

NURSING (EFFECTIVE FALL, 2014)

LPN Bridge Coursework



A Bridge to Success

Nursing is an art and an applied science that is practiced in a variety of acute and long-term care settings. Nurses assist groups and individuals in the promotion and maintenance of health, restoration to health, adaptation to long-term illness, and provision for comfort when return to health is no longer possible. The complex and multifaceted nature of nursing requires that the nurse apply concepts from social, physical, and biological sciences and nursing theory.

Persons considering a career in nursing should have an interest in the health sciences and in working closely with people. In addition, they should be able to meet the academic demands of a program that requires a commitment of time, energy and motivation to learn.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Bridge coursework is designed to meet the requirements of any LPN who is interested in pursuing an associate degree in nursing. LPN Bridge coursework is offered in the spring semester on one of our three campuses on a rotating basis.

This option prepares LPNs for a smooth transition into the last two semesters of the associate degree in nursing program. Areas of emphasis include: assessment, communication, medication administration and care of the medical/surgical/maternal-newborn client.

The LPN Bridge coursework is designed to "bridge" or cover the content from the first year associate degree in nursing program that LPNs do not study. While LPNs do study some of the same content as students in the nursing degree program, LPN students must take the bridge course NUR:160. Once successfully completed, students then enter the third semester and finish the degree program along with other nursing students.

Admission to the program is contingent on meeting the established minimum criteria as defined in the Nursing Program Handbook, available at www.stlcc.edu/Programs/Nursing. Applicants are required to complete a health history, an immunization record, criminal background check and drug screening. Applicants selected for the program are required to take a physical examination.

Note: An individual who has been convicted of a felony may not be licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Missouri. Program completion does not guarantee eligibility to take the licensure exam.

OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS FIELD

Registered nurses may find employment in a wide range of industries. Employment is expected to rapidly increase in ambulatory care centers, nursing homes, physician's offices and outpatient care centers. RNs may practice in other specialty areas including corporations, schools, private duty, public health and more. Hospital employment is expected to grow more slowly.

JOB OUTLOOK

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, overall job opportunities for RNs are expected to continue to be excellent. Employment of RNs is expected to grow much faster than average. Individual salaries vary by geographic location, the nurse's education and experience, and the type and size of the employer.

FEES

Visit www.stlcc.edu/nurse-exp.html for detailed estimated expenses by semester. Please visit www.stlcc.edu/fees for the most current information. Additional fees apply to some courses. Fees are subject to change. Costs are highest during the first semester for textbooks, uniforms, equipment, background checks and screenings.

ACCREDITATION

The Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing has conditional accreditation from the following organizations:

- The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) formerly NLNAC, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326. Phone 404-975-5000; fax 404-975-5020.
- Missouri State Board of Nursing (Full approval)
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Missouri Department of Education

CONTACT INFORMATION

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YOU CAN EARN THIS DEGREE AT: **Florissant Valley** **Forest Park** **Meramec**

You may take general education classes toward this degree at any of our campuses or education centers.

CURRICULUM

LPN Bridge Coursework

LPN Bridge Coursework Admission Prerequisites (Must be satisfied prior to applying to the program)

- Meet all program admission prerequisites for the Nursing program (See program sheet for NURSING Associate in Applied Science Degree).
- Possess a current undisciplined LPN license.
- Have one year clinical experience within five years of entering the Bridge coursework. For LPNs who have graduated within the past 12 months (1 year), the clinical requirement will be waived.
- Provide a letter of reference from a recent or current employer.
- Meet all college and program admission criteria.
- Satisfactory completion of the Dosage Calculation Test.
- Maintain current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR certification.
- Admission and degree program are subject to change without notice. See an academic advisor for more information.
- Applicants are required to complete a health history, immunization record, criminal background check, drug screening and physical examination. An individual who has been convicted of a felony may not be licensed to practice as a registered nurse in the state of Missouri.

Course Number	Course Description	Credit Hours
General Education (completed prior to admission into LPN Bridge Coursework)		
___ BIO:207	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
___ BIO:208	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
___ ENG:101	College Composition I	3
___ PSY:200	General Psychology	3
___ PSY:205	Human Growth and Development	3
___ COM:200	Communication Between Cultures	3
___ LIB:101	Introduction to Library	1
Additional General Education (may be taken after admission into LPN Bridge Course)		
___ BIO:203	General Microbiology (must be taken prior to NUR:251)	4
___ PE:xxx	Physical Education Activity (must be taken prior to NUR:252)	2
___ XXX:xxx	Missouri State Requirement	3
	Total General Education Credit Hours	30
LPN Bridge Semester		
___ NUR:160	LPN to RN Bridge Course	7
___ NUR:161	LPN Experiential Credit--This is not a course but is credit granted for LPN experience (after successful completion of NUR:160 with grade "C" or higher; and after enrolling in NUR:251)	11
	Total LPN Bridge Coursework Credit Hours	18
* PLEASE NOTE: The LPN to RN Bridge course NUR:160 may not be repeated. If an LPN Bridge student is unsuccessful in NUR:160 they may proceed through the traditional admission process to be placed on the waiting list for NUR:151.		
Third Semester		
___ NUR:251	Nursing of Adults and Children II	10
	Total Third Semester Credit Hours	10
Fourth Semester		
___ NUR:252	Nursing of Adults and Children III	8
___ NUR:253	Management Skills in Nursing	3
	Total Fourth Semester Credit Hours	11
	Total LPN Bridge Coursework Credit Hours:	69

www.stlcc.edu/programs/nursing

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