

Nursing Program

Paramedic 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 COLLEGE
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 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) and Inver Hills and Century College 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 Paramedics toward the Associate Degree in nursing.
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 - Paramedic Mobility Track

The Paramedic Mobility Track is a separate nursing track offered to qualified EMT-Ps to prepare them for professional nursing. This accelerated track requires completion of nursing transition courses, 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 2016. The most recent data (www.iseek.org) suggests that the number of registered nursing positions will increase by 29.4 percent in the state of Minnesota and by 23.5 percent nationally from 2006 to 2016. 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. 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. EMT-P Certified

- Certified as a Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (NREMT-P), and/or State Certified as an EMT-P (Certification may be in any state in the U.S. but must be to a level equivalent to a Nationally Registered EMT-P).
- Equivalent of one year full-time work experience as a paramedic required before the first nursing courses (NURS 1260/1265); employment history will be verified by the college.

2. Credit and Grade point average (GPA) requirement: Completion of a minimum of 10 college-level Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) semester credits, with a cumulative grade-point average 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 GPA.

Students who do not have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 may petition for admission consideration based on their most recently completed 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. Anatomy and Physiology do not satisfy the Science requirement, as you need a General Biology course.

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 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: current or past (within last five years) direct patient health care 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 and must complete a new application for the subsequent year.

Application procedures

Deadline: 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 Paramedic Mobility Track Nursing Program class beginning in Summer 2010 is November 1st. The Paramedic Mobility Track begins 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.

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.

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

Immunization records: You 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 GPA requirements 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 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. In accordance with the Nursing Program Promotion and Retention Policies, students may be dismissed from the Nursing Program when a student has violated patient safety.

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 online or through the Nursing Program office.

Math requirement for Inver Hills nursing students:

Accelerated nursing students are not required to complete INTS 1080, Medical Dosages. Paramedics will receive exemption from this course based upon transfer of their coursework from their Paramedic program. However, accelerated 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 Paramedic who has not been recently employed or for any Paramedic who is weak in math. Please note that MATH 0094 Introductory Algebra is a pre-requisite for CHEM 1010 Introduction to Chemistry.

Minnesota General Education Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) Requirements:

Students are encouraged to complete as many of the required 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 MnTC requirements of the Nursing Program, please contact the college registrar at 651/450-8500 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 1260) in the Paramedic Mobility Nursing Program.

Students must have all MnTC course requirements for the AS in Nursing Degree completed to be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination – RN (NCLEX-RN®).

Advanced Standing:

Qualified Paramedic graduates who are currently National Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedics and/or who are currently State Certified as an EMT-P (certification may be in any state in the U.S. but must be to the level equivalent to a Nationally Registered EMT-P) with one year of fulltime equivalent paramedic work experience will be awarded advanced standing for 11 of the nursing course credits required for graduation from the Associate Degree Nursing Program. The 11 credits will be awarded before beginning the first nursing courses in the program (NURS 1260 and 1265). In addition, one semester credit will be awarded for INTS Medical Dosages based on course equivalency for content taught in the Paramedic curriculum.

Nursing Program

Paramedic Mobility Track

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

Nursing courses (34 credits)		Credits
Assessment of EMT-P knowledge and skills		11
NURS 1260	Health, Healing and Holism in Role Transition from Paramedic to RN	4
NURS 1265	Clinical Application for NURS 1260	2
NURS 1230	Nursing Interventions I: Health, Healing and Holism and the Role of the Registered Nurse	4
NURS 2235	Clinical Applications for NURS 1230	4
NURS 2222	Pathophysiological Approach to Health Problems and Pharmacologic Therapy	3
NURS 2250	Synthesis and Transition to the Registered Nurse Role	3
NURS 2255	Clinical Application for NURS 2250	<u>3</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		4
BIOL 2202 Anatomy and Physiology II		4
BIOL 2205 Microbiology		3
INTS 1080 Medical Dosages ¹		4
PSYC 1210 Lifespan Psychology or PSYC 1215 and 1220 may be substituted for PSYC 1210		3
Humanities/Fine Arts/Literature course(s) (See Goal 6 of MnTC)		4
Liberal Arts elective ³ (may include college biology or chemistry)		<u>4</u>
		30

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

2. INTS 1080 Medical Dosages. This 1 semester credit is awarded to paramedics based upon completion of prior equivalent math course content taken in the paramedic program. Paramedics 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 or www.nursingboard.state.mn.us.

Affirmative action:

MnSCU is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and American Disability Act principles in all of its programs, services, activities, and employment. The information in this publication is subject to change without notice. Inver Hills Community College is an equal opportunity educator and employer. This publication is available in alternate formats; call 651/450-3628, TTY 651/450-3369.