

**Assessment Testing (ATI)**

**Introduction**

A policy incorporating assessment testing into the IVC Nursing Program was adopted in the Fall of 2002. The purpose of the assessment test from Assessment Technologies, Inc. is to evaluate knowledge and application levels as student's progress through the program. Computerized comprehensive tests are given at the completion of nursing courses to compare student progress to other students at a national level. The Content Mastery Series is designed to assess student knowledge and decision-making skills in six areas: Critical Thinking, Fundamentals, Maternity, Pediatrics, Medical-Surgical/Geriatrics, and Mental Health. In addition, students will complete an NCLEX predictor exam prior to exiting the program.

The following are the online exams scheduled each semester prior to the completion of each level:

**First Semester:**

**Critical Thinking Entrance Exam:** This exam is geared to assess the student's ability to use the phases of the critical thinking process.

**Fundamentals of Nursing:** The 85-item assessment offers an assessment of the student's basic comprehension and mastery of the fundamental principles in nursing. It emphasizes nursing process, safety, therapeutic relationships, professional accountability, and essential client care skills.

**Pharmacology of Nursing Practice:** The 75-item assessment covers dosage and fluid calculations, drug relationships and interactions, medication administration, and general pharmacological principles.

**Second Semester:**

**Maternal Newborn Care:** This 60-item assessment includes women's health care, normal physiological and psychological changes in pregnancy; normal and complicated antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum care; normal and complicated newborn care, pharmacologic interventions, nutritional care, and cultural considerations.

**Third Semester:**

**Nursing Care of Children:** This 60-item assessment includes items pertaining to the bodily systems, growth and development, pharmacotherapeutics, fluid, electrolytes, and nutritional care of the child.

**Leadership in Nursing:** The 60-item assessment is relevant to issues of decision-making and management skills in the areas of safety, planning, supervision, counseling, delegation, collaboration, and identification of client and staff needs.

**Summer/Winter Session:**

**Mental Health:** The 60-item assessment covers areas pertaining to various mental health disorder, therapeutic milieu, stress, and crisis management, and issues related to special populations.
Fourth Semester:

**Medical-Surgical Nursing:** This 90-item assessment covers content pertaining to bodily systems, pharmacology, fluids, electrolytes, and nutritional care topics. Communication techniques and cultural considerations are integrated throughout the test.

**NCLEX RN Predictor:** The RN Comprehensive Predictor is a proctored assessment administered at the completion of program coursework in nursing. It is designed to assess the student’s comprehensive knowledge base prior to graduation. Performance is 96% predictive of outcomes on the NCLEX-RN. The Predictor consists of 180 items; content areas include medical-surgical, mental health, pediatric, maternal-newborn, leadership, management, pharmacology, and community health nursing. Material relating to growth and development, cultural considerations, and therapeutic relationships is also integrated. Items reflect the nursing process and client needs across the lifespan, and mirror the NCLEX-RN test plan for content.

**Critical Thinking Exit:** Students take an entrance and an exit exam specifically designed to measure each student's critical thinking ability.

**Fees**

Fees have been broken down into two semesters: $187.00 paid in First Semester and $187.00 paid in Second Semester. These fees will be attached to your nursing schedules in these semesters and can be found on your Webstar account summary. When you register for NURS 110, the fee will be due. When you register for NURS 125, the fee will be due. Fees are paid at the IVC Cashier’s Window.

These fees are non-refundable. If a student withdraws from first or second semester for any reason, these fees will not be refunded. Additional testing fees may be incurred if a student needs to retest. These can be paid in the IVC Nursing Office.

**Policy:**

Please see attached.
Imperial Valley College
Division of Nursing Education and Health Technologies

Assessment Testing Policy

Your assessment ATI exam will be scheduled by your instructor, and dates will be listed on your syllabus. Each student receives a book for the specialty exams, and books will be distributed from the Nursing Learning Center upon proof of payment. Please note that results on these exams are tied to nursing course grades, thus, you are strongly advised to be prepared ahead of time before taking your test. You will take the secured exams online in the Nursing Computer Lab.

Students with a documented disability may make other arrangements.

Student needs to turn in non-proctored exam results with a score of 90% or higher prior to taking the proctored ATI exam.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level achieved on 1st proctored test</th>
<th>% (Test Grade)</th>
<th>Remediation</th>
<th>Grade after Retesting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>Must Complete remediation before retake</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Must Complete remediation before retake</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Below Level 1                       | 0%             | Mandatory Remediation | a) Remediation retake score below level 1 will achieve a grade of 50%  
b) Retake score of level 1 will increase grade to 75%  
c) A retake score of level 2 will increase grade to 83%  
d) A retake score of level 3 will increase grade to 92% |

If retake score is lower than the initial test score, student will be given the highest grade. Remediation must first be completed before retaking the exam. The percent score is equal to a test grade.

The following ATI Exam will count as a test grade:
- 1st Semester - RN Fundamentals
- 2nd Semester - RN Maternal-Newborn
- 3rd Semester - RN Nursing Care of Children
- Summer/Winter Session – RN Mental Health Nursing
- 4th Semester - RN Comprehensive Predictor, Medical-Surgical
Remediation Plan for Students who Do Not Achieve LEVEL 3 on the FIRST ATI Exam

Remediation may begin as soon as the student is ready to make an appointment with the Nursing Learning Center instructor/tutor or nursing instructor. The second ATI test may not be taken until remediation is complete and at least one week has passed since taking the first ATI exam.

1. The student is to list the reasons why he/she believes they did not pass the ATI test and describe methods to improve study habits, time management, and retention of knowledge for the second retake of the ATI test. This assessment will be typed and submitted to the lead course instructor for discussion.

2. Using the “Topics to Review” section from the Individual Performance Profile, the student is to look up each area in the appropriate ATI book and/or test and document where the information was found from the book. Conclusively outline the nursing process (assessment, diagnosis, goals, and interventions) to follow when caring for this particular disease process or situation. This assessment will be typed and submitted the lead course instructor for discussion.

3. Review the appropriate ATI book(s) and DVD(s) prior to taking the second assessment.

4. Submit a copy of the second version of the non-proctored ATI test with a score of 100% to the lead course instructor.