



## **LVN to ADN Transition Program ADVISORY PACKET**

The LVN to ADN Transition Program will hold information sessions prior to each application period. Dates will be listed on the TSTC website. These sessions will provide information on the application process and requirements for entrance to the LVN to ADN Transition Program. This program will prepare students who are currently LVNs with the basic competencies to become safe practitioners in the advanced healthcare field.

The LVN to ADN Transition Program will prepare students with the basic competencies to become safe practitioners in the healthcare field. Upon successful completion of the Associate of Applied Science major in Associate Degree Nursing, the graduate will be able to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a registered nurse and can work in hospitals, day-surgery centers, rehabilitation centers, physicians' offices, and home health care agencies, among other areas.

The LVN to ADN Transition Program is a highly selective program. The selection process is based on a competitive point system evaluation. Selection criteria are used to assess the applicant's score. Please refer to <https://www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing/> for the information session dates, HESI testing information, and deadlines.

This program is a HYBRID program which means the program combines elements of online learning and in-person instruction. Skills, simulation lab, and clinical experiences are face-to-face, while 'classroom' work is online.

An application link will be given to you after attending a mandatory information session. Information sessions are conducted via Google Meet or in-person (depending on campus).

## APPLICATION / ADMISSION PROCESS

### Requirements prior to applying to the LVN to ADN Transition Program

- Apply for general admission to TSTC. TSTC maintains an open admission policy. Admission to the college does not guarantee admission to all programs. Admissions to some TSTC programs have specific requirements.
- May require an official copy of high school transcript and transcripts from other colleges.
- Apply for Financial Aid if applicable.
- A current, active LVN License with no restrictions must be held and kept current for the entirety of the program.
- All prerequisite courses must either be completed or in progress at the time of application.
  - Courses in progress during the semester of application must be approved by the program director and must be completed by the first day of class. A letter from the instructor of the course(s) must be submitted with the application indicating the current status and grade.
  - A final grade for the course must be submitted as soon as grades are posted.
  - **ALL SCIENCES MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE PAST 10 (TEN) YEARS**
  - **Grades below a C are transferable into TSTC, but are not accepted for application to the nursing program. All prerequisites for the nursing program must be a C or better.**

### REQUIRED PREREQUISITES

The 7 prerequisite courses are listed below:

1. BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I (OR BIOL 2301 Anatomy & Physiology I AND BIOL 2101 Anatomy & Physiology I)\*
2. BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II (OR BIOL 2302 Anatomy & Physiology II AND BIOL 2102 Anatomy & Physiology II)\*
3. BIOL 2420 Microbiology for Non-Science Majors OR BIOL 2320 Microbiology for Non-Science Majors AND BIOL 2120 Microbiology for Non-Science Majors\*
4. ENGL 1301 Composition I
5. PSYC 2301 General Psychology
6. PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth and Development
7. ACGM X3XX Humanities or Fine Arts elective (see list below)

\*Science courses cannot be older than 10 years\*

## Courses eligible for Humanities-Fine Arts credit:

ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation	ENGL 2321 British Literature
ARTS 1303 Art History I	ENGL 2322 British Literature I
ARTS 1304 Art History II	ENGL 2326 Scripture I
ARTS 1316 Drawing 1	ENGL 2307 Creative Writing I
ARTS 1313 Foundations of Art	ENGL 2331 World Literature
ARTS 2316 Painting 1	ENGL 2341 Forms of Literature
HUMA 1301 Introduction to Humanities	PHIL 1301 Intro to Philosophy
HUMA 1302 Introduction to Humanities II	PHIL 1304 Introduction to World Religions
HUMA 2323 World Cultures	PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics
MUSI 1306 Music Appreciation	

## Application Requirements

- Applicants must attend an LVN to ADN Transition Program information session via Google Meet (see website for dates and times for the information sessions).
- Applicants must take the HESI LPN-ADN Entrance (Mobility) Exam and meet the required score of at least 850. If a score of 850 is not met, the test may be taken again for a higher score. The exam can be taken three times in a testing period. **Submit proof of the higher score.** The test must be taken in accordance with TSTC guidelines.
  - To prepare for this exam, please study the HESI Comprehensive NCLEX-LPN Examination Study Guide.
- Complete all health requirements (Immunizations). A medical attestation indicating your physical ability to meet the requirements for a nurse must be completed. Health requirements including immunizations must be recorded in the application and must be current.
- Applications will be submitted online. A link will be provided to you after attending the mandatory information session.
- All required copies of documents must be submitted with the application.

## SELECTION PROCESS:

- The selection process is based on a competitive point system evaluation. Selection criteria are used to assess the applicant's score. Points are given for the following criteria:
- **HESI Exam Scores**
  - >1000 = 20 points
  - 951-1000 = 15 points
  - 901-950 = 10 points
  - 850-900 = 5 points
- **Other Certification**
  - Paramedic = 3 points
  - Resp Therapist = 3 points
  - Advanced EMT = 2 points
  - EMT = 1 point
- **Years of work experience**
  - >5 years = 3 points
  - 3-5 years = 2 points
  - 7mo.-2 years = 1 point
  - No exp.- 6mo. = 0 points
- **Areas of work experience**
  - Acute Care = 5 points
  - Skilled Nsg = 4 points
  - PDN/HH = 3 points
  - Clinic/School = 2 points
  - Non-pt care = 1 point
  - No exp. = 0 points
- **TSTC VN Graduate**
  - Within 3 years = 20 points
  - Over 3 years = 0 points
- **Early Applications-submitted by:**
  - End of May '24 =5 points
  - End of June '24 =3 points
- **For all prerequisites, points will be given based on the letter grade received.**
  - A=4 points
  - B=3 points
  - C=2 points
  - In Progress=1 point
- Students with the highest points will be accepted into the program based upon the number of available spots in the cohort.
- Decisions are ultimately made by the LVN to ADN Transition Program Admission Committee and confirmed by the Program Chair and may not be appealed.
- Students not admitted are free to reapply in the following application enrollment period.

## **Notification of Application Status**

Applicants must have submitted all required application documents. Qualified applicants are ranked from highest to lowest points. Applicants with the highest points will be accepted into the program based upon the number of available spots in the cohort. Applicants must officially accept admission to the program on or before the indicated date.

Admitted students and alternates must attend a mandatory orientation.

## **Criminal Background Checks**

Students who have accepted a position in the LVN to ADN Transition Program will have their names submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing for clearance into the program. A blue card, letter of clearance, or a letter of denial will be sent to the student from the Board which must be turned in to the Program Director or program secretary.

The student may be required to complete fingerprint clearance and L1 criminal history check for the Texas Board of Nursing. Students will be notified by the Texas Board of Nursing directly. Registered nurse license eligibility is determined through a DPS/FBI criminal history background check completed through the Texas Board of Nursing. Information relating to the criminal history and declaratory order (DO) process is available on the Texas Board of Nursing website:

[http://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure\\_eligibility.asp](http://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure_eligibility.asp).

**It is highly recommended to initiate the DO process at the time of your application if there is anything in your background that may show up as a criminal matter in the background check, even if adjudicated or expunged and it happened many years ago.**

## **Drug screens**

Drug screening is arranged through the nursing program. The program can request initial, random, and for-cause drug screening. Cost for drug screening will be the responsibility of the student.

## **Alternates**

Should any of the admitted applicants decline admission, an alternate will be offered a spot in the program. Alternates are selected from the next highest scores in the pool of qualified applicants.

## **Denied Applicants**

Upon the denied applicant's request, further consultation can be held with the Program Director.

## LVN to ADN Transition Program Estimated Costs

ITEM	ESTIMATED COST
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	
Drug Screen (Have \$\$ available)	\$20
TSTC-HGN Tuition/Fees	\$3,684
Elsevier 360 Package (books, virtual programs, HESI)	\$1,133
Supply Kit for Lab	\$213
Uniform patches	\$40
Uniforms (approx cost)	\$175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,265</b>
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	
TSTC-HGN Tuition/Fees	\$3,684
Elsevier 360 Package (books, virtual programs, HESI)	\$1,133
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,817</b>
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>	
TSTC-HGN Tuition/Fees	\$3,684
Elsevier 360 Package (books, virtual programs, HESI)	\$1,133
PearsonVue NCLEX-RN Exam Fee (Not paid to TSTC)	\$200
Texas Board of Nursing Licensing Fee (Not paid to TSTC)	\$75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,092</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,174</b>

\*These fees are estimates for your information only. They may increase or decrease based upon the cost at the time of registration. These fees are the student's responsibility.

<b>TSTC HARLINGEN LVN-RN COURSE SEQUENCING CALENDAR</b>							
<b>Semester 1</b>							
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Type</b>	<b>Weekly Lecture Hours</b>	<b>Weekly Lab Hours</b>	<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
RNSG	1210	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	Academic	2	0	32	2
RNSG	1227	Transition to Professional Nursing	Academic	1	3	64	2
RNSG	1261	Clinical-Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	Academic	0	CL-8	128	2
RNSG	1300	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	Academic	2	2	64	3
RNSG	1301	Pharmacology	Academic	2	2	64	3
		<b>Totals</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>L-7 CL-8</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Semester 2</b>							
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Type</b>	<b>Weekly Lecture Hours</b>	<b>Weekly Lab Hours</b>	<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
RNSG	1343	Complex Concepts of Adult Health	Academic	2	2	64	3
RNSG	2162	Clinical-Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	Academic	0	CL6	96	1
RNSG	2262	Clinical-Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	Academic	0	CL9	144	2
RNSG	1412	Nursing Care of the Childbearing and Childrearing Family	Academic	3	2	80	4
RNSG	2213	Mental Health Nursing	Academic	1	3	64	2
		<b>Totals</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>L-7 CL-15</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Semester 3</b>							
<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Type</b>	<b>Weekly Lecture Hours</b>	<b>Weekly Lab Hours</b>	<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
RNSG	1463	Clinical-Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse	Academic	0	CL12	192	4
RNSG	2221	Professional Nursing-Leadership and Management	Academic	2	0	32	2
RNSG	2230	Professional Nursing and Licensure Preparation	Academic	1	2	48	2
RNSG	1207	OR Nursing Jurisprudence	Academic				
RNSG	2432	Enhanced Concepts of Adult Health	Academic	3	2	80	4
		<b>Totals</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>L-4 CL-12</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>12</b>
		<b>TOTAL FOR PROGRAM</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>LAB 18 CL 35</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>36</b>

## KEY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Must be licensed as an LVN (Licensed Vocational Nurse) in U.S. in good standing prior to entrance.

Complete on-line application packet: link will be given after attending the mandatory information session.

Documentation of *HESI LPN to ADN Exam Scores*; indicating at least the minimum proficiency score of 850.

Must be 18 years old + admitted into TSTC Harlingen.

Meet all college and program requirements.

Completion of all prerequisite courses:

- BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I OR BIOL 2301 and BIOL 2101\*
- BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II OR BIOL 2302 and BIOL 2102\*
- BIOL 2420 Microbiology for Non-Science Majors OR BIOL 2320 and BIOL 2120\*
- ENGL 1301 Composition I
- PSYC 2301 General Psychology
- PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth and Development
- ACGM X3XX Humanities or Fine Arts Elective

\*Sciences must not be older than 10 years.

Identification Documents submitted in the online application (all names on each document must match):

- Copy of Driver's License or State issued ID (non-expired)
- Copy of Social Security Card
- Copy of CPR Card from American Heart Association- BLS for Healthcare Provider only
- A print out of a valid LVN license from the Texas Board of Nursing Website
- Photo: 2"x2" color picture of student

Proof of all required immunizations (documentation must be signed by a physician or associate). Titer testing will be accepted for MMR, HEP B, and Varicella vaccinations.

- Hepatitis B (x3)
- Tetanus Booster within 10 years
- Varicella (if you have had chickenpox, you will need to submit a titer)
- Bacterial Meningococcal vaccination if under age 22
- Covid Vaccine #1 and #2 (required by clinical facilities, not TSTC)
- Seasonal influenza vaccination (current flu season)
- TB results (must be less than a year old throughout program)
  - If chest x-ray is needed, it must be within 5 years

Proof of current medical/health insurance should be uploaded in application.

Transcripts (may be unofficial transcripts for nursing program application):

- Vocational Nursing program transcripts
- All colleges or universities attended, including TSTC

**Admissions must have possession of all official transcripts when a student applies to TSTC.**

**If a course is in progress, it is the responsibility of the applicant to have a new official transcript sent to TSTC.**

If course numbers of non-nursing courses do not match those required on the curriculum plan, the student must submit a photocopy of the course description for each course not matching to the LVN to ADN Transition Program Director. Decisions to accept these classes will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Three (3) letters of recommendation from non- family members. (Email reference letters should be professional in nature.)

- 1 professional
- 1 personal
- 1 from the supervisor of the current or most recent employer (indicating employment status, length of employment, and type of clinical experience).

Must meet all Texas Board of Nursing licensure eligibility rules.

Must have reliable transportation to and from clinical sites & family/employer support.