

**THANK YOU** for your interest in the Practical Nursing (PN) Program! This program allows students to complete the PN Program in two semesters once the general education courses are successfully completed.

**APPROVED PROGRAM:** The PN Program is approved by the MN Board of Nursing.

**NATIONAL ACCREDITATION:** The Northland Community & Technical College Practical Nursing is accredited by National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA), located at 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20037; phone 202-909-2500.

**TRANSFER ABILITY:** Graduates of the PN Program may choose to continue their education by applying to the Northland Associate Degree (AD) Mobility Program (RN program) or another AD Mobility Program. Students may then continue on after that for their Bachelor of Science Degree in nursing and beyond.

**OPTIONS:** Students may choose to apply to one of three options: Thief River Falls (TRF) campus, East Grand Forks (EGF) campus, or a Distance/Hybrid option. The PN Program starts students in fall and spring semester pending an adequate number of applicants.

\* If a cohort doesn't start on your preferred site, you may be offered a space at another site. Additionally, campus courses may be taught via video conferencing or hybrid. Program clinicals are completed in the greater Grand Forks area (Grand Forks, Crookston, or Fertile); Thief River Falls, and Roseau

\* Distance/Hybrid program option: mandatory on campus lab/skill validations (EGF Campus) and clinicals within the community. Each semester there are typically 6 times on campus for skill validations/lab throughout the semester. First semester has 5 clinical days which are one day/week or 2 weekends during the second half of the semester. Second semester clinicals are one day a week the entire semester or 6 clinical weekends.

**FACULTY:** Qualified faculty have the knowledge and professional clinical expertise to assist students in succeeding in the PN Program. The web page below provides faculty member information.

**PN WEBSITE:** Please visit the [PN Program website](#) for more details. The PN Program Handbook is also available on this site and provides additional information regarding the program.

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**Admission Procedure/Requirements**

1. Complete the Northland admission process and declare the Practical Nursing major.
2. Meet PN Program guidelines for good academic standing.
  - a. Total cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
  - b. Successful completion of a minimum of 67% of cumulative attempted credits.
  - c. Students who are in a warning, suspension, or probationary status are not eligible for entry into PNSG course sequence.
3. Complete all pre-PNSG courses with a grade of 'C' or higher.
  - a. Nursing Assistant: Evidence of competency as a nursing assistant within the past 5 years. This can be satisfied by one of the following:
    - Successful completion of HLTH 1110 Nursing Assistant (NA) course. OR
    - A current Certified Nursing Assistant (NA) certificate/registration card.
    - If evidence of nursing assistant course completion is not listed on your NCTC transcript, you need to submit documentation verifying nursing assistant competency. For EGF, TRF and distance/hybrid students, submit your documentation by:
      - bringing a copy of the documentation to the PN Advisor, office suite 405B.
      - scanning the documentation and send it via email to [pnadvisor@northlandcollege.edu](mailto:pnadvisor@northlandcollege.edu)OR
      - sending a copy of the documentation by US mail to  
Practical Nursing Program  
Northland Community & Technical College  
2022 Central Ave NE  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721

Please note that training and experience in related health care professions is NOT equivalent to nursing assistant skills. This includes, but is not limited to, certification or practice as a: Home Health Aide, Health Aid Worker, Social Worker, EMT Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic, Phlebotomy, Medical Assisting, Massage Therapy, Surgical Technician and Occupational and Physical Therapy.

  - b. HLTH 1106 Medical Terminology (2 credits)
  - c. BIOL 2252 Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credits)
  - d. BIOL 2254 Anatomy & Physiology II (4 credits)
  - e. ENGL 1111 Composition I (3 credits)
  - f. MATH 1003 Math Applications for Nurses (2 credits)

4. TEAS examination with a minimum composite score of 50. This must be completed prior to the

application deadline. Students may take the TEAS one time/semester; attempts must be a minimum of 30 days apart if taking in another semester. TEAS scores are valid for 2 years from the test date.

5. Satisfactory completion of developmental courses if indicated by Next Gen Accuplacer. Arithmetic: 230-249 AAF (Math Lvl 3) OR 240-300 QAS (Math Lvl 2)  
If the Accuplacer scores achieved indicated placement in any of the following developmental courses, the course/s must be completed with a "C" or higher. 11
  - Math Foundations/Introduction to Algebra
  - Reading & Writing I, II, III

**Additional Requirements:**

6. Current CPR certification for Health Care Providers (American Heart Association) or CPR for the Professional Rescuer (Red Cross)
7. Current immunizations, see [Allied Health Programs: Immunization Requirements](#). Once accepted into the PN Program students are required to comply with the immunization requirements and submit documentation to a specified vendor. Contact Katie Hallin, Allied Health Verification Specialist at [katie.hallin@Northlandcollege.edu](mailto:katie.hallin@Northlandcollege.edu) for questions regarding clinical health requirements
8. Once accepted into the program, students will be required to complete a Minnesota Department of Human Services Licensing Division Background Study and a National Background Study by the assigned vendor.

**When to apply:**

1. Apply to the PN Program at the link included on the PN Webpage. Applications should occur when the student is enrolled in their final semester of prerequisite general education courses.
  - a. Applications must be received by October 1 to be considered for priority admission to the spring program start. Students will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance by October 31st. All required information must be submitted by the application deadline.
  - b. Applications must be received by March 1 to be considered for priority admission to the fall program start. Students will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance by March 31st. All required information must be submitted by the application deadline. Students completing pre-PNSG courses during the summer semester will only be considered for fall semester pending space availability.
2. Competitive process
  - a. Students who apply to the PN Program are chosen on a competitive basis, based on the points earned in the following rubric (Table A).

- b. The cut off point for the selection process is determined by the number of applicants and their points achieved. If a tie occurs, priority selection will be given to the applicants according to the date of completion of the application to the PN Program.

**Table A: Practical Nursing Program Selection Criteria Rubric  
Evaluation for Admission\*\***

Program Requirement	Scale	Possible Points	Points Earned	Comments
ATI TEAS **	50-54 = 1 point 55-59 = 2 points 60-64 = 5 points 65-69 = 6 points 70 + = 7 points	7		
Cumulative GPA ** (use most recent educational transcript)	GED = 1 point 2.5-2.9 = 2 points 3.0-3.5 = 3 points 3.6-4.0 = 4 points	4		
Grades in PN required Gen-Ed coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comp I</li> <li>• A&amp;P I</li> <li>• A&amp;P II</li> <li>• Med Term</li> <li>• Math Apps</li> </ul>	A = 3 points B = 2 points C = 1 point In Progress = 0.5 points	15		
Completion of Nursing Assistant Course	Yes or No	Y or N		
Previous Degree	Associates = 1 point Bachelors = 2 points	2		
Working in Healthcare <i>Current direct patient care employment verified by letter from employer on facility letterhead</i>	Yes = 1 point No = 0 points	1		
Math requirements met	Yes or No	Y or N		
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>		<b>29</b>		

**\*\* Students with a GPA below 2.5 and/or a TEAS cumulative score below 50 are not eligible.**

**\*\*\*Please note: When accepted into the PN Program, students will be required to immediately register with an approved vendor to enter all immunization, background studies and CPR information. This will be a lifetime account for each student. For more information, click [here](#).**

## PN Program Progression/Retention

The PNSG courses are taken in the following order over two semesters:

Semester One- PNSG courses Credits: theory/lab, clinical/OJT	Semester Two – PNSG courses
PNSG1250 Introduction to Practical Nursing: 1 credit 1/0/0	PNSG1270 Transition to Practice: 1 credit 1/0/0
PNSG1254 Nursing Foundations: 4 credits 3/1/0	PNSG1274 Maternal/Newborn: 1 credit 1/0/0
PNSG1258 Psychosocial: 2 credits 2/0/0	PNSG1279 Invasive Nursing Therapies: 3 credits 1/2 /0
PNSG1262 Nursing Concepts I: 5 credits 3/2/0	PNSG1283 Nursing Concepts II: 5 credits 5/0/0
PNSG1266 Clinical Care I: 1 credit 0/1/0	PNSG1287 Clinical Care II: 4 credits 0/4/0
<b>Total Credits: 13 Credits</b>	<b>Total Credits: 14 Credits</b>

### Progression:

- All first semester PNSG courses are pre-requisites for all second semester PNSG courses.
- Students who are successfully progressing through the PN program sequence published in the current PN Student Handbook (see above) will have priority registration status. Students are allowed two (2) attempts at all PNSG courses. In the event a student does not achieve a minimum “C” grade on a second attempt for a PNSG theory, skills or clinical course, they will no longer be eligible to complete the PN Program. Course withdrawals also count toward unsuccessful attempts.
- Students who fail one or two PNSG course need to email their PN advisor and request to repeat the course(s). Students will have a seat held for them in that course(s) a year from the semester the course(s) was failed. For example, if a student fails a PNSG course fall 2024, a seat will be held for that student in that course fall 2025. If students do not return to the program in one year, due to personal choice, students need to re-apply to the program. Students who fail three or more PNSG courses will be required to re-apply to the PN Program through the formal application process. A student will be allowed to be admitted to the program two times.
- See the [PN Handbook](#) for more details on program progression.

**Retention:**

1. The PNSG faculty are here to assist the students to be successful! The faculty member is the first-person students should talk to if they are having difficulty in a course. Faculty may assist students by following through with one or more of the following:
  - Complete an early alert form on the student so the counselor is aware and may also recommend ways to assist the student.
  - Refer the student to the Academic Success Center (ASC) for assistance.
  - Refer the student to a peer tutor.
  - Refer the student to supplemental resources (ATI, videos, etc.).
  - Refer the student to a counselor for personal issues (stress, family situations, etc.).
  - Recommend the student participate in a study group.
  - Recommend students complete a focused review for ATI practice tests.
  - Complete a student contract (see appendix D in the PN Handbook) to identify areas of improvement necessary and a plan to address these needs.
2. The ASC offers many free services to Northland students including tutoring and disability services. Click [here](#) for the ASC web page.