

**Pennsylvania Institute of Technology
Practical Nursing Program
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. What is the Practical Nursing (PN) Program?

The PN Program is a Certificate Program and is designed to prepare the student for a successful nursing career and employment in the healthcare field, to facilitate personal growth experience, and to provide Registered Nurse program transfer opportunities.

2. What are the requirements for admission into the PN Program and who is responsible for paying for the cost, if any?

See attached **MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS DECLARATION** document.

3. Is the PN Program approved?

Yes. The program is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

4. Will criminal history prevent acceptance into the program?

It depends on the specific details of the criminal history. One misdemeanor may not preclude acceptance into the program while more than one and/or a felony conviction usually does. To participate in clinical experiences a “no record” status must be reported on child abuse background checks, therefore, a history of child abuse precludes acceptance into the program.

If there is an “arrest” or “charge” listed on your criminal background check that does not have the “disposition” you will be required to provide official documents such as criminal background check from that state.

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing requires that the program inform applicants that the State Board of Nursing:

- **may deny a license or the privilege of sitting for licensing examination** to an applicant who has been convicted* of a felonious act prohibited by the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64) known as “The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act,” or convicted of a felony related to controlled substance in a court of law of the United States or any other state, territory or country unless:
- **may refuse a license in any case where the board finds the applicant:**
 - (1) Is guilty of gross immorality;
 - (2) Is unfit or incompetent by reason of negligence, habits or other causes;
 - (3) Has been convicted of a felony or a crime of moral turpitude, or been dishonorably discharged or discharged under circumstances amounting to dishonorable discharge from the military;

7. How can I prepare for the ATI TEAS™?

The *Test of Essential Academic Skills Study Manual* is written specifically for students to prepare to take the TEAS™. *Test of Essential Academic Skills Online Practice Assessment* provides additional preparatory material online. Both can be purchased either via telephone at 1-800-667-7531 or online at www.atitesting.com. Neither is available through the PN Program. It is strongly recommended that you study and prepare for the TEAS™.

8. How much does the PN program cost?

The estimated cost is \$23,000 for the entire program. This includes tuition, books, uniforms, and supplies, etc. Program cost is subject to change.

9. What is projected student enrollment?

Two day classes will be admitted every year. The projected student enrollment for the January program is 55 students. The projected student enrollment for the June program is 35. Admission into the program is highly competitive with more candidates applying than space available. Meeting the admission requirements is not a guarantee of acceptance into the program.

10. What are the roles and responsibilities of a licensed practical nurse?

Nursing is an art and science dedicated to meeting the healthcare needs of individuals of all ages and communities. Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) provide healthcare in a variety of settings such as long-term care facilities, hospitals, physician's offices, homes, rehabilitation facilities, and clinics. LPNs work under the supervision of a licensed professional (registered) nurse, a licensed physician, or a licensed dentist.

The nursing actions performed by LPNs are extensive. The list includes, but is not limited to, provide fundamental care, collect client information and data, perform routine monitoring, administer medications, enteral feedings, and intravenous therapy, and perform wound care, dressing changes, and respiratory treatments. LPNs provide health teaching, monitor effectiveness of treatments, and document data, actions and responses. LPNs are integral members of the healthcare team working together to assist the individual or family in the prevention of illness, restoration of health or adaptation to illness, and achievement of comfort.

11. Is there tutoring available?

P.I.T. is organized for student success. There are opportunities for peer, group, and private tutoring in our Student Resource Center, Student Innovation Center, Nursing instructors will be available for academic advising, tutoring, guidance, and support of nursing students.

12. What types of student services are available on campus?

Student Services provides academic support and career and transfer counseling as well as referral to social and community services. Other student services available include: athletic fitness center, cafeteria, student lounge, and student lockers. P. I. T. van service between P.I.T. and SEPTA's 101 Trolley Station at Providence Road and State Road and at the Elwyn Center is available.

13. Will I receive a license immediately upon completion of the PN program?

No. Graduation from the PN program qualifies you to apply for a license and apply to take the NCLEX-PN[®] (National Council of Licensure Examination-Practical Nursing). You must apply to the State Board of Nursing and register for the examination. The State Board of Nursing determines if you are eligible to take the examination. When you pass NCLEX-PN[®] you will be issued a license.

14. What sites are used for clinical learning experience? Is transportation provided to and from the clinical sites?

Clinical sites are: Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Albert Einstein Medical Center, Fair Acres Geriatric Center, Wesley Enhanced Living, Prospect Park Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, GoldenLiving Center – Rosemont, and St. Edmond's Home for Children. Negotiations for additional sites for clinical learning experiences are ongoing. The possibility of evening/weekend clinical rotations exists. Clinical sites are not limited to Delaware County, and maybe out of state.

No. Students are responsible for their own transportation. Clinical site placement is decided by nursing faculty. Requests for clinical site placement with peers or at specific agency will not be honored.

15. What type of patient/patients do student nurses care for during clinical learning experiences?

The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing requires that clinical learning experiences provide opportunities for students to care for men, women, and children in a variety of age groups. Therefore, each student will be assigned to (and expected to) care for men, women, and children with a variety of health problems. Students are not permitted to refuse a patient care assignment.

16. What resources are available to help fund my nursing education?

Financial aid is available for those students who qualify, through federal, state, institutional, and special programs. Student loans are available. Some employers offer tuition forgiveness (repay outstanding loans for education) programs in exchange for employment. There are also professional and community organizations that offer scholarships to nursing students. For further information on federal, state or college aid

go to www.fasfa.gov. P. I. T. Student Financial Aid Services Office is available to assist students in applying for financial aid.

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