RN Program: Application, Selection, and Admission Processes

Eligibility and Application *

1. Admission into the program is done by application only with pre-defined multi-screening criteria.
2. The student, with counselor assistance, will determine eligibility and must submit proof with application:
   a. Admission to Imperial Valley College.
   b. Proof of high school graduation or GED.
   c. Be at least 18 years of age at the time of admission.
   d. Proof of social security card due to requirements of clinical sites and BRN
   e. Meet the reading competency (Accuplacer) requirement for graduation.
   f. Meet the math competency (Accuplacer) requirement for graduation.
   g. Meet the minimum academic 2.5 GPA for prerequisites. Section criteria includes a ranking score for the following course combinations:
      i. “Fixed Set” Courses:
         • Psychology 101 (and 204 if taken)
         • English 101 (and 111 or 201 if taken)
         • Math 90 (and 111 or higher if taken)
         • Speech 100
         • Anthropology 102 or Sociology 101
         • Nursing 100
      ii. Core Science Courses**
         • BIOL 220 Microbiology
         • BIOL 200 Human Anatomy & Physiology I and
           BIOL 202 Human Anatomy & Physiology II
           OR
         • BIOL 204 Human Anatomy and
           BIOL 206 Human Physiology

* NOTE: Eligibility does not guarantee admission and there is no wait list.
** NOTE: Anatomy must be completed within 10 years and any Physiology or Microbiology must be completed within seven (7) years.

3. Advanced Placement (VN to RN) and re-entry students must meet requirements above.

4. Students attempting to transfer into the Program must meet requirements above and present a letter, from the director of the former nursing program, stating the circumstances necessitating the transfer and an evaluation of clinical safety. The student is not eligible for admission if the student was deemed unsafe in the clinical area or if student has received less than a “C” in two or more nursing courses.

5. Applications must be submitted to the Nursing and Allied Health office during the application periods:
   a. Fall admission - March 1 through March 31
   b. Spring admission - September 1 through September 30
   c. If the last date of the application period falls on a weekend, the following business day at 5:00 PM will serve as the deadline.
Students not accepted to the program will need to resubmit another application during the next application period. Students are not placed on a wait list.

6. Recommendations include
   a. Making an appointment with the nursing counselor to discuss transcripts and obtain a 'major sheet'.
   b. Attending a nursing information session when available. Information on the dates and times will be posted in the department and on the program website.

7. Credit by Exam:
   Academic credit by examination may be obtained by those whose prior education and/or experience provides the knowledge and skills required to meet the objectives of one or more of the nursing courses. However, courses that have a lab component are not open for credit by exam. Students who believe they may be eligible for credit should contact their counselor and/or the Nursing Office for advisement. For further information on Credit by Examination refer to the college catalog.

Selection
1. Multi-screening criteria is ranked based on scales influenced by the California Community College Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) and regional recommendations. The multi-screening criteria includes but is not limited to:
   a. Previous degrees or certifications
   b. ‘Fixed Set’ and Science GPAs
   c. Only the initial (1st) Test for Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam. The ‘cut score’ is guided by the CCCCO and must be achieved within 2 attempts.
   d. Life experiences, special circumstances, and fluency in a language other than English

2. Selected students will receive notification for Fall admissions on or before June 30 and for Spring admission on or before December 20.

Admission into the Program
1. After selection and prior to first day of class, the student must successfully pass:
   a. A health examination by a licensed physician or nurse practitioner to determine physical and mental fitness for the role and duties of a student nurse. Available at the campus Student Health Center for no cost.
   b. An American Heart Association Basic Life Support course and submit a current copy of the card.
   c. Criminal background clearance and drug screen:
      i. Students who do not pass the background check may not be eligible to participate in clinical training, and may, therefore, be dropped from the program. (Students wishing to obtain more information on completing the background check can logon to the American Databank website at www.sdsebackground.com.)
      ii. Students who are known to be actively involved in child, spouse, or elder abuse or involved with drugs, will not be admitted to the program. Students in the program, who are found to be involved with the above, face dismissal from the program.
      iii. Students who have been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony are required to disclose this information to the Program Director and again when applying for
RN licensure exam. A conviction may affect eligibility to take the state licensure exam.

iv. Students who have concerns about these circumstances should contact the CA Board of Registered Nursing at (916) 322-3350 or logon at www.rn.ca.gov before starting the program.

2. Identified alternates for the Program:
   a. Should vacancies become available prior to the start of the term, space will be made available for those students chosen as alternates.
   b. Alternates will be selected from the remaining list of eligible students based on the stated selection criteria and the number of vacancies available.
   c. If not admitted into that term, the alternates must resubmit another application.

**Additional Courses Recommended for Student Success**

1. Students who have completed all graduation/degree education requirements and nursing prerequisites may wish to take the following recommended courses prior to starting the RN Program:

   - PSY 204  Developmental Psychology: Conception to Death
   - AHP 100  Medical Terminology
   - VN 214  Basic Arrhythmia Recognition

2. Students considering a future transfer to a university for a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing degree may wish to take the following recommended courses. Students to see a counselor to determine the most appropriate courses for the individual.

   - A critical thinking course (ENG 111, ENG 201, PHIL 106, or SPCH 180)
   - CHEM 160  Introductory General, Organic & Bio Chemistry
   - MATH 119  Elementary Statistics
   - POLS 102  American Government and Politics
   - HIST 120/121  United States History
   - PSY 204  Developmental Psychology: Conception to Death

**Advanced Placement for LVNs seeking admission to the RN Program:**

Imperial Valley College offers three (3) options for LVNs wishing to advance to the RN level. All options are open to students who have an active California LVN license and who meet all requirements for admission as identified in the IVC Catalog; i.e. application, prerequisites, TEAS exam, background check, and drug screen. Admission is based on space availability and prioritization as outlined in the Nursing Handbook. It is strongly recommended that Advanced Placement students meet with a counselor prior to applying to the nursing program and especially if considering advanced placement Option I or II.

**OPTION 1 - Associate Degree (ADRN)**

1. LVNs seeking to complete the ADRN Program under Option 1, must submit proof of completion of an accredited LVN Program or Armed Services nursing courses deemed equivalent to the LVN level, and a copy of a current LVN California license.

2. Placement in the RN program is dependent on
   a. NURS 204 Transition Course where an assessment is made of nursing knowledge and skills through processes including:
      i. Assessment testing in the areas of OB/Maternal Child and Nursing Fundamentals. A fee is charged for each test, which includes study materials.
ii. A medication administration exam, which must be passed with a 92% score. Students will have three (3) attempts to pass this exam.

iii. A practical skills test to determine safety and proficiency regarding basic principles of nursing practice.

3. Pre-requisites
Courses required for the Associate Degree must be completed with a grade of “C” or better and minimum admission criteria is a GPA of 2.5 for the following:

- SPCH 100 Oral Communication
- PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology
- MATH 090 Intermediate Algebra
- SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology, or ANTH 102 Cultural Anthropology (3.0)
- NURS 100 Medication Mathematics
- ENGL 101 Reading & Composition
- BIOL 220 General Microbiology
- BIOL 200 Human Anatomy & Physiology I  and BIOL 202 Human Anatomy & Physiology II  or
- BIOL 204 Human Anatomy (4.0) and BIOL 206 Human Physiology (4.0)

Note: Anatomy must be completed within 10 years and any Physiology or Microbiology must be completed within 7 years.

Math Competency: Must achieve the minimum score or higher on the ACCUPLACER™ College Level Mathematics Test or successfully complete MATH 090 or an advanced level mathematics course with a grade of "C" or higher.

Reading Competency: Must achieve the minimum score or higher on the ACCUPLACER™ Reading Test or ENGL 089 or ENGL 111 or ENGL 201 with a grade “C” or higher.

4. Additional Degree Requirements
- SPCH 100 Oral Communication
- PE 100 Lifetime Exercise Science
- PE Elective Activity Course
- Humanities Elective
- American Institutions Requirement

5. Recommended for the major:
- PSY 204 Developmental Psychology: Conception to Death

6. Nursing Program Admission requires the student to successfully pass:
- Background: A criminal background check as a requirement of the clinical agencies.
- Drug Screen: A drug screen as defined by the Nursing Program as a requirement of the clinical agencies.
- American Heart BLS/CPR certification: must be current

7. Progression Policy:
All nursing courses must be taken in sequence and must be completed with a "C" or better with skills and clinical experience courses receiving the equivalent of a 'C' or 'Satisfactory' or better to progress to the next level. Nursing Program graduates must submit a transcript demonstrating successful completion of all course work and graduation prior to sitting for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.

**OPTION II - 30-Unit Option (Non-degree)**

1. This option was established by the CA Board of Registered Nursing for LVNs seeking to become eligible for their RN license. More information is available on the Board of Registered Nursing website at [www.rn.ca.gov](http://www.rn.ca.gov)

2. LVNs seeking the 30-Unit Option must submit proof of completion of an accredited LVN Program or Armed Services nursing courses deemed equivalent to the LVN level, a copy of a current LVN California license, and a signed Disclaimer Form indicating the requirements and limitations of the 30-Unit Option are understood.

3. The program requires students to complete eight (8) units of the prerequisite courses. All courses required for Option II must be completed with a GPA of 2.5 or better:
   - BIOL 092 Microbiology for Advanced Placement 4.0 units and may substitute BIOL 220 General Microbiology (5 u)
   - BIOL 206 Human Physiology * 4.0 units or
   - BIOL 202 Human Anatomy & Physiology II * (4 u)

   * Human Physiology cannot be substituted with Human Anatomy course and must be completed within 7 years.

4. Non-Associate Degree status: At the time of application, students must sign and submit a Disclaimer Form, which indicates full understanding of the requirements and limitations of this option. The student can apply for licensure only as a Non-Degree candidate. If successful on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), the student will become licensed as a RN by the Calif. Board of Registered Nursing; however, endorsement in other states may be questionable.

5. Nursing Program Admission requires the student to successfully pass:
   - **Background:** A criminal background check as a requirement of the clinical agencies and
   - **Drug Screen:** A drug screen as defined by the Nursing Program as a requirement of the clinical agencies and
   - **American Heart BLS/CPR certification:** must be current

6. Progression Policy
   - All nursing courses must be taken in sequence and must be completed with a "C" or better with skills and clinical experience courses receiving the equivalent of a 'C' or 'Satisfactory' or better to progress to the next level.

7. **Option II – Highly Recommended Courses:**
   - NURS 204 Nursing Transition
   - NURS 230 Nursing Trends
OPTION III - Generic Program
The LVN may choose the option of taking the entire Registered Nursing curriculum. Applicants are encouraged to consider Option I or Option II unless they have been away from nursing for a prolonged period and feel the need to consider this option.