Practical Nursing (PN)

Application to Enter Fall 2025
(Class of 2026)

DEADLINE TO APPLY: March 14, 2025

Thank you for your interest in the Practical Nursing (PN) program at McDowell Technical Community College (MTCC)!

The PN curriculum is designed for Certified Nursing Assistants who wish to further their education to include a Practical Nursing diploma. Graduates of the PN program are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) which is required for practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). Employment opportunities include hospitals, rehabilitation/long term care/home health facilities, clinics, and physicians' offices.

Practical Nursing (S45660) Information
Approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON) and in accordance with the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), the PN program at MTCC is accredited by The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

The PN curriculum provides knowledge and skills to integrate safety and quality into nursing care to meet the needs of the holistic individual which impact health, quality of life, and achievement of potential. Course work includes and builds upon the domains of healthcare, nursing practice, and the holistic individual. Content emphasizes safe, individualized nursing care and participation in the interdisciplinary team while employing evidence-based practice, quality improvement, and informatics.

Clinical and classroom experiences represent an integrated approach, with the student moving from simple to complex nursing concepts and skills. The classroom portion of the program is taught during the afternoon/evening. Clinical experiences are designed to match the didactic portion of the course(s) and allow for the student to apply skills obtained. These experiences vary depending on clinical site availability, which includes, days, nights or weekends shifts and anywhere from 6 to 12-hour clinical shifts. Clinical site rotations are assigned to assist the student in gaining a wide variety of educational opportunities.

Enrollment is limited, and admission is a competitive process. Meeting minimum admission criteria does not guarantee an applicant an offer of admission into the nursing program. MTCC does not use a waiting list therefore, applicant records must be updated annually. If a student has applied previously, the student must reinitiate the process of applying.

The Practical Nursing curriculum prepares individuals with the knowledge and skills to provide nursing care to children and adults. Students will participate in assessment, planning, implementing, and evaluating nursing care.

Admission Requirements:

1. Complete the North Carolina Residency Determination Service Questionnaire requirement through RDS located at https://mcdowelltech.edu/. Assistance is available in the Student Services Office.

2. Applicants must submit a completed admissions application available on the MTCC website or through https://www.cfnc.org/. Assistance is available from the Student Services Office.

3. Complete a Financial Aid Application (FAFSA form). For more information, contact the Financial Aid at 828.652.0602, or financial.aid@go.mcdowelltech.edu.

4. Submit an official high school transcript or equivalent transcript to the admissions department at admissions@go.mcdowelltech.edu. Student copies of these items are not acceptable.

5. Submit official transcripts of all previous post-secondary education (college) course work to the admissions department at admissions@go.mcdowelltech.edu. Student copies are not acceptable. **The required, minimum GPA to is a 2.0 to be considered.**

6. Applicants must have completed a unit of high school Biology with a grade of "C" or above. College substitutions for this requirement are one semester of BIO 111 or a higher-level college biology course, with a grade of "C" or above. In addition, high school or college level chemistry and math are strongly recommended. Pre-requisite courses are not accepted from the Adult High School Diploma unless the student is a graduate of the program.

7. Admission to the PN program requires the applicant be eligible to take ENG 111 and MAT 110 without a co-requisite. Students that require a corequisite for ENG 111 or MAT 110 are not eligible for admission to the program.

8. Applicants must meet with the Health Sciences Advisor/Success Coach, Heather Buchanan, to complete a "Program of Intent" application. Nursing information and questions are addressed during this meeting and every student is required to sign an attestation form at the end of this meeting confirming their information session attendance. Contact Mrs. Heather Buchanan by phone at 828-659-0495, or email hmbuchanan55@go.mcdowelltech.edu.

9. Verification of completion of a North Carolina state approved Nurse Aide I Training program is required. Current NA I listing on the NC Nurse Aide Registry, without substantiated findings, is required for all applicants by August 4, 2025 and must be current throughout fall semester 2025.

10. The TEAS exam dates will be provided by Heather Buchanan, Health Science Advisor/Success Coach. The cost for the TEAS is approximately $75.00. **Applicants must score a 55 or higher to be considered for admission to the PN program.** Scores are not rounded and are valid for a period of five years.

11. In accordance with the NC General Statute 90-171-48, applicants for initial licensure must have a criminal background check (CBC). The CBCs are completed through a compliance tracking company and costs approximately $135.00. Applicants with a history of criminal convictions may have limited licensure and employment opportunities. Clinical agencies receive CBC results and may deny a student clinical access for any reason. A student who is unable to complete clinical will be unable to continue in the program.

12. All accepted applicants and alternates must submit a completed Student Medical Form by August 4, 2025. The medical form is available from the Health Sciences Administrative Assistant. To be considered complete the form must include required immunization records and lab/diagnostic tests. If problematic physical or mental health conditions exist, timely medical reports from a provider confirming that the individual is physically and mentally competent to enter the PN program may be required.

13. Accepted applicants must have or obtain an American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider (CPR) certification to include Adult, Infant, and Child CPR. Courses are routinely offered through MTCC's Department of Continuing Education. Students admitted to the program will not be allowed to begin classes without current CPR certification. Proof of current CPR certification is required by <u>August 4, 2025</u> and must be valid until August 2026. Proof must be provided at orientation.

14. Accepted applicants must attend <u>mandatory</u> orientation scheduled for <u>June 16, 2025</u> (time & location to be announced at later date). Accepted applicants who are unable to attend the orientation session must notify the Director of Nursing to schedule a make-up orientation before <u>July 10, 2025</u>. Any accepted applicant who fails to meet orientation requirements will forfeit his or her place in the PN program.

Point Rating Tool

Once all admission requirements are met, applicants will be ranked using a Point Rating Tool. The Point Rating Tool is used by the PN Admission Committee to select applicants for the PN Program. All general admission requirements must be met, including an acceptable score on the TEAS Exam, prior to use of the Point Rating Tool. The tool was developed as an objective means of evaluating applicants. The point count criteria are divided into seven distinct areas:

  (1) Most recent cumulative overall GPA - college or high school/GED
  (2) TEAS score
  (3) TEAS Science score
  (4) TEAS Math score
  (5) TEAS English score
  (6) Specified college courses completed with a "C" or better (BIO 168, BIO 169, BIO 175 or 275, MED 121 & MED 122, CHM 131 & CHM 131A, CIS 110)
  (7) Current Nursing Assistant II listing with the NC Board of Nursing

An applicant's admission rating is confidential. At no time and with no exceptions will an applicant's admission rating be discussed with anyone other than the applicant. When an individual's application is complete, his or her total point count will be calculated. It is this total which will be used in the selection process. Please do not call to inquire about your point count. If you are accepted, you will be notified of your acceptance as outlined on the next page. In the event of an identical score for ranking, TEAS test scores will be used to differentiate tie scores:

  o   First preference will be given to the applicant(s) with the highest TEAS science scores.

  o   In the event of a tie in TEAS science scores, preference will be given to the applicant(s) with the highest TEAS math scores.

  o   In the event of a tie in TEAS math scores, preference will be given to applicant(s) with the highest TEAS English scores.

Admission criteria are subject to change

Required General Education Courses

It is strongly encouraged for applicants to take these required general education (non-nursing) courses before acceptance into the nursing program.

ACA 122
BIO 168 and BIO 169
ENG 111
PSY 150

Completion of these courses will help prepare students for, but not guarantee, admission to the PN Program.

Selection Process   ## Dates to Remember

1. General admissions requirements (#1-8) must be met.   **March 14, 2025**

2. Written notification will be mailed to eligible students   **March 28, 2025**
    regarding dates and times to sit for the TEAS (Test of
    Essential Academic Skills).
    The TEAS test dates are April 15-17, 2025.

3. Final selection for admission will be based on the Point   **April 28, 2025**
    Rating Tool and submission of required materials.
    Written notification of acceptance will be mailed/
    emailed by the Director of Nursing and the Health
    Sciences Administrative Assistant.

4. Accepted applicants will be required to attend a <u>mandatory</u>   **June 16, 2025**
    New Nursing Student Orientation meeting.

5. Completed Health Forms must be submitted to the Health   **August 4, 2025**
    Sciences Administrative Assistant.

Note: Dates subject to change

McDowell Technical Community College does not discriminate in its admission policies and procedures on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, or handicap. For further information, refer to the MTCC catalog section entitled "Non-Discrimination Policy."

For more information, contact Heather Buchanan, Health Sciences Advisor/Success Coach at 828-659-0495 or email hmbuchanan55@go.mcdowelltech.edu

McDowell Technical Community College
Practical Nursing Student Budget Expenditure
Approximate Cost for Three Semester Program

Program Cost 2024-2025

1. **Tuition** (45 total program hours plus activity fees)……………………………………………………………………**$3570.00**
   ($76.00/credit hour each semester and $25.00 student activity fee per semester, and 25.00 student success fee per semester *includes all nursing classes and other required classes).*

2. **Books, supplies, miscellaneous**…………………………………………………………………………………………………**$921.40**
   (includes $50 lab/sim supply fee, liability insurance $ 14.50, technology fee of $25.00 per semester, parking fee of $15.00, accident insurance $1.30 per semester, CAPS fee of $25 per semester, and student ID badge $5.00 per year)

3. **Clinical Uniforms and supplies**………………………………………………………………………………………….……**$475.00**

4. **Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Complete Package**……………………………………………………. **$2362.50**
   ($787.50 in first semester, $787.50 in second semester, and $787.50 in third semester)

5. **Castlebranch**-Background check, Drug Screen, and Immunization Tracker…………………………………**$133.00**

Total Program Costs……….…**$7461.90**

GRADUATION and PINNING COST………………………………………………………………………………………………………**$665.00**
   1. Cap, gown, tassel, and (10) announcements………………………………………………………………………………$50.00
   2. Pinning Uniform, shoes, hose/socks……………………………………………………………………………………………$150.00
   3. Pinning Ceremony dues………$125.00
      Comprised of the following costs:
       a. Lamp……………………………………………………………………………………………$22.00
       b. Nursing Cap …………………………………………………………………………………$18.00
       c. Class photo……………………………………………………………………………………$30.00
       d. Invitations/Programs…………………………………………………………………….$5.00
       e. Nursing Pin ……………………………………………………………………………………$32.00
       f. Sound, Light, Music, Interpreter………………………………………………………$15.00
       g. EMMS Auditorium rental fee……………………………………………………………$5.00
   4. NCLEX Fees (application to Pearson Vue)…………………………………………………………………………………………$200.00
   5. North Carolina Board of Nursing Fees………………………………………………………………………………………………$140.00
      (Application – $75.00 & Criminal Background Check - $50.00, Fingerprint - $15.00)

TOTAL PROGRAM COST……………………………………………………………………………………………………**$8126.90***

(*All costs are estimated and may not reflect actual fees as they are subject to change.)