

PRACTICAL NURSING

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About Practical Nursing

The Practical Nursing program of ATU-Ozark Campus integrates theory with clinical practice. Theoretical content is based on the concept of holism in which the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being is considered. Clinical experiences will be obtained in the following health care service areas: adult health, maternal-child, mental health, geriatrics, pediatrics.

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) requires a criminal background check for all graduates applying for licensure. Graduating from a nursing program does not assure ASBN's approval to take the licensure examination. Eligibility to take the licensure examination is dependent on meeting standards in the ASBN Nurse Practice Act and Rules.

You will be required to sign a statement, before beginning the nursing program, that states you have read and understand the law regarding Criminal Background Checks - ACA §17-87-312 and Licensing Restrictions Based on Criminal Records - ACA §17-3-102, the specific offenses which, if pleaded guilty, nolo contendere, or found guilty of, will make an individual ineligible to receive or hold a license in Arkansas.

See the details of these areas of the law at:

- Background Checks - ACA §17-87-312 (<https://www.atu.edu/catalog/ozark/programs/practical-nursing/Criminal%20Background%20Checks%20ACA%2017-87-312.pdf>)
- Licensing Restrictions Based on Criminal Records - ACA §17-3-102 (<https://www.atu.edu/catalog/ozark/programs/practical-nursing/Licensing%20Restrictions-Criminal%20Records%20ACA%2017-3-102.pdf>)

Students are required to complete all courses with a minimum score of 80% or above. Students are also required to take a PN comprehensive predictor exam and achieve a score indicative of a mastery level proficiency prior to being certified to make application for the NCLEX-PN exam.

Students wishing to enroll in the practical nursing program should submit an application to the University with an official high school transcript, or GED transcript, and all college transcripts by March 1 for the August class and October 1 for the January class.

Prior to admission to the technical phase of the Practical Nursing program, students must provide the Office of Student Services a COMPASS, ACT, or SAT score report verifying that remediation in English, mathematics, and reading is not required; or complete the appropriate remedial coursework with a grade of "C" or better to satisfy remediation requirements; and complete HSCI 1113 Medical Terminology, HSCI 1123 Human Anatomical Structure I, and HSCI 1243 Human Anatomical Structure II.

Students who speak English as a second language shall meet the same admission requirements.

In order to be considered for admission to the Practical Nursing program, each student must meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility for admission to Arkansas Tech University - Ozark Campus. Meeting the minimum requirements for admission to the university does not guarantee admission to the practical nursing program.
- Completion of Practical Nursing Program Application for Admission for a specific semester. Applications not submitted by the deadline or incomplete applications will not be considered for that semester's class.
- Completion of specified coursework. (Conditional acceptance may be granted to those students who are in the process of completing remaining platform coursework.)
- Hold a current CPR for Health Care Providers certification prior to the first day of class.
- Schedule the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) exam with the Practical Nursing Office.

In addition to meeting admission criteria, students selected for the Practical Nursing program must attend the scheduled Nursing Department Pre-Orientation meeting. Applications to the Practical Nursing program may be withdrawn if all of the above criteria are not met. Students not meeting required criteria may be required to reapply to the Practical Nursing program.

Students who are pursuing a program of study where admission is limited (Cardiac Sonography, Cosmetology, Medical Assistant, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Paramedic/Emergency Medical Services, Physical Therapist Assistant, Practical Nursing and Registered Nursing), will be assigned a major of Associate of General Studies until admitted into their selected program.

Students are advised that the Practical Nursing Program (LPN) is strenuous in nature. Students are therefore not allowed to take additional course work that is not directly related to their degree plan while in the LPN Program. If a student has completed all general education course requirements prior to entering the program, the student may not have a full load of twelve credit hours or more (which could affect financial aid eligibility). The LPN Program is very intense and requires approximately 30-36 hours per week of theory /lab/fieldwork. This does not include prep or study time. The hours ascribed to each semester while in the LPN Program are considered by the program to be full time.

The A.A.S. in Allied Health with a Practical Nursing option is intended to be a "feeder program" to the RN program on the Ozark Campus and/or the BSN program on the Russellville Campus. This degree prepares the graduate to sit for licensure in Practical Nursing and does not result in an RN credential.

Programs

- Nursing Assistant, Certificate of Proficiency (<https://catalog.atu.edu/ozark/programs/practical-nursing/nursing-assistant-cp/>)
- Practical Nursing, Associate of Applied Science (<https://catalog.atu.edu/ozark/programs/practical-nursing/practical-nursing-aas/>)
- Practical Nursing, Technical Certificate (<https://catalog.atu.edu/ozark/programs/practical-nursing/practical-nursing-tc/>)

Courses

Nursing Assistant

CNA 1114 Nursing Assistant

This course covers the fundamental principles, skills, and attitudes needed to give nursing care and prevent the spread of disease. Procedures used in the care of the sick and the ability to adapt them to various situations are discussed. Students will learn to document their observations and interventions. Ozark Malpractice Insurance

Practical Nursing

LPN 1101 Vocational, Legal, and Ethical Concepts

Teaches vocational responsibilities of the Practical Nurse to the patient, family community, and coworkers. Nursing organizations, local, state and national health resources, and concepts of delegation appropriate to the level of practice are also covered. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1102 Pharmacology I

Pharmacology I is an introduction to the history of drugs, use of drug references, principles of drug actions and interaction, principles of drug administration, and their legal implications for the nurse. This course is designated as "Green". Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1111 Nursing of the Geriatric Patient

This course covers the normal aging processes, characteristics of aging, special problems associated with aging and caring for the aging adult. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1121 Nutrition in Health and Illness

The importance of nutrition and its relation to proper growth and functioning and the maintenance of health are covered. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1123 Basic Nursing Principles and Skills I

This course covers the fundamental principles, skills, and attitudes needed to give nursing care and prevent the spread of disease. Procedures used in the care of the sick and the ability to adapt them to various situations are discussed. Students will learn to document their observations and interventions. This course is designated as "Green". Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1133 Clinical I

Clinical skills will be practiced, observed, and evaluated by the instructors in the lab and clinical settings. This course is designated as "Green". Ozark Malpractice Insurance

LPN 1171 Nursing of Adults with Medical and Surgical Conditions I

Study of common conditions of illness and the nursing care of adult patients in acute, sub-acute, or convalescent stages of illness. The basis for this course is Body Structure and Function and includes aspects and principles of Nutrition; Basic Nursing; Pharmacology; Vocational, Legal, and Ethical concepts with attention to cultural diversity. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1202 Nursing of Adults with Medical and Surgical Conditions II

Prerequisite: LPN 1171.
Continuation of Nursing of Adults with Medical-Surgical Conditions I. The study of common conditions of illness and the nursing care of adult patients in acute, sub-acute, or convalescent stages of illness. The basis for this course is Body Structure and Function and includes aspects and principles of Nutrition, Basic Nursing, Pharmacology, Vocational, Legal, and Ethical concepts with attention to cultural diversity. Nutrition, pharmacology and basic nursing principles are integrated throughout this course. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1205 Clinical II

Prerequisite: LPN 1133 This course focuses on the skills needed by the nurse to provide care in a safe and comforting manner. This course is designated as "Green". Clinical: 5 hours; Ozark CF Practical Nursing

LPN 1212 Basic Nursing Principles and Skills II

Prerequisite: LPN 1123.
This course covers the advanced skills and procedures concerned with administering safe patient care. Skills related to the maternal-child and pediatric patients are included. This course is designated as "Green". Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1222 Pharmacology II

Prerequisite: LPN 1102.
A continuation of LPN 1102. The preparation of drugs by enteral, parenteral, and percutaneous administration is continued. Intravenous medications, delivery systems, and techniques for administration are included in this course. This course is designated as "Green". Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1232 Nursing of Mothers and Infants

Nutrition for the mother and the developing fetus and the basic nursing skills to care for the mother during antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum periods are studied. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1302 Nursing of Children

Principles of growth and development, nursing of the infant through adolescence and the behavior of well and sick children are studied in this course. Differences in the functioning of the child's body systems are contrasted with that of the adult patient as well as differences in the child's response to illness. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1308 Clinical III

Prerequisite: LPN 1205.
Includes clinical areas in the mental health, pediatric, and specialty areas of the clinical facilities. The opportunity to practice advanced basic nursing and pediatric procedures will be offered during these rotations. Clinical: 8 hours; Ozark Malpractice Insurance

LPN 1322 Mental Health

This course presents topics such as personality development patterns, developmental task throughout the life-cycle, mental disease, and emotional problems as well as chemical dependency. Geriatric, maternal, and pediatric problems are included. Therapeutic communication techniques are stressed. Ozark Allied Health

LPN 1332 Nursing of Adults with Medical and Surgical Conditions III

Prerequisite: LPN 1202.
A continuation of Medical-Surgical Nursing. This course is the study of the body system disorders, their diagnostic methods, treatment or surgical procedures, therapeutic nutrition, and pharmacological modalities. Ozark Allied Health

Faculty Instructors

Jason Basinger
Amanda Boen
Tangela Felkins
Deidre Steele
Brianna Watkins