

Program Description: The Associate of Applied Science Degree in Practical Nursing provides a more liberalized education than the certificate. Many employers view the AAS (Associate of Applied Science) degree as a sign of increased competence and readiness for career or salary advancement. New students are admitted to the Practical Nursing (LPN) program two times per year, Fall and Winter quarters. In order to begin the application process, the applicant should refer to the procedures outlined on the Admissions page <https://northseattle.edu/programs/nursing/practical-nursing-admission>.

Prerequisites: Prerequisites are those classes that prove eligibility for entry-level classes by testing or by having satisfied prior course work.

Practical Nursing AAS Degree Prerequisites:

- Math Requirement: Transcript showing successful completion of MATH098 or higher within 7 (seven) years of application date or COMPASS placement testing into MATH&107 or higher within one (1) year of application date.
- BIOL&241*, BIOL&242*, BIOL&260*, CHEM&121, ENGL&101, PSYC&200, and completion of a Nursing Assistant program.
- A 2.8 grade or higher is required in all prerequisite courses.
- Successful completion of a Nursing Assistant-Certified program.
- Strongly recommended: AMA117 Medical Terminology (formerly AHI100) and AHE103 Math for Health Careers
- Course work earned at other institutions must be evaluated to be considered for admission to the program.

*Must be taken within the last 7 years.

Program Requirements		
Course Number	General Education/Related Instruction Requirements (45 credits)	Credit Hours
Communication Elective	Five credits chosen from an approved list of Communication elective courses	5
Computation Elective	Five credits chosen from an approved list of Computation elective courses	5
Human Relations Elective	Five credits chosen from an approved list of Natural World elective courses	5
Natural World Elective	Five credits chosen from an approved list of Human Relations elective course	5
US Cultures/Global Studies Elective	Five credits chosen from an approved list of US Cultures/Global Studies elective courses	5
General Electives	Twenty-one credits from a list of 100 level and above college courses	21
Course Number	Certificate Requirements (36 credits)	Credit Hours
NUR 115	Intro to Patient Care*	2
NUR 116	Nursing Fundamentals	6
NUR 117	Nursing Fundamentals Laboratory	2
NUR 118	Clinical Nursing Skills I	2
NUR 119	Clinical Nursing Skills II	1
NUR 126	Role of the LPN	3

NUR 127	Medical/Surgical Nursing –Child/Adult I	6.5
NUR 128	Medical/Surgical Nursing – Child/Adult II	6
NUR 130	Critical Thinking in Nursing Practice	2
NUR 131	Clinical Nursing Practice I*	3.5
NUR 133	Family Nursing Theory	1.5
NUR 134	Family Nursing Clinical*	1.5
NUR 139	Transition to LPN Practice*	4
NUR 141	Clinical Nursing Practice II*	2
NUR 154	IV Therapy Skills	1
		Total Credits: 90 (excluding prerequisites)

To complete the program a 2.0 grade or higher is required in all nursing theory courses and a Satisfactory (S) in all lab and clinical courses.

Note: Courses marked with one asterisk (*) are credited off campus clinical hours.

Course Sequence: This full-time program of study is outlined by quarter and courses are taken in the sequence indicated below. In order to progress in the LPN program, all courses that are designated as “linked” must be taken and passed concurrently with a grade of at least 2.0 (77%) in all theory courses and Satisfactory (S) in all lab and clinical courses. These include the following linked theory/clinical/lab courses, which must be taken together: NUR 115/116/117, NUR 118/127/131, NUR 119/128/141 and NUR 133/134.

1st quarter: NUR 115, NUR 116, NUR 117, NUR 130

2nd quarter: NUR 118, NUR 127, NUR 131

3rd quarter: NUR 119, NUR 128, NUR 133, NUR 134, NUR 141

4th quarter: NUR 126, NUR 139, NUR 154

Program Outcomes:

- Holistically care for self and others within an ethical, legal, and diverse framework under a designated healthcare provider within the scope of practice of the practical nurse.
- Demonstrate competency in educating and communicating with patients, patient’s family and healthcare team.
- Demonstrate competency in data gathering, contributing to problem-identification, planning, implementing nursing care, and contributing to evaluation within a variety of settings utilizing appropriate technology.
- Use critical thinking to identify normal and abnormal patterns based on an understanding of anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology in order to contribute to the safe management of patient care.
- Effectively delegate and collaborate with patients, patient’s family, and the healthcare team.

Transitioning to LPN to RN Ladder: If an LPN student successfully completes the LPN program and fulfills all of the LPN to RN Ladder pre-requisites by the end of the 4th quarter of the LPN program, the student can request to be admitted directly into the LPN to RN Ladder program.

Co-requisites required for the LPN to RN Ladder Program (ADN)

- MATH146, NUTR&101 and a US Cultures/Global Studies course (5 credits). A 2.8 grade or higher is required in all co-requisite courses.

A current listing of US Cultures and Global Studies courses are available at Seattle Colleges at <http://webshares.northseattle.edu/Nursing%20Student%20Resources/>

What skills do I need to be successful in this field? <http://www.onetonline.org>

- Administer prescribed medications or start intravenous fluids, noting times and amounts on patients' charts.
- Observe patients, charting and reporting changes in patients' conditions, such as adverse reactions to medication or treatment, and taking any necessary action.
- Answer patients' calls and determine how to assist them.
- Measure and record patients' vital signs, such as height, weight, temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration.
- Provide basic patient care or treatments, such as taking temperatures or blood pressures, dressing wounds, treating bedsores, giving enemas or douches, rubbing with alcohol, massaging, or performing catheterizations.
- Work as part of a healthcare team to assess patient needs, plan and modify care, and implement interventions.
- Supervise nurses' aides or assistants.
- Evaluate nursing intervention outcomes, conferring with other healthcare team members as necessary.
- Assemble and use equipment, such as catheters, tracheotomy tubes, or oxygen suppliers.
- Record food and fluid intake and output.

What are some potential job titles?

- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Charge Nurse
- Office Nurse

Wages, employment trends and pathways: <http://www.onetonline.org>

- **LPN salaries**
Nationally: \$30,970 -- \$57,360
WA state: \$35,700 -- \$58,200

Working Conditions:

- Acute care (hospitals), long-term care, outpatient care (clinics), home healthcare, physicians' offices, nursing care facilities. Within hospitals and nursing care facilities, nurses work a flexible schedule.

Employment Outlook:

- There is a consistent/ongoing need for nursing care and nursing faculty. Nurses can work anywhere in the world with many options of where to work/what to do.
- Most opportunities are in nursing home care and home healthcare, with more competition for positions in acute care.

Program Contact: Health and Human Services Division, (206) 934-3790

Program Website: <https://northseattle.edu/career/degrees/practical-nursing-aas-degree>

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who have completed these program, and other important information, please visit our website at <https://northseattle.edu/about-north/gainful-employment-information>.