

Dallas college  School of Health Sciences

Vocational Nursing

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**Vocational Nursing**

**Revised for the Fall 24 Application Cycle**

# Program Summary and Accreditation

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 43-credit hour curriculum leading to a certificate of completion in vocational nursing at the El Centro campus. A graduate of the program is eligible to take the NCLEX-PN examination to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) within the guidelines set by the Texas Board of Nursing. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (Address: 3343 Peachtree Road, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326; Telephone: 404-975-5000; Fax: 404-975-5020; Email: info@acenursing.org; Website: [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org);) and approved by the Texas Board of Nursing (Address: 333 Guadalupe St., Suite 3-460, Austin, TX 78701-3944; Telephone: 512-305-7400; Fax: 512-305-7401; Email: webmaster@bon.texas.gov; Website: [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov)).

**Note:**  **An FBI background check and fingerprinting are required for registration and formal entrance to the program and is conducted after a student has applied and been accepted to the program.**

How can I find out if I am eligible to take the licensing examination? Here is the link to the Texas Board of Nursing licensure questions. <https://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure_eligibility.asp.html>

Acceptance to the Vocational Nursing program is via **competitive ranking process for selection based on a point award system for designated criteria.**

**This information packet contains specific application guidelines and requirements. Submission of application materials verifies that an individual has 1) read the packet thoroughly, 2) obtained all necessary documents from designated website addresses, and 3) understood the policies and procedures for application and acceptance to the program.**

**Equal Educational Opportunity**

 Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color,

religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

# A. Vocational Nursing Application Checklist

This checklist is organized toward an applicant just beginning their college experience. Some items may not be applicable if you have previous college credits.

1. \_\_\_\_Download and read through the Vocational Nursing [program information packet](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-packets-sessions.aspx).
2. \_\_\_\_If you have questions about the program, email AskSOHS@dallascollege.edu.
3. \_\_\_\_Obtain the [immunization and physical examination](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) requirements document.

**NOTE: Some immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants should review their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline. Schedule and take your Hepatitis B titer test early.**

1. \_\_\_\_Complete an [application for college admission](https://www.applytexas.org/), if not already a Dallas College student.
2. \_\_\_\_Submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges/universities to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu or to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.
3. \_\_\_\_See a [Success Coach](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/default.aspx) (advisor) as needed for TSI counseling, placement testing, etc., and complete any developmental courses as may be determined from the test scores. To learn more about scheduling an appointment with a Success Coach, visit this link: [Make An Appointment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/make-an-appointment.aspx).
4. \_\_\_\_If desired, request an [Educational Plan](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) for evaluation of external credit course work that applies to the Vocational Nursing curriculum.
5. \_\_\_\_Complete the Vocational Nursing prerequisite courses [with min. 2.5 GPA](#_C._Prerequisite_Courses):
	1. \_\_\_\_ENGL-1301
	2. \_\_\_\_BIOL-2401
	3. \_\_\_\_PSYC-2301 ***or*** SPCH-1311/1315/1321
6. \_\_\_\_Complete the TEAS, scoring a minimum of 55% on all required sections of the test.
7. \_\_\_\_If time allows, complete any Vocational Nursing support courses. Confer with Financial Aid to determine if/how this will impact your future financial aid eligibility and disbursements/expectations.
	1. \_\_\_\_BIOL-2402
	2. \_\_\_\_HPRS-2300 or RNSG-1301
8. \_\_\_\_Obtain a Basic Life Support Provider CPR w/AED certification.
9. \_\_\_\_Create a [CastleBranch](#_F._Digital_Records) account (select VN Program and make sure you purchase only the “compliance tracker” option for now) and upload [documentation](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) of a current physical exam, tuberculosis screening, required immunizations, BLS – Basic Life Support Provider CPR certification prior to the application filing deadline, Health Insurance and Automobile Insurance prior to the start of classes if accepted.
10. \_\_\_\_Request access to Secure Link to upload all application documents, by emailing AlliedHealthAdmissions@dallascollege.edu. The subject line of the email must be **Vocational Nursing Application Materials**.
11. \_\_\_\_Upload the following materials as your complete Vocational Nursing application packet prior to the May 31st [application filing deadline](#_H._Application_Filing):
	1. \_\_\_\_\_ Completed [Vocational Nursing Application and Signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility forms](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-packets-sessions.aspx)
	2. \_\_\_\_\_ Documentation of TSI compliance on a transcript, advising report, score sheet, etc.
	3. \_\_\_\_\_ TEAS test score sheet
	4. \_\_\_\_\_ Photocopy of high school transcript, high school diploma, or GED certificate.
	5. \_\_\_\_\_ Photocopy of your official Phi Theta Kappa membership card/certificate (if applicable).
	6. \_\_\_\_\_ Patient care/health care experience documentation if any (see page 10, item 6).
	7. \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of any request for course substitution forms (for evaluated transferred courses) or 5-year waiver forms that have been granted to the student.
	8. \_\_\_\_\_ **Must have TX DL or Texas state ID**

# B. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Vocational Nursing program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/default.aspx) as outlined in the official college catalog.

Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they will be eligible to apply to the program. Students should consult Success Coach/advising office to determine their TSI status prior to application to a Health Sciences program. Students pursuing this award program are required to meet [Texas Success Initiative (TSI)](https://catalog.dallascollege.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=242) standards and course prerequisites. To schedule an appointment with a Success Coach.

## Official College Transcripts

Prior to application to the Vocational Nursing program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from ALL colleges and universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College (formerly Dallas County Community College District) campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program unless the student has not had a break in enrollment with Dallas College since the transcripts were originally submitted. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu. Transcripts sent by the applicant in pdf or other formats are not accepted. Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

## Initial Advisement

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting a Success Coach (advisor), and enrolling in basic courses. <https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/new-credit-students.aspx>

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate of Science Degree plan from [Success Coaching](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/centers.aspx) as a starting point toward future application to a health sciences program. ***Note: Additional assessment testing in computer literacy and learning frameworks courses may be required for certain students.***

# C. Prerequisite Courses

Applicants must complete the prerequisite courses listed below with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher to apply to the Vocational Nursing program. The prerequisite GPA is considered in the point award ranking process.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisite Courses | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| BIOL-2401\* Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| ENGL-1301 Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| PSYC-2301\*\* General Psychology orSPCH-1311\*\* Speech Communications | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Total | 9 | 3 | 10 |

\* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or present a satisfactory score on the CLEP Biology exam.

\*\* For application to the program, PSYC 2301 or SPCH 1311 or SPCH 1315 or SPCH 1321 is accepted as the third prerequisite course.

Note: All prerequisite courses MUST be completed with a grade of C or better.

# D. Previous coursework evaluation toward Vocational Nursing

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, students can request an Educational Plan, an evaluation of their previous coursework toward a Health Sciences program. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health sciences program. Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health sciences program. They are usually completed within 4-8 weeks. An Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

The School of Health Sciences and the Allied Health Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Science programs.

## Five-Year Time Limit for Select Courses

**Certain science-based courses must be completed within five years of the anticipated program start date.** BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402 and RNSG 1301 (if taken) must be completed within five years of the anticipated program start date. For example, BIOL 2401 completed in Spring 2019 is valid for application to the Spring 2024 program applications. No waivers of the five-year time limit are considered.

## Credit by Examination, CLEP and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Sciences programs including MATH 1314, PSYC 2301, and PSYC 2314. CLEP credit is not awarded for ENGL 1301. Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**Note:** **An applicant may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for one of the prerequisite courses and one support course. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

## Coursework from Institutions Outside of the United States

Only courses such as human anatomy and human physiology may be considered for transfer to the Vocational Nursing program from colleges or universities outside the United States. No other courses will be considered. Foreign Coursework Evaluation is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be initiated.**

# E. Program Application Exam

## ATI-TEAS EXAM

The TEAS test is a timed, computerized test which is usually completed in 3 hours. In addition to completing the three prerequisite courses, applicants to the Vocational Nursing program must also earn **a minimum score of 55% or higher** on the following sections of the TEAS test: **Reading, Mathematics, Science, English and Language Usage**.

|  |
| --- |
| ATI-TEAS Scoring |
| Score | **Points Awarded for That Section** |
| 55%-60%  | 1 |
| 61%-70% | 2 |
| 71%-80% | 3 |
| 81%-90% | 4 |
| 91%-100% | 5 |

The following is an example of points awarded for a sample applicant’s TEAS scores:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TEAS Component | Score | Points Awarded |
| Reading  | 85 | 4 |
| Mathematics | 96 | 5 |
| Science  | 75 | 3 |
| English and Language Usage | 60 | 1 |

Please note the following important information regarding the TEAS:

* Test scores are valid for two years from date of testing to the application filing deadline date.
* Applicants may take the TEAS at any approved testing site including the assessment center at the El Centro campus Downtown Health Sciences Building (Paramount Building). The approximate cost of the TEAS test is $82.00. Additional fees will apply to online testing.
* Applicants are responsible for securing their own testing appointment at the location of their choice. Applicants are also responsible for submitting their score sheet with their program application materials.
* ATI testing appointments fill quickly. Applicants are encouraged to schedule their TEAS several weeks prior to an application filing deadline. Do not assume that you will have your score sheet to submit with application materials if you test on the application deadline date.
* The ATI-TEAS Study Guide is available on the ATI website <https://www.atitesting.com/teas>.
* There is no limit on the number of times an applicant may take the TEAS test for application to the Vocational Nursing Program, but you can only take the TEAS four times a year. If the applicant desires to retake the TEAS, **all four sections** must be retaken in one sitting. Only one score sheet can be submitted with scores of 55% or higher on each of the four required sections. Scores on individual test sections printed on separate score sheets cannot be combined. If more than one score sheet is submitted, the scores from the latest testing attempt will be the recorded scores.

* A 60-day waiting period is recommended before retesting, the applicant is encouraged to review the study guide.

# F. Digital Records (CastleBranch)

Applicants to the Vocational Nursing program are required to have a current physical examination, specific immunizations, a tuberculosis screening, and BLS (Basic Life Support) Provider CPR certification. The Nursing Department utilizes CastleBranch, a medical record management company, to verify these requirements. Applicants will submit this documentation directly to CastleBranch who will verify the completeness of the immunization requirements no later than the application filing deadline, prior to enrollment. Failure to submit this documentation and be complete with these requirements by the application deadline will result in disqualification of the applicant.

For a full list of immunizations and health records visit our [Immunizations Requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) webpage.

***Important Note: Some of the immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants to this program should begin their immunizations at least six to seven months prior to the application deadline.* Additional proof of immunizations including titers may be required by hospital clinical sites.**

Use the graphic below to create your CastleBranch account. **Select VN Program and make sure you purchase only the “compliance tracker” option for now.**



# G. Vocational Nursing Application Materials Submission

**Read the following instructions carefully.**

After completing the Vocational Nursing Prerequisite Courses, the four designated sections of the TEAS and uploading the required physical exam, immunization and Provider CPR certification documentation to CastleBranch, the student is ready to submit their application materials. **Incomplete application materials will be disqualified.**

The application materials must be scanned as pdf documents and uploaded to the secure link by the application filing deadline. Request access to the secure link to upload all application documents by emailing alliedhealthadmissions@dallascollege.edu. The subject line of the email must be **Vocational** **Nursing Application Materials**.

Application materials must include the following to be considered complete and valid:

* A completed [Vocational Nursing Program Application and the signed Statement of Students’ Responsibility forms](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-packets-sessions.aspx).
* Documentation of meeting TSI requirements or, if TSI exempt, minimum reading, writing & Math placement test scores on your Advising Report, assessment testing score sheet, or a scanned college transcript.
* The TEAS test score sheet indicating scores 55 or higher on each of the four required sections.
* A photocopy of the student’s high school diploma, high school transcript, or GED certificate.
* If a member of Phi Theta Kappa, include a photocopy of your official Phi Theta Kappa membership card/certificate. Note: Submitting the PTK number or any other statement of membership is not accepted.
* Applicants who have current health care related experience must present the following **documentation** to be considered for additional points in the ranking process: 1) **a photocopy of a certificate of completion**, or other credential documentation of their health care training, ***and,*** 2) a **letter on official letterhead signed by their current or previous supervisor** indicating dates of employment and specific details of the applicant’s role/duties in directly dealing with patients in the health care facility. **Experience points will not be reviewed or confirmed prior to application to the program.** The decision on awarding an applicant additional point for patient care/healthcare experience rests solely with the Program Coordinator.

**Note: Applicants are solely responsible for ensuring that their current official transcripts from ALL PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (excluding Dallas College campuses) are submitted to** **studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu** **or mailed in a sealed envelope to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150 prior to applying to an El Centro health sciences program. Official transcripts must have a print date no earlier than three years of anticipated entry to a health sciences program.**

 **Submitting incomplete application materials will disqualify the application and the student will not be considered further in the application process. Students are advised to retain a photocopy of all materials submitted as their application and to CastleBranch.**

# H. Application Filing Period(s)

There is one official filing period per calendar year for entry into the Vocational Nursing program.

***Note: Early submission of an application during a specific filing period does not influence ranking for admission.***

**Official application filing period for Fall semester (late August) admission:**

**January 1 – May 31**

Notification letters are emailed by July 1.

Upload all vocational nursing materials to the secure link by the application deadline. Application materials are not accepted in-person, by email, or by conventional mail.

# I. Selection Process

Applicants are ranked for acceptance selection via a point award system\*. Point award totals for applicants may range from a minimum of 5 points to a maximum of 15 points on the designated criteria below:

 ***POTENTIAL POINTS***

***POINT AWARD CRITERIA PER CRITERIA***

 **Prerequisite Course Cumulative GPA (2.50 minimum required) 5**

 **(ENGL 1301, BIOL 2401, and PSYC 2301 *or* SPCH 1311/1315/1321)**

 2.50 – 2.99 3 points

 3.00 – 3.49 4 points

 3.50 – 4.00 5 points

 **Support Courses completed with a minimum grade of “C” 2**

 **(1 point per each course below)**

 BIOL 2402

 HPRS 2300 or RNSG 1301

**ATI-TEAS score 3**

 388-500 3 points

 275-387 2 points

**Phi Theta Kappa Membership (**must submit PTK card with application materials**) 3**

**Current Health Care Related Experience – 1-2 points possible 2**

**Less than one year of experience = 1 point**

**One or more years of experience = 2 points**

Examples of experience include but are not limited to those listed below:

Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)

Home Health Aide (HHA)

Medical Assistant (CMA)

Medication Aide

EMT or Paramedic

Pharmacy Technician

Phlebotomist

Psychiatric Technician

Patient Care Technician (PCT) or Patient Care Assistant (PCA)

Completion of a least 1 semester of a Vocational Nursing or Registered

 Nursing program with a grade of at least “C” in all courses.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Maximum Total Points 15**

If two or more applicants with the same point total, the cumulative score on the ATI-TEAS test will be used to break the tie.

## Example of Ranking Process

The table below illustrates the ranking process for a sample group of applicants:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Applicants | Cumulative Testing ScoresScores on all  (max 3 pts.) | Prerequisite Course GPA (max. 6 pts.) | Support Courses(1 pt. each) | PTK(max. 3 pts.) | Previous Patient Care Experience (max. 2 pts.) | Total Points(max. 15 pts.) |
| Applicant #1 | **TEAS**  400 = 3 pts. | 4.00 = 5 pts. | 2 x 1 = 2 pts. | 3 | EMT=2 pts. | 16 |
| Applicant #2 |  **TEAS** 300 = 2 pts. | 4.00 = 5 pts. | 2 x 1 = 2 pts. | 0 | Med Aide=1 pt. | 11 |
| Applicant #3 | **TEAS**  200 = 1 pts. | 3.60 = 5 pts. | 0 x 1 = 0 pts. | 3 | None=0 pts. | 9 |

# J. Notification of Acceptance

Using the point award process, a ranked list of applicants is generated. The program spaces are filled with qualified applicants according to their points on the ranked list. Individuals who receive an acceptance email are required to return a confirmation form within a specified timeframe to verify their space in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. Notification emails of acceptance, non-acceptance, or disqualification are sent on the same day.

Application materials are not “held over” to the next application filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during the next filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

## Late Application Guidelines

In the rare event that all individuals on the ranked points list for a specific application filing period are accepted and space remains in that nursing class, applications may be submitted during the late application filing period below:

**Late filing for admission (only if necessary): June 1 – July 15th**

**Note**: Only applicants who are being offered a late space will be notified via email; all other late applicants who are not offered a space will be notified by mail after the complete and final Vocational Nursing class is confirmed. ***It should not be assumed that late applications will be necessary for every fall Vocational Nursing class.***

**Program guidelines are subject to change. Students are responsible for ensuring they have the latest program information packet from your Success Coach.**

# K. Curriculum Overview - Vocational Nursing

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Prerequisites |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Clinical Hours** | **Contact Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| ENGL-1301 | Composition 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| BIOL-2401\* | Anatomy & Physiology 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 48 | 4 |
| PSYC-2301\*\* or SPCH-1311\*\* | General Psychology **OR**Intro to Speech Communications  | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| Subtotal |  9 | 3 | 0 | 144 | 10 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Semester 1 |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Clinical Hours** | **Contact Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| VNSG-1323 | Basic Nursing Skills | 1 | 7 | 0 | 128 | 3 |
| VNSG-1409 | Nursing in Health and Illness II | 2 | 7 | 0 | 144 | 4 |
| VNSG-1204+ | Foundations of Nursing | 2 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 |
| VNSG-1360 | Clinical – Licensed Prac/Vocational Nurse Training | 0 | 0 | 9 | 144 | 3 |
| Subtotal | 5 | 14 | 9 | 448 | 12 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Semester 2 |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Clinical Hours** | **Contact Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| BIOL-2402\* | Human Anatomy & Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 4 |
| HPRS-2300++ | Pharmacology for Health Professions | 3 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 3 |
| VNSG-2410 | Nursing in Health and Illness III | 2 | 7 | 0 | 144 | 4 |
| VNSG-2460 | Clinical – Licensed Prac./Vocational Nurse Training | 0 | 0 | 24 | 384 | 4 |
| Subtotal | 8 | 10 | 24 | 672 | 15 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Semester 3 |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Clinical Hours** | **Contact Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| VNSG-1230 | Maternal/Neonatal Nursing | 1 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 2 |
| VNSG-1234 | Pediatric | 1 | 2 | 0 | 15 | 2 |
| Subtotal | 2 | 4 | 0 | 30 | 4 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Semester 4 |
| Course | **Title** | **Lecture Hours** | **Lab Hours** | **Clinical Hours** | **Contact Hours** | **Credit Hours** |
| VNSG-2160 | Clinical – Licensed Prac/Voc Nurse Training **OR** | 0 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 1 |
| VNSG-2162 | Clinical – Licensed Prac./Vocational Nurse Training | 0 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 1 |
| VNSG-2163# | Clinical – Licensed Prac./Vocational Nurse Training  | 0 | 0 | 3 | 15 | 1 |
| Subtotal | 0 | 0 | 6 | 30 | 2 |
| Program Total | 24 | 31 | 39 | 1,324 | 43 |

 \* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or a satisfactory score on the Biology CLEP exam.

 \*\* Either PSYC 2301 ***or*** SPCH 1311/1315/1321 will be accepted.

 + VNSG 1204 – Foundations of Nursing is offered online via the Internet only.

 ++ RNSG 1301 – Pharmacology is also accepted.

 # **VNSG 2163 – Clinical – Licensed Vocational Nurse Training is the Capstone experience for the Vocational Nursing program.**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in all courses.

# L. Vocational Nursing General Information

1. The Vocational Nursing program accepts one class of 30\* students each fall semester at the El Centro campus only. The School of Health Sciences reserves the right to make changes in program enrollment capacity.
2. The Vocational Nursing courses are offered generally during daytime hours. Vocational Nursing courses are completed in two, 16-week academic semesters (one fall and one spring semester) and two, 5-week summer semesters. Each course involves 28-35 hours of class and clinical experience per week. A student should plan to spend 2-3 hours of additional study and preparation time for each hour of class and clinical experience. The demands of the Vocational Nursing program courses suggest that a student may not be able to work full-time while enrolled in the program.
3. The Vocational Nursing program’s clinical experience requires that students be physically able to care for sick patients. This involves lifting, moving, bathing, and transferring patients into and out of bed. Students will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases.
4. Students are encouraged to take the required general education support courses (BIOL 2402 and either HPRS 2300 or RNSG 1301) prior to entrance into the Vocational Nursing program, particularly if the student works or has significant family responsibilities. Many students find that completing the support courses first enables them to complete the program successfully while maintaining other responsibilities.
5. Applicants to the health science programs must submit physical examination and immunization documentation to CastleBranch no later than the program application deadline. Download more information at [Physical Exam and Immunization Requirements](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx).

The physical examination must be on the **official physical form** and must have been documented no earlier than 12 months prior to the application deadline. The specific immunizations and screenings are indicated on the health form.

**IMMUNIZATION, CPR, AND PHYSICAL EXAM REQUIREMENTS**

**SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS**

The immunization requirements on this form are REQUIRED of all individuals applying to the School of Health Sciences program.

All Vaccine/Immunization records must include full dates, i.e., month/day/year, & health care providers’ signatures. Health care provider initials may be considered sufficient if the document is on a health care provider’s letterhead including the name & address of the practice.

Immunization records should include date administered, vaccine administered, injection site, specific dose, route, vaccine manufacturer, lot number, and expiration along with provider and student information. Lab reports required on all titers. Based on clinical placement requirements, a titer and repeat series of vaccinations may be required after an initial equivocal or negative result.

School records will NOT be accepted. Immunization records submitted without thorough documentation will not be accepted at any clinical site and students will be required to repeat vaccines or obtain titers in lieu of vaccines if applicable.

**1. MMR**

 a. Documentation of 2 vaccines **or** positive Immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibody titers to Measles (Rubeola), Mumps and Rubella.

b. If titer is negative or equivocal, series must be repeated.

 **2. Varicella**

a. Documentation of 2 vaccines **or** positive Immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibody titers to Varicella.

b. If titer is negative or equivocal, series must be repeated.

 **3.Tdap**

* 1. Documentation of vaccine within the past 10 years.

 **4. Influenza Vaccine (Seasonal Flu)**

* 1. Documentation of current seasonal flu vaccine by October1st. Required annually.
1. **Hep B (Students involved in Direct Patient Care)**
	1. Hepatitis B series (2 or 3 dose) **AND** aPositive Hepatitis B Surface Antibody titer. If Hep B vaccine documentation cannot be found, a positive titer will be sufficient.
	2. Hepatitis A/B combo series accepted **AND** aPositive Hepatitis B Surface Antibody titer.
	3. If titer is negative or equivocal, series must be repeated and a 2nd titer is drawn; upload results of both titers and vaccination proof.
	4. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices (APIC) commend that a **titer is drawn 1-2 months after** the series is complete. However, you must follow the guidelines from your healthcare provider.
2. **TB Testing**
	1. TB skin test, QuantiFeron Gold (blood test) or T-Spot is accepted.
	2. If screen results are positive (+), those results and documentation of a chest x-ray is required and must be negative for active disease.
	3. TB screening must be within 12 months of program application and must be updated every year.

  **7**. **COVID-19**

a. While the College does not require its students, staff, or faculty to be vaccinated for COVID-19, students within the School of Health Sciences (“SOHS”) will be required to participate in external learning experiences (“ELE”) in the form of clinicals, practicums, or internships at health care facilities that may have different vaccination requirements.

* 1. While at the clinical site, students are subject to and must abide by the policies and procedures of the clinical site.

**A valid physical exam is required at entry into all Health Sciences programs and must be submitted on the official Physical Exam form.**

1. All applicants must be certified in BLS – Basic Life Support Provider CPR certification. CPR certification from the **American Heart Association (AHA), Red Cross, or Military-approved mechanism** is the only approved CPR course and must be face-to-face or hybrid training. Completely online courses are not accepted. Some clinical sites may only accept AHA CPR cards. A photocopy of the front and back of the card must be submitted to CastleBranch no later than the program application deadline. The CPR certification must not expire prior to the anticipated program start date and must not expire during a semester when enrolled in the program. CPR classes are available at each Dallas College campus, the American Heart Association, various hospitals, independent instructors, etc.
2. Proof of current personal healthcare insurance coverage is required for all health occupations students. **If documentation of coverage is not submitted to CastleBranch with immunization records, proof of coverage must be submitted by the first day of the semester if a student is accepted to the program.** Students must secure their own coverage and the insurance policy must cover the student at any hospital facility. Information on college student policies and rates can be found at <https://www.healthcare.gov/>.
3. Clinical opportunities may be limited for students without Social Security numbers. If accepted to the program, a student must contact the Designated School Officer (DSO) at International@dallascollege.edu regarding eligibility to apply for a Social Security number before graduation from the program.
4. Many of the Vocational Nursing Prerequisite Courses and support courses are offered online. See the presentation [Getting Ready for Online Learning](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/online-learning/getready/pages/default.aspx) to see if you are a good candidate for online learning.
5. *Criminal Background Check / Drug Screening*

All students enrolled in Health Occupations programs are required by the Dallas/Fort Worth Hospital Council member facilities to undergo a [Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) prior to beginning their clinical experience. Students are responsible for all charges incurred for these screenings. **This procedure is conducted *after* a student has been accepted to their respective program.**

Results of these screenings are forwarded to the School of Health Sciences for review and verification that a student is eligible to attend clinical rotation. All background check and drug screening results become the property of the School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

A clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to remove a student from the facility for suspicion of substance use or abuse including alcohol. The clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to request that a student submit to a repeat drug screening at the student’s expense on the same day that the student is removed from the clinical facility. Failure to comply will result in the student’s immediate expulsion from the clinical facility. Furthermore, regardless of testing or testing results, a clinical affiliate/facility reserves the right to expel a student from their facility.

***Note: Should a student who has been accepted to a Health Occupations program be prohibited from attending a clinical rotation experience due to findings of a criminal background check and/or drug screening, the student may be dismissed from the Health Occupations program.***

1. Potential applicants to the Vocational Nursing Program must be familiar with the licensure eligibility guidelines set forth by the [Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas](http://www.bon.texas.gov/).
2. Dallas College charges a higher tuition rate for courses in which a student registers for the third or more times. The [Third Attempt Policy](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/cost-tuition/third-course-attempt/pages/default.aspx?utm_source=shortcut+url&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=financial+aid&utm_term=thirdcourseattempt) includes courses taken at any of the Dallas College campuses since the Fall 2002 semester. Developmental courses are not considered in this policy.
3. A student may apply to more than one Dallas College Health Occupations program during a given filing period. However, if the student receives an acceptance letter to a specific program, confirms their intent to enter that program, and registers for program courses, their application to any other Health Occupations program that may share that filing period will be null and void.

Further, an individual accepted for admission and currently enrolled in a Health Science program may not apply or be considered for admission selection for another Health Science program unless their current program of study will complete before the second program curriculum begins.

1. Students are responsible for their own transportation arrangements to the college and to their assigned health care facilities for clinical experience. Clinical assignments vary from among the facilities listed below. Other clinical affiliates may be assigned.
2. Dallas College students who are enrolled in 6 credit hours or more during a fall or spring semester and 3 credit hours or more during a summer semester are entitled to a free DART train/bus pass for that semester. DART passes are available two weeks after the semester begins. See the Cashier’s Office for details.
3. Individuals who were first-time college freshman students in Fall 2007 or after are subject to the guidelines of section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code which prohibits a student from dropping more than six (6) college level credit courses during their entire undergraduate career. See [Six Drop Rule](https://econnect.dcccd.edu/DroppingFacts.jsp) for more information.
4. Financial Aid: Students should apply for [financial aid](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/financial-aid/pages/default.aspx) well in advance of program application.
5. Please visit the [Texas Board of Nursing](http://www.bon.texas.gov/) website for links to professional organizations and other information regarding the Vocational Nursing profession.
6. Students who are completing the Dallas College Vocational Nursing program during a summer semester who wish to apply for entrance to the subsequent fall LVN-RN Advanced Placement “bridge” program may submit their complete application materials by the specific application filing deadline. Their application will be considered pending their eligibility to sit for the NCLEX-PN examination. If accepted to the LVN-RN Advanced Placement “bridge” program, the student must be successful on the NCLEX-PN and obtain Texas LVN licensure within the first 60 days of enrollment. If unsuccessful on the NCLEX-PN by that deadline, the student will be removed from the LVN-RN Advanced Placement “bridge” program.
7. Please contact your Success Coach or Pathway Specialist for assistance.

**Official transcripts are mailed directly to:**

Dallas College

Attn: Admissions Processing

3737 Motley Drive

Mesquite, TX 75150

**Electronic transcripts must be sent to:**

Studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu

**Visit the** [**Vocational Nursing**](https://www.dcccd.edu/cd/credit/nursing/pages/lvn.aspx) **webpage.**

**Like us on** [**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ECC.AlliedHealthandNursing)**.**

## Vocational Nursing Contact Information

 For more information on the Vocational Nursing program please email ASKSOHS@dallascollege.edu.

# M. Estimated Expenses for the Vocational Nursing

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| --- |
| Prerequisites |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks (10 CR hours)\*  | $790.00 | $1,350.00 | $2,000.00 |
| TEAS exam | $82.00 | $82.00 | $82.00 |
| CastleBranch  | $128.00 | $282.00 | $282.00 |
| CPR Certification\*\* | $65.00 | $65.00 | $65.00 |
| Physical Exam and Immunizations \*\* | $225.00 | $225.00 | $225.00 |
| Subtotal | $1,290.00 | $1,850.00 | $2,500.00 |

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| --- |
| Semester 1 |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks (12 CR hours) | $948.00 | $1,620 | $2,400.00 |
| Exam Fee | $82.00 | $82.00 | $82.00 |
| Uniforms (2 sets/lab coat)  | $150.00 | $150.00 | $150.00 |
| Name Tag | $12.00 | $12.00 | $12.00 |
| Shoes | $60.00 | $60.00 | $60.00 |
| Bandage scissors | $8.00 | $8.00 | $8.00 |
| Stethoscope | $35.00 | $35.00 | $35.00 |
| Watch w/ second hand | $40.00 | $40.00 | $40.00 |
| Subtotal | $1,335 | $2,007 | $2,787.00 |

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| --- |
| Semester 2 |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(14 CR hours) | $1,106 | $1,890.00 | $2,800.00 |
| Exam Fee | $82.00 | $82.00 | $82.00 |
| Subtotal | $1,188.00 | $1,972.00 | $2,882.00 |

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| --- |
| Semester 3 |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(4 CR hours) | $316.00 | $540.00 | $800.00 |
| Exam Fee | $82.00 | $82.00 | $82.00 |
| Subtotal | $398.00 | $626.00 | $882.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| Semester 4 |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks(2 CR hours)  | $158.00 | $270.00 | $400.00 |
| Exit Exam | $82.00 | $82.00 | $82.00 |
| Review Class | $425.00 | $425.00 | $425.00 |
| NCLEX-PN licensure fees | $350.00 | $350.00 | $350.00 |
| Nurse pin (optional)  | $30.00 | $30.00 | $30.00 |
| Subtotal | $1,045 | $1,157.00 | $1,287.00 |
| Program Total | $5,256.00 | $7,612.00 | $10,338.00 |

\* Tuition now includes textbook costs. These and other fees are subject to change. See official catalog for tuition table. A [Tuition Payment Plan](https://www.dcccd.edu/paying-for-college/payments/pages/payment-plans.aspx) option is available in fall and spring semesters.

\*\* Estimated cost of physical exam and immunizations and CPR.

+ Hard copies of nursing textbooks are also available at an additional cost.

Other costs to consider: Personal health care insurance coverage, transportation and parking fees to El Centro and hospital clinical sites