Practical Nursing Program
(Licensed Practical Nursing/LPN)
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 enroll in North Georgia Technical College (NGTC) prior to applying for candidacy into the Practical Nursing (PN) certificate program. Applicants who have not been a student at NGTC within the last year must apply for acceptance to the college and submit necessary transcripts and any other documents requested by the Admissions Office. The minimum criteria to obtain Practical Nursing candidacy is completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) and submission of the online PN Intent Form by the June 10 deadline each year.

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 general 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 Practical Nursing program after being accepted to the college?

Intent Forms are accepted March 1 through June 10 each year.

The PN Intent form is submitted online from the Practical Nursing 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 "*Practical Nursing*"**
5. **Select *"Intent Form"* on the Practical Nursing webpage**

When does a new cohort start each year?

Currahee Campus: Fall semester

Blairsville Campus: Fall semester

How many students will be admitted?

Currahee Campus: *20 Students

Blairsville Campus: *20 Students

* The number of students is limited by the availability of faculty and clinical facilities.

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

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

What must I have completed to be a candidate for the Practical Nursing (PN/LPN) program?

- Unconditional acceptance to North Georgia Technical College. Students must be either a current or former (within the academic year) student.
- Students who have not taken any classes for two consecutive terms must complete the readmission process with the Admissions Office to become an active student again.
- Submission of the online PN Intent Form by the June 10 deadline.
- Completion of the ATI TEAS exam by the June 10 deadline, adhering to the following guidelines:
    - The TEAS exam must be taken in-person at an official proctoring location. Remote testing at home or another unofficial location is not acceptable. It can be taken at North Georgia Technical College or any other authorized institution. If the exam is taken at another testing site, NGTC does not have automatic access to the test score. After taking the exam, applicants are responsible for making the appropriate selection from within their ATI TEAS student online account to send a transcript of their test score to NGTC by the deadline.
    - A minimum score of 58% must be achieved on the exam to gain eligibility for the program.
    - The 12-month period for valid scores is June 10 of the previous year through June 9 of the intent year.
    - Only the first two attempts on the TEAS exam within the 12-month period prior to the June 10 due date will be considered in the competitive process.
    - The highest total score from the two valid attempts will be used in the competitive admissions process. The student receives the number of points equal to the total/overall score.
    - There is no wait-time between the two attempts, although additional preparation between retakes is recommended.
    - Online registration for a TEAS testing session is available on the NGTC Practical Nursing webpage: https://northgatech.edu/academic-programs/health-sciences/practical-nursing/
    - Call the Clarkesville Campus testing office at 706-754-7716 with questions related to registering for a testing session and administration of the exam.

What is involved in the competitive process? Meeting minimum admissions standards does not guarantee acceptance into the Practical Nursing program. Applicants will be ranked on a point scale consisting of their highest total TEAS test score from the first two attempts on the exam within the 12 months leading up to the June 10 deadline.

An additional 5 points can be earned for having a verifiable, active licensure or certification in any one area listed below. The additional 5 points can only be awarded once even if the student has licensure/certification in more than one area.

- Certified Paramedic
- Certified EMT/AEMT
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Certified Medical Assistant

Applicants may also receive 25 additional points for ONE of the following two options:

Option 1: Completion of the following select pre-nursing courses with a minimum C grade:

- Medical Terminology
- Diploma or degree-level mathematics
- Diploma-level Structure and Function of the Human Body OR degree-level Human Anatomy I and II

Applicants who show credit in the college's Degree Works system for the select courses with at least a C grade by June 10 will receive 25 additional points. Learning support or in-progress courses as well as partial completion do not qualify.

Option 2: ATI Launch Program Completion

ATI Launch is strongly recommended for applicants who have not completed any pre-nursing courses or previously earned a Healthcare diploma/degree.

Applicants who successfully complete the entire six-module ATI Launch program by June 10 will receive 25 additional points. Partial completion of the program will not qualify for additional points.

Instructions for completion of the ATI Launch option will be distributed to all applicants at the mandatory meetings in February.

Applicants who qualify for both options may receive only 25 total points from this category, not 25 points for each. Applicants may still receive the separate 5 additional points for a qualifying healthcare certification or license if the requirements for that category are met.

No late submissions will be accepted for any additional admission points criteria.

Applicants are responsible for the thorough completion and timely submission of the PN Intent Form. The information on the intent form must be completed in a manner sufficient for college staff to verify competitive admission criteria for the applicant to qualify for the additional-point categories.

MANDATORY ADMISSIONS MEETINGS: Mandatory admissions meetings will be held in February for individuals interested in applying to the North Georgia Technical College Practical Nursing Program. All prospective applicants should attend a meeting to receive important information regarding program requirements, the application process, competitive admission procedures, and program expectations.

The Blairsville Campus meeting will be held on the first Tuesday in February at 9 A.M. in Room 504. The Currahee Campus meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in February at 9 A.M. in Room 619.

How long does it take to complete the program? It takes three semesters to complete the Practical Nursing courses: fall, spring and summer terms.

Can I still work while I am in the program? Students are strongly discouraged from working while enrolled in the Practical Nursing 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? No prior college coursework is applicable to the Practical Nursing program

May I transfer Practical Nursing courses? Nursing courses may not be transferred in from other colleges.

Are Practical Nursing classes offered in the evening or online? The 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.

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

Where will I find jobs when I complete the program? Nurses 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 the Office of Student Affairs.

What courses are included in the Practical Nursing program?

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
PNSG 1600	Pharmacology and Clinical Calculations	3
PNSG 1605	Fundamentals	6
PNSG 1630	Mental Health Nursing	4
PNSG 1610	Adult Health Nursing I	6
PNSG 1615	Adult Health Nursing II	6
PNSG 1635	Maternal Nursing	4
PNSG 1640	Pediatric Nursing	3
PNSG 1620	Adult Health Nursing III	6
PNSG 1625	Adult Health Nursing IV	6
PNSG 1645	Practical Nursing Capstone	5
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	49

Is there a bridge program available to become a registered nurse? Yes, there is an LPN-to-ASN Bridge Option program based at the NGTC Currahee Campus in Toccoa, GA. Information is available online at the following web address:
https://northgatech.edu/academic-programs/health-sciences/lpn-to-rn-bridge-program/

Additional information

- Students must meet the minimum admission standards and competitive admission requirements to be eligible as a candidate for the Practical Nursing 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 the program.
- Students are required to follow the medical clearance policies designated by their assigned clinical and/or practicum sites. Please be aware that some clinical/practicum sites mandate vaccinations and/or testing against specific diseases. If students elect not to be vaccinated or tested, access to those clinical/practicum sites will be limited and could delay or prevent program completion.
- Although vaccines are not required for program admission, each clinical/practicum site reserves the right to deny a student entry based on their own policies and procedures. If a student is denied entry to a 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.
- Applicants are notified by email and postal mail regarding the outcome of the competitive admissions process by July 15.
- Please see a Practical Nursing advisor for more information or call 706 754-7752.

PRACTICAL NURSING COMPETITIVE ADMISSION CALCULATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Practical Nursing competitive admission is based on the following point system:

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	POINTS
1. **ATI TEAS EXAM SCORE** **This category is required.**	• Limited to 2 attempts within the 12-month period leading up to the annual June 10 deadline • Minimum overall score of 58% required for eligibility • The highest overall TEAS Score = number of points awarded	
2. **ACTIVE LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION** * 5 points awarded only once. This category is optional.	This category is not required but allowed if applicable. Licensure/certification must be active in the state of Georgia and verifiable through the state or organization's registry. The 5 points can only be awarded once even if the student has licensure/certification in multiple areas. Only the following are applicable: • Certified Paramedic • Certified EMT/AEMT • Certified Nursing Assistant • Certified Medical Assistant	
3. **Completion of Select Pre-nursing Courses OR ATI Launch Program** * 25 points awarded only once for ONE of the two options available (even if both options are completed). This category is optional.	This category is not required but allowed if applicable. Option 1: Completion of the following select pre-nursing courses with a minimum C grade: • Medical Terminology • Diploma or degree-level mathematics • Diploma-level Structure and Function of the Human Body OR degree-level Human Anatomy I and II OR Option 2: Completion of ATI Launch Online Program	
TIEBREAKER INFORMATION	If two or more applicants have the same total admission points, the applicant with the highest qualifying ATI TEAS score will receive priority in the admission ranking.	
	TOTAL POINTS	