ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: CERTIFICATE

Practical Nursing-L.P.N. (PNC)

THE CERTIFICATE: Practical Nursing

THE PROGRAM
Prepares you for a career as a licensed practical nurse who is able to provide high-quality, patient-centered nursing care to adults and children in long-term and subacute care facilities, outpatient settings, and acute care hospitals. You will be required to take a rigorous combination of science, liberal arts, and nursing courses over a 10-month period from September through the end of June.

YOUR NEXT STEP
This program prepares you to take the NCLEX PN licensure examination and enter the workforce. Options are available to continue your education in an Associate Degree Registered Nursing Program at GCC or another college. Refer to the catalog for options and requirements.

PROGRAM CONTACT
Charles Jordan, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Office: C205, (413) 775-1471, email: jordanc@gcc.mass.edu

Note: The Practical Nursing program is operated out of Northampton, MA.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
One of the following: BIO 194 Comprehensive Anatomy and Physiology or BIO 216 (BIO 196) Human Anatomy and Physiology II 4
NUR 103A Fundamentals of Practical Nursing 10
NUR 103C Fundamentals of Practical Nursing Clinical 2
NUR 105 Practical Nursing Clinical 2
NUR 107A Nursing Care of Patients and Families 9
NUR 107C Nursing Care of Patients and Families Clinical 5
NUR 107A Advanced Concepts in Practical Nursing 2
NUR 109C Advanced Concepts in Practical Nursing Clinical 3
PSY 101 Principles of Psychology 3
PSY 217 Human Growth and Development 3

Total Credits: 43

The Practical Nursing Certificate program is approved by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing.

PN ADMISSION PROCESS
Admission to the PN Program requires a special admission process. Informational packets are available at www.gcc.mass.edu/admission/health-careers or by calling the Office of Admission (413) 775-1801. Students who have met the admission requirements will be admitted on a space available basis.

ACADEMIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROGRAM
• High school diploma or GED/HiSet certificate.
• Completion of MAT 095 or MAT 095S or MAT 105 or equivalent or a higher level Math course with a "C+" grade or better within five (5) years of program start date.
  - Applicants may also complete the Introductory Algebra admission requirement by receiving an algebra placement test score of 61 or higher and an arithmetic placement test score of 67 or higher.
• Completion of ENG 101 with a "C" grade or better.
• Completion of BIO 126 or BIO 194 or BIO 215 or BIO 216 with a "C" grade or better within five (5) years of program start date.
• Test scores on the Test for Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) examination that meet the minimum scores indicated on the program application.

All students entering the PN program will be required to have a CORI (Criminal Offenders Record Information) check and a SORI (Sex Offenders Record Information) check. For more information please refer to page 7. A student with a charge in the Lifetime Presumptive Disqualification Category is ineligible for placement in the PN Program. Discretionary Disqualification Category charges will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Additional CORI/background checks may be required by some clinical agencies. Searches are also conducted within the child abuse databases. Enrolled PN students must meet clinical agency health requirements including mandatory drug screening. Applicants need to know that individuals with a record of conviction by a Court of Law will be required to provide an anesthetic and prior to Licensure.

Note: The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing requires a check of DCFS (Department of Children and Family Services) after graduation. Interested applicants should review the information packet on line, which describes admission requirements, the curriculum and program policies, before beginning the application process. This information and a program application are available at www.gcc.mass.edu/academics/programs/practical-nursing or by calling the Office of Admission at (413) 775-1801. (Continued on next page)

GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUATION IN THIS PROGRAM
PN students are required to pass every course in the PN program. All didactic nursing courses require a letter grade of C (74) or better. Clinical courses are graded Pass/Fail. Students who do not meet the minimum grade requirement for any single nursing course may apply for readmission and will be required to repeat both the didactic and corresponding clinical courses. Students who fail two nursing courses will not be eligible for readmission to the program.

EXTRA COSTS
Nursing students are required to purchase uniforms, lab equipment, a laptop, malpractice insurance, specific electronic educational platforms, health insurance, and standardized tests. In addition, there are fees for maintaining CPR certification, immunizations, a required physical, flu and COVID vaccines, fingerprinting, and nursing graduation related expenses (i.e., licensure application, NCLEXPN exams, review course.) Students are responsible for their own transportation between campus and clinical facilities.

To plan certificate completion, see the course descriptions in the catalog or at www.gcc.mass.edu/record/programs/practical-nursing or by calling the Office of Admission at (413) 775-1801.