

Practical Nursing Program 2026-2027

Application Checklist
Traditional Students

Important Contacts

Lake Land College
5001 Lake Land Blvd
Mattoon, IL 61938
www.lakelandcollege.edu

Jennifer Melton, Counselor for Allied Health

Luther Student Center, Counseling Services, Room #430; 217-234-5251

jmelton52502@lakelandcollege.edu

- Assists with the application and registration process.
- Provides general information and advising regarding Allied Health programs, as well as Bachelors of Science in Nursing completion options.

Hilary Donley, Allied Health Specialist

Neal Hall, 217-234-5447

hcox@lakelandcollege.edu

- Maintains all of the nursing program files.
- Schedules students for the HESI A2 Admissions Assessment entrance exam.
- Provides general information about the college's nursing programs.

Cassandra Porter, Director of the Nursing Programs

Neal Hall, Room 002, 217-234-5452

cporter@lakelandcollege.edu

- Oversees all aspects of the nursing programs.
- Reviews waiver requests and admissions credits.
- Advises CRT.PN.TRK, CRT.PN, and potential students regarding progression toward graduation.
- Teaches in the PN and ADN programs.

The Practical nursing program at Lake Land College at the main campus located in Mattoon, Illinois and the Kluthe campus located in Effingham, Illinois is accredited by the: Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate Degree nursing program is Continuing Accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at
<http://www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm>



The Certificate Program is approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

Complete these steps by March 1 of the application year.

- ❑ To apply to Lake Land College, submit a completed Application and select "CRT.PN.TRK" as the academic program. This will ensure applicants are assigned a nursing academic advisor and will generate a Laker email account. **(Must be completed in order to apply to the nursing program and take the HESI entrance exam.)**

Prospective students are expected to check Laker email accounts on a regular basis for Nursing Department correspondence. Applicants who fail to meet deadlines will forfeit the opportunity to gain admission.

- ❑ To apply to the Practical Nursing program, review program information and complete the online Nursing Program Admission Application on the college website. To access the application, visit the Lake Land College homepage, select **'Admissions', 'Special Admission Programs', 'Practical Nurse'**, scroll to find the **'Start the application process and view program information'** link, select **'Begin the application process'** link.
- ❑ Receipt of this application will prompt the Nursing Department to start a file and begin email correspondence within 4 weeks. Initial correspondence will include instructions to call or email the Nursing Department at (217) 234-5447 or hcox@lakelandcollege.edu to sign-up for the HESI A2 Admission Assessment exam.
- ❑ The exam is a proctored, online test offered the first Friday of September, October, November, December, January and February. Applicants are tested on reading comprehension, grammar, vocabulary & knowledge, and math. Space is limited. 100 students will be assigned for each testing date, the first 80 to pay for the exam will be eligible to test.

To be considered for the Practical Nursing Program, applicants must obtain a minimum cumulative score of 70 on this exam. Obtaining a minimum score **DOES NOT** guarantee acceptance into the program. Scores are valid for 5 years. The most recent score is utilized to calculate admission points.

- ❑ Applicants can take the exam 2 times within a testing cycle (September-January). For those interested in repeating the exam, contact the nursing department. Repeat exams are only offered in November and January.

Study aides are available for purchase online: Search HESI A2 Study Guide published by Elsevier

- ❑ Approximately 2-4 weeks prior to the exam date, applicants will receive an email with instructions for online registration and payment. The cost is \$55 (subject to change).

Program of Study

Nursing Program Courses: These courses will only be taken once a student is accepted into the program. All courses are sequential. A student cannot progress in the program if unsuccessful in any course.

Nursing Courses	Credit Hours	Semester of Nursing Program
Foundations of Nursing—PNC 049	6	Semester 1
Practical Nursing I—PNC 050	8	Semester 1
Practical Nursing I Clinical—PNC 050C	2	Semester 1
Practical Nursing II—PNC 052	12	Semester 2
Practical Nursing II Clinical—PNC 052C	3	Semester 2
Basic Pharmacology I—PNC 053	2	Semester 2
Practical Nursing III—PNC 054	5	Semester 3—Summer
Practical Nursing III Clinical—PNC 054C	2	Semester 3—Summer
Basic Pharmacology II—PNC 055	1	Semester 3—Summer

Course Waivers: A Practical Nursing student can request a waiver for PNC 049—Foundations in Nursing (6 credit hours)—if he/she has completed Anatomy & Physiology I and II (BIO 225 and 226) and Nutrition (HED 102) with grades “C” or better OR has taken A&P for Allied Health (AHE 060). **All courses must have been taken within the last 5 years, and completed by the end of the summer preceding admission to the program.**

Eligible students must complete the following:

- Submit an official waiver form which can be found by going to lakelandcollege.edu, select ‘**Admissions**’, ‘**Special Admission Programs**’, ‘**Practical Nursing**’, scroll to find the ‘**Start the application process and view program information**’ link and select ‘**Reactivation Request/Course Waiver Form**’.
- All requests for waivers need to be submitted by **June 1st**. If enrolled in one of the courses in the summer preceding admission, follow-up after courses are completed to ensure still eligible for a waiver.
- The waiver is only granted after formal acceptance into the program.
- If courses were taken at another institution, official transcripts must be on file in the Admissions & Records Office.

The Allied Health Program guidelines and expectations align with the College’s Pandemic Safety Response Guidelines. If the College updates the guidelines, the Allied Health Programs will follow the new guidelines. If clinical partners impose guidelines that are more restrictive, such as a vaccination mandate, the Allied Health Programs will follow the clinical partner’s guidelines. If a student refuses to comply with the clinical site’s protocols, he/she will fail to meet clinical objectives and will therefore fail the course.

On March 1st, a review of files will begin to determine students for Fall admissions. Admission scores are calculated utilizing the following rubric:

Practical Nursing Admissions Rubric

Admission Application-Practical Nursing	1 point per 6 month period. 0 to 4 points possible
HESI A2 Admission Assessment Exam score (minimum score of 70 required to be considered for admission). *Points doubled	Score _____ X2 = Max 200 points possible
Completion of a certificate program or higher degree in a related field* OR currently employed in a healthcare field with direct patient care experience*	10 points possible
	TOTAL

***To obtain optional admissions points, review the following:**

- ☐ 10 admissions points are awarded for completion of a healthcare program earning a certificate or higher degree upon receipt of current certificate or license. (i.e., Certified Nurse Assistant, EMT-B, Medical Assistant, Physical Therapy Assistant, Dental Hygiene, Radiology Technologist, Paramedic). Email proof of certification/license to hcox@lakelandcollege.edu prior to the application deadline.

OR

- ☐ 10 admissions points for employment in a healthcare related field that involves direct patient care that does not require a specific license, such as a home health aide, is also acceptable. Submit a letter from your current employer (on agency letterhead) indicating current role in direct patient care via email to hcox@lakelandcollege.edu.

Essential Functions: Students applying to the Nursing Programs at Lake Land College must be able to meet the technical requirements of the program and not pose a risk to the well-being of patients, other students, staff or themselves. Students applying to the program will need, at a minimum, to be capable of performing all Essential Functions required of the nurse. The student will need to maintain and demonstrate these abilities through the duration of the program.

Admission based on criminal history: After tentative acceptance and prior to official admission to the Lake Land College Nursing Programs, applicants are required to submit to a background check ordered through the programs' official vendor. When considering whether criminal history issues prevent admission, the programs refer to the guidelines of ILCS 2105/2105-165 the Health Care Worker Self-Referral Act, and Illinois Nurse Practice Act Rules Section 1300.100 Refusal to Issue a License Based on Criminal History Record. If an applicant has a criminal history, he/she should contact the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

Cost Estimate for PN Program Certificate Completion*

Semester	Semester Hours	Tuition and Fees \$154.00 per Semester Hour	Course Fees	TOTAL
Fall	16	\$2464.00	\$565	\$3029.00
Spring	17	\$2618.00	\$565	\$3183.00
Summer	8	\$1232.00	\$415	\$1647.00
Uniform, watch, stethoscope & shoes***		\$350.00		\$350.00
Supply kit (from LLC Bookstore)		\$200.00		\$200.00
Textbooks and support products (LLC Bookstore)		\$365.00		\$365.00
Compliance Tracker: includes monitoring of program requirements, background check, and drug screen		\$230.00		\$230.00
ESTIMATED TOTAL COSTS				\$9004.00

*Tuition and fees for in-district students. Tuition and fees are subject to change.

***Prices may vary.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I improve my chances of gaining admission into the PN program?

- Study! Prepare for the HESI A2 Admission Assessment Exam because this is the best way to increase the number of admissions points.

What other courses can help me be successful in the program?

- Math for Meds, Medical Terminology
- If there is a long-term goal of earning an AAS.ADN, work on those prerequisite courses.

Is there a waiting list?

- No—The PN program uses an objective, competitive admissions process. Each year, 54 applicants are accepted based on a point system. See PN Admissions Rubric.

Are there weekend or evening nursing classes?

- No—courses are conducted Monday through Friday.

Can I apply if I am out of the Lake Land College district?

- The Public Community College Act (110 ILCS 805/3-17) requires all in-district applicants be considered first. Out-of-district students will be considered using the same admissions rubric only after all eligible in-district students have been considered.

What do I do if I am not accepted into the program?

- Study and retake the HESI A2 Admission Assessment Exam. Consider gaining experience by completing a certificate program for additional admission points.

How soon should I begin the application process?

- Plan at least one year before projected start date by turning in the Nursing Program Admissions Application. The HESI A2 Admissions Assessment Exam is administered the first Friday of September, October, November, December and January and an applicant will not be considered without a HESI score.

Where is the PN program offered?

- The PN program is offered on the main campus and Effingham Kluthe Center. Accepted students are able to register and choose the classroom section on a first come, first serve basis. Students will be assigned to clinical sites.

How often will I be in school?

- Students can expect to attend class/clinical 4 days a week. The day off varies throughout the program depending on the clinical assignments. Most clinical assignments require students to BEGIN as early as 6 a.m.

Where can a PN graduate practice nursing?

- Once a student graduates from the PN program, he/she is eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination-Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) and obtain a LPN license in any state in the United States.