



Practical Nursing Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I still work and successfully complete the program?

The hours of the program vary from semester to semester, making it very difficult to schedule a job around it. As a student progresses within the program, they will attend both clinical days and classroom lecture days. These clinical days depend on the facility. There is a very high demand on the clinical sites to accommodate numerous medical programs. Therefore, we are often approved only for weekend days. The program consists of a 40 hour week and that does not include any study time. Part-time employment may be possible for very strong students, but it is not recommended. Those that have worked part-time in the past have verbalized that it has been extremely difficult and their grades have suffered because of the limited amount of study time.

Q: What are the days/hours of the PN program?

The program begins with lecture and lab on five days a week, Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm. After the first 8 weeks, the students will begin their clinical rotation. Most clinical days are typically 12 hour shifts (6:45am-7:15pm). The clinical days vary with weekends included in the rotation. Once the student begins clinicals, they will only be on campus, in class two days a week. That schedule is dependent on the days that are assigned for clinicals.

Q: What is there a dress code for class?

The class dress code is scrubs along with white closed-toe shoes. Clogs are not permitted and the shoe cannot be a mesh or canvas material. They must be made out of a moisture resistant material that provides protection against the leaking of bodily fluid spills, such as leather. A watch with a second hand is also considered part of the dress code for class, lab, and clinicals.

During on campus labs, the dress code includes the same as the class dress code, along with a white lab coat and hair must be pulled back off the collar. No jewelry, with the exception of one pair of stud earrings in the ears and a wedding band. No visible tattoos.

Q: What do the students wear to clinicals?

Clinical days, the student must wear the white school uniform purchased through Creative Uniforms/Meridy's Uniforms. Information about the uniforms is reviewed during the mandated orientation. Hair must be pulled back off the collar. No jewelry, with the exception of one pair of stud earrings in the ears and a wedding band. No visible tattoos. White or beige colored undergarments and white socks.

Q: What if I have an arrest/conviction on my background check?

CTC does not discriminate against any infractions on a background check. However, any arrests/convictions on the student's background check can prevent them from completing the clinical component of the PN program. The student will register for a background check the day of orientation through Advantage Student. The student is told at that time which facilities will need permission to view their background checks prior to clearance at the clinical site. Any arrests/convictions in violation of the clinical site's credentialing department, the student will not be permitted at that particular facility. This could prevent the student from completing the 485 clinical hours mandated by the state, 40% of which must be hospital hours. If the student cannot complete the required hours, they will not be able to complete the PN program.

Q: How much travel is involved for clinical days?

The PN student may travel anywhere from Floyd Behavioral Health in Rome to Grady Health System in Atlanta. The student must have a reliable means of transportation to and from their clinical assignments.

Q: Is there still a shelf-life on my prerequisite courses?

No, the shelf-life has been eliminated.

Q: How long will my TEAS score be valid?

In order to apply to the PN program, students must complete the TEAS version 5.0. This version is valid for 5 years.

Q: What is the minimum score needed to be accepted in the program?

The minimum accepted score can be located on the www.atitesting.com website, but at this time, there is no minimum TEAS score. However, the program will select students with the highest TEAS scores to progress to the next stage of the admission process.

Q: Is the PN program accredited?

The PN program is accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Georgia State Board of Nursing. Therefore, when the student successfully completes the program, they are eligible to sit for the NCLEX PN licensing exam.

Q: What are the physical requirements for the program?

In order to provide safe, efficient, and quality care a nursing student should be able to perform the following (this list is not all inclusive):

- To stand and maintain balance.
- To endure standing or walking for long periods of time (12 hour shifts).
- The ability to grasp and assemble small parts.
- The ability to bend, stretch, squat, kneel, push, pull, pivot, and walk up or down stairs.
- The ability to move objects weighing at least 25 pounds.

- Requirements needed to perform CPR
- The ability to push or pull equipment weighing 75 pounds
- The ability to hear faint body sounds
- To effectively communicate with patients.
- The skills and abilities to read proficiently as well as, very small numbers on dials.
- To have the tactile sensation such as, to feel temperature change.
- To be able to determine appropriate drug calculations
- The ability to deal with emotionally unexpected events and adapt to changes within the environment.
- The ability to critically think and prioritize appropriately.
- The ability to deal with others and resolve conflicts appropriately.

Q: Where can practical nurses work once they are licensed?

LPNs are utilized in a variety of settings. Students have gained employment in long-term care, home health, hospice, schools, clinics/physician's offices, urgent care, hospitals, and the department of health.

The Chattahoochee Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Chattahoochee Technical College Title IX Coordinator, Dianne Lassai Barker, 5198 Ross Road, Room 132P, Acworth, GA 30102, (770) 975-4023, or dianne.barker@chattahoocheetech.edu or Chattahoochee Technical College Section 504 Coordinator, Mary Frances Bernard, 980 South Cobb Drive, Building G1106,, Marietta, GA 30060, (770) 528-4529, or maryfrances.bernard@chattahoocheetech.edu.