

Advanced Standing for current LPNs Only Nursing Education (0025) APPLICATION PLANNING GUIDE

Selection of qualified applicants for the Nursing Education Program will be based upon a numerical ranking procedure, using admission test scores, high school and/or college grades and percentage of those general education courses required for graduation completed prior to admission with a grade of “B” or better. The program capacity is subject to instructional availability. For the 2008 process, 29 students applied and 22 were offered a seat in the program. . There are no waiting lists carried over from previous years; applications must be made each year.

Applications for Summer 2009 admission into the Nursing Education program are available from September 1, 2008 thru December 1, 2008. This planning guide can help applicants develop a plan of readiness for this application period. Further information about program requirements and expectations should be reviewed in the College Catalog and/or www.swic.edu

Articulation Information for LPNs.

Welcome to Southwestern Illinois College’s Articulation program for LPNs. The goal of the articulation program is to recognize prior learning while providing the opportunity for career advancement. General information is provided here. Information should also be reviewed from the College catalog, Admission counselors, and program Director. The articulation program will enable the LPN to complete the Nursing Education coursework in 3 semesters, providing the general education and pre-requirements have been met.

Up to 15 hours of credits for those who have successfully completed an LPN program and been licensed as an LPN in Illinois can be awarded. These credits are held in ‘escrow’ – meaning that they are not officially applied to the student’s transcript until that student successfully completes the first attempted NE courses. If courses are not successfully completed, the student must follow the generic curriculum, from the beginning, to return to the program. There is no proficiency testing required.

At Southwestern Illinois College, the courses for which LPN may receive credit or waiver are indicated in the curriculum plan for Nursing, found in the College Catalog. These are NE 102 (2 credits), NE 103 (4 credits), NE 104 (2 credits), and NE 108 (4 credits). NE 100 (3 credits) will be waived. Medical Terminology (1 credit) will be waived. Credit may be given for Nutrition (HRO 150, 2 credits) depending on the LPN transcript. Students may always choose to take any of these courses. The biology content of the LPN curriculum may satisfy the biology pre-req, depending on transcript review, but will not satisfy the Biology 155 & 156 or Biology 157 & 158 requirements of the NE curriculum.

Since LPN programs differ and many LPNs may have already taken college courses in addition to their LPN courses, decisions concerning placement in the Nursing program can only be made after all transcripts have been reviewed. Therefore, it is important that the LPN have all transcripts and verification of the LPN licensure sent to the Southwestern Illinois College Admissions and request a transcript evaluation for the Nursing Education (0025) program. The LPN should also complete an Advanced Standing Nursing application for the program – the admission test is not required. These applications are available in the Admissions area during the Fall semester and are due back December 1 for the program which will begin the following summer. The LPN should also contact the Director of Nursing, Carol Eckert, 618-222-5268, to be sure that all requirements are satisfied.

The pre-requisites and general education requirements of the curriculum remain the same for the LPN and generic student. **Program pre-requisites and, at a minimum, the year of general education courses must be satisfied by the time the LPN begins the Nursing courses.** Other general education coursework can be completed while taking nursing courses, as listed in the College Catalog. Please consult the College Catalog for pre-requisites and curriculum coursework for Nursing.

Section A – Prerequisites to Application

It is **MANDATORY** to have completed all pre-requisite courses (ALGEBRA & CHEMISTRY) by the end of the Fall 2008 semester.

How POINTS are assigned on the application to Pre-requisite courses:

1. Use the most recent grade(s) for each subject. If you are currently enrolled, enter "CE" for "grade" and estimate the points you will earn.
2. Any **grades used should be within 10 years of April 1, 2009** for Summer 2009 admission.
3. Two semesters of a state board of education approved high school credit or one semester of college credit with "C" or better each semester is required.

Points Key		
If your most recent grades or test scores are:		
High School Chem/Alg	College Chem/Alg	Then your points for each area will be::
A/A	A	4.0
A/B or B/A		3.5
B/B or A/C	B	3.0
B/C or C/B		2.5
C/C	C	2.0

Institution Course Taken	Semester/Year Completed	Grade(s) Earned	Points (use key)
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Chemistry _____ /4 pt. max
College courses must = Southwestern's 101, 103, 105 or 106

Algebra* _____ /4 pt. max
College courses must = Southwestern's 94, 97, 107, 111, 112 or 113

*Algebra courses older than 10 years may be accepted if COMPASS placement level is MATH 97 or higher.

Total Points Section A: _____ /8 pt. max

Suggestions for increasing points earned in Pre-requisites Section:

- Complete all pre-requisite courses in high school/college by the end of the Fall 2008 semester.
- The higher the grade earned in these pre-req courses, the more points are generated on the application. If student earns a "C", consider retaking the course prior to the Fall 2008 semester. No grade lower than a "C" is accepted. Students have the potential to earn the greatest amount of points from this section of the application.
- The COMPASS test is required prior to enrolling in college level pre-req courses. Schedule the COMPASS test as soon as possible to determine if developmental coursework is required for your enrollment in these courses and to assess if you have the level of math, reading & writing required to successfully complete the program. Sample questions are available at www.act.org/compass/sample/index.html and the Math section of the Success Center website at www.swic.edu/successcenter/info.jsp
- The most recent grades are utilized, so if the most recent course has a low grade, consider re-taking.

Section B - General Education Coursework

The following courses must be completed by the start of the Summer 2009: BIOL 155/157, SOC 153, HRO 150, BIOL 156/158, ENG 101. Additional consideration is given to those applicants who have also completed the remainder of the general education courses required for the AAS degree in Nursing.

Suggestions for increasing points earned in General Education Section:

- Although not all general education courses are required to be completed prior to the end of the Fall 2008 semester, you will generate more points by completing as many as possible **with a "B" or better** prior to the end of the Fall 2008 semester.
- Take the COMPASS as soon as possible. This assessment test is required to enroll in the pre-requisite courses and many of the general education courses. Early assessment will give you the greatest amount of time to enroll and completed courses in a timely manner.

How POINTS are assigned on the application to General Education Coursework section:

- Record the semester, year and grade for each course you have completed (**with the exception of the 5-year restriction for BIOL 155, BIOL 156, BIOL 57 and BIOL 158, the 10-year restriction does not apply**). Please Note: **Courses with grades of "D" will not meet graduation requirements.** If you are currently enrolled, enter "CE" for "grade" and estimate the credit hours you will earn toward points.

	Credit Hours	Semester <u>Taken</u>	Year <u>Completed</u>	Grade <u>Earned</u>	Check box <u>for "B" or better</u>
BIOL 155 or 157****	5	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 156 or 158****	5	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENG 101****	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSYC 151**	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENG 102**	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
SOC 153***	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
ELEC 100 or 200 level*	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
ELEC 200 LEVEL*	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
HRO 150****	<u>2</u>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL	30				

*Electives must be approved by the NE Director.

**These courses may be taken concurrently with NE courses.

These courses must be completed before second level NE courses. *Possible escrow credit based on transcript review.

- Add the number of credit hours you have completed with a grade of "B" or better. Use the chart below to determine your points for Section B.

≥ 7.75 hours = 1 point
 ≥ 15.50 hours = 2 points
 ≥ 23.25 hours = 3 points
 = 30.00 hours = 4 points

Total Points Section B: _____/4 pt. max

Section C - Final Ranking Score:(Total of Sections A + B)

_____ /12 pts. max

Meeting the application deadlines is critical to being successful. Read all correspondence from the admissions office – they send notification if something is missing from your application file.

Reminder of deadlines & required supporting documentation:

By December 1, 2008:

- Application on file for Summer 2009 admission

By April 1, 2009:

- High School and College transcripts, and Transcript Evaluation Request Form
Southwestern GPA (for courses listed in Section B) must be 2.0 or higher
- COMPASS Assessment score placing you in ENG 101 & MATH 94
- Verification of LPN currency on the Illinois Division of Professional Regulation website
- Verification of LPN training

Quick Overview

1. Schedule COMPASS test
2. COMPASS assessment indicates developmental courses required:
 No Yes
3. *If required, complete developmental course(s) in ENG and/or MATH.*
4. Request transcripts be sent to SWIC admission and complete Transcript Evaluation form.
5. Complete Pre-requisite courses (Algebra & Chemistry).
6. Contact the Director of Nursing to arrange appointment.
7. Complete **BIOL 155/157, SOC 153, HRO 150, BIOL 156/158, ENG 101 prior to the start of the Summer 2009 semester.**
8. When the above is completed/in process, you will be ready to apply Sept 1 (**although it is not required to complete all general education courses prior to application, all general education courses must be completed by the time the LPN begins the Nursing courses in the Summer.**)

Nursing Education students are required to submit verification of a fingerprint criminal background check with application for licensure. Licensure may be refused for some felony convictions and/or other violations specified in the "Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act, Section 10-45." This requirement will be discussed during Orientation sessions for students admitted to the program. Stipulations of clinical facilities, including, drug testing and background check, must also be met. Contact the Director of Nursing if you have questions.