

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

2024-25 DEGREE PLAN

Technical Certificate: 60-65 Credits

| TERM | DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES | HOURS |
|------|----------------------------|-------|
| | GSTD0103 College Reading | 3 |
| | GSTD0243 Essential English | 3 |

| TERM | LPN PRE-REQUISITES – 12-17 Credits | HOURS |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
| | MED 1001 Student Success for MED | 1 |
| | MED1223 Medical Math | 3 |
| | MED1453 Medical Terminology | 3 |
| | MED1803 Basic Anatomy & Physiology OR BIOL2064/BIOL2074 Anatomy & Physiology I & II | 3 8 |
| Total Pre-Requisites | | 10-15 |

| TERM | LPN PROGRAM CORE – 48 Credits | HOURS |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|
| | LPN1101 Nursing I | 1 |
| | LPN1112 Basic Nursing Principles | 12 |
| | LPN1206 Medical Surgical Nursing I | 6 |
| | LPN1004 Pharmacology | 4 |
| | LPN2106 Maternal / Infant / Pediatric Nursing | 6 |
| | LPN1602 Mental Health | 2 |
| | LPN1210 Medical Surgical Nursing II | 10 |
| | LPN1307 Medical Surgical Nursing III | 7 |
| Total Program Core | | 48 |

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Eligible for ARFuture grant

The Practical Nursing program offers two educational formats for students, an 11-month day program on the DeQueen Campus that begins in August and ends in June, and an 18-month evening program on the Nashville Campus that begins in January and ends in June of the following year. The application deadline for the 11-month day program is March 1st of each year. The application deadline for the 18-month evening program is August 31st of each year. Enrollment is limited. Students not selected must submit a new online application each year.

LPN applicants must meet all college admission and placement requirements, have pre-requisite grades of a C or better, and receive a 60 or higher on entrance exam. Students wishing to enter the day program must have all pre-requisite courses completed by the end of the spring semester. Students wishing to enter the evening program must have all pre-requisite courses completed by the end of the summer semester. Pre-requisite courses include Basic Anatomy & Physiology, Medical Terminology, Medical Math, and Student Success for MED. Students must also complete College Reading and Essential English courses with a “C” or higher or show scores on ACCUPLACER, or ACT indicating proficiency in these areas. Selection is based on entrance exam scores and pre-requisite GPA. Selected students must have immunizations prior to entering the program and pass a background check, as well as random drug screenings throughout the year.

GRADING SCALE FOR LPN PROGRAM: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 76-79 = C; 70-75 = D (failing); 69 or below = F

Students must receive a grade of “C” (76%) or higher in all required courses, maintain at least a 2.0 GPA, and adhere to the Student Code of Ethics (see LPN Student Guide and the Student Conduct section in the UA Cossatot Academic Catalog). Due to the strenuous nature of nursing and practice-orientation of UA Cossatot, the College reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any student to enroll or continue in the nursing program. This determination is based on, but not limited to, the characteristics required of a clinical nurse. Eligibility determination is made by the faculty’s evaluation of a student’s ability to perform the clinical tasks necessary to complete the clinical and course objectives. These abilities are re-evaluated after each course.

LPN coursework and required general education courses function as prerequisites to the next semester of required courses. Failure to successfully complete any of these courses will prohibit the student from continuing in the program and the student will be administratively withdrawn. Students applying for re-admission must meet with the Academic Advisor to identify reasons for failure to achieve program completion and develop a plan of action for student success during the student’s second attempt. The student will then meet with the Division Chair for final approval and must follow the readmission criteria.

Re-admission into the program will be considered on a space available basis. Re-admission candidates will follow the same requirements and admissions procedures as students who have never attended the LPN program. In addition, readmission candidates must take end of course assessment(s). Students must check off on all skills prior to entering the clinical setting (refresher course fees will apply). A student who fails or leaves the program for any reason may be permitted one opportunity to re-enroll (regardless of which semester).

Students enrolled in the LPN day program are not allowed to take additional course work not directly related to their degree plan program until the final semester. Students may take one (1) pre-requisite toward their RN degree plan. LPN evening program students may take one course during the semester if the student is enrolled in less than 12 hours and is in good academic standing. If a student

has completed all general education course requirements prior to entering the program, the student may not have a full load of twelve credit hours or more. The hours ascribed to each semester while in the LPN Program are considered by the program to be full time.

Students must have successfully completed all courses with a grade of "C" or better and have an overall accumulative GPA of 2.0. Upon completion, the student's status will be submitted to the State Board of Nursing declaring that the student wishes to sit for the licensing examination. The student MUST achieve a score at or above the current national passing average on the final comprehensive assessment exam to complete the requirements for the final semester. The student will be allowed to take the final comprehensive exam a total of two times. Should the student not achieve the required score after two attempts, the student will not have completed the requirements for the course and will not graduate or be allowed to sit for the NCLEX-PN. The student will be given an incomplete grade "I" for the final semester until the student can provide documentation of enrollment and completion of the 12-week ATI virtual NCLEX review with a coach. Once the student has followed all recommendations of the coach and the coach releases the student for testing, the student's final grade will be posted, and transcripts will be released to the ASBN for approval and authorization to test. If the student fails to do so, the student will need to reapply to the program and follow re-admission guidelines.

Due to differences in nursing curriculum in other nursing programs, UA Cossatot will not accept transfer credit or advanced placement for previously taken medical or practical nursing courses. Students who were enrolled in another program will follow the same requirements and admission procedures as students who have never attended another nursing program.

All students graduating from the LPN program are not automatically enabled to sit for the NCLEX or obtain licensure. This is determined by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, or the state in which they apply. Students must read the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check criteria in the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act ACA §17-87-312, and the Licensing Restrictions based on Criminal Records, Arkansas Code ACA 17-3-102, and submit a signed statement indicating that they understand that graduating from a nursing program in Arkansas does not assure the Arkansas State Board of Nursing's approval to take the licensure examination. These acts can be reviewed at <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/arsbn-criminal-background-checks>.

To meet the requirements of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, the Practical Nursing programs follow a special calendar and class days are different from those followed by students in other programs. Regular class days will be 5-6 hours each; clinical days will be 8-12 hours each.

TRANSFER OPTIONS:

- Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC) LPN/LVN to RN Transition Program available at the following locations: University of Arkansas Cossatot-Nashville & De Queen, South Arkansas Community College-El Dorado, University of Arkansas Community College-Hope & Texarkana, Rich Mountain Community College-Mena.