge and experience equivalent to the Medical Dosages course, INTS 1080.

Nursing Program

LPN Mobility Track

Associate in Science Degree (A.S.), 64 credits

Nursing courses (34 credits)	Credits
NURS 1160 Health, Healing and Holism in Role Transition from LPN to RN	4
NURS 1165 Clinical Application for NURS 1160	2
NURS 2130 Nursing Interventions II: Health, Healing and Holism and the Role of the Registered Nurse	4
NURS 2135 Clinical Applications for NURS 2130	4
NURS 2222 Pathophysiological Approach to Health Problems and Pharmacologic Therapy	3
NURS 2150 Synthesis and Transition to the Registered Nurse Role	3
NURS 2155 Clinical Application for NURS 2150	3
LPN Mobility students will be awarded 11 advanced standing credits:	
Assessment of LPN Nursing Knowledge and Skills	<u>11</u>
	34

Liberal arts courses (30 credits)	Credits
ENG 1108 Writing and Research Skills	4
COMM 1100 Interpersonal Communication, or: COMM 2230 or 2240	3
BIOL 2201 Anatomy and Physiology I ¹	4
BIOL 2202 Anatomy and Physiology II ¹	4
BIOL 2205 Microbiology	3
INTS 1080 Medical Dosages ²	1
PSYC 1210 Lifespan Psychology or PSYC 1215 Child and Adolescent Psychology and PSYC 1220 Adult and Aging Psychology	4
Humanities/Fine Arts/Literature course(s) (See Goal 6 of Minnesota Transfer Curriculum)	3
Liberal Arts elective ³ (may include college biology or chemistry)	4
	30

¹ Please note that the 8 credits of Anatomy and Physiology must be completed by the beginning of the first semester of the LPN Mobility Track.

² INTS 1080 Medical Dosages. This 1 semester credit is awarded to LPNs based upon completion of prior equivalent math course content taken in the LPN program. LPNs must, however, complete the math assessment inventory.

³ These include MnTC courses, world languages, CJS 1150, 1152, 1154, 1156, 1158, INTS 1000, 1101, MUSC 1105, STSK 1101, and THTR 1161.

Obtaining registered nurse licensure:

After satisfactorily completing the Associate in Science Degree Nursing Program degree requirements, qualified students are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Exam - RN (NCLEX-RN®). Authorization to take this exam comes from the Minnesota State Board of Nursing as a result of the graduate's application to the board for licensure. After passing the exam, students are eligible to apply for licensure in all states.

If you have any legal or medical questions regarding your potential for meeting the Minnesota Board of Nursing requirements for licensure or your potential to practice professional nursing, contact the Minnesota Board of Nursing directly at (612) 617-2270. www.nursingboard.state.mn.us.

Affirmative action:

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MnSCU) is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and American Disability Act principles in all of its programs, services, activities, and employment.

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