NURSING ADN PROGRAM

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM

Nursing is the largest health care profession in the United States, providing limitless and rewarding career opportunities for graduates. The Associate Degree in Nursing at KVCC prepares graduates to care for individuals and families, helping them attain, maintain, or recover optimal health and functioning.

The Associate Degree Nursing Program, both generic and LPN to ADN at Kennebec Valley Community College located in Fairfield, Maine is accredited by the: Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate Degree nursing programs is continued accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program on the ACEN website.

The KVCC Nursing Programs have full approval from the Maine State Board of Nursing.

Maine State Board of Nursing
161 Capitol Street, 158 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0158
(207) 287-1133
www.maine.gov/boardofnursing/index.html



Become a registered nurse and make a difference



What Nursing graduates do:

- Provide direct care to patients
- Conduct physical examinations
- Perform diagnostic testing
- Analyze results, tests, and interventions
- Utilize monitoring equipment
- Administer treatment/medications
- Provide emotional support to patients and their families

Career Opportunities:

- Hospitals
- Medical offices
- Maternity and pediatric settings
- Rehabilitation/long-term care centers
- Critical care units
- Dialysis facilities
- Cancer treatment centers
- Surgical centers
- Behavioral health facilities/units
- Home health agencies

For further questions about this program, please contact: kvccadmissions@mainecc.edu

NURSING ADN PROGRAM

Associate of Science Degree

Prerequisites*

First Semester

BIO213	Anatomy and Physiology I*	4
ENG101	College Composition*	3
MAT111	Quantitative Reasoning*	3
NUR118	Foundations of Nursing	8
NUR119	Transition to ADN Education	1

Second Semester

BIO214	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
NUR122	Nursing Across the Lifespan I	9
PSY101	Introduction to Psychology	3

Third Semester

BIO219	Microbiology	4
NUR224	Nursing Across the Lifespan II	9
PSY215	Developmental Psychology	3

Fourth Semester

COM104	Introduction to Communication	3
NUR227	Nursing Across the Lifespan III	7
NUR229	Transition into Nursing Practice for the ADN	2
PHI101	Introduction to Philosophy (H)	3
SOC101	Introduction to Sociology	3

Total Credits **69**

NUR126	LPN Transition to the ADN Role**	1

*These three (3) college level courses are required within the Nursing Program curriculum and are also a piece of the admission process for entry into the program.

**Required of LPN applications. Must be taken concurrently with NUR122 in the second semester.

(H) Suggested Elective. Please contact your advisor for more information.

CRITERIA FOR GRADUATION

To graduate, students must achieve a minimum grade of "C" in all courses (a final GPA of 2.0 or higher) and a "satisfactory" rating in the clinical portion of each nursing course. Students are graded "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory" in the clinical component of nursing courses.

ADN PROGRAM

Associate of Science Degree

DESCRIPTION

The Nursing Program prepares graduates for entry-level positions in the nursing profession. Successful completion of the ADN program of study qualifies graduates to receive an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (ADN). The ADN qualifies the graduate for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX- RN) and application for state licensure as a registered nurse (RN) in the state of Maine. The KVCC Nursing programs are approved by the Maine State Board of Nursing (MSBN) and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

The program of study combines general education and nursing studies in the classroom with selected laboratory, simulation, and clinical experiences in providing nursing care to patients in a variety of health care settings.

Nursing courses require students to participate in approximately 18 to 24 hours per week of classroom and clinical activities. Attendance is essential.

Students may be scheduled for day, evening, and weekend clinical experiences throughout the program. It is expected that students will be able to make the necessary arrangements in order to complete all scheduled rotations. General education courses supportive to the nursing major must be taken prior to or concurrent with nursing courses as stipulated in the curriculum design. Completion of all non- nursing general education courses is strongly recommended prior to program entry. Nursing courses must be taken in consecutive semesters. Students must achieve a minimum grade of "C" in all required general education and nursing courses in order to progress through the curriculum. A general education course may only be repeated once in order to achieve the minimum grade.

Applicants to the Nursing Program should be aware that nursing at the Associate Degree level involves the provision of direct care to patients. A student in the Nursing Program must have the knowledge and ability to effectively assess a patient's biopsychosocial needs. Furthermore, the student must be able to analyze data

in order to state a patient's problem, comprehensively plan independent and collaborative interventions, implement the plan of care, and evaluate the care given, as well as the patient's response to the care. Therefore, the student must have observational, communication, motor, cognitive, psychosocial, and behavioral abilities sufficient to carry out the above responsibilities. Technological accommodation can be made available for some disabilities in some of these areas, but a student must be able to perform in a reasonably independent manner. The use of a trained intermediary is not permitted since a student's judgment would be influenced by someone else's observations.

In order to be considered for admission or to be retained in the Nursing Program, all applicants must have the following abilities and skills:

1. A visual acuity with corrective lenses to identify cyanosis, absence of respiratory movement in patients; read small print on medication containers, health care providers' prescriptions, monitors, and equipment calibrations.
2. A hearing ability with auditory aids to understand the normal speaking voice without viewing the speaker's face; hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, call bells from patients and telephone orders; take/hear blood pressure, heart, lung, vascular, and abdominal sounds with stethoscope.
3. The physical ability to stand for prolonged periods of time, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, lift, move, and reposition patients, and move from room to room or maneuver in limited spaces.
4. Effective communication in verbal and written form by speaking clearly and succinctly when explaining treatment procedures, describing patients' conditions, and implementing health teaching. Write legibly and correctly in patients' charts for legal documentation and enter data accurately in the electronic medical record.
5. The manual dexterity to use sterile techniques to insert catheters, withdraw blood, and prepare and administer all medications.
6. The tactile ability to palpate pulses, determine warmth and coolness, detect enlarged nodes and lumps.
7. The ability to function safely under stressful conditions and the ability to adapt to a dynamic environment inherent in clinical situations involving patient care.

The Nursing Program is designed to keep pace with current health care trends and technology in order to meet the dynamic health care needs of the community, and to prepare students for the challenges of the nursing profession. The curriculum is subject to change without notice in order to comply with the requirements of accrediting agencies, clinical facilities, and/or the College. For the most current information, applicants should visit the KVCC Nursing Program website at www.kvcc.me.edu/Pages/Nursing/Nursing-Home.

Students in the Nursing Program are expected to be computer proficient in keyboarding, word processing, and the use of the Internet. All nursing courses are Brightspace enhanced courses. Ideally, students should have off- campus internet access in order to complete online course activities.

Students who are not successful in a nursing course do not progress to the subsequent nursing course; unsuccessful students must withdraw from the Nursing Program. Students who are not successful in completing a nursing course may be considered for re-admission to the Nursing Program one time only. Acceptance for re-admission depends upon:

1. the overall past performance of the applicant;
2. completion of actions taken by the applicant for remediation;
3. availability of space in the Nursing Program;
4. program duration limits.
5. additional coursework/testing.

Students who are not successful in the first semester nursing course (NUR118) must apply to restart the Nursing Program through the Admissions Office. Current admission requirements must be met. Re-entrance into the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th semesters is done by petitioning the Academic Dean and the nursing faculty.

NOTE: All applicants to the Nursing Program should be aware that the Maine State Board of Nursing may refuse to grant a license on the basis of criminal history record information relating to convictions denominated in Title 5, Chapter 341, subsection 5301 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated. To participate in the Nursing Program, students must attest to criminal history and pending criminal data. Convictions and pending charges of concern will be reviewed by clinical agencies to determine if students can work at these sites. Students who are not accepted at a clinical agency will not be able to meet program requirements, resulting in dismissal from the Nursing Program. Students found to be untruthful or misleading on the attestation statement may be dismissed from the Nursing Program.

PROGRAM MISSION

The purpose of the Nursing Program is to educate graduates who will function competently as entry level Associate Degree nurses. The curriculum is designed to provide students with learning opportunities which integrate theoretical knowledge with clinical practice.

Students will be encouraged to review, assess, and analyze information in order to make sound clinical judgments, to think conceptually. Graduates of the Nursing Program are prepared to provide safe and compassionate nursing care to individuals and families in a variety of acute, long- term, and community health care settings.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Nursing faculty believes that the Nursing program subscribes to the philosophy of Kennebec Valley Community College. The College endeavors to provide a balance between occupational and academic competencies and to promote the development of individuals so that they can meet the changing needs of the community.

The nursing faculty at KVCC believes that competent nursing practice is based on patient-centered care and professional behaviors within the healthcare domain. Patient-centered care is compassionate, respectful, and responsive to individual patient preferences and needs. The patient's values guide clinical decisions. The Nursing Process, a systematic method that uses critical thinking to provide structure to nursing practice, promotes patient centered care. Professional behaviors arise from valuing accountability, truthfulness, and integrity. These values are demonstrated by the provision of safe, ethical, and evidenced- based nursing care in collaboration with other healthcare providers, resulting in optimal patient outcomes. The healthcare domain focuses on the prevention, treatment, and management of illness and the preservation of mental and physical well-being through services offered by medical, nursing, and allied health professions.

Nurse educators face many challenges as they prepare graduates to provide safe, and effective nursing care in increasingly complex healthcare environments. Consequently, nursing faculty evaluate the Nursing Program on an on-going, systematic basis to ensure the curriculum is current and meets state and national standards for quality patient care.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the Associate Degree Nursing Program, the graduate will:

1. provide holistic care, utilizing the nursing process, to individuals and families across the life span and the wellness-illness continuum;
2. provide safe and ethical care based on research, using information and technology to support decision- making and improve quality;
3. demonstrate legal and ethical accountability for the delivery of caring and competent nursing care using professional communication with interdisciplinary team members.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please refer to the General admission guidelines in the Course Catalog at KVCC Admissions. Additional admission requirements are as follows:

Immunization and CPR Requirements

1. Current CPR Certification - Basic Life Support (BLS) from the American Heart Association (AHA).
2. Proof of immunization against TDAP within the last ten years.
3. Proof of immunization against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR). If non-immune, two doses MMR vaccine is required for persons born after 1957.
4. Proof of immunization against Hepatitis Series B and Titre (6+ month process). If non-immune, a waiver is required.
5. Proof of immunization against chicken pox with a Varicella Titre. If non-immune, two doses of Varicella virus vaccine is required.
6. An influenza vaccine is required annually in the fall by health care facilities.
7. Optional: COVID-19 vaccine is recommended, but not required. Clinical placements may be impacted as some clinical agencies require proof of vaccination.

Required College Courses

1. BIO213 Anatomy and Physiology I - "B" (3.0) grade or better
2. ENG101 College Composition - "B" (3.0) grade or better
3. MAT111 Quantitative Reasoning - "B" (3.0) grade or better

Required Academic Standing

Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 is required. Students are academically evaluated on a case-by-case basis using multiple measures.

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

1. The TEAS exam is taken remotely and video monitored by ATI (the company that owns the TEAS). You must have access to a computer with video capability to take the TEAS.
2. Students register and pay for the test by setting up an account with ATI at www.atitesting.com and choosing a test date.

3. Students are responsible for having the results of their TEAS exam sent to kvccadmissions@mainecc.edu
4. The TEAS may only be taken three (3) times in total. In addition, the TEAS may only be taken twice in the same academic year (September 1 to August 31) with a minimum of 45 days between exam sessions.
5. Applicants who have not taken college courses before are strongly encouraged to reach out to the Admissions Office at 453-5822 or kvccadmissions@mainecc.edu before registering for the TEAS to determine the best time to take the TEAS.

Minimum composite score 70th percentile rank.

Nursing Program Orientation
Upon successful completion of the above entrance requirements, students will receive an acceptance letter. Students must attend a required Accepted Student event scheduled in June and Program Orientation in August. Students will be notified of the dates for these sessions by the College and/or the Department Chair. Failure to attend these required accepted student events can jeopardize admission status to the program.

Transfer Applicants
Transfer applicants must meet the current Nursing Program admission requirements. Additionally, they must submit a letter of reference from the Chairperson of their former nursing program. Clinical nursing credits must be approved by the Chairperson of the KVCC Nursing Program and cannot be more than one (1) year old. Once transfer students are admitted to the Nursing Program, they have one (1) opportunity to complete the Nursing curriculum. Transfer students are required to complete a minimum of two (2) academic semesters in order to meet graduation and residency requirements.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Criminal Background Checks
Applicants to certain programs need to note that a criminal background check will likely be required while enrolled in the program or as a condition of employment in the field. Certain internship and/or practicum sites, such as health care facilities, may limit or deny clinical privileges to those students who have a prior or current criminal record.

- Should a clinical facility refuse to permit a student to complete a clinical rotation based upon the student's criminal background check, the student may not be able to complete the program. In the event a student is denied placement at a clinical site the College will likely be required to enter an academic dismissal from the program.
- Additionally, certain licensing boards may refuse to issue a license to practice based upon prior or current criminal offense (s). To learn more about whether the program or profession in which you are interested has such requirements or limitations, contact the appropriate Department Chair.

Infectious Diseases
Applicants who consider a career in Nursing or the Allied Health professions should be aware that during the course of their education and subsequent employment, they will be working in situations where exposure to infectious diseases is probable. This is an occupational risk for all health care workers. Persons should not become health care workers unless they recognize and accept this risk. Proper education and strict adherence to well-established infection control guidelines, however, can reduce the risk to a minimum. Thorough education in infection control procedures is an integral part of each health care program.

Exposure to Latex
Additionally, applicants should be aware that exposure to natural rubber latex (NRL) is likely. Individuals exposed to NRL products may develop allergic reactions such as skin rashes; hives; nasal, eyes, or sinus symptoms; and, rarely, shock.

Costs
Costs associated with required immunizations, criminal background screenings, finger printing (when applicable) and admission testing are the responsibility of the applicant.

Clinical/Fieldwork Placement
Students may be scheduled for day, evening and night clinical/fieldwork experiences in some programs. It is expected that the student is able to make the necessary arrangements in order to complete all scheduled times. Placement is statewide. The student is responsible for all travel and/or living expenses related to the clinical or fieldwork experience.

Drug Testing
Drug testing may be a requirement of clinical/fieldwork education sites. Students will be responsible for the cost of such testing if required by the site.

The **Nursing** program technical standards have been developed to inform students of the nonacademic essential functions of the program and profession. Examples are not all inclusive.

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
Communication Oral / Written	• Students must use effective spoken and written English to clearly communicate with patients, families, peers, faculty, and healthcare team members across diverse social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	• Accurately document patient information manually and electronically using appropriate medical terminology • Read, interpret, and follow provider orders • Communicate patient responses to interventions and treatments • Establish and maintain professional therapeutic relationships with patients and families • Collaborate effectively with healthcare team members
Mobility / Motor Skills	• Students must possess sufficient motor coordination, manual dexterity, and physical mobility to safely perform nursing skills and clinical tasks in a variety of healthcare environments.	• Safely handle and operate medical instruments and equipment using fine motor grasp to manipulate objects. • Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) • Prepare and administer medications via oral, intramuscular, and intravenous routes • Use computers and electronic health record systems • Mobility sufficient to perform physical activities that require dexterity and flexibility to move body in a variety of positions in order to navigate patient rooms, treatment areas, and confined clinical spaces • Perform physical activities including standing, pushing, pulling, bending, stooping, lifting, reaching, and rapid movements when required
Physical Strength and Stamina	• Students must maintain adequate physical endurance and strength to meet the demands of classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings.	• Stand and walk up to 12-hour shifts • Walk significant distances per day • Lift, carry and move equipment weighing 10+ lbs • Assist in lifting and/or maneuver clients 50+ lbs.
Sensory **• Sight** **• Sound** **• Taste** **• Touch** **• Smell**	• Students must demonstrate sufficient sensory abilities to perform accurate patient assessments and respond appropriately to clinical situations.	• Visually observe patients, equipment, and environmental conditions • Hear verbal communication, alarms, call bells, and emergency signals • Auscultate heart, lung, and blood pressure sounds • Detect changes in patient condition through touch, such as palpating pulses • Tolerate and respond appropriately to various clinical odors

Standard	Essential Function	Examples
Emotional Regulation	• Students must demonstrate the ability to regulate emotions and respond appropriately in stressful, unpredictable, or emotionally charged situations commonly encountered in nursing education and clinical practice.	• Maintain composure during high-stress clinical situations • Respond constructively to feedback, instruction, and evaluation from faculty and clinical supervisors • Demonstrate emotional composure when caring for patients experiencing pain, distress, or crisis • Adapt behavior appropriately when confronted with unexpected changes in patient condition or clinical environment • Manage personal stress in a manner that does not interfere with patient safety, learning, or professional responsibilities • Interact respectfully with patients, families, peers, and healthcare team members despite emotional or environmental challenges
Environmental / Occupational Exposure	• Students must be able to function safely in healthcare environments that may involve physical, emotional, and environmental stressors.	• Exposure to communicable diseases, blood, bodily fluids, and secretions • Potential exposure to hazardous materials, medications, latex, and radiation • Work effectively under time pressure and in high-stress situations • Respond promptly and appropriately during emergencies to ensure patient safety • Use required personal protective equipment, including face masks

Field or Industry Professional Standards	• Students must meet all professional, ethical, and regulatory requirements necessary for participation in the nursing program and clinical experiences.	• Successful completion of a criminal background check
		• Maintenance of current CPR certification
		• Completion of required health screenings and testing
		• Successful completion of admission and program requirements, which may include:
		  • TEAS examination
		  • Drug screening
		• Required immunizations and testing which may include but are not limited to: flu, MMR, varicella, tuberculosis, TDap