



a community and technical college

Practical Nursing Admission Criteria and Application Instructions

Admission Criteria:

- Must attend Nursing Information Session.
- Complete the general college application process. Indicate Pre-Nursing as your major.
- Must be a High School graduate or GED recipient.
- Must be accepted as a Ridgewater College student.
- Be current on Nursing Assistant registry.

Note: You must successfully test at college level in Reading Comprehension or earn a “C” grade or better in all courses taken to meet admission criteria.

Admission Criteria Table: Required Testing Scores or Course Equivalents					
	Accuplacer Cut Score		Developmental Coursework		College-Level Coursework
Reading Comprehension	78 or higher on “Classic” test or 250 or higher on “Next Gen” test	OR	“C” or higher in English 980 or equivalent	OR	“C” or higher in 24 credits of college-level reading course

Application Instructions:

Print, Complete and Submit the Practical Nursing (PN) program application.

- Applications will be accepted from April 1, 2024 – June 1, 2024 for the Fall Semester 2024 PN Nursing Courses. Applications will be located on the Ridgewater website www.ridgewater.edu
- You must complete all admission criteria listed above prior to submitting an application for the Nursing Program.
- Submit your official college transcripts to the Admissions Office. If you attended another MinnState institution, Ridgewater can obtain the transcripts for you at no cost. If you have attended private or out of state institutions, you will need to have an official transcript sent directly to the admissions office of the campus you wish to attend. If your transcripts have already been evaluated and you received a DARS report, you do not need to have them evaluated again. The Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) provides you information about course requirements needed to complete your degree or program of study.

Selection Criteria for Acceptance/Admission:

Ranking of applicants will be based on the following criteria:

- First semester GPA of PN Program Plan (Ex: 2.75)
- In the event of a tie of the first semester GPA score, we will use the grade from the BIOL 1080 course as the tie breaking score. If a further tie exists, the applicant with the highest ENGL 1210 score will be used for ranking of acceptance.

Contact Information:

If you have questions, please contact one of the following individuals:
(preferred method to contact is by email)

Hutchinson Campus

Matt Roberts, Advisor

Matt.Roberts@ridgewater.edu

320.234.8505

Willmar Campus

Ellery Knight, Advisor

Ellery.Knight@ridgewater.edu

320.222.6071

Practical Nursing Diploma

Semester 1: 12 Credits (1 Nursing and 11 General Education Credits)

PRNU 1617	Medical Terminology	1 credit
ENGL 1209 or ENGL 1210	English Composition 1	3 credits
PSYC 1310	Intro to Psychology	4 credits
BIOL 1080	Human Biology	4 credits

NOTE: Apply to semester two (2) nursing courses at completion of Semester one (1).

Semester 2: 14 Credits

PRNU 1000	Foundation of Practical Nursing	6 credits
PRNU 1200	Nursing Care of Older Adults	3 credits
PRNU 1300	Pharmacology for the Role of the Practical Nurse	2 credits
PRNU 1400	Clinical 1	3 credits

Semester 3: 14 Credits

PRNU 2100	Nursing of Adults	3 credits
PRNU 2200	Nursing Care of Women/Newborns/Children	3 credits
PRNU 2300	Transition to Practice	1 credit
PRNU 2400	Psychosocial Nursing Care	1 credit
PRNU 2500	Clinical II	6 credits

PN Diploma

40 credits

Graduates are eligible to take NCLEX-PN Licensure Exam.

Each course of the PN curriculum plan must have been achieved with a letter grade of "C" or better.

Registration for Semester 2 & 3 Courses:

- Only students who have been accepted into the PN program are allowed to register for the nursing courses. (PRNU prefix) Students may take any of the general education courses required in the PN program prior to applying to the PN program. There are a limited number of seats available.
- The Nursing Department at Ridgewater College is always striving for continuous improvement to better serve our students and the region. Any changes that may occur in the design of our Nursing programs will always be posted on the Nursing page of our website:
www.ridgewater.edu.