

# Application Planning Guide for Advanced Standing Nursing Education Program (0025) (LPN Bridge Program)

## Advanced Standing Nursing Education Planning Guide for Summer 2025 start:

Admission to the Advanced Standing NE program is competitive. The program accepts approximately 15-20 applicants from a pool of individuals.

- ✓ Advanced Standing NE Applications due by Dec. 1, 2024
- ✓ Selective Admission for Summer (June) start
- ✓ Notification of acceptance into program after March 1, 2025
- ✓ No waiting lists; application required each year
- ✓ Algebra and Chemistry from high school or college **MUST** be completed and on transcript submitted to college by Feb. 1, 2025 (Grade of "C" or better required)
- ✓ First year general education course requirements (See Section B) must be satisfied by Summer 2025. Only HRO 120 may be taken concurrently with NE 105, NE 106 and NE 107.
- ✓ Apply online through your Student Center on e-STORM

Please remember that all communication regarding the Adv. Standing Nursing application will be sent to your [student.swic.edu](mailto:student.swic.edu) email account.

# Overview of Requirements & Due Dates:

Applicants must submit the following to the Enrollment Services Office by noted deadlines, unless the application period has been extended.

✓ **Advanced Standing Nursing Education Application due by Dec. 1, 2024.**

- ❖ Applications are available and must be submitted between Sept. 1, 2024 and Dec. 1, 2024 for entry into the Summer 2025 semester.
- ❖ Students may access an electronic application using the Student Center (scroll to the bottom) in e-STORM. Paper application is available in the Health Sciences Division.

✓ **Meet with an Academic Advisor** to determine placement. Students must be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 & Math 97.

- ❖ Academic Advising assistance is available via email at [advising@swic.edu](mailto:advising@swic.edu) or call, Belleville Campus 618-235-2700, ext. 5455, Red Bud Campus 618-282-6682, ext. 8114, or Sam Wolf Granite City campus 618-931-0600, ext. 7333.

✓ **Verification of LPN licensure in Illinois & transcripts** for all colleges, universities, or approved/accredited Schools of Nursing Education attended.

- ❖ Verification of LPN training by submitting transcripts due by Feb. 1, 2025.
- ❖ Verification of LPN license on Illinois Division of Professional Regulations website by Feb.1, 2025.
- ❖ To have college transcripts reviewed for possible transfer credit, log into [eSTORM](#) and select the Transfer Credit Evaluation link found in  dropdown under Academics in your Student Center.

✓ **Transcripts documenting ALGEBRA & CHEMISTRY completed at high school or college due by Feb. 1, 2025.**

- ❖ See Section A for list of accepted courses for Algebra & Chemistry.
- ❖ Chemistry courses must have lab component. Lab science courses with separate lab and lecture components must have a grade of 'C' or better in each component.
- ❖ College course grades supersede high school grades when both appear on official transcripts.
- ❖ Most recent grades of specified courses are used to determine qualification and rank.
- ❖ Students completing courses from a high school not recognized by the State Board of Education or home-schooled may demonstrate competency of the Algebra or Chemistry courses by taking a placement test. Questions regarding placement testing can be addressed by contacting the Enrollment Services Office at 618-235-2700, ext. 5455.

## 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. The articulation program will enable the LPN to complete the Nursing Education coursework in 3 semesters, provided the general education courses have been met.

Up to 15 hours of credit can be awarded for those who have successfully completed an LPN program and are currently licensed as an LPN in Illinois. **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 (3) during the summer.** A failure in any of the summer NE courses will prevent the LPN from continuing the bridge program. The student must reapply as a traditional student to enter and complete the full 4 semester traditional NE curriculum.

At Southwestern Illinois College, the courses for which LPNs may receive credit are indicated in the curriculum plan for Nursing, found in the college catalog. These are NE 101 (0.5 credits), NE 102 (2.5 credits), NE 103 (4 credits), NE 104 (1 credit), NE 108 (3.5 credits), NE 109 (0.5 credits) and Medical Terminology (1 credit). Credit may be given for Nutrition (HRO 150, 2 credits) depending on the LPN curriculum. Students may always choose to take any of these courses.

The traditional program includes Biology as a multiple measure course to apply; the LPN curriculum may satisfy this requirement, but students will still be required to complete the anatomy and physiology requirement (BIOL 157 & 158) & microbiology (BIOL 250).

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 the LPN's transcripts have been reviewed. Therefore, it is important that the LPN have all transcripts sent to the Southwestern Illinois College Enrollment Services Office along with a Transfer Credit Evaluation Form for the Nursing Education (0025) program. The LPN should also complete an Advanced Standing Nursing application, which is available online in the Student Center on e-STORM. The application must be submitted by the Dec. 1, 2024 deadline to be considered for the bridge program.

The multiple measure courses and general education requirements of the curriculum remain the same for the LPN and traditional student, except as stated on this form. **Algebra and Chemistry MUST be completed and on transcript submitted to college by Feb. 1, 2025. The following must be completed before starting the nursing courses in the Summer 2025 semester:** BIOL 155/157, BIOL 156/158, BIOL 250, HRO 150 (unless escrowed) and ENG 101. HRO 120 may be taken Summer 2025 with concurrent NE 105, NE 106 and NE 107. However, HRO 120 must be completed prior to taking Fall 2025 NE courses. The following courses may be taken concurrently with NE courses: PSYC 151, ENG 102, and SOC 153. Other general education coursework can be completed while taking nursing courses, as listed in the college catalog.

## **Section A - Completion of high school/college courses**

**It is MANDATORY to have completed all courses (ALGEBRA & CHEMISTRY) and be on transcripts submitted to college by Feb. 1, 2025.**

### **How POINTS are assigned for courses:**

- Record the most recent grade(s) for each course. A minimum grade of "C" is required. If a course is completed in high school, transcript must indicate a minimum of "C" both semesters. Courses must be on the transcript by Feb. 1, 2025.
- Two semesters of a state board of education approved high school credit with a lab or one semester college with "C" or better is required (lab science courses with separate lab and lecture components must have a grade of 'C' or better in each component).

<b>Points Key</b>		
<b>If your most recent grades or test scores are:</b>		
<b>High School Chem/Algebra</b>	<b>College Chem/Algebra</b>	<b>Then your points for each area will be:</b>
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

<u>Institution</u> <u>Course Taken</u>	<u>Semester/Year</u> <u>Completed</u>	<u>Grade(s)</u> <u>Earned</u>	<u>Points</u> <u>(Use key)</u>
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**Chemistry** \_\_\_\_\_ /4 pt. max  
College courses must = SWIC's 101, 103, 105 or 106

**Algebra\*** \_\_\_\_\_ /4 pt. max  
College courses must = SWIC's 94, 95, 97, 107, 111, 112 or 113

**Total Points Section A:** \_\_\_\_\_ /8 pt. max

### **Suggestions for increasing points earned in section A:**

- Complete all courses in high school/college by the end of the Fall 2024 semester.
  - The higher the grade earned in the courses, the more points generated on the application. If student earns a "C", consider retaking the course. Course grades must be reflected on transcript to SWIC by Feb. 1, 2025. No grade lower than a "C" is accepted.
  - The most recent grades are utilized, so if the most recent course has a low grade, consider repeating the course.
- See Financial Aid box in Section B.**
- Students have the potential to earn the greatest amount of points from this section of the application.

## Section B - General Education Coursework

The following courses must be completed by the start of the Summer 2025: BIOL 157, BIOL 158, BIOL 250, HRO 150, 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 2024 semester, you will generate more points by completing as many as possible **with a “B” or better** prior to the end of the Fall 2024 semester.
- SWIC offers on-line Winter Intercession courses, which run in a condensed format from Nov. 2024 – Jan. 2025. Some of these general education courses are offered during the Winter Intercession and meet the Feb. 1, 2025 transcript deadline.
- Meet with an Academic Advisor to determine placement no later than March/April 2024 – this will allow time to get development courses in ENG or MATH, if needed, completed in the Summer 2024 and some general education courses in the Fall 2024. Meeting with an Academic Advisor is also needed to assess readiness for enrollment into ENG 101 & 102, all BIOL, PSYC 151, and SOC 153.

### How POINTS are assigned on the application to general education coursework section:

1. Record the semester, year and grade for each course you have completed. 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. **Enrollment in the Spring 2025 semester is too late for the admission process.**

	Credit Hours	Semester Taken	Year Completed	Grade Earned	Check box for “B” or better
BIOL 155 or 157***	4	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 156 or 158***	4	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 250***	4	_____	_____	_____	<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"/>
HRO 120*	3	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
HRO 150****	<u>2</u>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL	29				

\* HRO 120 maybe taken Summer 2025 concurrently with NE 105, NE 106 and NE 107. HRO 120 must be completed before start of Fall 2025 NE courses.

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

\*\*\*These courses must be completed by Summer 2025.

\*\*\*\*Possible escrow credit based on transcript review or must be completed by Summer 2025.

2. 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.

≥ 8 credit hours = 1 point  
 ≥ 16 credit hours = 2 points  
 ≥ 24 credit hours = 3 points  
 = 29 credit hours = 4 points

**Total Points Section B:** \_\_\_\_\_ /4 pt. max

### Please note: Financial Aid & Repeating Courses

Although repeating a course could enhance the points earned in a section of the application, course repeatability can adversely affect your financial aid eligibility and you should contact the Financial Aid Office at (618) 235-2700 ext. 5288 to see how repeating this course affects your financial aid eligibility.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ /12 pts. Max (**NOT AN APPLICATION**)

Meeting application deadlines is critical to being successful in this process. Read all correspondence from the Enrollment Services Office – they will send notification if something is missing from your file. Please remember that **all communication regarding the Advanced NE application will be sent to your student.swic.edu email account.**

### **Reminder of deadlines & required supporting documentation:**

#### **By Dec. 1, 2024:**

- Application on file for Summer 2025 admission

#### **By Feb. 1, 2025:**

- High School and College transcripts, and Transfer Evaluation Request Form
- Course Placement Assessment score placing you in ENG 101 or above & above MATH 97 or above
- Verification of LPN training

#### **By Feb. 1, 2025**

- Verification of LPN currency on the Illinois Division of Professional Regulation Web site
- Proof of Residency
  - Out-of-District Students must provide Inter-district Cooperative/Career Agreement paperwork for “indistrict” status in this application process

**Note: Accepted applicants will need to have proof of immunizations by June 1, 2025. Please refer to the physical examination form at [swic.edu/academics/career-degrees/health-sciences/nursing-education/](http://swic.edu/academics/career-degrees/health-sciences/nursing-education/).**

### **For suggestions on how to improve your chance of being accepted:**

- ❖ Review the Adv. Standing NE home page at [swic.edu/academics/career-degrees/health-sciences/nursing-education/](http://swic.edu/academics/career-degrees/health-sciences/nursing-education/).
- ❖ Complete the Adv. Standing NE Application Planning Guide
- ❖ Review the on-line application orientation –
  - Refer to NE home page for more information
- ❖ Call for assistance with completing the application/guide, 618-235-2700, ext. 5455.

**Note:** Stipulations of clinical facilities, including immunizations, vaccinations, drug testing and background check must be met. According to the current Nurse Practice Act, LPN's do not have to resubmit receipt of live-scan fingerprinting for RN licensure testing. LPN Bridge students, however, will need to complete the background check and drug testing required for all nursing students entering the program. Details regarding accessing the on-line registration for background checks and drug screening will be included in your program acceptance letters. Contact the Director of Nursing if you have questions.

