NURSING

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Trina Geisler, *Advising Specialist for Nursing Programs*
tgeisler@allegany.edu
Allied Health 214
301-784-5570

The Nursing Program prepares graduates to work in a variety of health care settings, in many roles within those settings, and with other care providers in the health professions. Today's nurse not only provides care and comfort to patients and their families, but also takes an active role in the health promotion and disease prevention of those same patients. Our program prepares nurses to meet the challenges of today's health care system and lays the foundation to rise to future challenges as new knowledge and technologies occur. The program has established partnerships with several colleges and universities for baccalaureate degree completion, with RN-BSN degree options. For more information about dual enrollment with other 4 year schools, please check with the nursing office.

A minimum grade of "C" is required in all science coursework; however, note that admission is competitive with grade point average being important. Laboratory science courses taken ten or more years prior to application for admission will require further evaluation.

Licensed practical nurses, and students transferring from another nursing program who wish to be considered for admission to the traditional nursing program should contact the Nursing Office for information on advanced standing and challenge exams. Deadline for application is February 28.

The LPN-RN Online Program is for currently licensed LPN's with one year/2000 hours full time work experience. There are specific Admission Criteria and Deadline Dates to this competitive admission program that differ from the traditional program. This is a selective admission program and space is limited. Interested applicants should contact the Nursing Office for further detailed information.

The Hybrid virtual / weekend option is the same curriculum. Admission criteria and application deadlines are the same as the on-campus RN program. Students selected for this cohort will experience virtual classroom content with on-campus weekend requirements to perform clinical and lab content. Interested applicants should contact the Nursing office for further detailed information.

The CMA to Nursing entrance option is for currently certified medical assistant CMA's (AAMA). There are specific Admission Criteria and Application Deadline Dates for acceptance into this pathway.

The Nursing program at Allegany College of Maryland has been designated as a Health Manpower Shortage Program. The Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has determined certain health occupations in the state to be in short supply. The Maryland Higher Education Commission has designated educational programs that correspond to these health occupations to be eligible for the Health Manpower Shortage Program. Maryland residents from counties other than Allegany County who register in this eligible program will be charged the out- of-county tuition rate. However, these students may be eligible to receive reimbursement for a portion of the cost difference between the in-county and out-of-county tuition rates. Funding availability for this program is based on funding from the State of Maryland and is thus subject to change each semester. Some restrictions apply. More information can be obtained by contacting the Admissions Office.

Nursing students must meet the scholastic standards of the College and in addition must achieve a grade of "C" or better in each nursing course and each required biology course. Students must have a passing (satisfactory) grade in both clinical and campus laboratories. Students who fail to achieve a "C" grade in a nursing course and/or a satisfactory grade in clinical and campus laboratories will not be permitted to continue in the program since courses are sequential and pre-requisite for continuance. Students may be dismissed from the program for unprofessional and/or inappropriate behavior in clinical laboratory sites. Since all classes are sequential in nature, courses must be taken during or before the semester listed.

A satisfactory health record must be on file prior to clinical experience. In order to participate in clinical experiences, students must meet clinical agency requirements. All students are required to have an annual flu vaccine, unless an approved medical or religious exemption has been obtained. Students will be required to obtain a drug screen to meet clinical agency requirements. Students will need to obtain a Criminal Record Check prior to entrance into the Nursing Program for the state where their clinical experiences are held. During enrollment any official change or the initiation of any governmental proceeding affecting the information revealed by the required criminal or child abuse background check must be reported immediately by the student to the director of the nursing program.

The nursing courses are designed to be completed within four consecutive college semesters. This normal progression within a two-year period may be interrupted in some instances because of a need for course repetition to receive a satisfactory grade, or because of illness or other unforeseen circumstances. To maintain continuity of the program, a maximum time limit of eight consecutive semesters (or four college years) will be allowed for completion of the program. During this time period, as the student progresses through the program, the student may not repeat (because of unsatisfactory performance) more than one required nursing course. A student who makes unsatisfactory progress in a required nursing course may repeat it only one time. Failure of a second course in the program constitutes a program failure.

Readmission to the nursing program may be contingent upon completing a prescription, which requires the student to demonstrate improvement or appropriate change in the behavior(s), which resulted in failure. Eligible students will be readmitted only on space available basis, and students may have to wait for admission.

Completion of the program and recommendation by the program director entitles the graduate to be considered for admission to the National Council Licensing Exam for Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). Completion of the requirements of the nursing program does not guarantee eligibility or guarantee passing the NCLEX-RN exam for licensure. A passing score on the examination results in qualifying for licensure as a registered nurse. Licensure is determined by a state board of nursing. By law, the board may deny licensure for a variety of reasons. These include conviction of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude if the nature of the offense bears directly on the fitness of the person to practice nursing.

BLS/CPR is a prerequisite to clinical nursing. Certification and/or recertification is the responsibility of the student. (The college regularly offers such courses.)

The College reserves the right to revise course and admission requirements as appropriate.

The program costs beyond tuition, fees, and books are approximately $800 for uniforms, liability insurance, and achievement tests.

Nursing is designed as a career ladder program. The first year of the associate degree and the first year of the practical nursing programs are identical. Students interested in the Practical Nursing program should refer to the Practical Nursing Program.

Students not admitted to the Nursing Program should refer to the section entitled Selective Admission Health Programs in the Admissions Procedures of the catalog.

This is a career program and is designed to enable students to seek employment at the program's completion. If you plan to transfer to a four-year college or university, please check with your advisor and the Advising Center staff as soon as possible.

Successful completion of this program qualifies a student to apply for an Associate of Science degree in Nursing.

PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

To be eligible for admission to Allegany College of Maryland's Nursing program as a recent high school graduate or Early College student, an applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

- One year of high school chemistry, biology, and algebra (or their equivalent) with a minimum grade of "C" in each course.
- Take the HESI A2 Admission exam
- Pass the Allegany College of Maryland Placement Assessment including the Anatomy and Physiology Placement Exam or successfully complete all required courses before the first college semester.

To become eligible as a college student currently attending Allegany College of Maryland or transferring from another institution, or any Early College student at Allegany College of Maryland who has waived the senior year at high school and is enrolled as a full-time student, an applicant must satisfy the following minimum requirements:

- Pass the Allegany College of Maryland Placement Assessment including the Anatomy and Physiology Placement Exam or successfully complete all required courses.
- Have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 for all nursing program requirements.
- Successfully complete Anatomy and Physiology I (Biology 207). In order to be eligible to enroll in this course, students must have passed the Anatomy and Physiology Placement Exam or successfully completed Biology 93, 100 or 101 with a grade of "C" or better. Students must have appropriate placement scores or a grade of "C" or better in Reading 93 and Mathematics 90 to be eligible for Anatomy and Physiology I (Biology 207). Current enrollment in Anatomy and Physiology I (Biology 207) will be considered in determining eligibility for admission; however, this course must be completed with at least a "C" grade prior to admission to the program.
- Schedule and take the Nursing Admission Assessment Test for the Nursing program. The Nursing Admission test must be taken by February 28 to be considered for the Fall semester admission, and by September 30 to be considered for the Spring semester admission

Applicants will be ranked using the following factors:

- Scores on the standardized exam.
- A point system awarding points for each required course completed and grade earned.
  - For Anatomy and Physiology 207; Anatomy and Physiology 208; Microbiology 204; and College Algebra 102 or Probability and Statistics 109
    - Each A will be worth 10 points
    - Each B will be worth 8 points
    - Each C will be worth 6 points
    - No points will be awarded for a D or F
  - For all other general education courses required for the Nursing program (English 101; Psychology 101 and 203; Sociology 101; and two Humanities electives)
    - Each A will be worth 5 points
    - Each B will be worth 3 points
    - Each C will be worth 1 point
    - No points will be awarded for a D or F

Admission to the Nursing program is competitive and not all applicants can be selected. Applications must be received in the Nursing Office no later than February 28 if the student wishes to be considered for the fall program or September 30 if the student wishes to be considered for the spring program. **Please contact the Nursing Office or the Admissions Office for complete application requirements.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

REQUIRED NURSING COURSES

NURS-120	Nursing I
NURS-150	Nursing II
NURS-204	Nursing in Society
NURS-205	Nursing III
NURS-206	Nursing IV
NURS-215	Nursing V

REQUIRED GENERAL COURSES

BIO-204	Microbiology
BIO-207	Anatomy and Physiology of the Human I
BIO-208	Anatomy and Physiology of the Human II
ENG-101	English Composition I
MATH-102 or	College Algebra or
MATH-109	Probability and Statistics
PSYC-101	General Psychology
PSYC-203	Human Growth and Development (Education 203)
SOC-101	Introduction to Sociology

REQUIRED ELECTIVE COURSES

Please consult with your advisor or the Advising Center staff for selecting appropriate elective courses for graduation.

Humanities Electives - 6 credits

PROGRAM PATH

NURSING

TWO-YEAR CAREER PROGRAM

PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

SUMMER SESSION OR TAKEN PRIOR TO ADMISSION		Credit Hours
Biological Science 207 (Anatomy and Physiology of the Human I)		4
	Total:	4
FIRST SEMESTER		
Biological Science 208 (Anatomy and Physiology of the Human II)		4
Nursing 120 (Nursing I)		9
Psychology 101 (General Psychology)		3
	Total:	16
SECOND SEMESTER		
English 101 (English Composition I)		3
Mathematics 102 or 109 (College Algebra or Probability and Statistics)		3
Nursing 150 (Nursing II)		9
Psychology 203 (Human Growth and Development)		3
	Total:	18
THIRD SEMESTER		
Biological Science 204 (Microbiology)		4
Nursing 205 (Nursing III)		6
Nursing 206 (Nursing IV)		3
Sociology 101 (Introduction to Sociology)		3
	Total:	16
FOURTH SEMESTER		
Humanities Electives [1]		6
Nursing 204 (Nursing in Society)		1
Nursing 215 (Nursing IV)		9
	Total:	16
	Total Credit Hours:	**70**

[1] *Humanities electives must be from two different disciplines.*

PROGRAM NOTE: All general education classes must be taken either before or with the semester listed in order to progress to the next semester. All nursing courses must be taken in the sequence listed.

NOTE: All courses specifically identified by course number are graduation requirements for this program.

ACCREDITATION

The Nursing Program is approved by the Maryland Board of Nursing, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215-2254; 410-585-1900, 1-888-202-9861. In addition, the program located at the Pennsylvania Campus is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649 or 2601 North Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110; 717-783-7142. The Associate Degree Nursing Program is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN). ACEN's address is: 3343 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 850, Atlanta Georgia, 30326; 404-975-5000