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 COURSE

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

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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.
NURSING (EFFECTIVE FALL, 2014)
For more information on how to get started on your career go to www.stlcc.edu/getstarted.

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
- PCIexxx    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

St. Louis Community College is committed to non-discrimination and equal opportunities in its admissions, educational programs, activities, and employment regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, genetic information, or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran and shall take action necessary to ensure non-discrimination. Sexual harassment, including sexual violence, is also prohibited. For information or concerns related to discrimination or sexual harassment, contact Patricia Henderson, Manager, Talent Management, 314-539-5214.