Nursing A.A.S.

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing (Pending SACSCOC Approval)

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing prepares students for a career as a registered nurse. Nursing and pre-nursing education courses provide the student with the foundation for skills, attitudes, and knowledge for professional nursing. Graduates are prepared to provide holistic nursing care to persons from various cultures across the life span in a variety of healthcare delivery settings. The graduate is eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a Registered Nurse.

Your decision to invest your time, energy, and commitment to become a registered nurse is commendable. The staff and faculty at Volunteer State Community College are here to help you achieve that goal. We are confident that you possess the study habits, flexibility, and emotional stability to complete the rigorous coursework required in the nursing program.

Admission to the program is limited. The selection of students for the nursing program is competitive. Meeting the minimum requirements does not assure acceptance. A point system is used to rank each applicant. There will be a cohort admitted to the Gallatin and Livingston campuses each summer.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure all application materials are received in the Nursing Office by May 1st. Applicants who meet the deadline will be notified in writing their admission status. All general education, science and elective courses required for the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing must be completed or in progress at the time of application with a minimum GPA of 3.5. Any courses in progress at the time of application must be complete before beginning the nursing program classes begin. The Nursing program application will be available beginning March 1 and due May 1. The first cohort will start classes on June 10. The program is subject to SACSCOC approval.

Students who plan to apply to the Nursing A.A.S. program at Vol State must take general education and pre-requisite courses in Pre-Nursing.

Students who are new to Vol State must select the Pre-Nursing A.S. and take general education and pre-requisite courses in Pre-Nursing in the Nursing A.A.S. program or have them in progress in order to apply. If students take the proper pre-requisites, the complete program will take two full school-years, including summers.

Students who are already taking the Pre-Nursing A.S. at Vol State will need to make sure they have completed the necessary courses for the Nursing A.A.S. program or have them in progress in order to apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ENGL 1010</strong> - English Composition I</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PSYC 1030</strong> - General Psychology</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MATH 1530</strong> - Statistics</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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**Sciences:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2010 - Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</td>
<td>4 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 2020 - Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</td>
<td>4 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 2230 - Microbiology</td>
<td>4 SCH</td>
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**Electives:**

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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guided Elective**</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humanities Elective (TBR)</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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Guided Electives include: ENGL 1020; COMM 2025; PSYC 2130; or HED 220.

**Admission to Nursing Program**

*Major in Nursing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 1320 - Women’s Health &amp; Childbearing Family</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSG 1330 - Pediatric Nursing</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSG 1340 - Mental Health Nursing</td>
<td>3 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSG 1710 - Fundamentals of Nursing</td>
<td>7 SCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRSG 1720 - Medical-Surgical Nursing I</td>
<td>7 SCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 2240 - Professional Practice in Nursing</td>
<td>2 SCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 2730 - Medical-Surgical Nursing II</td>
<td>7 SCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 2740 - Medical-Surgical Nursing III</td>
<td>7 SCH</td>
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**NRSG 1720 - Medical-Surgical Nursing I:** This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care including pharmacological management for adults with alterations in health that are primarily chronic in nature. 7 CH (5 lecture; 2 clinical/lab) Nursing Courses

**NRSG 1710- Fundamentals of Nursing:** An introduction to the core concepts that provide the basis for knowledge, skills, and attitudes that emphasize fundamental principles necessary to provide safe nursing care for individuals with basic alterations in homeostasis and health. 7 CH (4 lecture; 3 clinical/lab)

**NRSG 1340- Mental Health Nursing:** This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing for clients with alterations in mental health including pharmacological management. 3 CH (2 lecture; 1 clinical/lab)

**NRSG 1320- Women’s Health & Childbearing Family:** This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care for women, infants, childbearing patients and families including pharmacological management. 3 CH (2 lecture; 1 clinical/lab)

**NRSG 2730- Medical-Surgical Nursing II:** This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care including pharmacological management for adults with alterations in health that are primarily acute in nature. 7 CH (5 lecture; 2 clinical/lab)

**NRSG 1330- Pediatric Nursing:** This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for knowledge, skills and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care for children with alterations in health including pharmacological management. 3 CH (2 lecture; 1 clinical/lab)
NRSG 2240- Professional Practice in Nursing: This course examines management and leadership concepts, issues, roles and functions as applied to the role of the professional nurse in various healthcare settings. 2 CH

NRSG 2740- Medical-Surgical Nursing III: This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care including pharmacological management for adults with alterations in health of a more complex nature. 7 CH 7 (5 lecture; 2 clinical/lab)

Minimum Requirements for Admission to the Nursing Program

1. Full admission to Volunteer State Community College and be in good academic standing.
2. Submit a completed application packet to Nursing Program due May 1st. The program is subject to SACSCOC approval.
3. The selection of students for the nursing program is competitive in order to be considered for admission to the Nursing Program the student must:
   - Be at least 18 years old before nursing courses begin,
   - Complete all university learning support courses, science and general education courses.
   - GPA of 3.5 or greater on a 4.0 scale in nursing curriculum general education and sciences courses, all official transcripts must be in the Registrar's office and Division of Nursing for evaluation,
   - Passing each section of a standardized nationally normed preadmission exam,
4. Attend an information session about the nursing program.
5. Attend orientation to the nursing program.
6. Present a signed Essential Functions Document.
7. Health: If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition,
   - Current immunizations including Influenza, T-dap and Varicella,
   - A negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. TB skin tests are required yearly,
   - Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact.
8. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card.
9. Background Check: A criminal background check and drug screen are required by clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. These will be required before acceptance into the program:
   - Based on the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical site may determine to not allow a student's presence at their facility. This will result in the student's inability to successfully complete the requirements of this program.
   - Additionally, applicants should be aware that conviction of certain crimes may make them ineligible for registered nurse licensure even though they successfully complete the Nursing Program. Detailed instructions regarding the background check will be given during nursing orientation and are available on the Board of Nursing website.
   - Report if any license in any health care field has been disciplined, suspended, revoked, or denied,
   - Report any felony convictions.

Due within seven days of acceptance letter: CRP, Drug Screen, Health Requirements, and Background Check.

Students who have been accepted to the nursing program must respond via email to accept or decline their admission by the deadline specified in the notification email.

Students who are not accepted must reapply for each class to be considered. The Division of Nursing does not keep a waiting list of applicants.
Mission of Nursing Program

The purpose of an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing is to prepare graduates with a foundation for professional nursing. The program will provide the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for students to be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). Students will cover the core concepts that provide the basis for the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are essential for providing safe nursing care.

Competencies/Student Outcomes:

1. Professional Behavior: Perform within the ethical, legal and regulatory frameworks of nursing and standards of professional nursing practice.
2. Communication: Communicate effectively using verbal, nonverbal, and written techniques including information technology.
3. Assessment: Use subjective and objective data to identify actual or potential health alterations.
4. Clinical Decision Making: Evaluate outcomes of clinical decisions implemented to provide safe and effective evidenced-based nursing care.
5. Caring Interventions: Practice the effectiveness of caring interventions that incorporate principles of dignity, diversity, safety, and knowledge.
6. Teaching and Learning: Evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented teaching plan to meet the learning needs of patients, families and/or groups.
7. Collaboration: Collaborate when planning, implementing, and evaluating care.
8. Managing Care: Manage care through effective use of prioritization, delegation, informatics, and resources.

Program Outcomes:

1. Performance on Licensure Exam: The annual NCLEX-RN pass rate for the first time takers will meet accreditation and state requirements of eighty-five percent (85%).
2. Program Completion: Sixty percent (60%) of the students will complete the program within one hundred-fifty percent (150%) of the program length.

Job Placement Rates: Eighty-five percent (85%) will be employed within twelve months post-graduation.