VOCATIONAL NURSING (VN) INFORMATION SHEET

General Information

The Vocational Nursing (VN) program is approved by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT) and fffective January 28, 2021, the practical nursing program at Riverside City College located in Riverside, California is a candidate for initial accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. This candidacy status expires on January 27, 2023. Contact information for the BVNPT is 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833 (916) 263-7800. Contact information for the ACEN is 3390 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326 or call (404) 975-5000.

The VN program requires 12 months of full-time study. Applicants who have met all RCC general education requirements are eligible to earn an Associate of Science Degree (ADN) in Vocational Nursing (VN) upon completion of the VN program. Applicants who have not met all RCC general education requirements are eligible to earn a Certificate of Achievement upon completion of the VN program. The ADN (VN) program requires completion of 67-68 units which includes general education, prerequisites, and vocational nursing coursework. The VN Certificate program requires completion of 51-units of prequisite and vocational nursing coursework. The VN program 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 up to 40-70 candidates are accepted into the program. Those applicants who are not accepted must reapply the following year. There is no wait list for the VN program.

For more information and a listing of Pre-Nursing Workshops, contact us at (951) 222-8407 or visit the Health-Related Sciences Engagement Center website. You may also contact RCC Counseling at (951) 222-8440.

Application to the School of Nursing:

Students applying to the School of Nursing (SON) must have all eligibility and prerequisite requirements completed or in progress at the time of application. General education courses are encouraged to be completed prior to program entrance. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that **ALL** official up-to-date transcripts and other necessary documentation have been received by Riverside City College (RCC) at the time of application.

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

2. Foreign transcripts must have a *Detailed Evaluation* and must be submitted by the application deadline. Information can be obtained from the Counseling Office.

3. Students with prerequisite courses in progress must turn in a grade verification form to the SON office as soon as the final grade is available.

4. Students must have applied to RCC prior to submitting an application to the VN program.

5. Meeting minimum requirements of the program does not guarantee admission into the program.

Application Filing Period

The application filing period for the VN program is the first business day in February to the first business day of March. Check the Nursing **website** or e-mail **nursing@rcc.edu** for exact dates.

PETITIONING STUDENTS: (Students applying for readmission or for transfer): Year round.

Applications may be obtained at the Nursing website during the application filing periods. Applications are submitted electronically through the link provided. Please verify the current application filing period dates on the Nursing website or contact the School of Nursing at (951) 222-8407.

Requirements for Eligibility and Prerequisite Courses:

1. Complete an RCC application on CCCApply and be eligible to attend RCC.

2. 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.

3. A cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 ("C") in all college course work attempted.

4. Be at least 17 years of age (Section 2866a, VN Nursing Practice Act).

5. Meeting minimum eligibility criteria for the program does not guarantee admission to the program.

6. **Prerequisite Courses (11 units):**

   a. Biology 45 or Biology 50A and 50B or equivalent.
   b. Nursing 55A/B
   c. Psychology 9

7. **CNA certificate**

   a. An *Active* CNA certificate is required at the time of application for all VN program applicants.
   b. Students admitted to the VN program must maintain and keep their CNA certificate *Active* and verifiable throughout the program.
   c. Please see the *RCC Nursing Assistant Training Program Information Sheet* for information.

Anatomy and Physiology Requirement

RCC 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. Nursing applicants that have taken Anatomy and Physiology at two separate colleges are required to receive approval for these courses by requesting a *Request for Equivalencies and Substitutions* form from the Counseling or Evaluations departments.

Selection Procedure

Selection for the VN program is decided by random selection of qualified applicants. RCC reserves the right to designate a certain number of spaces for contract agreements and/or to meet grant-designated outcomes.

For specific information regarding the SON selection criteria, please see the *SON Enrollment Committee Policy and Procedure Manual.*

If a student is not offered a space in the program, a new application is necessary in the next application period. The SON has no wait list.

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, please visit the Transfer Student website. Transcripts that are not official and not considered *Up-to-Date* will be returned to the student, and will result in a lower priority status. 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.

Additional General Education Requirements (for Associate Degree in Vocational Nursing only) (16-17 units)

The following general education courses are not required for admission to the VN program; rather, they are required for the completion of the ADN (VN) degree. Most students complete these requirements before entering the VN program due to the rigorous course load. The courses listed below are not required to earn a Certificate of Achievement

___ English Composition: **English 1A or 1AH**   **4**
___ American Institutions: **(History 6 or 6H, 7 or 7H, 8, 9, 15, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 53; Political Science 1 or 1H or 5)**   **3**
___ Communication and Analytical Thinking: **(Communication 1 or 9 plus Math 12/12H or Psy/Soc 48)**   **6-7**
___ Humanities: **HUM 10 or 10H or PHI 10 or 10H or THE 3**   **3**
___ Competency: **Students must demonstrate competence in mathematics, reading and English for graduation**   **0-5**

(16-17)

**Please see the *RCC College Catalog* for the most current information.

NOTE: A grade of "C" or better is required in all general education courses used to fulfill requirements for the Associate Degree in Nursing.

Required Prerequisite and Nursing Courses (51 units)

Spring		Fall		Winter	
Biology 45	3	Nursing 52	9.5	Nursing 61	6
Nursing 55A/B	5	Nursing 60	1		6 units
Psychology 9	3		10.5 units		
	11 units				

Spring		Summer	
Nursing 62	12	Nursing 70	1
Nursing 63	3	Nursing 71	7.5
	15 units		8.5 units

*A minimum grade of "C" (75%) in each course is required in order to progress in the VN Program.

Recommended Electives During Program

It is highly recommended that all nursing students enroll in a Nursing Learning Lab (A, B and/or C course) each semester. These electives provide opportunities for additional self-paced practice and mastery of nursing skills. Instructional guidance and computer assisted materials which support semester student learning outcomes are also available.

Expenses (per year)

1. Students pay Health Services ($25), parking ($150), Student Services Fees ($30) and tuition ($46) per unit each semester. The cost is approximately $2,000.00 for 12 months.

2. Students furnish their own uniforms. The cost is approximately $250.

3. The costs of nursing books, supply bag, iPad, testing platform and other required supplies are approximately $1,900 for a year.

4. Physical examination/lab work costs are approximately $98 - $600.

5. Background checks/CPR costs approximately $220.

6. It is recommended that students carry personal health and accident insurance including hospitalization. Policies are available to college students at reasonable rates. The college provides liability insurance at no cost to the student.

7. Students are required to purchase Kaplan Test Prep review program for use during the program. Estimated cost is $400.00.

When planning expenses, students should be aware they may have to limit their hours of employment due to the rigor required for the VN program. Scholarships and grants are available to those students who qualify.

Health Exam and CPR Certification

Students will be admitted to the program pending submission of a CPR card (American Heart Association BLS Healthcare Provider Course) that is valid for 2 years, required immunizations, and a completed health examination form with clearance permitting unrestricted functional abilities essential to nursing practice in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (1990). A completed immunization record, health examination, and CPR certification are not required at the time of application.

Background Check and Drug Screen

All new and readmitting students are required to demonstrate a clear background check and drug screen prior to enrollment in the ADN (RN) program. See the *Background Check/Drug Screen* policy in the *SON Enrollment Committee Policy and Procedure Manual* for further details. The background check requires that students be able to provide a valid social security number. The process for obtaining the background check is available in the School of Nursing office.

California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians:

Legal Limitation of Licensure (BVNPT)
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 US. *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 US. A license will not be issued until legal status in the US has been confirmed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Disclosure of Social Security Number/Tax ID Number

If you fail to disclose your social security number or tax ID 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 FBI.

The Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees has adopted policies and procedures and has endorsed practices which provide for the District and its employees and students to be in compliance with all the applicable laws relating to prohibition of discrimination on the basis of gender, age, race, color, national origin, religion, disability or sexual orientation.