



Associate Degree in Nursing Application Information 2026-2027

The Northwest College Associate Degree Nursing Program is approved by:



The Northwest College Nursing Program at Northwest College, located in Powell, WY, is accredited by the following:



Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at <http://www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm>

www.acenursing.org

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate Degree Nursing program is Continuing Accreditation.

Northwest College does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or veteran status in its programs and activities. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and Institution (EOE/EOI). Student inquiries concerning disability services shall be directed to the Disability Support Services Coordinator, Student Success Center, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 1, Powell, WY 82435-1860; 307.754.6227. All other compliance inquiries shall be directed to the Compliance Officer, Orendorff Building, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 1, Powell, WY 82435-1895; 307.754.6098, or the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Building, 1244 Speer Blvd. #310, Denver, CO 80204-3582; 303.844.5695; FAX: 303.844.4303; TDD: 800.877.8339; OCR.Denver@ed.gov. Title IX inquiries: Title IX Coordinator, Orendorff Building, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 1, Powell, WY 82435-1895; 307.754.6159; Title9@nwc.edu.

Associate Degree Nursing Program at Northwest College

Thank you for your interest in the Associate Degree Nursing Program at Northwest College. After completing this program, students earn an associate degree in nursing and are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN exam in Wyoming. Upon licensure, graduates can practice as an RN in Wyoming. For exam-by-licensure or endorsement licensure in other states, please see our website and the appropriate state regulatory agency for more information on eligibility.

The Northwest College Nursing Program offers both Hybrid and Traditional face-to-face cohorts.

- The Northwest College Hybrid RN Program consists of online coursework, face-to-face labs on the NWC campus in Powell, and face-to-face clinical experiences in the NWC service area (Park County, Big Horn County, and Washakie County). Students admitted to the Hybrid RN Program must have their own transportation, be willing and able to drive to the NWC Nursing lab and simulation in Powell, WY, and to clinical locations within the NWC service area, and be physically present to participate as the clinical schedule directs for the duration of the program. Students applying to the Hybrid RN Program must also attest to their online learning experience and acknowledge access to and availability of a computer for the duration of the program as part of the application to assess readiness for online learning.
- The Northwest College Traditional RN Program is entirely face-to-face, requiring physical presence in the classroom as scheduled throughout the semester. Students are expected to be physically present on the Northwest College campus in Powell or at outlying clinical facilities within the NWC service area, as directed by the course and clinical schedule, for the duration of the program.

Based on seat availability, there are two entry points to the Associate Degree Nursing Program:

- The beginning of each cohort (Fall for Traditional and Spring for Hybrid) or
- At the midpoint between the 2nd and 3rd semesters for LPNs or transfer students (Spring for Hybrid and Fall for Traditional).

Regardless of the program's hybrid or traditional delivery method, the Northwest College Nursing Program uses various technologies to support student learning. Computers are used extensively, and students must understand that computer literacy is imperative.

Regardless of entry point or delivery method, all students must undergo a background check and an entrance drug screen and meet technical and physical requirements as part of a two-tiered admission and entry process.

Students interested in becoming an RN must apply to Northwest College and be accepted by the college before applying to the nursing program. The application portal for the Hybrid RN Program opens on September 1st and closes on the first Friday in November. The application portal for the Traditional RN Program opens on January 15th and closes on the first Friday in March each year. Application portals and application packets are available online at www.nwc.edu/nursing.

This packet contains the Admission Criteria for the Associate Degree Nursing Program (RN). All applications are reviewed by the Nursing Program Director and faculty after the submission deadline. Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Please read the instructions in this packet and contact us if you have any questions. Best wishes as you prepare to apply to the nursing program.

Beginning program entry point:

One entry point is at the beginning of the RN program for new students, re-entry students who have not completed their first and second semesters at Northwest College or another Wyoming community college nursing program, or transfer students whose curriculum does not align with the Northwest College concept-based curriculum design. Entry for the Traditional Program is each August, and entry for the Hybrid Program is each January.

To be considered for admission to the nursing program, a completed application must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m. on the first Friday in March for the Traditional Program or the first Friday in November for the Hybrid Program.

Student Selection Process

- **Current Lab Science requirement:** Students must satisfactorily complete a science course with a 'C' or higher that includes a lab component within five years of application.
- **Current MATH 1000 or 1400 courses, or higher level of math course (except MATH 1500 & MATH 2120) completion with a 'C' or greater within the last five years.** If a math course is older than five years, a math placement score that is no older than one year from the date of the test result to the application deadline date indicating placement/ready to enroll in MATH 1000: Accuplacer "Elementary Algebra" 55-84, Compass, "Algebra Domain" 40-65, or ALEKS cut score of 30-45.
- **Students have completed all the pre-requisite courses:** Students must satisfactorily complete English I: Introduction to Composition (ENGL 1010), Biology (BIOL 1010) with lab, and Anatomy and Physiology I with lab (ZOO 2010) with a 'C' or higher within three attempts. The Nursing First-Year Seminar course is required if the student has fewer than 30 credits.
- **Students completed the TEAS test** within one year and met the National Programmatic Mean score minimum of 67.1.
- **Students have met the cumulative GPA requirement of 2.7** on pre-requisite courses within the program of study.
- **Students have applied to NWC or are active and have submitted official transcripts to the Registrar's Office.**
- **Students have submitted a complete online application** by the appropriate deadline.

Students who have satisfactorily completed all the bullet items above will be ranked for admission consideration to the program. Students currently enrolled in a prerequisite course are encouraged to apply but will automatically be placed on a waitlist. The waitlist is accessed according to rank until all incoming seats are filled. Therefore, students on the waitlist may be contacted at any time before the semester to fill unexpected openings in the next incoming cohort. If selected for entry into the program, students must complete the course(s) for the Nursing Department with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Once the application deadline has passed, the nursing faculty and the Nursing Program Director rank applicants based on GPA and TEAS exam results. Top-ranked students will receive a letter outlining the final steps for entry, which include a clear drug screen, a successful background check, clinical compliance documents, and signed technical/physical requirement documents. Any student who fails the entrance drug screen or has a criminal history that would prevent them from participating in clinical experiences or from becoming licensed as an RN will not be permitted to enter the program.

Once the entrance steps are completed satisfactorily by the deadlines outlined by the nursing program, students will receive a formal letter notifying them of their official admission to the program. At that point, enrollment in the appropriate courses corresponding to their course of study will be initiated.

Midpoint program entry:

The second point of entry for the RN program is at the midpoint (between the 2nd and 3rd semesters) for Advanced Placement (LPNs who want to be RNs) students, re-entering nursing students who have completed the first and second semesters of the Northwest College nursing program or another Wyoming

community college nursing program, or transfer students whose curriculum aligns with the Northwest College Nursing program's concept-based curriculum.

To be considered for midpoint admission to the nursing program, a completed application must be submitted online by the first Friday in March for the traditional program or the first Friday in November for the hybrid program.

Student Selection Process

- **Current Lab Science requirement:** Students must satisfactorily complete a science course with a 'C' or higher that includes a lab component within five years of application.
- **Current MATH 1000 or 1400 courses or higher level of math (except for MATH 1500 or MATH 2120) completion with a 'C' or greater within the last five years.** If a math course is older than five years, a math placement score that is no older than one year from the date of the test result to the application deadline date indicating placement/ready to enroll in MATH 1000: Accuplacer "Elementary Algebra" 55-84, Compass, "Algebra Domain" 40-65, or ALEKS cut score of 30-45.
- **Students have completed all the pre-requisite courses:** Students must satisfactorily complete English I: Introduction to Composition (ENGL 1010), Biology (BIOL 1010) with lab, and Anatomy and Physiology I with lab (ZOO 2010) with a 'C' or higher within three attempts. The Nursing First-Year Seminar course is required if the total number of credits is under 30.
- **Students have completed all the coursework equal to the first two semesters of the ADN program:** Anatomy and Physiology II (ZOO 2020) and General Psychology (PSYC 1000) with a 'C' or higher within three attempts.
- **Non-LPN students have completed the TEAS test** within one year and met the National Programmatic Mean score minimum of 67.1, or if a **licensed LPN, the HESI test** within one year and met the NWC program benchmark of 850.
- **Students have met the cumulative GPA requirement of 2.7** on all courses, including the prerequisites, through the second semester of the nursing program.
- **Students who have applied to NWC** (if not a current NWC student)
- **Students have submitted all official transcripts** to the Registrar's office.
- **The student is in good standing** with NWC and the nursing department or transfer institution.
- **Students have submitted a complete online application** by the appropriate deadline.
- **A Satisfactory Clinical Skills Check-off is scheduled before entry. The skill check-off and retesting process will follow the handbook's description of "Skill Demonstration."** If a student cannot pass the clinical skills check-off satisfactorily after the third attempt, the student will no longer be eligible to progress as an advanced placement student with mid-point entry admission. The unsuccessful student will be referred to the admission process for entry at the beginning of the program.

Once the application deadline has passed, the mid-point applicants are ranked by the nursing faculty and the Nursing Program Director using GPA and TEAS/HESI exam results. Based on seat availability, top-ranked students will receive a letter outlining the final steps for entry, including a clear drug screen, a successful background check, clinical compliance documents, and signed technical/physical requirement documents. Any student who fails the entrance drug screen or has a criminal history that would prevent them from participating in clinical experiences or from becoming licensed as an RN will not be permitted to enter the program.

Once the entrance steps are completed satisfactorily within the deadlines set by the nursing program, students will receive a formal letter notifying them of their official entry into the program. At that point, enrollment in the appropriate courses for their course of study will be initiated.

TEAS INFORMATION

The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is required for the NWC Associate Degree Nursing Program. The TEAS measures essential skills in the academic content areas of reading, mathematics, science, and English/language usage. It is taken online. The test is intended primarily for adult nursing program applicants. The objectives assessed

are those that nurse educators deem most appropriate and relevant for measuring the entry-level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants. The Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI) administers the TEAS exam.

If you want to take the TEAS, call Carri Dobbins at 307-754-6257 to schedule a time. Students should schedule the test early, as their preferred test time may fill up.

The minimum score for the TEAS is 67.1, and it can be taken twice per application period. If the minimum score is attained, the highest score will be accepted. Scores used for admission must be obtained within the year. Students with special needs who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Student Success Center's Disability Support Service Coordinator for testing accommodations.

To prepare for the test, you may consider purchasing review resources on the ATI website at www.atitesting.com. Study guides are also available at the NWC Hinckley Library on 24-hour reserve. The test is computerized and takes 3-4 hours. You must arrive at the testing site 15 minutes early and wear comfortable clothing that accommodates a variety of room temperatures. Payment is made during the testing session and is collected online through ATI by debit or credit card. You must present a photo ID when you take the test.

The test results are available immediately upon completion. The nursing department does not receive a copy of your TEAS test score. You must upload a copy of your test results to the online application.

HESI LPN-TO-RN ENTRANCE EXAM INFORMATION

This is a 75-item comprehensive exam for Licensed Practical Nurses seeking admission to the LPN-to-ADN program option. It identifies strengths and weaknesses in the PN content areas of Fundamentals, Pediatric Nursing, Maternity, Professional Issues, Medical-Surgical, and Psychiatric/Mental Illness.

The minimum score is 850, and the HESI test can be taken twice per application. If the minimum score is attained, the highest score will be accepted. Scores used for admission must be obtained within the past year. Students with special needs who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the Student Success Center's Disability Support Service Coordinator for testing accommodations.

If you want to take the TEAS test, call Carri Dobbins at 307-754-6257 to schedule it. Students should prepare and schedule the test early, as their desired test time may fill.

To prepare for the test, consider purchasing review resources on the ATI website at <https://evolve.elsevier.com/education/hesi/nursing-lpn-lvn/>. Study guides are also available at the NWC Hinckley Library on a 24-hour reserve. The test is computerized and takes 3-4 hours. You must arrive at the testing site 15 minutes early and wear comfortable clothing that accommodates a variety of room temperatures. Payment is made during the testing session and collected online through Elsevier using a debit or credit card. You must present a photo ID when you take the test. Test results are available immediately upon completion. The nursing department does not receive a copy of your HESI score. You must upload a copy of your test results to the online application.

APPROXIMATE BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

Approximate Pre-Entrance Costs - \$265

**Background check, drug test, physical, and immunizations

FIRST YEAR		SECOND YEAR	
Uniforms/Equipment			
2 Uniforms	\$ 160.00		
Black Lab Coat (opt)	\$ 65.00		
White or Black Shoes	\$ 65.00		
Bandage Scissors	\$ 6.00		
Safety Glasses	\$ 10.00		
Watch	\$ 25.00		
TOTAL	\$ 331.00		
Tuition/Fees/Books		Tuition/Fees/Books	
Course Fees (includes ATI)	\$ 764.00	Course Fees (Includes ATI)	\$ 671.00
College Tuition (In-State Resident) for 15.0 credits	\$ 2,442.00	College Tuition (In-State Resident) for 15.0 credits	\$ 2,442.00
Learning Resources (Textbooks & Products)	\$ 1,950.00	Learning Resources (Textbooks and Products)	\$1500.00
TOTAL	\$5,156.00	TOTAL	\$ 4613.00
Misc. Costs		Misc. Costs	
Travel/Lodging (To/from clinical for two semesters)	\$ 1000.00*	Travel/Lodging (To/from clinical for two semesters)	\$ 1000.00*
TOTAL	\$ 1000.00	TOTAL	\$ 1000.00
Room/Board	\$ 3,370.00**	Room/Board	\$ 3,370.00**
APPROXIMATE COST 1ST YEAR		APPROXIMATE COST 2ND YEAR	
Without Room/Board	\$ 6,887.00	Without Room/Board	\$ 5613.00
With Room/Board	\$ 10,257.00	With Room/Board	\$ 8,983.00

**Students must be willing and able to physically present on the NWC Powell campus and in the NWC service area to participate in the required clinical assignments. Students must provide transportation to the NWC campus in Powell for face-to-face labs and simulation and between the clinical facilities, including, but not limited to, Powell, Worland, Lovell, Basin, Cody, and Greybull.*

*** Room & Board cost varies depending on room selection and meal plan. The amount shown is for a Double Room with a Trapper Meal Plan.*