

Nursing (AAS)

Degree Type: Associate of Applied Science Degree

Division: Health & Human Services

Purpose: Career and Technical Education. The purpose of this nursing program is to prepare students to achieve an Associate of Applied Science degree, to apply for licensure by examination* as a registered nurse, and to use the nursing process in providing safe and effective nursing care for clients in structured primary or secondary care settings.

Both general education and nursing education courses are included in the program of study; clinical laboratory experiences are planned in local health care facilities under the direct guidance of the Nursing faculty. Students enrolled in the nursing program have the same privileges and responsibilities accorded all students of the college.

The Poplar Bluff Associate Degree Nursing Program is fully approved and the Sikeston LPN-RN Bridge program is conditionally approved by the Missouri State Board of Nursing (573-751-0681): www.pr.mo.gov. Both programs are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, Ga. 30326, (404-975-5000): www.nlnac.org.

NOTE: Nursing students are required to have two physical examinations, one as part of the admission process and the second prior to the beginning of second-year classes. Students must meet certain health criteria for clinical practice in agencies, including but not limited to random or for-cause drug screening. CPR certification valid through the academic year is required of all students. Nursing students are also required to submit a criminal background check and negative pre-admission drug screen.

* The requirements for licensure, as set forth in Missouri Statutes 335 RSMo 2005 (the Nurse Practice Act), include being of good moral character, completion of the high school course of study or the equivalent, successful completion of the basic professional nursing curriculum in an approved school of nursing (however, successful completion does not guarantee eligibility to take the licensure examination).[†] Non-English speaking candidates are required to submit evidence of proficiency in the English language. There are also questions related to adjudication of any crime other than traffic violations, including unlawful use or possession of controlled substances or alcoholic beverage to an extent that one is impaired, fraud, dishonesty, acts of violence, bribery, deception, misconduct, insanity, incompetence, and placement on employee disqualification lists by any state or federal agency. Affirmative answers may result in the applicant being denied access to the licensure examination by the State Board of Nursing. For further information, consult the division chair.

[†]The requirements for nursing licensure are set forth in Missouri Statutes 335.066, a paper copy of which is available from the Three Rivers Nursing Department and electronic copy can be found at www.trcc.edu.

Admission Criteria

1. To become an eligible applicant, each individual must have the following on file in the admissions office no later than **March 1** for on-campus day and evening LPN-RN Bridge; and **September 1** for Sikeston and Poplar Bluff day LPN-RN Bridge programs:

- Completed college application.
- COMPASS, ACT or SAT scores (current within two years).
- Final high school transcript (*for proof of high school algebra or chemistry).
- Transcripts of all previous university/college/technical courses.
- Complete and current nursing application.

Applications must be received in the Poplar Bluff or Sikeston Nursing Office by 4 p.m. on the appropriate deadline dates or the next Three Rivers business day if the deadline falls on either a weekend or holiday. Applications received by mail must be postmarked or shipped by other traceable means by midnight on the appropriate deadline dates.

2. The Nursing Admissions Committee uses the following minimum requirements for the initial screening of applicants:

- Completion of all prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or better or “credit”:

Prerequisite Courses	
CHEM 111	*Introductory Chemistry (includes lab)
MATH 06	*Beginning Algebra

**May use high school algebra and chemistry (with lab) if: completed with a grade of “C” or better in each semester (current within five years of class completion – not HS graduation date).*

- Completion of a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on all credit hours attempted.
- Satisfactory performance on the NLN Pre-Admission Examination RN (minimum 60th percentile “AD” composite score). **NLN scores must be current within two years of application deadline.**

3. Applicants will be notified of their admission status by letter. Individuals selected are required to have a physical examination, preadmission drug screen and criminal background check. Final admission is contingent upon submission of a satisfactory confidential medical history and examination, negative drug screen, a negative criminal background check and completion of pre-nursing courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (see curriculum outline).

4. Transfer Requests must be received in writing by May 1 for fall courses and by December 1 for spring courses for credential evaluation. Contact the Nursing Department for transfer packets and instructions. Readmission requests must be received in writing by finals week of current semester from which the student has failed or withdrawn..

In addition to the college tuition and fees, nursing students will be charged \$15 per academic year for malpractice insurance, \$50 per credit hour clinical fee for courses with clinical components, and \$140 per nursing course fee for instructional support items such as achievement tests, name badges, fingerprinting/photos, medical supplies for lab, and final review course. Contact the Nursing Department for a detailed cost estimate for each specific program plan.

Progression and Retention Criteria

1. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 throughout their enrollment in the nursing program. Students must also comply with college policies regarding probation and suspension, as outlined elsewhere in the Three Rivers Catalog.

2. In order to progress in the nursing sequence:

- Students must achieve satisfactory clinical performance, satisfactory skills lab performance and a minimum grade of “C” for each nursing course in order to progress to the next nursing course.
- Students failing to achieve satisfactory clinical performance or skills laboratory performance will receive a course grade of “F” regardless of the grade in the theory portion of the course.
- Students receiving less than a “C” in a nursing course must repeat and pass the course with a “C” or better before progression will be permitted. A nursing course can be repeated only once.
- Students must achieve a minimum grade of “C” in nursing related science courses: Anatomy & Physiology I & II
- Supporting general education prerequisites/and Corequisite courses must be taken in the sequence listed in the student’s program option (refer to curriculum outlines).

Nursing Day Program Curriculum

FIRST YEAR

Summer Term (Pre-Nursing Courses)				Hours	✓
ENGL	111 ⁽¹⁾	College Writing	3		
BIOL	231	Anatomy and Physiology I	4		
IST	100	Computer Literacy	3		
LBSC	100	Managing Information & Resources	1		
TOTAL HOURS			11		

Fall Semester				Hours	✓
BIOL	232	Anatomy and Physiology II	4		
PSYC	111 ⁽¹⁾	General Psychology	3		
NURS	116	Foundations	7		
NURS	118	Geriatrics	2		
TOTAL HOURS			16		

Spring Semester				Hours	✓
PSYC	243	Human Development Across the Lifespan	3		
GOVT	121 ⁽¹⁾	National and State Government	3		
NURS	128	Mental Health	3		
NURS	129	Medical Surgical I	6		
TOTAL HOURS			15		

SECOND YEAR

Fall Semester				Hours	✓
SOCI	111 ⁽¹⁾	General Sociology	3		
NURS	218	Maternal and Child Health	4		
NURS	219	Medical Surgical II	8		
TOTAL HOURS			15		

Spring Semester				Hours	✓
NURS	235	Role Indegration	2		
NURS	236	Quest	2		
NURS	238	Medical Surgical III	6		
NURS	239	Preceptor	3		
TOTAL HOURS			13		

⁽¹⁾Course has prerequisite or placement requirements.

General Education Credit: 27
 Nursing Education Credit: 43
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 70

Nursing Evening Program Curriculum

Fall Semester (Pre-Nursing Courses)				Hours	✓
ENGL	111 ⁽¹⁾	College Writing	3		
BIOL	231	Anatomy and Physiology I	4		
IST	100	Computer Literacy	3		
LBSC	100	Managing Information & Resources	1		
SOCI	111 ⁽¹⁾	General Sociology	3		
TOTAL HOURS			14		

FIRST YEAR

Spring Semester				Hours	✓
BIOL	232	Anatomy and Physiology II	4		
PSYC	111 ⁽¹⁾	General Psychology	3		
NURS	116	Foundations	7		
NURS	118	Geriatrics	2		
TOTAL HOURS			16		

Fall Semester				Hours	✓
PSYC	243	Human Development Across the Lifespan	3		
GOVT	121 ⁽¹⁾	National and State Government	3		
NURS	128	Mental Health	3		
NURS	129	Medical Surgical I	6		
TOTAL HOURS			15		

SECOND YEAR

Spring Semester				Hours	✓
NURS	218	Maternal and Child Health	4		
NURS	219	Medical Surgical II	8		
TOTAL HOURS			12		

Fall Semester				Hours	✓
NURS	235	Role Indegration	2		
NURS	236	Quest	2		
NURS	238	Medical Surgical III	6		
NURS	239	Preceptor	3		
TOTAL HOURS			13		

⁽¹⁾Course has prerequisite or placement requirements.

General Education Credit: 27
 Nursing Education Credit: 43
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 70