

# RCC Nursing Programs

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## PN Program Information for 2023 Entry

### The Profession and the Program

Practical nurses are essential to the health care team. Practical nurses provide individualized care in various health care settings such as long-term care, hospitals, home health, doctor's offices, and other community settings. Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) care for the sick, injured, convalescent, and disabled under the direction of a registered nurse, nurse practitioner, licensed physician, dentist, or other independent health care provider recognized by the State Board of Nursing.

Licensed Practical Nurses, including students of the RCC Practical Nursing (PN) program, are required to possess the highest level of integrity, ethical behavior, and emotional stability. Licensed Practical Nurses are required to have integrity, accuracy, and honesty in the provision of care, including reporting changes in patient condition, acknowledging errors in practice and reporting them promptly, accurate charting, and implementing care as ordered.

The RCC PN program is approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing and is located at the Table Rock Campus in White City, Oregon. It is a nine-month-program (33 weeks) that begins the winter term (January) and ends before the beginning of fall term (summer term has an extended two-week IP experience after the term ends). To be admitted, a student must complete prerequisite and preparatory requirements and apply to the program by the application deadline of September 8 of each year. It is a limited entry program and students are selected according to the highest points obtained in the selection process. Classroom, skills lab, and clinical courses run over four to five days per week, with clinical courses scheduled for days that vary from term to term. The program meets the educational requirements of the Oregon State Board of Nursing enabling them to take the national licensure exam for practical nurses (NCLEX-PN) and provides the community with competent entry-level practical nurses for a variety of health care settings.

Students planning to apply to the program should note the following information from the Oregon State Board of Nursing which could impact them after completion of the program:

- To decrease the chance of fraud in obtaining licenses from individuals who live overseas and do not intend to work in the US or Oregon, Social Security Numbers are required (per Oregon Revised Statute 25.785) of any applicant seeking a new CNA certificate, LPN or RN license or seeking renewal of a CNA certificate or LPN or RN license.
- Refusal to provide an SSN will result in denial of licensure/certification, and the denial will be reported to the National Practitioner Databank. US work visas (H1B, I-766, or other current federal government form authorizing you to work in the United States) will be accepted. If students are attending school on an F1 Visa, they will need to provide the OSBN with a copy of the I-94 and I-20 signed by the designated school authority at the time of the application for licensure.
- Background checks may lead to denial of licensure – Check the OSBN website at Oregon State Board of Nursing: [How Criminal History Affects Your Application](#).

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### Computer and Internet Basics

Basic computer and internet access for students is essential. RCC offers student computer labs on all three (3) campuses. Students admitted to RCC are assigned a personal RCC email address. Students with an RCC email address are given free access to [Microsoft Office 365 applications](#) (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) that they can use on line or download to their personal computers.

Internet and email access are integral parts of all practical nursing courses as all course exams will be online with ATI Testing and possession or access to a laptop computer for classroom use will be required daily. Assignments, quizzes, and communication typically utilize the various tools of Rogue Online (Blackboard), the college's learning management system. If you have questions about obtaining the appropriate computer for the Practical Nursing Program, please utilize the Student Help Desk link in your [MyRogue Student Account](#).

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### Access and Disability Resources

Any student who feels that they may need academic accommodations should make an appointment with the Access and Disability Services Office. It is important to establish contact at least 4-6 weeks prior to entering the program. For more information, go to [www.roguecc.edu/accessResources](http://www.roguecc.edu/accessResources).

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### Student Application Eligibility

Program enrollment is limited. RCC reserves the right to increase or reduce enrollment numbers. For eligibility for admission to the Practical Nursing program in January of 2024, the following conditions must have been met by 5:00 PM SEPTEMBER 8, 2023:

1. The application must be received by email with the required attachments by September 8, 2023, by 11:59 PM; The application fee of \$60 must be paid to [Rogue Community Marketplace](#) by September 8, 2023, 11:59 PM.

2. Proof of completion of CNA coursework (upload and email a copy of the transcript, verification letter, or OSBN-issued CNA certification).
3. Students with only CNA course completion verification must upload and email proof of current CNA license by November 1.
4. All prerequisites must be completed with a "C" or better ("Passing" is acceptable for a nursing assistant course) By September 8, 2023.
  - BI121 or BI231 & BI232 w/labs
  - MTH65 **equivalent or higher**
  - PSY101 or BT101
  - WR115
  - CNA CoursePreparatory courses must be completed by the fall term before the winter term start of the program.
  - BI122 w/labs or BI233 w/lab (if utilizing the 200-level A&P sequence)
  - CIS120 or proficiency exam
  - WR121
5. Applicants must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA (for all courses completed at RCC, or at the college where anatomy and physiology were completed if the applicant is new to RCC).
6. Applications cannot be processed for any student who has a financial hold at RCC unless that hold is cleared by the application deadline and remains clear throughout the application/selection process.
7. Students must not be on academic suspension the term before the application deadline.
8. Official transcripts for classes completed elsewhere than RCC must be submitted by or before the application deadline. Official transcripts should be sent via [National Student Clearinghouse](#) to the Enrollment Services Office. Students who do not submit all official transcripts from previous regionally accredited colleges or universities attended will not be eligible for anatomy and physiology "non-repeat" points. Note: A [Transfer Credit Evaluation Request](#) must be completed to trigger an evaluation of official transcripts received outside of RCC.
9. Applicants must contact ATI Testing and schedule the TEAS Exam and attach/ upload results with their application before by September 8, 2023. Information about the TEAS and registration links can be found at [ATITesting.com](#) or by visiting the [Practical Nursing web page](#). Scores of previous Practical Nursing TEAS exams can be used within the previous two years of the application deadline. Students with a score of 58.7 or less are ineligible to apply.
10. Students must request a reservation and sit for one Essay Session.

Students must email Melissa Weast at [MWeast@roguecc.edu](mailto:MWeast@roguecc.edu) to reserve and confirm their Essay Session.

For information on how selection points are awarded in the selection process, please refer to the [2023 Selection Point Criteria](#) on the Practical Nursing Program Information Web page.

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## Rogue Community College Discrimination Policy

Rogue Community College does not discriminate in any programs, activities or employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, age, pregnancy or any other status protected under applicable federal, state or local laws. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Jamee Harrington, Director of Human Resources; 541-956-7017; [JHarrington@roguecc.edu](mailto:JHarrington@roguecc.edu); Redwood Campus.

RCC has a zero tolerance for sexual assault, stalking, intimate partner or domestic violence, dating violence and workplace violence. Anyone found participating in any of these activities will be subject to disciplinary action and prosecuted in accordance with RCC policies and procedures and Oregon state laws. For more information, go to [www.roguecc.edu/titleIX](http://www.roguecc.edu/titleIX).

If a student applies but is not accepted into the program, or is accepted but does not enroll for the term to which they have been accepted, the student must re-apply to be considered for admission the following year, and must meet the Graduation Guide entry requirements for that year. If a student applies to the program, placed as an alternate and does not move into the program, they must have accepted the alternate status and complete all preparatory courses fall term in order to receive alternate points the next application year. Points as alternates apply only for the following application year.

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## Progression, Re-Entry or Transfer

Courses required for graduation of students accepted to enter the program in the winter are listed on the [Program Map](#). Practical Nursing courses must be taken in sequence with both the classroom and clinical components of each course completed with a "C" grade or better (and an overall GPA of 2.0) to continue in and complete the program. Graduates of the program will receive their certificate, and be eligible to take the national licensure exam (NCLEX-PN). All written exams require a student to attain a cumulative score of 75%; additional points for assignments and quizzes are added afterwards and a cumulative score calculated. An overall cumulative score of 75% or higher is then required for a passing grade. Attendance and safe performance at the expected level, including consistent demonstration of all the Technical Standards (including behavioral) and passing a dosage calculation, are required to earn a passing grade in the clinical courses.

If a student exits the program before completion, re-entry is not guaranteed. Students who leave the program and apply to re-enter the program must repeat previously completed courses (theory and clinical) for full tuition, and meet any criteria outlined in an exit letter or letter of dismissal upon exit of the program. Application for re-entry or transfer into terms other than the winter term will be considered on space availability and assessment of previously completed Practical Nursing coursework by the program administrator. Applications must be submitted by the beginning of the term containing the courses which the student had completed. If re-entry or transfer students are accepted, their course content knowledge and clinical skills will be evaluated by an instructor, and continuation in the program will be dependent on satisfactory skills performance.

Re-entry or transfer applications have a one-year time limit from the exit of the program. Students who have failed any RCC Practical Nursing course will not be considered for transfer. Students who have failed any two practical nursing courses will not be considered for admission or re-entry to the program. Withdrawal from the program in poor standing in either classroom, clinical, or on clinical probation will be considered the same as failing a course. Students on probation for severe or multiple breaches of patient safety or professionalism or failure to follow facility or program policy will not be granted re-entry to the program.

Re-entry applicants will be rank-ordered in three (3) categories. Tiebreakers will be 1) highest GPA with previously completed PN courses, 2) cumulative GPA for previously completed PN courses, and prerequisite and preparatory courses.

**Rank-ordered categories:**

- 1** = Re-entry students who left the RCC PN Program in good standing within the past year or who failed (or were failing) only one theory course.
- 2** = Transfer students who left their previous Practical Nursing Program less than a year prior to transfer and were [in good standing](#). (Note: Good standing must be reflected on their college transcripts and verified in writing by the program director of their former practical nursing program. Verification from previous director must include hours and type of clinical experiences completed and documented clinical evaluation. Students will only be considered for transfer if they will complete 12 RCC credits towards the Practical Nursing Program certificate awarded summer term.
- 3** = Re-entry students who were dismissed due to failing clinical (with no serious or multiple breaches of patient safety or professionalism). Re-entry applicants are required to submit information indicating their plans or remediation work indicating the reasonable expectation of improvement in clinical performance.

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## Prior to Entry

Students accepted into the Practical Nursing program for the Winter Term of 2024 will be notified by email mid November. All admitted students must have met all requirements previously mentioned above in Student Application Eligibility. Additional requirements before the start of the program are:

- An OSBN CNA license remains current throughout the program.
- Proof of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR certification. [See approved CPR courses](#) on the RCC website. CPR certification must remain current throughout the program.
- Provide proof of documentation required under Oregon Health Authority Administrative Chapter 409, Rule 30 at Oregon Administrative Rules 409-030-0100 regarding immunizations, criminal background check, 10-panel drug screen, etc.
- COVID Vaccination. Although Rogue Community College does not require students to be vaccinated to attend courses, all nursing students are REQUIRED to be fully vaccinated to be admitted to the program(s) to meet clinical requirements. Clinical experience is obtained with contracted facilities that may allow exemptions for employees but do NOT allow exemptions for students. Students are considered fully vaccinated at the end of two-weeks post 2nd vaccination.
- Per OHA 409-030-0250, Information Sharing or Use of Data: students are required *“provide written, signed permission that explicitly allows the sharing of required documents and necessary evidence with clinical sites, including but not limited to any release required under HIPAA or other applicable laws to disseminate the student’s personal health information under these rules. Dissemination of information received under these rules may only be made to individuals with a demonstrated and legitimate need to know the information.”*

Clinical experiences are scheduled at several sites in the Rogue Valley, i.e., Medford, Grants Pass, and possibly Ashland typically beginning at 6:00 a.m. Expect to travel to all the sites throughout the program. Clinical experiences will occur during the day for most terms (with client selection and preparation usually occurring on the day before clinical) in long-term care or acute care setting. The final clinical rotation (during the summer post session in September) is a practicum experience in which students are matched with a staff LPN or RN (Clinical Teaching Associate), in a variety of approved settings with varying shifts.

Practical Nursing classes, labs, and clinical typically involve 20-30 hours of attendance per week and additional hours of study/preparation/assignments for the program per week. Meeting these requirements may mean that students will need to adjust their employment and family responsibilities. Students may not work the shift immediately preceding a clinical rotation because of the potential impact on safe client care.

Students should be aware that if accepted into the practical nursing program they will be required to comply with Practical Nursing Student Handbook policies and sign an agreement to follow policies to continue in the program. Instructors distribute and review the content of the handbook during the required orientations held the first week of the Winter term.

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This information reflects an accurate picture of the program offered at Rogue Community College at the time of publication (July 2023). However, conditions may change. Therefore, the college must reserve the right to make any necessary changes in the program description, costs, policies, or curriculum. Questions should be directed to the Practical Nursing Program, at 541-956-7308.

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