

Associate Degree Nursing

General description: Upon successful completion of all program requirements, students receive an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing and are eligible to write the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Graduates who successfully complete the examination and meet all other state requirements (including a criminal background check) are able to work as registered nurses. Some courses may not transfer to four-year institutions, but transfer opportunities exist for students wanting a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

The Program's mission is to prepare nurses to work in a multicultural, multiracial, diversified metropolitan industrial area that is surrounded by rural communities. The purpose of the ADN Program at Richland Community College is to prepare competent, caring, and critically thinking graduates for entry-level positions in a variety of health care settings and to encourage commitment to personal and professional growth.

Richland's ADN Program is approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Unlike many academic and career and technical education programs at Richland, admission into the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program is selective and competitive. Admission to Richland Community College does not guarantee acceptance to the program.

Students must meet the minimum admission criteria to be eligible to apply. Once the criteria have been met, students are scored on a rubric, and the students with the highest scores are offered conditional admission.

The ADN Program follows the Health Professions' selective admissions process. Students use the online Pre-Advisement Plan on myRichland to submit an application during the designated application period. For spring admission, applications are accepted between September 1 and October 1. For fall admission, applications are accepted between January 2 and February 1. Out-of-district applicants are considered for the program when space is available.

Sample of job titles with this degree: Nursing positions are available throughout the United States as well as internationally. Nurses care for people in hospitals, schools, clinics, corporations, homes, wellness centers, or anywhere people need health care services. Areas of nursing practice include pediatric, geriatric, obstetrics, intensive care, emergency care, mental health, oncology, orthopedic, and medical-surgical.

This is a career and technical education program.

Prerequisites to Apply

1. Eligibility for ENGL 101 Composition I.
2. Eligibility for MATH 098 Intermediate Algebra or successful completion with a "C" or better of MATH 099.
3. Complete two years of high school biology and 1 year of high school chemistry or physics with a "B" or better within the last 3 years or successfully complete BIOL 101 with a "C" or better. Students who have completed BIOL 201, 202 or 220 must have completed one within the last 5 years.
4. Have a high school GPA or at least 2.5 and ACT scores (within the last 3 years) with composite 21, science reasoning 20, and no score below 15 or have completed 15 credit hours of ADN program courses.
5. Have a "C" or better in all prerequisites and program courses and maintain a minimum 2.5 Program GPA. For admission, the Program GPA is calculated using grades and credits earned in completed ADN program courses. Program courses that can be completed prior to admission include: BIOL 201, 202, 220, ENGL 101, Fine Art Elective, HLTH 197, PSYCH 110, 145, and SOCIO 110. Transfer and Richland credits are used in calculating the Program GPA.
6. Listed in good standing on the IDPH Health Care Worker Registry as an active CNA or provide evidence of current enrollment in a CNA training program with a test date prior to the start of the semester for which the student is applying.

Transfer Students

Students who have completed nursing core courses at another institution may be eligible to transfer into the ADN program. Transfer credit for nursing core courses is based upon successful results of the standardized tests for the appropriate course and available space. All admission and graduation requirements must be met in order to graduate from the ADN Program including a minimum of two semesters of core nursing courses completed at Richland. Students are responsible for the costs of the standardized tests.

Other Graduation Requirements:

- Obtain a grade of "C" or better in all prerequisites and program courses
- Maintain a minimum 2.5 Program GPA
- Complete all nursing psychomotor competencies with 76% of the designated skills performed in the clinical setting, at or above the expected level of competency
- Meet standards of the ANA Code of Ethics and the Professional Integrity Policy

Advanced Placement Program for LPN

A graduate of a State-approved Practical Nursing Program who has a license or is eligible for licensure in the State of Illinois can be placed into the third semester of the ADN program by meeting admission requirements and passing the Bridge course (NURS 203) with a grade of "B" or better. Bridge students are admitted on a space available basis using the same student selection process as basic students. Availability of faculty clinical space also impacts the entry decision.

Please refer to LPN to ADN Bridge Program prerequisites and admission criteria.

Suggested Full-Time Course Sequence:**First Semester** Credit Hours

NURS 111	1
NURS 112	9
PSYCH 110	3
BIOL 201	4
ENGL 101	3

Second Semester

NURS 152	4
NURS 154	3
NURS 155	5
PSYCH 145	3
BIOL 202	4

Third Semester

NURS 206	6
NURS 250	5
SOCIO 110	3
BIOL 220	4

Fourth Semester

NURS 252	5
NURS 254	6
HLTH 197/290/297	1
Fine Arts Elective	3

Additional Program Information:

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in the program prerequisites, core curriculum courses, and general education courses.

Associate Degree Nursing Courses		Credit Hours	Associate Degree Nursing AAS 0050
BIOL 201	Human Anatomy & Physiology 1	4	X
BIOL 202	Human Anatomy & Physiology 2	4	X
BIOL 220	Microbiology	4	X
ENGL 101	Composition 1	3	X
HLTH 197/290/297	Special Topics in Healthcare	1	X
NURS 111	Introduction to Nursing	1	X
NURS 112	Medical-Surgical Nursing 1	9	X
NURS 152	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	4	X
NURS 154	Pharmacological Principles for Nursing Practice	3	X
NURS 155	Medical-Surgical 2 Chronically Ill Client	5	X
NURS 206	Family Health Nursing	6	X
NURS 250	Medical-Surgical Nursing 3 Surgical Client	5	X
NURS 252	Medical-Surgical Nursing 4 Acutely Ill Client	5	X
NURS 254	Transition from Education to Practice	6	X
PSYCH 110	Introduction to Psychology	3	X
PSYCH 145	Human Growth and Development	3	X
SOCIO 110	Introduction to Sociology	3	X
Fine Arts Elective		3	X
Total Hours			72