



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PRACTICAL NURSING

How can I be accepted into the Practical Nursing Program? Students interested in entering the PN program must be accepted as a student at NGTC, set up a NGTC student email account, and complete the *PN Intent Form in order* to be considered for the following fall term cohort. The College application can be found on the home page of the website and the *PN Intent Form* can be obtained from the Practical Nursing (PN) webpage available from www.northgatech.edu.

When are Intent Forms due? Students seeking admission to the North Georgia Technical College PN program must complete the *PN Intent Form* and submit to the address below. ***PN Intent Forms will be accepted between January 1, and June 10. Forms received after 5:00 pm, June 10, will not be accepted.***

PN Intent Forms should be mailed to: North Georgia Technical College
Attention: PN Program, Mrs. Tiffany Scroggs
PO Box 65
Clarkesville, GA 30523

If you are an out-of-state student: North Georgia Technical College adheres to the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) procedure 6.6.1p. Student Tuition and Fees, Item VI – *Out of State Students shall be enrolled in the college on a space available basis and shall not displace any Georgia Student desiring to enroll in the college.* If there are remaining seats unfilled, out of state students will be added as indicated in the competitive admissions process.

Please note: Interested applicants must enroll in NGTC prior to applying for acceptance into the PN Program.

*Interested applicants who have **not** been a student at North Georgia Technical College in the Healthcare Assistant program within the last year must also submit a North Georgia Technical College Application and required documents (transcripts and test scores) for admission.*

NGTC Applications should be mailed to: North Georgia Technical College
Attn: Admissions Department
P.O. Box 65, Clarkesville, GA 30523

How many students will be admitted? Currahee Campus: 20 Students
Blairsville Campus: 20 Students

When will the program start? The PN program will begin in the fall of each year. You must complete the pre-requisites by the end of spring semester.

How long does it take to complete the program? Time to complete required core courses vary according to credit load and individual student flexibility in scheduling. It will take three semesters to complete the Practical Nursing occupational courses; fall, spring and summer term.

What diploma will be issued upon completion of the program? Graduates will be issued a diploma in Practical Nursing and will be eligible to apply to take the Georgia Board of Nursing PN licensure exam.

Where will I find jobs when I complete the program? PNs are employed in hospitals, long-term care, rehabilitation centers, home care, inpatient and outpatient hospice, correctional facilities, outpatient clinics, physician's offices, school nursing, health education, mental health facilities, camp nurses, public health, insurance industry, regulatory services, health informatics and many others. NGTC provides placement counseling services through Student Affairs.

Admission to the Practical Nursing program is competitive. The number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available.

What is the competitive process? Meeting minimum admissions standards does not

guarantee acceptance. Applicants' scores on the HESI and GPA based on required core courses will be ranked from the highest to the lowest. Students with the highest combined scores will be admitted based on the number of available seats in the cohort.

What must I have completed to be eligible for the competitive admission process for the PN program?

- Completed PN Intent Form submitted by the deadline.
- Unconditional acceptance to North Georgia Technical College and enrolled in the Healthcare Assistant certificate program. Students must be either a current or former (within the academic year) Health Care Assistant student or have an application on file for the fall cohort. Once students have been selected for the cohort, they will be placed in the PN program.
- Students not taking courses two consecutive terms should complete the readmission process to become an active student.
- Set up a NGTC student email account.
- Official copies of all transcripts must be submitted by June 10.
- Once the student is selected for the PN cohort, students will be placed, by the Admissions Office, in the Practical Nursing program.
- Completion of required core courses.
 - The required core courses are outlined in the *North Georgia Technical College Catalog/Student Handbook*. The list can also be found in this document.
- Completion of the HESI exam. HESI examination scores are available at the conclusion of the test.
 - For scoring purposes, the HESI exam score will be retrieved directly from the testing company, Elsevier.
 - The HESI MUST BE TAKEN ON THE NGTC campus. The HESI includes the sub-categories of English Language, Math and A&P. HESI may be taken two times within one year of the Intent to Apply due date (June 10). Test dates will be posted on the Continuing Education under 'courses available'. Only the first two **attempts** on the HESI Assessment Exam (within the 12-month period prior to the intent form due date) will be considered in the competitive process. The HESI must be taken on one of the NGTC campuses. Exam dates are posted on the Continuing Education page under courses available.
 - Register for HESI using your legal first and last name. Name must match photo identification and name submitted on intent form.

Am I required to complete the Healthcare Assistant programs? No. However, here are the advantages of completing the certificate program:

- The completion of the Healthcare Assistant (HCA) offers students a credential that will enable them to find employment in the healthcare field and allow eligibility to take the GA Nurse Aide Registry examination.
- Have the advantage and opportunity to work in the healthcare field
- Students become more marketable because you are more valuable to an employer.
- Students graduate from an accredited college and can participate in the graduation ceremony.

Can I still work while I am in the PN program? Students are strongly discouraged from working while they are enrolled in the PN program due to the heavy academic load. Work hours and childcare needs must be scheduled around the program class and clinical times.

Can my prior college coursework be applied to the program? Official college transcripts will be reviewed by the Registrar's Office per the official transfer credit rules and course validity periods outlined in the *Transfer Admission* section of *North Georgia Technical College Catalog*, which is available at www.northgatech.edu.

May I transfer Practical Nursing courses? Only core courses are accepted for transfer. Nursing courses may not be transferred.

Are PN classes offered in the evening or online? The PN program curriculum (PNSG courses) will be offered during the day at the Currahee and Blairsville campuses. There will be some clinical rotations in the evening and possibly on weekends. Some pre-requisite and core courses may be offered in the evening and online.

Does the program offer internship opportunities? Nursing students have assigned clinical hours but these are not considered internships.

What courses must I take while I wait to start my nursing courses?

To be eligible for the Fall PN cohort, the following core courses must be completed by the end of Spring Semester.

COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
ENGL 1010	Fundamentals of English	3
MATH 1012**	Foundations of Mathematics	3
PSYC 1010	Basic Psychology	3
*ALHS 1011**	Structure and Function of the Human Body	5

*Must have been taken within 4 years of application to North Georgia Technical College

**Must achieve a grade of B or higher

What nursing courses are included in the PN program?

Basic Skills Courses		Credit Hours
COLL 1010	College Success.....	3
ENGL 1010	Fundamentals of English I.....	3
MATH 1012	Foundations of Mathematics	3
ALHS 1011	Structure and Function of the Human Body.....	5
ALHS 1090	Medical Terminology	2
PSYC 1010	Basic Psychology	3
Occupational Courses		
PNSG 2010	Introduction to Pharmacology and Clinical Calculations	2
PNSG 2030	Nursing Fundamentals	6
PNSG 2035	Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	2
PNSG 2210	Medical-Surgical Nursing I.....	4
PNSG 2220	Medical Surgical Nursing II.....	4
PNSG 2230	Medical-Surgical Nursing III.....	4
PNSG 2240	Medical-Surgical Nursing IV	4
PNSG 2250	Maternity Nursing	3
PNSG 2255	Maternity Nursing Clinical.....	1
PNSG 2310	Medical-Surgical Nursing Clinical I	2
PNSG 2320	Medical-Surgical Nursing Clinical II	2
PNSG 2330	Medical-Surgical Nursing Clinical III	2
PNSG 2340	Medical-Surgical Nursing Clinical IV.....	2
PNSG 2410	Nursing Leadership	1
PNSG 2415	Nursing Leadership Clinical.....	2

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Is there going to be a PN or Paramedic to RN Bridge Program? NGTC may consider a bridge(s) in the future but there are no immediate plans to do so.

What are the time limits on transferability of courses?

- 4 years – all ACCT, ALHS, BUSN, CIST, CLBT, COMP, NAST, EMSP, HECT, MAST, PNSG, and PHAR courses.
 - 10 years – BIOL courses and all occupational courses not listed above. However, if course content and competencies have changed significantly within the 10-year period, faculty may request that students validate skills or repeat a course.
- No expiration – all general education/basic skills courses (ARTS, CHEM, ECON, ENGL, HIST, MATH, MUSC, PHYS, PSYC, SOCI, SPCH); and courses used to satisfy elective credit requirements.

Additional information

- Students must meet the minimum admission standards to be considered for admission to the PN program. Completion of the HESI does not guarantee admission to the program.
- Criminal background checks and drug screenings will take place prior to clinical placement. Positive background checks and drug screens may result in denial of clinical placement and continuance in program.
- Nursing acceptance/regret letters will be mailed by August 3.
- Please see a Practical Nursing advisor for more information.
- Communication exclusively through NGTC student email. Make sure to check it frequently.

For further information contact Tiffany Scroggs at tscroggs@northgatech.edu