

Nursing

The Registered Nursing (ADN) and Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) Programs prepare students to care for patients in hospitals and other healthcare agencies through coursework in humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, and the nursing discipline. These programs emphasize nursing theory and clinical practice for direct patient care.

Licensure

Upon successful completion of the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program, graduates are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. Upon successful performance on the examination, they are licensed as registered nurses (RNs).

Students completing the Certificate of Achievement in Licensed Vocational Nursing Program may take additional courses in general education to receive their Associate in Arts in Licensed Vocational Nursing (see Associate Degrees (p. 67)). Upon completion of the LVN associate degree program, graduates are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Vocational Nurses; if successful, they are licensed as vocational nurses (LVNs).

Point System

A point system using multi-criteria approved by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office is used to accept students into the RN program. A list of this criteria is located on the nursing website (www.miracosta.edu/instruction/nursing/).

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

Students accepted into the RN program must take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) and receive a composite score of 62 percent or higher in order to begin the program. The score on the first TEAS test taken is the one used for the points, not additional ones. Students who do not receive at least a 62 percent will be counseled and have a remediation plan designed. They will have one year to complete the remediation plan before retesting for admittance. This program has been approved by the Board of Registered Nursing, PO Box 499210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100.

Academic and Career Pathway: Health Sciences

Contact Information

Chair: Susan Simpson
Dean: Al Taccone
<https://www.miracosta.edu/academics/degree-and-certificate-programs/health-sciences/nursing/index.html>

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Associate Degrees

Associate in Arts Degree

Licensed Vocational Nursing

Students may earn the above-named associate degree by completing a certificate of achievement and the general education courses required for MiraCosta College's Associate in Arts degree (see Associate Degrees (p. 67)). Students should meet with a MiraCosta counselor to identify required courses and to develop a written educational plan for the specific degree or certificate they wish to earn.

Program Student Learning Outcome Statement

- ▶ Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to promote and maintain a safe environment by integrating nursing process and skill competency to intervene therapeutically for the health of the patient.

Associate in Science Degree

Registered Nursing

Track I - Generic ADN

Track II - LVN-RN (ADN)

The Registered Nursing program offers two tracks for students: Track I and Track II. Track II is for California Licensed Vocational Nurses only. Students must possess a valid LVN license to complete Track II.

Applications for admission are available in the Nursing and Allied Health Occupations Administrative Office (Building T420) on the Oceanside campus. Requirements include an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 for Human Anatomy (BIO 210 or BIO 210H), Human Physiology (BIO 220), and Microbiology (BIO 230) with no grade less than "C" for each course and no more than one repetition of any of these courses. Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for all college coursework taken. The selection criteria for admission to the program is consistent with California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office standards for Statewide Alignment of Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) prerequisites. The criteria can be found on the nursing website (www.miracosta.edu/nursing/).

Students accepted into the Registered Nursing program must take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) and receive a composite score of 62 percent or higher in order to begin the program. Study materials for the test can be found at www.atitesting.com. Students who do not receive at least a 62 percent will be counseled and have a remediation plan designed. They will have one year to complete the remediation plan before retesting for admittance. This program has been approved by the Board of Registered Nursing, PO Box 499210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100.

Program Student Learning Outcome Statement

- Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to manage and promote effective care while maintaining a safe environment by integrating nursing process, clinical reasoning, and skill competency to intervene therapeutically for the health of the patient.

Track I: Generic ADN

Students must have completed the following prerequisite courses before applying to the Registered Nursing (ADN) program:

BIO 110	Introductory Biology: Preparation for Pre-Health Professions (Lecture/Lab) *	3-4
or BIO 111	Introductory Biology: Preparation for Pre-Health Professions (Lecture)	
BIO 210	Human Anatomy	4
or BIO 210H	Human Anatomy (Honors)	
BIO 220	Human Physiology *	4
BIO 230	Introduction to Microbiology *	5
ENGL 100	Composition and Reading *	4
or ENGL 100H	Composition and Reading (Honors)	
Total Units		20-21
Required courses:		
COMM 101	Public Speaking *	3
or COMM 106	Group Communication	
or COMM 207	Interpersonal Communication	
NURS 180	Fundamentals of Nursing	4
NURS 181	Medical Surgical Nursing I	4
NURS 182	Maternal-Child Nursing	5
NURS 183	Medical Surgical Nursing II	4.5
NURS 281	Medical Surgical Nursing III	7
NURS 282	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing	3.5
NURS 283	Medical Surgical Nursing IV	7
NURS 284	Contemporary Nursing Practice and Leadership	1.5
PHAR 201	Pharmacology Review and Update	2
Select at least three units from the following: *		3
CHLD 113	Child and Adolescent Growth and Development	
GERO 101	Introduction to Aging	
PSYC 100	Psychology of Personal Growth	
PSYC 101	General Psychology	
PSYC 101H	General Psychology (Honors)	
PSYC/SOC 103	Social Psychology	
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	
SOC 101H	Introduction to Sociology (Honors)	
SOC 102	Contemporary Social Problems	
Additional associate degree requirements:		3
GE Area C (Plan A) ***		
Prerequisite Units		20-21
Total Units		67.5-68.5

Track II: LVN-RN (ADN)

California Licensed Vocational Nurses are eligible to apply for a one-year LVN-RN transition program, also known as the Registered Nursing (LVN-RN) Step-Up program *in pursuit of the Associate Degree in Nursing*. First-year nursing course work credit is granted with evidence of an active California LVN license in good standing and evidence of graduating from a program approved by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). Students complete a transition course offered during summer and two subsequent semesters for eligibility to apply to take the National Council License Exam for Registered Nursing (NCLEX). For those students who have received their license through challenging the NCLEXPN, pediatric and obstetrical content will need to be verified by the ADN director. Please make an appointment in the Nursing and Allied Health Office (OCT420) to determine how to satisfy this requirement.

Students accepted into the LVN-RN (ADN) (Track II) program must take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) and receive a composite score of 62 percent or higher in order to begin the program. Study materials for the test can be found at www.atitesting.com. Students who do not receive at least a 62 percent will be counseled and have a remediation plan designed. They will have one year to complete the remediation plan before retesting for admittance. This program has been approved by the Board of Registered Nursing, PO Box 499210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100.

Students must have completed the following prerequisite courses before applying to the Registered Nursing (LVN-RN) program:

BIO 110	Introductory Biology: Preparation for Pre-Health Professions (Lecture/Lab) *	3-4
or BIO 111	Introductory Biology: Preparation for Pre-Health Professions (Lecture)	
BIO 210	Human Anatomy	4
or BIO 210H	Human Anatomy (Honors)	
BIO 220	Human Physiology *	4
BIO 230	Introduction to Microbiology *	5
ENGL 100	Composition and Reading *	4
or ENGL 100H	Composition and Reading (Honors)	
PHAR 201	Pharmacology Review and Update	2
Total Units		22-23
Required courses:		
COMM 101	Public Speaking *	3
or COMM 106	Group Communication	
or COMM 207	Interpersonal Communication	
NURS 280	Transition from LVN to RN	2.5
NURS 281	Medical Surgical Nursing III	7
NURS 282	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing	3.5
NURS 283	Medical Surgical Nursing IV	7
NURS 284	Contemporary Nursing Practice and Leadership	1.5
Select at least three units from the following: *		3
CHLD 113	Child and Adolescent Growth and Development	

Areas of Study & Courses

GERO 101	Introduction to Aging	
PSYC 100	Psychology of Personal Growth	
PSYC 101	General Psychology	
PSYC 101H	General Psychology (Honors)	
PSYC/SOC 103	Social Psychology	
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	
SOC 101H	Introduction to Sociology (Honors)	
SOC 102	Contemporary Social Problems	
Additional associate degree requirements:**		
GE Area C (Plan A) ***		3
Prerequisite Units		22-23
Total Units		52.5-53.5

* These courses may also satisfy a general education (GE) requirement and apply to GE Areas A, B, D and E. Cultural Diversity, which is a required GE category (Area F), is embedded throughout the Nursing program curriculum. Each course has a component that promotes sensitivity to cultural diversity and fosters an understanding of the student's role in the global community. Students completing this degree will substantially meet this requirement.

** To obtain the associate degree, students must complete at least 60 units and satisfy the college's mathematics competency requirement. The Nursing Department recommends students take a statistics course to satisfy this graduation requirement. All means of demonstrating mathematics competency are explained in the college catalog and in the Administrative Procedure 4100.

*** Students with a bachelor's or an associate degree from a United States regionally accredited college in a non-nursing field are required to complete only the coursework necessary for the Registered Nursing program, including prerequisites and nursing coursework. These students are not required to complete any other courses required by the college for an associate degree.

Non-Degree 30-Unit Option for LVNs

Any LVN licensed in the state of California is eligible to apply for the non-degree 30-Unit Option LVN-RN program, for which MiraCosta College acts as a facilitator. Prescribed by the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN), this option allows students with a current California LVN license to meet the minimum requirements to sit for the Registered Nursing licensure exam by completing a maximum of 30 units.

At MiraCosta College this option requires the following:

Prerequisite course requirements:

BIO 220	Human Physiology	4
BIO 230	Introduction to Microbiology	5

Nursing course requirements:

NURS 280	Transition from LVN to RN	2.5
NURS 281	Medical Surgical Nursing III	7
NURS 282	Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing	3.5
NURS 283	Medical Surgical Nursing IV	7

NURS 284	Contemporary Nursing Practice and Leadership *
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Total Units

29

* NURS 284 is optional.

The 30-Unit Option has both advantages and disadvantages. The primary advantage is that students take fewer courses to become licensed and do not repeat any content included in their vocational nursing program (such as pediatrics and maternity). Disadvantages include the following:

- ▶ Students who complete this option are not awarded a degree or certificate from MiraCosta College and are not entitled to wear the Nursing Program pin.
- ▶ Students who complete this option, subsequently become California RNs, and then wish to become licensed in another state will likely find they do not meet RN licensure requirements outside of California.

Applicants who desire the 30-Unit Option complete the same application form required for LVN-ADN Step-Up students and indicate this choice on the application form where appropriate. Students may apply upon completion of the program prerequisite courses. Applications are available in the Nursing Office.

Certificates

Certificate of Achievement

Licensed Vocational Nursing

The MiraCosta College Licensed Vocational Nursing program is a six-quarter program leading to a certificate as a vocational nurse. Those who qualify for enrollment receive intensive training and in-class work as well as clinical practice in direct patient care. The clinical practice is constantly supervised by licensed or registered nurse specialists who guide and teach students. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the National Licensure Examination for Vocational Nurses to achieve licensure. The licensed vocational nurse may seek employment in hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, clinics, physicians' offices, or various government agencies, as well as serve as a private-duty nurse in hospitals or homes.

NURS 151, NURS 60, and PHAR 100 are prerequisites and must be completed prior to applying for enrollment in the LVN program. Once prerequisites are completed, students may submit an application packet for admission into the program. For admission requirements, go to <http://www.miracosta.edu/instruction/nursing/lvnprogram.html>.

Students accepted into the program must take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Version V and receive a composite score of 58 percent or higher in order to begin the program. Study materials for the test can be found at www.atitesting.com. Students who do not receive at least a 58 percent will be counseled and have a remediation plan designed. They will have one year to complete the remediation plan before retesting for admittance. This program has been