



Thank you for your interest in our Associate Degree Nursing

Program's LPN to ADN Transition articulation component. Enclosed is the admission packet. It includes information you will need to read and forms you will need to complete and return if you would like to begin the application process. You can access the current estimated expense sheets for the LPN to ADN program by going online to http://www.gulfcoast.edu/health_sciences/nursing/rn/LPNtoADN_weekend/default.htm. Applicants desiring admission into the RN program, who have failed to achieve a "C" or better in **ANY** two nursing courses in any RN nursing program(s) attended, will not be considered for admission. Students who have been readmitted one time to **ANY** RN program are not eligible for admission.

The need for registered nurses in the community and nationwide has remained constant, and average salaries for staff RNs in Florida range from \$40,000 to \$60,000 depending upon education, experience, and location. The Gulf Coast State College Associate Degree Nursing Program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.* As identified in the packet and brochure, it is a **73 credit hour** program that encompasses on-campus classroom, laboratory hours, and clinical experience in a variety of local hospitals and facilities. Student who are engaged in this type of program will complete the Practical Nursing program (1 year), take 32 credit hours for pre and co-requisite course work (1 - 2 years), then two semesters of the nursing program (1 year).

The articulation program is designed to facilitate the transition from the role of licensed practical nurse to registered nurse. Applicants may earn up to 17 credit hours of nursing credit based on successful completion of three Excelsior Mobility Exams or completion of the five-credits LPN to ADN transitions course. Additionally, applicants are required to complete all prerequisite courses prior to articulating into third and fourth semester nursing courses. LPN Transition students are then articulated with advanced placement into the traditional weekday program with generic students or into the special weekend option.

Upon graduation, students receive an Associate in Science Degree in Nursing (A.D.N.) and are eligible to sit for the national exam to obtain a registered nurse (R.N.) license. An Associate in Science Degree in Nursing is the first step in professional nursing. It prepares you to begin further studies (through University Programs) to progress in the profession for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, a Master's Degree in Nursing, or a Doctoral Degree.

Please carefully read through the information provided. If you have any questions, contact **Craig Wise**, our Assistant Coordinator for Health Sciences Admissions, at **(850) 913-3311** or e-mail cwise@gulfcoast.edu. Additional nursing program information is also available on our website at http://www.gulfcoast.edu/health_sciences/nursing/default.htm.

Good luck with your educational plans!

Coordinator of Nursing

*The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) can be contacted at 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia 30326, or 1-404-975-5000.

(Updated June, 2011)

Gulf Coast State College
Associate Degree Nursing Program
Tracks for Entering

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING:

The program is for the student who enters without prior nursing core courses and intends to complete all the required nursing core courses at Gulf Coast State College.

LPN to ADN TRANSITION – TRADITIONAL OPTION:

The student is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and wishes to enter with advanced standing into the Associate Degree Nursing Program Weekday Option at Gulf Coast State College. Classes are full time, Monday through Thursday. (This option uses a different application packet).

LPN to ADN TRANSITION – WEEKEND OPTIONS:

The program is for the student who is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and wishes to enter with advanced standing into the Associate Degree Nursing Program Weekend Option at Gulf Coast State College on either Main campus or the Gulf Franklin campus. Classes are part time (Friday for 6 hours and Saturday *OR* Sunday for 12½ hours).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT INTO THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM:

The program is for the student who has completed any portion of a Registered Nursing Program's core courses at another College or University and wishes to transfer credit into Gulf Coast State College's Associate Degree Nursing Program. Depending upon a transcript evaluation, the student may be allowed to enter the program with advanced placement if the course work in nursing is less than two years old. The student must complete a minimum of eighteen credit hours at Gulf Coast State College to be eligible for graduation. (This option uses a different application packet.)

SPECIAL LPN to ADN WEEKEND SCHEDULING OPTION

In addition to the Traditional Weekday program, Gulf Coast State College has also implemented a special “**Weekend Option**” that will meet on **Friday afternoons and Saturdays OR Sundays**. This option was created in response to requests from LPNs that are unable to attend the “traditional weekday” track because of their work schedule.

The **Weekend Option** is a **rigorous course of study** requiring dedication and stamina. If you add this option to a fulltime work schedule, you will have a very demanding routine over 2 semesters. Between your work, classes, labs, clinical, and study time, you will be busy seven days a week during the program. Obviously, if you have family, they will need to be very supportive and understanding while you are participating in this unique option.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MARK WHICH OPTION YOU CHOOSE TO PURSUE (OR NUMBER IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE), ON YOUR APPLICATION PRIOR TO TURNING IT IN. IF NO OPTION IS MARKED, IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU WANT THE TRADITIONAL WEEKDAY OPTION.

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GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
5230 West U.S. Highway 98
Panama City, FL 32401-1058
(850) 872-3827 or 913-3311 Toll Free: 1-800-311-3685
Fax: (850) 747-3246

PLEASE SELECT ONE OPTION OR NUMBER IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

- _____ LPN to ADN Traditional Option – Main Campus
- _____ LPN to ADN Weekend Option – Main Campus
- _____ LPN to ADN Weekend Option – Gulf Franklin Campus

Answer ALL Questions: Please TYPE or PRINT – (Please submit form as soon as possible)

Name: _____
First Middle Last Maiden Name

Home Address: _____
Street & Number City State Zip County

Social Security Number: _____ Male Female

Permanent or Mailing Address (If different from above): _____

E-Mail: _____ Home Phone: () _____

Business Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____

EDUCATION
OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT(s) must be received by the Office of Admissions & Records.
ALL schools and colleges attended must be listed for the application to be complete. **Use additional sheets if necessary.**

Name of School	Location of School	From Month/Year	To Month/Year	Did you Receive Diploma, Degree or Certificate?	What was your Major/Minor?
High School or GED:					
Vocational / Other Technical Program					
College or University:					
College or University:					

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATION

Type	Issued by Which State or Agency?	License Number	Date Issued

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide information about three people who will always know where to locate you:

	Name	Mailing Address	Telephone Number
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____

HEALTH RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE and / or VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE
Use additional sheets if necessary

1. EMPLOYER: _____

Address _____ Phone: _____ Extension _____

Street & Number City State

Supervisor's Name _____ Title _____

Dates employed: From _____ To _____ Nature of your Job Duties: _____

Mo./Yr. Mo./Yr.

Reason for Leaving _____ Full-Time _____ Part-Time _____

2. EMPLOYER: _____

Address _____ Phone: _____ Extension _____

Street & Number City State

Supervisor's Name _____ Title _____

Dates employed: From _____ To _____ Nature of your Job Duties: _____

Mo./Yr. Mo./Yr.

Reason for Leaving _____ Full-Time _____ Part-Time _____

PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation, omission or falsification of information is cause for denial of admission from the program. I understand that illegal use, possession, and/or misuse of drugs are reasons for immediate dismissal from any of the programs in the Health Sciences Division. I further understand that background checks and drug screening are routinely required at most clinical facilities prior to the student being allowed clinical placement.

Signature of Applicant

Date

RETURN APPLICATION TO:
Gulf Coast State College
Health Sciences Division – Room 200
5230 West. U.S. Highway 98
Panama City, FL 32401-1058

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:
Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING CHECKLIST FOR LPN to ADN TRANSITION ADMISSION

NOTE: A student who has failed to achieve a "C" or better in **ANY** two nursing core courses, in any RN nursing program(s) attended, will not be considered for admission. Students who have been readmitted one time to **ANY** RN program are not eligible for admission.

Step I: To **INITIATE** the application process and be assigned an advisor, the student **MUST** have their Florida LPN License and complete the following requirements:

- _____ 1. **APPLY FOR GENERAL ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE - (Declare Major: RN-APP)**. Call or visit GCSC Enrollment Services to obtain an application for admission and to receive information on the college admissions process. The numbers are (850) 872-3892 or 1-800-311-3685, ext. 3892. Applications are also available on our website: www.gulfcoast.edu. **Students must pay the College application fee: Failure to pay the college application fee at the time of submission can result in your ineligibility for program consideration.**
 - _____ 2. **COMPLETE THE HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION APPLICATION FOR NURSING** - Submit the completed application in this package to the Health Sciences Office, Room 200. (**NOTE: Students need to submit their "Application for Admission" form at the same time they turn in the general college admission forms.**)
 - _____ 3. **PROVIDE OFFICIAL, HIGH SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, & COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS-** Applicant must request that official transcripts from high school or GED (scores required) **and** all colleges attended be sent to **GCSC Enrollment Services** for evaluation. Evaluating transcripts can be time consuming; Enrollment Services will notify you when the evaluation is complete. Failure to declare the correct major can result in unnecessary evaluation delays.
 - _____ 4. **DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE LEVEL COMPETENCE IN ENGLISH & READING**** - Students may demonstrate this competence in **one** of the following **five** methods:
 - A. **Florida College Placement Tests (CPT):** Take the English CPT and achieve an 83 and the Reading CPT and achieve an 83.
-OR-
 - B. **PERT:** Take the English PERT and achieve a 99 and the Reading PERT and achieve a 104.
-OR-
 - C. **ACT:** Achieve a reading score of 18 and an English score of 17.
-OR-
 - D. **SAT:** Achieve a verbal score of 440.
-OR-
 - E. **Complete the prerequisite requirements to enter ENC 1101.** (Prerequisite requirements are listed within the ENC 1101 course description in the college catalog.)
 - i. ***NOTE: Mixed scores from different types of tests will not be accepted.** For example, a reading CPT of 83 and an English ACT of 18 will not be accepted. Competence in BOTH subjects, from either CPT or ACT as specified above, must be demonstrated. **Computerized placement tests are available. Please see note below.**
 - ii. Computerized placement tests for English and Reading are given in the **Enrollment Services Bldg #128**. The fee is \$5.00. (See Placement Testing Schedule online for additional information or call the Testing Office at 769-1551, ext. 2899.) Study guides for the tests are available in the college book store. The tests may be taken only two times in a semester.
- **NOTE:** Students who desire to **improve their probability of success** in **ALL** nursing courses should **enroll** in **OST 1257 – Medical Terminology** **BEFORE** entering the nursing program. The nursing program **REQUIRES** the students to have knowledge of medical language in **EACH NURSING COURSE**.
- _____ 5. **DEMONSTRATION OF ALGEBRA COMPETENCE*** - Students must demonstrate a minimum level competence in algebra by **one** of the following **five** methods:
 - A. **CPT:** Take the Algebra CPT and achieve a minimum score of 72.
-OR-
 - B. **PERT:** Take the Math Test PERT and achieve a minimum score of 113.
-OR-
 - C. **ACT:** Achieve a math score of 19.
-OR-
 - D. **SAT:** Achieve a math score of 440.
-OR-
 - E. **MAT 0028- Fundamentals of Algebra course (Appropriate placement test scores are required to take this course.):** Complete with a grade of "C" or higher. Completion of a higher-level algebra course will also satisfy this requirement. ***Computerized placement tests are available. Please see note below.**
 - i. Computerized placement tests for Algebra are given in the **Enrollment Services Bldg #128**. The fee is \$5.00. (See Placement Testing Schedule for additional information or call the Testing Office at 769-1551, ext. 2899.) Study guides for the tests are available in the college book store. The tests may be taken only two times in a semester.
- NOTE:** Students who desire to **improve their probability of success** in **ALL** nursing courses should **enroll** in **MTB 0375 - Health Math** **BEFORE** entering the nursing program. The nursing program **REQUIRES** the students to **validate nursing math skills** in **EACH NURSING COURSE**. See course Learning Activity Guide for specific passing requirements.
- _____ 6. **OBTAIN A NURSING FACULTY ADVISOR (Students should reach this point as quickly as possible). After ALL of the above criteria are met, the student is responsible to contact Craig Wise, the Assistant Coordinator for Health Sciences Admissions, to be assigned a nursing faculty advisor.** He can be reached at (850) 913-3311 or cwise@gulfcoast.edu.

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NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS: It is the **RESPONSIBILITY** of the **STUDENT** to **MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION WITH** their **ADVISOR** to ensure that their application folder is complete and up-to-date with current admission requirements. Remember that most faculty are not on campus on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or during summer months.

Step II: The following must be completed prior to admission into NUR 1000C or 1005C (LPN to ADN Transitions):

- ____ 1. **VALIDATION OF AN APPROVED PRACTICAL NURSE PROGRAM AND PROOF OF CURRENT ACTIVE PRACTICAL NURSING LICENSE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA**
Official transcripts must be sent to GCSC Enrollment Services, and a copy of current Florida LPN license submitted to Health Sciences to be placed in the student's nursing file.
- ____ 2. **DOCUMENTATION OF I.V. THERAPY COURSES**
- ____ 3. **COMPLETION OF SUPPORT COURSES**
With a minimum grade of "C" according to the Course Requirements and Curriculum Plan in this packet.
- ____ 4. **APPOINTMENT WITH ASSIGNED NURSING FACULTY ADVISOR**
The applicant **MUST** call to schedule an appointment with his/her assigned Advisor to review the application folder for completeness. Call 769-1551 and ask for the appropriate extension:

Ms. Wheeler, Room 220, ext. 5840 dwheeler@gulfcoast.edu (Students with Last Name A-Z)	Ms. Bottkol, Room 217, ext. 3317 cbottkol@gulfcoast.edu (All Gulf Franklin Students)
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- ____ 5. **CURRENT CPR CARD**
From either the American Heart Association (BCLS-C) for Healthcare Provider (Basic Cardiac Life Support), or the American Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer.
- ____ 6. **CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) OF 2.5 (MINIMUM)**

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS, EITHER 7A OR 7B (SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR CURRICULUM PLANS):

- ____ 7a. **PROVIDE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF SPECIFIED EXCELSIOR MOBILITY EXAMS** - Must be available to the nursing department prior to being allowed to enroll in NUR 1005C by either by the last business day in October or March. (Student copies are not acceptable.) **NOTE:** To receive a copy of the **Excelsior College Examinations Registration and Information: A User's Guide**, go to the GCSC nursing web site at http://www.gulfcoast.edu/health_sciences/nursing/rn/LPNtoADN_traditional/ExcelsiorCollegeExamReg_Info%20Book2010-11.pdf. **Examinations Registration and Information: A User's Guide** is also available at: http://www.excelsior.edu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ffaadaed-0869-4de7-b269-f98447e13f40&groupId=12408. Excelsior College can be reached by phone at (888) 647-2388 should you have difficulty.
Note: Graduates from the Gulf Franklin Practical Nursing Program are not required to take NUR 1005C – LPN to ADN Transitions (1 Credit) if they choose this 7a. option, but must contact the nursing coordinator for math orientation.

The Exams are:

Exam Number	Name	Passing Score
403	Fundamentals of Nursing	Grade of "C"
554	Adult Nursing	Grade of "C"
407	Foundations of Gerontology	Grade of "C"

OR

- ____ 7b. **ENROLL IN NUR 1000C – LPN to ADN NURSING TRANSITIONS COURSE (5 CREDIT)** – Students must have nursing advisor approval in order to take this course. The Excelsior College Mobility Exams are not required for this course. Content of the Excelsior Mobility Exams (Fundamental of Nursing, Adult Nursing, and Foundations of Gerontology) will be covered in the course and students must receive a Grade of "C" in each content area to progress.

Step III: PRIOR TO ENTERING THE PROGRAM, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- ____ 8. **CURRENT PPD or TB TEST or DECLINATION WITH X-RAY RESULTS**
- ____ 9. **MEDICAL EXAMINATION** with satisfactory results
- ____ 10. **SATISFACTORY FINGERPRINT / CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**
- ____ 11. **HIPAA TRAINING COURSE CERTIFICATION*** (Clinical Requirement)
- ____ 12. **INFECTION CONTROL COURSE CERTIFICATION*** (Clinical Requirement)

***NOTE:** We ask students to provide proof of course certification in advance. Students who do not have certifications are **REQUIRED** to attend HIPAA and Infection Control certification from your place of employment or while enrolled in NUR 1000C or NUR 1005C, LPN to ADN Transitions to receive the appropriate certifications.

Note: The **LPN to ADN Transition Traditional and Weekend Options** is a **limited access program**. Admission to the program is **competitive in nature** and **is not guaranteed**. A selection committee ranks all applications, and admission is granted to the most qualified applicants. Applicants can improve their chances of admission by maintaining a high GPA, and completing pre & co-requisite courses. **It should be understood that satisfactorily meeting minimum requirements does not automatically guarantee admission.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & CURRICULUM PLAN

LPN to ADN ARTICULATION NURSING PROGRAM (TRADITIONAL & WEEKEND OPTIONS)

Prerequisite Courses: Successfully completed with a C or higher prior to acceptance into the Nursing Program			
BSC 2085	Human Anatomy & Physiology	3 Credits	Prerequisite Course Before Entering the Program
BSC 2085L	Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1 Credit	Prerequisite Course Before Entering the Program
DEP 2004	Developmental Psychology	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
HUN 1201	Principles of Nutrition	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
NUR 1142	Introduction to Pharmacology (See Advisor to Enroll)	2 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
BSC 2086	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
BSC 2086L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1 Credit	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
SYG 2000	Principles of Sociology	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 3 of the Program

Courses that may be taken prior to entering OR during the nursing program and must be completed with a C or higher are indicated below. (Students are strongly encouraged to complete as many of these courses as possible *prior* to entering the Nursing Program.)

MCB 2004	Microbiology	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 4 of the Program
MCB 2004L	Microbiology Lab	1 Credit	Before Entering Semester 4 of the Program
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3 Credits	By the End of Semester 4 of the Program
Humanities	Humanities I, II, or III	3 Credits	By the End of Semester 4 of the Program
ENC 1101	English Composition I	3 Credits	By the End of Semester 4 of the Program

NOTE: It is *highly recommended* that students who are taking the weekend nursing program options complete all Pre and Co-Requisites **BEFORE** entering the weekend program options due to the speed of delivery for program content. **NOTE:** Students must have a **GPA of 2.5 to begin the nursing program**. All courses must be completed with a C or higher, **GPA 2.0, for continuation in the nursing program**.

OPTION 7A

LPNs who choose Option A are required to take the three excelsior mobility examinations. These exam grades represent an equivalent grade for comparable nursing courses offered during the first year of the ADN program.

Excelsior Mobility Exams	Exam Number	Passing Score	
Fundamentals of Nursing	Exam #403	Grade of "C"	
Adult Nursing	Exam #554	Grade of "C"	
Foundations of Gerontology	Exam #407	Grade of "C"	
Semester Prior to Admission	NUR 1005C	LPN to ADN Nursing Transitions	1 Credit

OPTION 7B

Semester Prior to Admission	NUR 1000C	LPN to ADN Nursing Transitions	5 Credits
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REQUIRED NURSING COURSES TAKEN OVER TWO SEMESTERS AFTER ACCEPTANCE INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Semester	Course Number	Course Name	Credits
Semester 3:	NUR 2520C	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	4
	NUR 2420C	Maternal-Infant Nursing	4
	NUR 2310C	Nursing Care of the Child	4
Semester 4:	NUR 2241C	Nursing Care, Adult III	8
	NUR 2945C	Practicum	3

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (Not All Inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations • Develop nursing care plans • Make rapid decisions under pressure • Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations • Assist with problem solving
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, educational, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues • Cope effectively with high levels of stress • Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner • Cope with confrontation • Demonstrate high degree of patience
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment procedures • Initiate client education • Document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, to maneuver in small spaces and to perform procedures necessary for emergency intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move around in patient's rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas • Administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation procedures • Walk the equivalent of 5 miles per day • Remain on one's feet in upright position at a workstation without moving about • Climb stairs • Remain in seated position
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calibrate and use equipment • Position patients/clients • Perform repetitive tasks • Able to grip • Bend at knee and squat. • Reach above shoulder level • Lift and carry 25 pounds • Exert 20-50 pounds of force (pushing/pulling)
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, and cries for help • Hear tape recorded transcriptions • Hear telephone interactions
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe patient/client responses • Identify and distinguish colors
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertion of a catheter
Environmental	Ability to tolerate environmental stressors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt to shift work • Work with chemicals and detergents • Tolerate exposure to fumes and odors • Work in areas that are close and crowded

SOURCES:

1. Red Alert: The Americans With Disabilities Act Implications for Nursing Education Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression Framework. Southern Regional Education Board, Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing, March 1993.
2. Dictionary of Occupations and Professions, Vol. II, 4th ed. 1991, Nurse, General Duty.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BACKGROUND

Applicants to the Nursing Programs in the Health Science Division of Gulf Coast State College work very hard to meet the entry requirements for selection. Our programs make every effort to accept as many academically qualified students as possible. In addition to meeting basic entry requirements, however, applicants must also consider how their personal history and background may affect their ability to meet admission and clinical requirements, sit for various state licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment.

Some of our Health Science Programs will require students to submit to a background screening and/or drug screening before being officially accepted into the nursing program. The health science program/s must follow state mandated laws for profession practice which will extend to admission and acceptance. State laws may mandate that student/s who have an unfavorable background screening (certain felonies) must have a clean record for 15 years or more past the initial incident before being allowed to take state licensure exam/s. Certain clinical sites may require a clean background screening in order for students to attend clinical and work with their patients. Students who cannot produce a favorable background check and/or drug screening may not be able to meet their program's admission requirements and clinical obligations, which would jeopardize their ability to successfully complete that program.

Students who graduate from our programs must also pass state licensure exam/s in order to be employable in their program of study. The various state entities that provide testing and licenses for Health Professionals, oftentimes, require background checks / drug screening prior to sitting for the exams and applying for licensure. State laws may mandate that student/s who have an unfavorable background screening (certain felonies) must have a clean record for 15 years or more past the initial incident before being allowed to take state licensure exam/s. It is possible to have successfully graduated from a health science program but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check and/or drug screening.

Employers of licensed health professionals can also have a variety of requirements that must be met prior to the granting of employment. These can include background checks of varying depths, and/or drug screenings. It is possible to graduate from a program and obtain the health professional license, but be denied some employment options due to an unfavorable background check or drug screen.

We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision concerning making application to one of our programs.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) students who are granted conditional acceptance into a Health Sciences program must receive a satisfactory criminal background check prior to final acceptance into the program. The background check will be scheduled and performed at the discretion of the Division of Health Sciences at GCSC. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the program coordinator. Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. The student must also be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access. It is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. An applicant must consider how his / her personal history may affect the ability to meet clinical requirements, sit for various licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment. Most healthcare boards in the State of Florida make decisions about licensure on an individual basis. You may visit the Florida Department of Health website (www.doh.state.fl.us/) for more information regarding licensure. We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

Please read the following information carefully:

Any student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provision of 456.0635 (see below) may be **disqualified** from admission to any Health Sciences program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Health Sciences programs and / or clinical rotations.

456.0635 (2) Medicaid fraud; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration

Each board within the jurisdiction of the department, or the department if there is no board, shall refuse to admit a candidate to any examination and refuse to issue or renew a license, certificate, or registration to any applicant if the candidate or applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant, has been:

- (a) Convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, chapter 893, 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the date of the application;
- (b) Terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years;
- (c) Terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state or Federal Government, from any other state Medicaid program or the federal Medicare program, unless the applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program or the federal Medicare program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years prior to the date of the application.

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - LPN to ADN ARTICULATION

Important Information: Future Application for Florida Nursing License

When you make application for your Florida License to practice nursing, you will be required to complete a section on the application relative to a prior arrest record. You will be requested to answer the following questions:

Q. Have you ever been arrested – regardless of adjudication - for any felony offense?

If you answer yes, you must provide the following information:

- A. Date of Arrest**
- B. State and County**
- C. Country Outside of the U.S.**
- D. Charges**
- E. Disposition**

You must have arrest and court records of final adjudication for each offense sent to the State Board of Nursing. Your application will not be considered complete until these records are received. If the records are no longer available, you will be responsible for having certification of their unavailability sent directly from the arresting jurisdiction.

You must have arrest and court records of final adjudication for each offense sent to the State Board of Nursing. Your application will not be considered complete until these records are received. If the records are no longer available, you will be responsible for having certification of their unavailability sent directly from the arresting jurisdiction.

At the June 7, 2003, Board Meeting, the Board of Nursing established the following policy:

Applicants for licensure who have been convicted of a felony and civil rights have not been restored are not eligible for licensure and are not eligible to take the licensing examination. The application is considered to be incomplete. When documentation of restoration of civil rights is received, the Board will consider the application for licensure.

On July 1, 2009, Pursuant to Section 456.0635 – Florida Statutes, the health care board of the department shall refuse to issue a license, certificate or registration and shall refuse to admit a candidate for examination if the applicant has been:

- 1). Convicted or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony violation regardless of adjudication of chapters 409, 817, or 893, Florida Statutes; or 21 U.S.C. ss 801-970 or 42 U.S.C. ss 1395-1396 unless the sentence and any probation or parole ended more than 15 years prior to the application.***
- 2). Terminated for cause from Florida Medicaid Program (unless the applicant has been in good standing for the most recent five year).***
- 3). Terminated for cause of any other State Medicaid Program or the Medicare Program (unless the termination was at least 20 years prior to the date of the application and the applicant has been in good standing with the program for the most recent five years).***

This policy does not refer to applicants with felony arrests and adjudication was withheld:

You need to consider the above stated licensure requirements when making application to the program. However, the Florida Board of Nursing Office will not accept calls from pre-nursing students with arrest records to determine if you are eligible for licensure. The determination can only be made after graduation, when your application and all supporting documentation is received, reviewed by the Board Staff, and then presented to the Board.

The following information is excerpted from Florida Department of Professional Regulation, Board of Nursing; Chapter 464.008 Licensure by Examination in the Nurse Practice Act and is provided to inform applicants to the nursing program the legal criteria for licensure. If you have a concern as to whether you would be able to meet the criteria, please arrange to discuss this with the Coordinator of Nursing or the Chairman of Health Sciences prior to submitting your application.

464.008 Licensure by Examination

- (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse shall apply to the department to take the licensure examination. The department shall examine each applicant who:
 - (a) Has completed the application form and remitted a fee set by the board not to exceed \$150 and has remitted an examination fee set by the board not to exceed \$75 plus the actual per applicant cost to the department for purchase of the examination from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing or a similar national organization.
 - (b) Has provided sufficient information on or after October 1, 1989, which must be submitted by the department for a statewide criminal records correspondence check through the Department of Law Enforcement.
 - (c) Is in good mental and physical health, is a recipient of a high school diploma or the equivalent, and has completed the requirements for graduation from an approved program for the preparation of registered nurses or licensed practical nurses, whichever is applicable. Courses successfully completed in a professional nursing program which are at least equivalent to a practical nursing program may be used to satisfy the education requirements for licensure as a licensed practical nurse.
 - (d) Has the ability to communicate in the English language, which may be determined by an examination given by the department.
2. Each applicant who passes the examination and provides proof of graduation from an approved nursing program shall, unless denied pursuant to s. 464.018, be entitled to Licensure as a Registered Professional Nurse or a Licensed Practical Nurse, whichever is applicable.
3. Any applicant who fails the examination three consecutive times, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the examination is taken, shall be required to complete a board-approved remedial course before the applicant will be approved for re-examination. After taking the remedial course, the applicant may be approved to retake the examination up to three additional times before the applicant is required to retake remediation. The applicant shall apply for re-examination within 6 months after completion of remediation. The board shall by rule establish guidelines for remedial courses.

History – ss. 1, 6, ch. 79-225; ss. 2, 3, ch. 81-318; ss. 6, 17, 28, ch. 86-284, s. 12, ch. 83-205; s. 10, ch. 88-219; s. 34, ch. 89-162; s. 58, ch. 91-137; s. 5, ch. 91-156; s. 4, ch. 91-429; s. 94, ch. 92-149; s. 5, ch. 96-274; s. 78, ch. 97-264; s. 116, ch. 99-397; s. 95, ch. 2001-227.