



## Nursing-A.A.S. Program

### Information Packet

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Nursing Program. Please read all information carefully. 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 will be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a Registered Nurse.

The VSCC Nursing Program is a two year, six semester, and fulltime program. The first year consists of prerequisite courses. Students interested in the Nursing Program should follow the recommended schedule of courses. During the spring semester, students apply for admission to the Nursing Program. Since the spaces in the second year of the program are limited, admission to the College and completion of prerequisite courses do not guarantee admission to the second year of the program. After admission into the program, students are considered to be nursing students and will begin the second year.

Students are involved in nursing educational training for a period of fifteen months in order to meet the requirements of the program and to fulfill requirements of the Associate of Applied Science Degree. It is composed of lecture, laboratory, and clinical instruction. Nursing courses, except the clinical education courses, are taught at the Gallatin and Livingston campuses. Program officials determine clinical education assignments. Clinical sites are located throughout Tennessee up to 120 miles from campus. Each student is responsible for their own transportation. This is a nontraditional course of study so hours of study and length of semester may not parallel Volunteer State Community College semesters, holidays, and/or breaks.

The Nursing Program will be limited in the number of students accepted and that acceptance is likely to be quite competitive. A maximum of twenty-four (24) students are accepted at each campus. Applicants must meet specific criteria to qualify for the selection process. All prerequisite courses for the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing must be complete or in progress at the time of application with a minimum GPA of 3.3. Any courses in progress at the time of application must be complete before beginning the Nursing Program. Students must also contact the Testing Center to complete the TEAS test prior to application. Meeting the minimum requirements does not assure acceptance. Students who qualify are granted an interview as part of the application process. A point system will be used to rank each applicant. Applicants are selected for admission based on their (1) grade point average in the required prerequisite courses and (2) their interview score.



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### Admission Requirements

- Application for admission to Volunteer State Community College is required.
- Once accepted to the College, please attend a mandatory information session.
- Prerequisite courses for the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing must be complete or in progress at the time of application with a minimum GPA of 3.3.
- Contact the Testing Center to complete the TEAS test prior to application.
- Contact the Nursing office during the spring semester to complete an official application to the program.
  - Applications become available March 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Applications are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Completion of an interview. Eligible applicants will be assigned an interview date some time during the second or third week in May.
- After conditional acceptance into the program:
  - Provide evidence of a passing score on a criminal background check.
  - Provide evidence of passing a 10-panel urine drug test.
  - Provide evidence of certification in American Heart Association Basic Life Support for the Healthcare Provider.
  - Provide proof of medical insurance.
  - Provide proof of immunity to Hepatitis B or proof of the first Hepatitis B vaccine.
    - In order to provide the most comprehensive experience available to our students, our clinical affiliates require all students to document vaccinations to Hepatitis B, varicella, measles, mumps, and rubella. In addition to these vaccinations, our clinical affiliates require an annual tuberculosis screening and influenza shot.
  - In an effort to comply with the recommendations of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the majority of the major healthcare facilities and agencies utilized by the College for clinical education require that each student undergo a background check and a urine drug screening. Failure to provide the required results by the due date or the receipt of anything other than a passing score will make a student ineligible for enrollment in this program. The background check, urine drug screen, and health screenings including the Hepatitis B vaccine are performed at the student's expense. Specific details regarding the background check, urine drug screen, health screening and Hepatitis B vaccine are given to students after conditional acceptance into the program is granted.
  - Additional medical requirements may be required at some clinical sites.