

# RIVERSIDE CITY COLLEGE VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM



Revised  
2/10

## General Information

The Vocational Nursing (VN) Program requires 12 months of full-time or 24 months part-time study. Upon completion of this 51 unit program, the graduate is eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) for licensure as a Vocational Nurse in the state of California.

Each Fall semester, 40-60 candidates are accepted into the full-time program and 30 into the part-time program. Those applicants who are not accepted may reapply the following year. There is no waiting list. For dates of pre-nursing workshops, please call (951) 222-8405.

## Minimum Requirements for Eligibility

NOTE: Meeting minimum criteria for the program does not guarantee admission to the program.

1. The following must be met prior to the application deadlines. Please check with the Counseling Department to verify official high school and college transcripts are on file.
  - a. Admission to Riverside Community College District.
  - b. Graduation from an accredited high school or equivalent (G.E.D., High School Proficiency Examination, Associate degree or Bachelor's degree). Official up-to-date transcripts required.
  - c. A cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 ("C") in all college course work attempted.
  - d. Application to the VN Program submitted during the application period. Applications are on the RCC School of Nursing Website and are submitted to the Nursing Enrollment Technician during the application filing period. Students who wish to start the program in the fall must submit an application regardless of whether or not they have completed Nursing 50 and/or Anatomy and Physiology 10. **Note: No waiting list is maintained.** Therefore, a new application is necessary each year.
2. The following must be met in order to be considered for acceptance to the program.
  - a. Anatomy and Physiology 10 or Anatomy 2A & 2B or equivalent.
  - b. Nursing 50
  - c. 100% on VN Program Arithmetic Proficiency Exam. Exam will be administered to those accepted to the program, during Orientation Day.
  - d. Be at least 17 years of age (Section 2866a, VN Practice Act).
  - e. Submit copy of social security card.

Riverside Community College strongly encourages students to complete the entire series of Anatomy and Physiology at one school. This is due to the concern of possible missing components in curriculum when completed at separate colleges. Therefore, nursing applicants that have taken Anatomy and Physiology 2A and 2B at two separate colleges are required to receive approval for these courses by requesting a "Prerequisite Validation" form from the Counseling or Evaluations departments.

## New Admission Criteria

**There will be new admission criteria for the VN Program based on composite GPA in prerequisite courses. More specific information will be announced as soon as it is available.**

## Transcript Requirements

\***Transcripts are "Official"** when they are sent directly to RCC from the sending institution, or are hand-delivered by the student in a sealed envelope from the sending institution. Copies of transcripts/diplomas not accepted.

\*\***Transcripts are "Up-to-date"** when they are received by RCC no more than 90 days after the sending institution issued them, as verified by the date that the institution stamps on the transcript. If you need to request an official copy of your transcripts from other colleges previously attended, a Transcript Request form is available in the Transfer Career Center.

Transcripts that are not official and not up-to-date will be returned to the student. Please be aware that your transcripts will be purged after one year if you have never been enrolled at RCC, or if you have not been an RCC student for four years.

**Admission will be denied to an applicant who earned a grade of "C-" or less in a Vocational Nursing Program at another college.**

## Application Period:

The application period is in February. Check the Web site or e-mail [nursing@rcc.edu](mailto:nursing@rcc.edu) for exact dates.

PETITIONING STUDENTS: (Students applying to repeat a course or for transfer): year round

Please verify current application period dates with the School of Nursing Office at (951) 222-8405.

## Health Exam and CPR Certification

Students who have been awarded space in the VN Program will be required to submit the following: (1) CPR (AHA CPR for Healthcare Providers certification valid for the semester/intersession in which enrolled), (2) Completed health examination and immunization form.

## Background Check and Drug Screen

Effective Spring 2008, all new and readmitting students will be required to demonstrate a clear background check and drug screen prior to enrollment in clinical courses. The process for obtaining the background check and drug screen is available in the School of Nursing office.

## California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians: Legal Limitation of Licensure (BVNPTE, 24 November 1984)

Students applying to take the vocational nursing licensure examination are required to submit fingerprints and report convictions of any offenses other than minor traffic violations; failure to report such convictions would be grounds for denial of license. Any student having questions regarding his/her eligibility for licensure should contact:

Enforcement Coordinator  
Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians  
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95833 (916) 263-7800

**Citizenship and Immigration Status Verification Required for VN/RN Licensure**

The Federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act requires government agencies to eliminate “public benefits” to individuals who cannot provide proof of their legal status in the United States. “Public benefit” has been interpreted to include a license issued by a state. This means that all applicants for licensure as vocational/registered nurses will be required to submit verification of citizenship or legal residence status in the United States. A license may not be issued until legal status in the United States has been confirmed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

**Disclosure of Social Security Number**

If you fail to disclose your social security number, your application for initial or renewal license will not be processed.

**Fingerprint Requirement**

One requirement to qualify for the licensing examination is the submission of Live Scan fingerprints. These are evaluated by the California Department of Justice and the F.B.I.

**Point System**

A total of 130 points are possible. Selection for the VN program is COMPETITIVE, with 80% of spaces going to fully qualified applicants with the highest POINTS. The remaining 20% of spaces will be filled by random selection of qualified applicants. Applicants are awarded space in the program on the basis of ranking according to the following point system. (Total points possible = 130).

**Prerequisite Courses:** A&P 10 (or equivalent), Nursing 50 (60 POINTS POSSIBLE)

<u>GPA</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
2.0 - 2.09	0	3.1 - 3.19	33
2.1 - 2.19	3	3.2 - 3.29	36
2.2 - 2.29	6	3.3 - 3.39	39
2.3 - 2.39	9	3.4 - 3.49	42
2.4 - 2.49	12	3.5 - 3.59	45
2.5 - 2.59	15	3.6 - 3.69	48
2.6 - 2.69	18	3.7 - 3.79	51
2.7 - 2.79	21	3.8 - 3.89	54
2.8 - 2.89	24	3.9 - 3.99	57
2.9 - 2.99	27	4.0	60
3.0 - 3.09	30		

**Support Courses:**

60 POINTS POSSIBLE

Applicants who have completed courses listed below by the end of the spring semester will earn for each course, 5 points for an “A,” 3 points for a “B,” and 1 point for a “C.”

Speech 1 or 9	English 1A
Microbiology 1	<b>Psychology 9</b> (birth through old age)- <b>Recommended prior to entrance into the VN Program</b>
* Chemistry 1A or 2A	Math 52 or higher
Medical Terminology 1A, 1B	Sociology 1 or Anthropology 2
Humanities (See College Catalog)	American Institutions (See College Catalog)
Analytical Thinking (see College Catalog)	

\* Chemistry 1A or 2A or verification of one year of high school chemistry with a “C” or better the last semester AND satisfactory score on RCC Chemistry Placement Exam OR score of 3, 4, or 5 on AP Chemistry Exam. **Students who have already completed Microbiology may waive the RCC Chemistry Placement Exam requirement only.**

**Qualified Application**

5 POINTS POSSIBLE

Five points ONCE ONLY will be given to applicants who met all of the admission criteria by the end of the winter intersession.

**CNA Certificate**

5 POINTS POSSIBLE

Five points will be given to applicants with a current CNA certificate.

**Spring or Summer**

Anatomy & Physiology 10	3
Nursing 50	<u>2</u>
	5

**Fall**

Nursing 51	3
Nursing 52	9.5
Nursing 60	1
Psychology 9 (birth through old age)	<u>3</u>
	16.5

**Winter**

Nursing 61	<u>6</u>
	6

**Spring**

Nursing 62	12
Nursing 63	<u>3</u>
	15

**Summer**

Nursing 70	1
Nursing 71	<u>7.5</u>
	8.5

**Program**  
**Total = 51 units**

A minimum grade of “C” in each course is required in order to continue in the VN Program.

The VN Program is a certificate program. Students wishing to complete an Associate in Science Degree may do so by completing the requirements for the certificate, plus completion of the graduation requirements as described in the catalog, totaling a minimum of 60 units of college work as required for the A. S. degree.

**Estimated Expenses**

RCC enrollment	
Fees	\$1020
Parking fee	\$100-\$200
Health fee	\$30-\$60
Student Services fee	\$30-\$60
Uniform	\$250
Books and Supplies	\$800
Health examination and immunizations	\$250
Background check/Drug screen	\$150

**Additional Expenses**

Stethoscope (minimum)	\$15
Watch - accurate to seconds	\$15
Workshop fees	varies
Additional required materials	varies
Pocket calculator	\$5
NCLEX-PN Application, including fingerprints and fees	\$145
Pinning ceremony (class dues, pin, uniform, pictures)	varies

**Total Approximate Cost \$3,000**

When planning expenses, students should be aware they may have to limit their hours of employment due to extensive VN Program requirements. Scholarships and grants are available to those students who qualify.

Students are encouraged to carry health and accident insurance, including hospitalization, beyond the coverage provided by the student health fee. Such policies are available to college students at reasonable rates. The college provides liability insurance at no cost to nursing students.

Students will be responsible for their own transportation to and from RCC and hospital facilities.

For additional information please contact: School of Nursing at (951) 222-8405

Riverside City Campus  
4800 Magnolia Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92506

Web site: <http://www.rcc.edu/academicprograms/nursing>

Riverside Community College District is in compliance with all laws relating to prohibitions of discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, color, national origin, religion or handicap.