

# Practical Nursing

Edmonds Community College

# About Our Program

The Practical Nursing program consists of 7 quarters over 21 months. It is a part time program designed for students currently employed in healthcare who are seeking careers in nursing. It consists of:

- On-line/hybrid classes
- Class meetings 1-2 evenings per week (Tue/Thur 4-8)
- Clinical practicums at regional healthcare facilities (day or evening shifts) and simulation labs 1-2 days/week
- 10 credit hours per quarter

# Online Learning

## Mandatory Computer Skills / Technology

*You must have:*

- Computer system to adequately support online classroom
- Reliable Broadband Internet connection

*You must be able to:*

- Create, save, find and manage computer files
- Access email and Internet
- Conduct internet searches
- Send and receive email attachments

*Computer resources available on campus*

# Online Learning

*You will be expected to:*

- Complete course work through Canvas at EdCC
- Have a back up plan if technology fails
  - Both for WiFi and your computer
- Communicate with instructor
- Demonstrate commitment, self motivation, self discipline
- Utilize time management skills
  - Study and complete assignments
  - Commit at least 20-30 hours per week to course work
  - Log in to Canvas regularly – at least 3 times per week

# Online Learning

*Online Learning is VERY different than traditional face to face courses:*

- Often takes more time than you think it will
- Students must pay strict attention to directions, assignment details, and deadlines
- Can be more difficult for people who are not strong readers or for whom English is not their first language
- Communication with instructor is critical to success in online courses

# Clinical Experiences

In the second quarter of the program you will begin your Clinical practicum.

Facilities located in south Snohomish and north King counties

Types of facilities:

- Assisted Living/Memory Care
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Group homes/Home care for medically fragile children and adults
- Long term acute care hospital
- Mental health inpatient and outpatient facilities

# Clinical Experiences cont'd

The requirements for your clinical placement are:

- National and WA state criminal background checks (approx cost \$30.00)
- Documentation of Immunizations – this process can take up to nine months to complete so start early! (see clinical passport on web page for details) Cost varies
- Health Care Provider CPR
- Drug screen

# Clinical Experiences cont'd

Clinical Passport requirements are based on state law and requirements imposed by individual clinical facilities. We have NO control over this.

**MUST** be completed by the **END** of the **FIRST QUARTER!**

# Clinical Passport Requirements

## Background checks

- List of DSHS disqualifying crimes is on our web page
- Clinical sites can deny students placement based on their own criteria
- If you have **ANYTHING** on your background check, please disclose it
  - We may not be able to place you at a clinical site
  - You may not be able to get a license to practice
  - You may not be able to get a job in health care

# Clinical Passport Cont'd

## Background checks

- National background check that covers WA state submitted with application.
  - Least expensive one is sentrylink.com (approx. \$20)
  - Can use background check from another nursing school application (e.g. Certified Profile)
- WA State Patrol Check (WATCH) required annually
- DSHS Background check required for every different facility we go to
  - Reports things other than convictions (e.g. CPS reports)

# Clinical Passport Cont'd

## Documentation of TB Status

- Must have documentation of initial 2-step TB skin test (ppd) AND annual follow up tests
- If had BCG as a child, do not get a ppd. Two alternatives:
  - Chest x-ray with annual symptom check from provider
  - Annual QuantiFeron Gold blood test
- TB status must be updated annually while in the program

# Clinical Passport Cont'd

## Immunizations

- Hepatitis B
  - Three injections AND a positive titer (blood test)
- Varicella (chickenpox)
  - Two injections OR a positive titer
- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
  - Two injections OR a positive titer
- Annual influenza vaccine

# Clinical Passport Cont'd

## CPR

- Health care provider CPR/BLS required
- We will accept a certificate from you job IF it is HCP/BLS
- Course offered to renew CPR during lab in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter if needed

# Clinical Passport Cont'd

## Drug screen

- Urine test for 10 different drugs
- Even if a drug is legal in WA, testing positive for it will prohibit you from attending clinical and therefore from progressing in the program
- If you take a prescription medication, please provide documentation (e.g. anti-anxiety or ADHD meds)

# ATI Exams

- These are assessment tests similar to the NCLEX (National Nursing Licensing Exam)
- It provides an ongoing assessment of progress and knowledge
- The tests are given as preparation for NCLEX success
- Students must be successful in coursework *and* ATI testing to progress in the program
- ATI - NCLEX Preparation Course is made available during 7<sup>th</sup> quarter of the program

# Admission Requirements

For admission to the nursing program, you must meet the following requirements:

- Prerequisite courses must have an overall minimum GPA: 2.75
- Nursing Assistant Certification (CNA)
- TEAS Test
  - Prefer 50% or above on Reading Comprehension Sub-test
  - Prefer “Proficient” level for Total Score (approx 58%)
- Six months recent patient care experience
- Two professional recommendations
- Computer proficiency

# Admission Requirements cont'd

- Ability to speak, read and write proficiently in English
  - Patient safety
  - Medical records are legal documents
- Candidates for admission will complete a proctored essay on a computer at the college prior to admission to assess writing competency and computer proficiency

# Prerequisite Classes

Classes required prior to admission to the nursing program

- ENGL& 101 – English Composition
- MATH 087 – Intermediate Algebra (MATH 90,99)
- BIOL& 241 – Anatomy and Physiology I
- BIOL& 242 – Anatomy and Physiology II
- PSYCH& 200 – Lifespan Psychology

Minimum Cumulative GPA 2.75

No less than a 2.0 in any one course

# Nursing Assistant Certification

In order to enter the PN program, you must have current WA State Nursing Assistant Certification (CNA or NA-C).

- You can get training as a Nursing Assistant at EdCC or other locations.
- If your license is not current, submit proof of graduation from an approved program
- A Medical Assistant certification is *not* an acceptable substitute.
- An NA-R (nursing assistant registered) does not qualify

# Patient Care Experience

Documented 6 months recent experience is also a requirement for admission into the program. This experience must be direct patient care, not as a volunteer.

Experience can be as a:

- Nursing assistant
- Medical assistant
- Surgical technician

If your experience is *not* as a nursing assistant, a valid CNA certification is still required.

# Required Computer Skills

Proficiency in computer skills is required. This can be determined by either:

- Proof of successful completion of computer courses
- or-
- Proof of successful completion of online courses

Familiarity with course management software such as Canvas, Blackboard, Angel, or Moodle preferred.

Complete the application form and sign it to document your skills.

# TEAS

## TEAS = Test of Essential Academic Skills

- TEAS is a 170 question multiple-choice assessment of basic academic knowledge in reading, mathematics, science and English and language usage.
- The objectives assessed on the TEAS exam are those which nurse educators feel are most appropriate and relevant to measure entry level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants.
- We will accept TEAS V or the new TEAS

## • 5 Components of the TEAS Exam

Content Area	Number of Questions	Amount of Time Allowed
Reading	53	64 min
Mathematics	36	54 min
Science	53	63 min
English & Language Usage	28	28 min
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>209 (3 hours 29 minutes)</b>

### Study Guides:

- <http://www.atitesting.com/Solutions/PreNursingSchool/TEAS.aspx>
- EdCC library
- EdCC bookstore

# Where/when do I take the TEAS?

The TEAS test can be taken at:

EdCC Testing Center

Mountlake Terrace Hall 152

Phone: 425.640.1546

- Monday/Tuesday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Wednesday/Thursday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- NO TEAS TESTING on Friday

Will also accept TEAS scores from tests taken at other schools

# How do I study for the TEAS?

Study guides available at:

- EdCC library and Bookstore
- Amazon
- Public library
- ATI web site

EdCC Library link to free practice tests and videos:

<http://edcc.libguides.com/testprep/teas>

# TEAS Fees

Purchase test through ATI web site: \$55

Proctor fee at EDCC: \$62.50

Complete details on how to register for the  
TEAS at:

<http://www.edcc.edu/testing/tests/teas.html>

# What do I bring to the TEAS Test?

- Your ATI username and password – Register at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com)
- Photo ID - *government* issued ID with signature only (passport, driver's license or state ID card, *not* EdCC student ID)

***CHECK WITH TESTING CENTER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS!***

<http://www.edcc.edu/testing/tests/teas.html>

# How Do I Submit My Scores?

- Print a copy of your results sheet from the ATI web site and include in your application packet.
- No need to purchase a score transcript from the ATI web site (this is an additional fee)

# How do I Print my TEAS Score?

To print or review your score:

1. Sign into [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com)
2. Click on the “My Results” tab
3. Click the “Proctored Assessments” tab
4. Locate the TEAS test and click on the “Assessment Report” icon

Your report will be generated in a PDF format that you can print, save, or email.

# How do I improve a TEAS Score?

## You Create a Focused Review:

- Sign in to [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com), click “My Results” and “Proctored Assessments”
- Locate the TEAS test and click on “Focused Review”
- Select the areas you should review and click “Create Focused Review”
- Select a printable PDF review or Web Page review
- You can close the Focused Review and return to the material to study at another time

# Questions – Contact Us

## **Allied Health/Nursing Office - 425.640.1017**

Masako Bittle- Program Specialist [masako.bittle@edcc.edu](mailto:masako.bittle@edcc.edu)

Kyra McCoy, MSN, RN, CNE - Program Director  
[kyra.mccoy@edcc.edu](mailto:kyra.mccoy@edcc.edu)

Catharine Robinweiler, BSN, RN – Nursing Faculty  
[catharine.robinweiler@edcc.edu](mailto:catharine.robinweiler@edcc.edu)

## **Academic Advising - 425.640.1458**

[advising@edcc.edu](mailto:advising@edcc.edu)

Amy Bonertz- Nursing and Allied Health Adviser  
[Amy.bonertz@edcc.edu](mailto:Amy.bonertz@edcc.edu)