



## **LVN to ADN Transition Program 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, 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 [www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing](http://www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing) for the information session dates, HESI testing information, and application link.

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.

Information sessions are conducted via Google Meet. To request a date and be placed on a roster, Tanya Villarreal must be contacted via email at [tvillarreal@tstc.edu](mailto:tvillarreal@tstc.edu). Please review this information packet prior to the information session and have any questions ready.

## APPLICATION / ADMISSION PROCESS

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

- Apply for general admission to TSTC Harlingen. 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.
- Complete application for TSTC admission online. May require an official copy of high school transcript and transfer 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.
- Complete all pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to enrollment into the program.
  - 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**

### REQUIRED PREREQUISITES

\*The 7 prerequisite courses listed below are used to figure GPA.

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

### Courses eligible for Humanities-Fine Arts credit:

- ARTS 1301 Art Appreciation
- ARTS 1303 Art History I
- ARTS 1304 Art History II
- ARTS 1316 Drawing 1
- ARTS 1313 Foundations of Art
- ARTS 2316 Painting 1
- ENGL 2321 British Literature
- ENGL 2322 British Literature I
- ENGL 2326 Scripture I
- ENGL 2307 Creative Writing I
- ENGL 2331 World Literature
- ENGL 2341 Forms of Literature
- HUMA 1301 Introduction to Humanities

HUMA 1302 Introduction to Humanities II  
HUMA 2323 World Cultures  
MUSI 1306 Music Appreciation  
PHIL 1301 Intro to Philosophy  
PHIL 1304 Introduction to World Religions  
PHIL 2306 Introduction to Ethics

## 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 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 twice 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.
  - Testing center information can be found at the end of this packet.
- Applicants must meet the required program **cumulative GPA of 2.7**. The GPA is figured using the seven required prerequisite courses (LABS are not counted) and divided by seven.
- 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.
- After acceptance, students will be required to have a physical examination prior to attending clinical.
- Applications will be submitted online at <https://www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing/>

## Criminal Background Checks

After acceptance into the program, be aware that 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 Program Director or clinical instructor if clear or if clearance is needed. 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.

## **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:
  - LVN to ADN Transition Program prerequisite courses cumulative GPA
  - HESI Exam Scores
  - Additional points as listed in the application packet/scoresheet
- Once all admission criteria are met for entrance to the program, students with completed applications will be selected by scoring.
- 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.
- Once the selection is made, the admission documents are transferred into the student's active file.
- Once the application and all supporting documents have been delivered and logged in by the application deadline, the application is considered accepted.
- The applications are reviewed by the Program Director and at least one other faculty member. They are then forwarded to the LVN to ADN Transition Program Admissions Committee for final review and approval.

## **Notification of Application Status**

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 mandatory orientation. Students must then meet all clinical requirements, have current AHA CPR card, pass an alcohol & 10-Panel drug screen, and provide proof of required immunizations and personal health insurance.

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. **If not cleared through the Texas Board of Nursing, notification to complete a criminal background check will be initiated by the Board.**

## **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.

| Item  | Estimated Cost     |
|---|--------------------|
| HESI Pre-entrance Fee   | \$86.00            |
| Drug Screen: Have money available and be ready to go when notified. | \$30.00            |
| <b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>   |                    |
| Elsevier 360 package (Books, virtual clinical, HESI)                | \$1,133.00         |
| TSTC-Harlingen Tuition/fees (12 credits, TX resident)               | \$3,528.00         |
| Supply Kits for lab   | \$155.00           |
| ExamSoft  | \$30.00            |
| Uniform patches   | \$40.00            |
| Uniforms (approx. cost) with shoes                                  | \$300.00           |
| Professional Liability Insurance                                    | \$13.00            |
| Student Accident Insurance  | \$14.00            |
| Needle Stick Insurance (Rider to the Student Accident policy)       | \$19.00            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$5,199.00</b>  |
| <b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>  |                    |
| TSTC-Harlingen Tuition/fees (12 credits, Texas Resident)            | \$3,528.00         |
| Elsevier 360 package (Books, virtual clinical, HESI)                | \$1,133.00         |
| ExamSoft  | \$30.00            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$4,691.00</b>  |
| <b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>   |                    |
| TSTC-Harlingen tuition/fees (12 credits, Texas Resident)            | \$3,528.00         |
| NCLEX-RN Application Fee (Not paid to TSTC)                         | \$100.00           |
| PearsonVue NCLEX-RN Exam Fee (Not paid to TSTC)                     | \$200.00           |
| Elsevier 360 package (Books, virtual clinical, HESI)                | \$1,133.00         |
| ExamSoft  | \$30.00            |
| Professional Liability Insurance                                    | \$13.00            |
| Student Accident  | \$14.00            |
| Needle Stick  | \$19.00            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$4,991.00</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>                                     | <b>\$14,881.00</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.

| Semester 1                     | TSTC HARLINGEN LVN-RN COURSE SEQUENCING CALENDAR |  |             |                      |                     |               |              |
|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Prefix                         | Course #   | Course Name  | Course Type | Weekly Lecture Hours | Weekly Lab Hours    | Contact Hours | Credit Hours |
| 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>    |
| Semester 2                     |  |  |             |                      |                     |               |              |
| Prefix                         | Course #   | Course Name  | Course Type | Weekly Lecture Hours | Weekly Lab Hours    | Contact Hours | Credit Hours |
| 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>    |
| Semester 3                     |  |  |             |                      |                     |               |              |
| Prefix                         | Course #   | Course Name  | Course Type | Weekly Lecture Hours | Weekly Lab Hours    | Contact Hours | Credit Hours |
| 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>GRAND 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.

Must have a GPA of at least 2.7 on all prerequisite courses.

Complete on-line application packet: [www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing](http://www.tstc.edu/programs/nursing)

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.

Completion of all prerequisite courses:

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

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 the chicken pox, you will need to submit a titer)

Documentation of current, valid vaccinations:

- Bacterial Meningococcal vaccination if under age 30
- Covid Vaccine #1 and #2 (required by clinical facilities, not TSTC)
- Seasonal influenza vaccination

TB results (must be less than a year old throughout program)

- If a chest Xray is needed, it must be within 5 years

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

Transcripts should be uploaded in the online application.

- From school where the applicant completed their Vocational Nursing program
- From all colleges or universities attended, including TSTC

\*\*Admissions must have possession of all official transcripts when 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.)

If you have been employed in a nursing field, an employment verification letter indicating employment status, length of employment, and type of clinical experience. Verification will be confirmed. (This is separate from a recommendation letter.)

Must meet all Texas Board of Nursing licensure eligibility rules.

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

Must attend a mandatory ORIENTATION session after you receive a letter of acceptance into the program.



## HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam (Virtual)

Elsevier has partnered with ProctorU to virtually proctor the HESI LPN-ADN exam – meaning you can take the exam from home. The HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam is an admission assessment for students interested in enrolling in the RN program. The exam identifies your strengths and weaknesses in PN/VN content areas, and the possible need for remediation prior to the entrance into the program. **There are only 2 attempts allowed per application period and the exam time limit is two hours.**

### Steps before scheduling your exam:

- Sign in at [tstc.edu/Testing-Hgn](http://tstc.edu/Testing-Hgn) (New users will be assessed an annual one-time non-refundable \$5 scheduling fee)
- Choose a group: HESI LPN-ADN (Virtual).
- Choose exam section: HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam (1st Attempt or 2nd Attempt) ● Complete the required information & read the exam acknowledgements
- Click Add to Cart
- Click Complete Registration
- Click Continue
- Complete the credit card fields and Continue (a confirmation email will appear on the screen).
- **● \*\*Please allow 24 business hours for you to receive an email with further payment & scheduling instructions. \*\***

### Testing Fees & Requirements

- Total cost is \$79 (mobility exam + ProctorU)
- A valid current government-issued picture ID
- Be sure to have your HESI username/password to start your exam
- Testing of equipment must be completed and successful prior to testing day. Please check the compatibility of your device [here](#).

### Study Resources

- <https://evolve.elsevier.com/studentlife/hesi.html>
- <https://evolve.elsevier.com/education/hesi/nursing-lpn-lvn/>

For more information, please contact [testing@tstc.edu](mailto:testing@tstc.edu) or (956) 364-4310/ (956) 364-4308.

To request testing accommodations, please contact the Access and Learning Accommodations Office at [adarequest@tstc.edu](mailto:adarequest@tstc.edu).

## **HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam (On Campus)**

The HESI Exam is an admission assessment for students interested in enrolling in the RN program. The exam identifies your strengths and weaknesses in PN/VN content areas, and the possible need for remediation prior to the entrance into an ADN program. **There are only 2 attempts allowed per application period and the exam time limit is two hours.**

### **How to Schedule Your Exam**

1. Sign in at [tstc.edu/Testing-Hgn](https://tstc.edu/Testing-Hgn) (New users will be assessed an annual one-time non-refundable \$5 scheduling fee.)
2. Choose a group: HESI
3. Choose an exam: HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam

*Retakes: please select HESI LPN-ADN Entrance Exam Retake (2<sup>nd</sup> Attempt)*

4. Choose a date and time
5. Complete the required information
6. Click add to cart Complete the credit card fields and click Purchase Exams
7. Click Complete Registration (a confirmation email will be sent)

### **What to bring on test day?**

- Bring a current government-issued picture identification
- Bring a credit/debit card to pay the test fee online (\$59 paid online)

### **Student Resources**

- <https://evolve.elsevier.com/studentlife/hesi.html>

For more information, please contact [testing@tstc.edu](mailto:testing@tstc.edu) or (956)364-4310 or (956)364-4308.

To request testing accommodations, please contact the Access and Learning Accommodations Office at [adarequest@tstc.edu](mailto:adarequest@tstc.edu).