



Associate of Science in Nursing Bridge Option Degree Program

(Licensed Practical Nursing to Registered Nursing)

Frequently Asked Questions

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.

Interested applicants must apply for acceptance to the college and submit necessary transcripts and any other documents requested by the Admissions Department prior to applying for candidacy into the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Bridge Option (LPN to RN) degree program. Upon acceptance to the college, students are placed in the Interdisciplinary Studies program while requirements are being met for ASN Bridge Option candidacy. Students obtain candidacy through a competitive admissions process consisting of the following: an unencumbered and unrestricted LPN license; all pre-requisite course credits with a 3.0 minimum GPA; Health Education Systems, Inc. Admission Assessment (HESI A2) completion; intent form submission; and employment verification.

NGTC Applications can be completed online at www.northgatech.edu or can be mailed to:

North Georgia Technical College
Attn: Admissions Department
PO Box 65, Clarkesville, GA 30523

When are admission applications to the college due?

The admissions application deadlines for each semester are posted on the North Georgia Technical College website at www.northgatech.edu and can be obtained by calling the main campus number at (706) 754-7700.

When can I apply to the LPN to RN bridge program after being accepted to the college?

We will accept intent forms **May 1 through August 1.**

The intent form is submitted online from the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Bridge Option (LPN to RN) degree program webpage by following the steps below:

1. Access the NGTC main website www.northgatech.edu
2. From the “Study at NGTC” heading at the top of the page, select “Academic Programs”
3. From the categories of programs, select “Medical”
4. From the list of medical programs, select “LPN to RN Bridge Program”
5. Select “Intent Form” on the LPN to RN Bridge Program webpage

Intent Forms and NGTC Applications submitted after the deadline WILL NOT be accepted.

When does a new cohort start each year?

Spring semester on the NGTC Currahee Campus in Toccoa, GA.



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How many students will be admitted to each cohort?

The number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available at the time of the cohort selection.

What is the competitive process?

Meeting minimum admissions standards does not guarantee acceptance. Applicants' scores on the HESI and GPA of pre-requisite courses will be ranked from the highest to the lowest. Students with the highest combined scores will be admitted based on available seats in the cohort. If it becomes necessary to break a tie, the following criteria will be considered:

- Completion of educational degree (associates, bachelors, masters)
- Completion of additional general education courses (other than the pre-requisites) required for graduation from the ASN program (COLL, 1010, PSYC 1101, PSYC 2103, ENGL 1102 and one humanities/fine arts course such as ARTS 1101, ENGL 2130, HUMN 1101, or MUSC 1101).

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

1. Acceptance to North Georgia Technical College.
 - a. Official copies of all transcripts must be submitted with application to the college.
 - b. Recent transcripts for all required coursework must be submitted to the Admissions Office by mail or electronically at admissions@northgatech.edu by August 15 deadline.
 - c. LPN to RN Bridge Option Intent Form submitted by the August 1 deadline.
2. Completion of required core courses.
 - a. The required core courses are outlined in the *North Georgia Technical College Catalog/Student Handbook*. The list can also be found in the *Frequently Asked Questions* document on the ASN program webpage.
 - b. A minimum 3.0 GPA must be achieved for required competitive core courses (an average of final grades).
 - c. Students must earn a minimum of a "C" grade in each required course to include pre- or co-requisite general education courses.
3. Completion of the HESI Admission Assessment (A2) Exam.
 - a. HESI Exam must be completed by August 1 deadline.
 - b. The HESI must be taken on one of the NGTC campuses.
 - c. 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 12-month period for valid scores is August 1 of the previous year through July 31 of the intent year.
 - There is no wait-time between the two attempts, although additional preparation between retakes is recommended.
4. Proof of a current, active, unencumbered, and unrestricted Georgia LPN license at the time of intent application to the program and must maintain that license until they receive their registered nursing license.
 - a. Single licensure, multi-state licensure, and/or compact licensure from other states will not be accepted.



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- b. Copy of license must be submitted by the August 1 deadline to Tiffany Scroggs via the following email address: tscroggs@northgatech.edu
5. All applicants applying for the LPN - RN Bridge program must have a total of at least 6 months of in-field LPN work experience during the 12-month period leading up to the END-of-fall-semester deadline.
 - a. Students will provide employer with the Verification of Employment Request Form available on the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Bridge Option (LPN to RN) degree program webpage.
 - b. The completed Verification of Employment Request Form from the employer must be received by the **END of fall semester**.
 - c. Students or employers must submit the completed form to Tiffany Scroggs by the deadline via the following email address: tscroggs@northgatech.edu.

HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)

Students interested in being considered for entrance to the Associate of Science in Nursing Bridge Option degree program at North Georgia Technical College are required to complete the HESI (Health Education Systems, Inc.) Admission Assessment Exam (A2). The HESI exam evaluates performance in Math, Science (Anatomy and Physiology), English (Grammar, Vocabulary, and Reading Comprehension). The cumulative score from the highest of the first two attempts will be used for the competitive admission process.

- **The cost of the exam is \$70.00.**
- Applicants are encouraged not to take the HESI Admission Assessment Exam until completing A&P I and II OR at least complete A&P I and some of A&P II.
- A limited number of study guides are available for student use in the NGTC library on each campus.
- Applicants do not need to submit HESI scores to the nursing department. Scores will be retrieved by the department directly from the testing company, Elsevier.
- HESI Exam dates are published, and students can register for the exam on the [NGTC website](#) under the Economic Development heading, Continuing Education, and Available Courses.
- Call the Clarkesville testing office at 706-754-7716 with questions or issues registering.

What are the time limits on transferability of courses?

- 4 years for most occupational courses including ACCT, ALHS, BUSN, CIST, CLBT, COMP, NAST, EMSP, HECT, MAST, PNSG, and PHAR.
- 10 years for 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 on most general education courses (such as ARTS, CHEM, ECON, ENGL, HIST, MATH, MUSC, PHYS, PSYC, SOCI, SPCH) and courses used to satisfy elective credit requirements



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What courses must I take before submitting an intent form for the bridge program?

To obtain candidacy for the bridge program, the following courses must be completed with a **3.0** cumulative GPA or better by the end of summer semester.

COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
ENGL 1101	Composition and Rhetoric	3
MATH 1111	College Algebra (<i>Math Modeling and Statistics are also accepted</i>)	3
BIOL 2113	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BIOL 2113L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
BIOL 2114	Human Anatomy and Physiology II **	3
BIOL 2114L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab **	1
BIOL 2117	Introduction to Microbiology **	3
BIOL 2117L	Introduction to Microbiology Lab **	1

** BIOL 2113 and BIOL 2113 Lab are pre-requisites for this course

Additional courses that are required to graduate from the program that must be completed by the end of fall term or acceptance to the program will be withdrawn:

COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
COLL 1010	College & Career Success Skills (<i>exemption test available</i>)	3
ENGL 1102	Literature and Composition	3
PSYC 1101	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYC 2103	Human Growth and Development	3

One of the following choices of fine arts/humanities courses for **3** credit hours:

ARTS 1101 Art Appreciation or MUSC 1101 Music Appreciation or ENGL 2130 American Literature or HUMN 1101 Introduction to Humanities

Nursing Course Sequence:

Nursing Semester	Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours
Spring	RNSG 2609	Intro to Professional Nursing Practice	8
	RNSG 2604	Pharmacology for Nursing	4
Summer	RNSG 2614	Obstetrics	4
	RNSG 2612	Pediatric Nursing	4
Fall	RNSG 2620	Concepts in Nursing Practice II	6
Spring	RNSG 2630	Transition to Nursing Practice	6
Core Courses: 33 Hours		Nursing Hours: 32 Hours	Total: 65 Hours

**Upon successful completion of the first nursing course in the bridge program, RNSG 2609 – Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice (8 credit hours), 7 additional semester credit hours will be granted for RNSG 2602 (6 credit hours), RNSG 2610 (6 credit hours), and RNSG 2606 (3 credit hours).*



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How long does it take to complete the program? Nursing courses require 4 semesters to complete. Core requirements vary according to credit load and individual student flexibility in scheduling.

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

Can I take core classes while I am in the bridge program? No. All general education core must be completed by the end of fall semester prior to starting the bridge program.

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 in the online [North Georgia Technical College Catalog](#). Only the Registrar's office may approve transferred courses for credit.

May I transfer nursing courses? Only core courses are eligible for transfer credit, not nursing courses. An unencumbered and unrestricted LPN license is one of the requirements to obtain candidacy for the bridge program.

Are nursing classes offered in the evening or online? Registered Nursing (RNSG) courses will be offered during the day. However, there may 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.

What degree will be issued upon completion of the program? Upon successful completion of all program requirements, the student will be awarded an Associate of Science in Nursing degree and will be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Upon successfully passing the NCLEX-RN and meeting the requirements of the Georgia Board of Nursing, graduates are granted licensure to practice as a Registered Nurse in the state of Georgia.

Where will I find jobs when I complete the program? Registered Nursing is projected to be one of two occupations with the highest growth rate in Georgia and among occupations with the most annual openings in metro Atlanta and North Georgia (*GA DOL Projections to 2018*). RNs 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.



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

Additional Information

- Students must meet the minimum admission standards and competitive admission requirements to be eligible as a candidate for the ASN program. Completion of the HESI does not guarantee admission to the program.
- Students are notified by email and postal mail regarding the outcome of the competitive admissions process. Bridge program applicants are notified by September 15.
- 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, jeopardizing completion of the program.
- Students must show documentation of the immunizations and testing listed in the chart below for clinical placement. Deadline for documentation will be given to new students at program orientation.

Varicella

If you have had varicella, you must have a titer to document immunity

Hepatitis B

If you do not have documentation of your dates, you must have a titer to document immunity.

MMR (measles, mumps/rubella)

If you have had any of these, you must have a titer to document immunity.

Diphtheria/Tetanus

Must have had one Tdap. Must have Td booster within 10 years.

Covid-19*

Two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Annual Flu Vaccine

Two TB skin tests annually

* North Georgia Technical College does not require vaccination for program admission; however, each clinical/practicum site reserves the right to deny a student entry based on their own policies and procedures. Clinical/practicum sites mandate vaccinations against specific diseases such as COVID-19, influenza and/or testing for specific diseases such as tuberculosis. Students are required to follow the medical clearance policies designated by their assigned clinical and/or practicum sites. If a student is denied entry to a required clinical/practicum site based on lack of vaccinations or testing, the student will not be able to complete the clinical/practicum course. As a result, successful completion of the program will not be possible.



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LPN to RN Bridge Program - Application Process Summary

NGTC Program Campus	Entry Semester	Intent form and HESI (A2) Score Due By:	Intent Form Accepted	Official Transcripts Due By:	Notified of Acceptance by:
Currahee	Spring	August 1	May 1 – August 1	August 15	September 15

Step 1: Apply to North Georgia Technical College

Students interested in applying to the LPN to RN Bridge program must either have been a NGTC student within the past year, or if not, complete an application and be accepted into North Georgia Technical College. Students not taking courses two consecutive terms should complete the readmission process to become an active student again. Application and official transcripts must be submitted to NGTC Admission Department by the above dates. Admission application and transcripts can be submitted online or mailed to the following address:

North Georgia Technical College
Attn: Admission Department
PO Box 65, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Step 2: Submit an Intent Form

TAKE ALL PRE-REQUISITE CLASSES and submit the online Intent Form found on LPN to RN Bridge program webpage from the NGTC website.

Step 3: Take the HESI A2 Assessment

HESI scores are calculated from the areas of Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and English. Only the first two attempts on the exam within the 12-month period prior to the due date will be given consideration. The 12-month period for valid scores is August 1 of the previous year through July 31 of the intent year. The highest overall score from the two testing sessions will be used in the competitive process. There is no wait-time between the two attempts, but additional preparation between retakes is recommended. The assessment must be taken on one of the NGTC campuses. Scores from other institutions are not accepted. Exam dates are posted on the NGTC website on the Economic Development, Continuing Education webpage under the "Courses Available" listing. Register for the HESI exam using your legal first and last name. Name must match photo identification and name submitted on the intent form.

Competitive Admissions Information:

Admission to the nursing program is competitive. Applicants' scores are ranked on the HESI (A2) exam (weighted 65%) and cumulative GPA from the following 8 pre-requisite classes (weighted 35%): Math 1111 College Algebra (or math equivalent - Math Modeling, Statistics or Calculus), ENGL 1101, and BIOL 2113, 2114, 2117 all with their labs. Students with the highest combined score will be admitted. The number of students accepted to a cohort is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available.



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For additional information contact the Health Science Department at 706-754-7752 or email tscroggs@northgatech.edu.

COMPETITIVE ADMISSION CALCULATION INSTRUCTIONS

The competitive admission score is derived from a combination of Academic GPA* (35%) and HESI (65%) exam scores.

- The Academic GPA is taken from information in the NGTC BANNER database system.
- Academic GPA is calculated from these courses: Math 1111 (or Math Modeling, Statistics, Pre-Calculus or Calculus), English 1101, Biology 2113, Biology 2113L, Biology 2114, Biology 2114L, Biology 2117, and Biology 2117 L.
- Calculus is typically a 4-credit hour course but will be calculated as 3 credit hours for quality point purposes.
- Transcript information for students who have transferred coursework from other academic institutions is obtained from official records received in the Registrar's office. Questions concerning academic credit transferred should be directed to the Registrar (706-754-7768) for resolution.
- Advanced Placement (AP) course credits submitted for required core classes are not included in the calculated GPA for ASN admission. Example: Should a student receive AP credit for English (ENGL 1101), the remainder of core curriculum grades are used for GPA calculation (divided by 15 as opposed to 18 "total hours attempted"). Students with no AP scores have the option to take CLEP exams for ENGL 1101 and MATH 1111. Students with AP or CLEP scores may take courses at NGTC to earn a grade if desired (financial aid may not cover the courses).
- HESI exam score is calculated from the highest overall result in the areas of Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and English combined. The learner profile and critical thinking portions are not considered part of the test score.
 - HESI examination score will be retrieved directly from the testing company, Elsevier.
 - The highest overall score (from one sitting) will be used.



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POINT BREAKDOWN WORKSHEET <i>Calculations for Core Curriculum</i>						POINTS	
Weight 35% Grade Point Average of Core Curriculum Quality Points <i>Grade x Credit Hours = Points</i> A = 4 B = 3 C = 2 D = 0 F = 0 *A minimum of 3.0 Cumulative GPA must be achieved for required core courses.	Course	Grade	Points	Credit Hours	Quality		
	ENGL 1101	_____	_____	x 3	= _____		
	MATH 1111	_____	_____	x 3	= _____		
	BIOL 2113	_____	_____	x 3	= _____		
	BIOL 2113L	_____	_____	x 1	= _____		
	BIOL 2114	_____	_____	x 3	= _____		
	BIOL 2114L	_____	_____	x 1	= _____		
	BIOL 2117	_____	_____	x 3	= _____		
	BIOL 2117L	_____	_____	x 1	= _____		
	Total Quality Points (TQP)						_____
	TQP ÷ 18 (total hours attempted) = GPA						_____
	GPA ÷ 4) * 100 = _____ * 0.35 = GPA Score						_____
Additional Courses Completed: These will not be included in the GPA calculation for the competitive admissions process and will be used as an advisement tool only.						_____	
_____ COLL 1010 _____ PSYC1101 _____ PSYC 2103 _____ ENGL 1102 _____ HUMN 1101 or ARTS 1101 or MUSC 1101 or ENGL 2130						GPA Score	
Weight 65%	HESI Admission Assessment Exam						
HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)	_____ * 0.65 = 65%					_____	
GPA Total Score + HESI Total Score						_____	
						Final Score	