



**Portland  
Community  
College**



# Nursing

We're all about **your future**

Updated MARCH 2012

## A Guide to the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) requirements at PCC

### Minimum application requirements for program beginning fall 2013

- At least 30 of the 45 credits of prerequisites must be completed by the end of fall term 2012.
  - BI 231 must be completed by the end of fall term 2012.
  - Math competency course or placement test (see below) must be completed by the end of fall term 2012 (December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011)
- The remaining prerequisites must be completed by the end of spring term 2013.

#### **Grade requirements:**

- Cumulative GPA of prerequisite courses must be at least a 3.0.
- Individual prerequisite courses must be taken for a letter grade and must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.

### Prerequisite Courses with a 7-year expiration

#### **BI 231, 232 & 233 Anatomy and Physiology I, II & III: 12 Credits**

- BI 231 must be completed by the end of fall term 2012. BI 232 & 233 must be completed by the end of spring term 2013.
- The full sequence of human anatomy and physiology with laboratory, inclusive of all body systems is required. Chemistry or Biology may be required prior to the A&P sequence at some institutions. PCC requires BI 112 prior to BI 231 and BI 234.

#### **FN 225 Nutrition: 4 Credits**

Class should cover biological functions, dietary sources of essential nutrients and the relationship of diet to health. BI231, WR121 and MTH60 must be completed prior to registering for FN225.

#### **PSY 215 Human Development: 4 Credits**

Class should cover the developmental process of human life through the full life span, from birth to death.

**Math 95 Intermediate Algebra or higher: 3-5 credits, or placement test.** Students must demonstrate math competency by the end of fall term 2012 by:

- Passing MTH 95 or higher with a grade of "C" or better (must be completed within 7 years of application)
- Placing into MTH 105/ 111 (College Algebra) as determined by COMPASS, ASSET or ACUPLACER placement test (No credit awarded). Students will need to complete or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 course credits required for admission to the program. Completed MTH 95 & higher credits can be applied toward the 45 credits of prerequisites and will be calculated in the prerequisite GPA. MTH 95 credits will not count toward the BSN degree.

### Courses with no expiration date

#### **WR 121 & WR 122 English Composition: 6-8 Credits**

Remedial English such as sentence structure and punctuation will not be accepted as sufficient to meet the prerequisite. These courses are preparation for scientific or technical writing which will be required later in the nursing program. Requirement is waived with completion of previous U.S. Bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution. Students who have completed a U.S. Bachelor's degree (waived the WR 121 & 122 requirement) will need to complete or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 credits required for admission to the program.

**Elective Credits** – Students may need to take elective credits in order to meet the minimum of 45 credits required for entry to the nursing program. Elective credits may come from any general education subject area as listed in PCC's Associate of Applied Science degree worksheet. **At least 6 of the elective credits must come from the Social Science area (excluding PSY 215).**

#### **Basic Computer Competency**

The nursing program does not require a computer science prerequisite. However, success in the nursing program requires that students be computer literate, including word processing, data entry, use of spreadsheets and internet research. Students with no computer experience should discuss with an advisor how to achieve competency prior to entering the nursing program.

### Nursing degree requirements that may be taken prior to acceptance

**Genetics Module:** Students must have documentation of having a **biology course with genetic content** prior to the second term of the nursing program. Successful completion of BI 102, or BI 122, or BI 212 or BI 112 at PCC will satisfy this requirement.

#### **Nursing Program electives**

In addition to the 45 credits of prerequisite courses required for admission, students will need an additional 25 credits of electives to complete the nursing degree. There is no expiration date for these electives. Of the total electives completed, 9 credits should come from the Arts and Letters category to meet OHSU transfer requirements. Electives must be 100 level or higher approved Arts and Letters, Social Science, Natural Science or Mathematics. See PCC's Associate of Applied Science Degree worksheet for approved courses.

#### **BI 234 Microbiology** (Required BI 112 prerequisite)

Must be completed with a C or better by the end of Fall term of the first year of the Nursing Program. Course must be current within 7 years of program admission. Students are highly encouraged to complete this course prior to beginning the nursing program.

#### **WR 123, 222 or 227 English Composition or Technical Writing**

Students who have completed WR 121 and WR 122 at 4 credits each are not required to complete a technical writing course. Students who completed writing WR 121 and WR 122 at 3 credits each will need to complete a technical writing course. Students with a previous bachelor's degree do not have to complete this requirement but additional elective credit may be needed for graduation.

#### **For the Bachelor of Science students only**

Math 243 Statistics

Foreign Language (see [www.ohsu.edu/son](http://www.ohsu.edu/son) for more details). Language proficiency can be met by successful completion of 1) two years of high school language, 2) two terms of the same college level language, or 3) a language proficiency examination. (PCC does not offer language proficiency exams.) College level (100 and above) credits in foreign languages can count as general education or elective credits.

## 2013-2015 Nursing Program Point Distribution

Information is subject to change. Visit [www.pcc.edu/nursing](http://www.pcc.edu/nursing) for updated program information. PCC will not consider degrees, work experience, certifications, or courses earned for points after fall term 2012.

Program selection for PCC's Nursing program is a two-part process. The first evaluation is based on a points system worth up to 70 points as detailed below. Based on the 70 points, we will select 150 - 200 of the top applicants to participate in the proctored essay, the second step in the evaluation process. The essay will be worth up to 30 points. The Nursing department will select **up to 100 applicants** for the program, based on the initial application and essay point totals. Students not offered placement will be placed on an alternate list.

### OCNE POINTS

Prerequisite GPA	<b>/40</b>
<p><b>GPA is calculated from grades earned in the 45 prerequisite credits.</b>  <math>(\text{GPA} \times 24) - 56 = \text{Points}</math></p> <p><b>Examples:</b>  <math>(4.00 \times 24) - 56 = \mathbf{40 \text{ points}}</math>  <math>(3.75 \times 24) - 56 = \mathbf{34 \text{ points}}</math>  <math>(3.50 \times 24) - 56 = \mathbf{28 \text{ points}}</math>  <math>(3.00 \times 24) - 56 = \mathbf{16 \text{ points}}</math></p>	
Grade in Anatomy and Physiology I	<b>/5</b>
A = <b>5 points</b> , B = <b>3 points</b> , C = <b>0 points</b> (PCC will use one discretionary point for a B grade. See below.)	
Completion of A & P sequence	<b>/5</b>
A & P I, II, and III by the end of fall term 2012	<b>5 points</b>
A & P I and II complete by the end of fall term 2012	<b>3 points</b>
Completion of prerequisite credits	<b>/5</b>
All 45 prerequisite credits complete by the end of fall term 2012	<b>5 points</b>
37 of 45 credits complete by the end of fall term 2012	<b>3 points</b>
Completion of prior degree	<b>/3</b>
Masters degree	<b>3 points</b>
Bachelors degree	<b>2 points</b>
Associates degree	<b>1 point</b>

### PCC DISCRETIONARY POINTS (Points are under review for 2013 admission. Check back Summer 2012 for updates.)

B grade in A & P I	<b>/1</b>
Students with a B in A and P I will receive 1 additional point. OCNE traditionally awards 3 points for a B. PCC students will receive 4.	
Foreign language proficiency (see page 2 for details)	<b>/2</b>
Prerequisite credits taken at PCC	<b>/3</b>
(courses in progress at time of application will not count toward number of credits taken at PCC)	
24-35 prerequisite credits	<b>1 point</b>
36 - 44 prerequisite credits	<b>2 points</b>
all 45 prerequisite credits	<b>3 points</b>
Health care/medical licensure and/or experience in a medical setting with direct patient contact	<b>/6</b>
<b>3-6 points will be awarded to applicants with proof of CNA, LPN, EMT, Paramedic, CMA (Certified Medical Assistant) licensure and documented patient care hours</b>	
>400 practice hours from one of the above categories	<b>6 points</b>
300-399 practice hours from one of the above categories	<b>5 points</b>
200-299 practice hours from one of the above categories	<b>4 points</b>
100-199 practice hours from one of the above categories	<b>3 points</b>
<b>2 points will be awarded to applicants with demonstrated patient contact in a medical setting OR applicants with medical licensure and &lt;100 patient care hours.</b>	
<b>1 point will be awarded to applicants with demonstrated work experience in a medical setting with no patient contact</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>/70</b>

# 2013 PCC NURSING PROGRAM

## YEAR ONE – PREREQUISITE COURSE PLANNING SHEET – 45 credits

- 45 credits (specified below) must be earned by the end of spring term 2013
- 30 credits (of the 45) must be completed by the end of fall term 2012, including BI 231 and Math 95 competency.

PREREQUISITE COURSES	Courses Completed			
ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I, II, III: 12 credits	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 231 Anatomy & Physiology I (within 7 years)		/		
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 232 Anatomy & Physiology II (within 7 years)		/		
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 233 Anatomy & Physiology III (within 7 years)		/		
Note: Prerequisite for BI 231 at PCC is BI 112 Cell Biology				
MATHEMATICS: 0–5 credits	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> MTH 95 Intermediate Algebra or higher (within 7 years)		/		
<b>OR</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Placement test scores into MTH 111 or higher (within 7 years)	<b>Placement:</b>			
Students who satisfy the MTH 95 requirement by completing a college placement test and testing higher than Math 95 will need to meet the minimum 45 credits required for entry to the PCC nursing program by completing additional general education credits (see below). PCC will only accept Compass, Asset and Acuplacer placement test scores for the math competency. The placement test must be completed by the end of fall term prior to application (December 16, 2012). Students can use higher-level math courses and are encouraged to take Math 243 Statistics before starting the nursing program.				
ENGLISH COMPOSITION : 6-8 credits	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> WR 121 English Composition I		/		
<input type="checkbox"/> WR 122 English Composition II		/		
The English composition requirement is waived for students who have a previous US bachelor's degree. Students who waive the writing will need to substitute additional general education to meet the 45 credit requirement.				
NUTRITION: 4 credits	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> FN 225 (within 7 years)		/		
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: 4 credits	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> PSY 215 (within 7 years) PSY 201A recommended before PSY 215		/		
GENERAL EDUCATION: HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCE OR NATURAL SCIENCE: 13 credits				
Additional credits to complete the 45 prerequisite credits must include at least <b>6 credits of social science</b> electives (please refer to the PCC AAS degree worksheet at <a href="http://www.pcc.edu/programs/university-transfer/transfer-guides/documents/worksheet-aas.pdf">http://www.pcc.edu/programs/university-transfer/transfer-guides/documents/worksheet-aas.pdf</a> for a list of approved courses. )				
	Course	Term / Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Science elective		/		
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Science elective (if needed to meet the 6 cr required):		/		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other electives: (BI112, BI 234 or other elective from arts, hum, soc'l sciences, math, nat'l sciences, etc. if needed for sufficient credits)		/		
Other elective, if needed to complete 45 credits		/		
Other elective, if needed to complete 45 credits		/		
For best point consideration, students should complete all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term 2012. Please view the Point Distribution Sheet on pg. 3 for more details.			<b>Total prerequisite credits completed:</b>	
			<b>/45</b>	

**All requirements and selection criteria are subject to change on a yearly basis.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PCC I.D.: G \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Overview:**

Portland Community College’s Nursing Program is designed to provide students the option of completing an associate’s degree from PCC and/or a bachelor’s degree in nursing from OHSU. The course work is outlined in a four-year framework (though the pace of taking prerequisite courses can extend the student’s timeline to five years for completion of the BSN).

- Year one** Prerequisites (**typically takes students 4 – 6 terms to complete**)
- Year two** Accepted 1<sup>st</sup> year Nursing core courses and clinical at PCC
- Year three** Accepted 2<sup>nd</sup> year Nursing core courses and clinical at PCC – option to complete AAS degree and complete licensing exam (NCLEX) to become a registered nurse
- Year four** OHSU BSN track students complete additional upper division electives and nursing coursework to complete a BSN degree.

Educational Planning for Prerequisites							
<i>(Remember, QUALITY in your grades is more important than rushing to apply!)</i>							
Term _____		Term _____		Term _____		Term _____	
Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.
Term _____		Term _____		Term _____		Term _____	
Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.
Term _____		Term _____		Term _____		Term _____	
Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is OCNE?

The PCC Nursing Program is partnered with eight other community college programs and all campuses of the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) in a unified approach to nursing education. This coalition of statewide nursing educators and programs is known as the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE). OCNE schools have the same prerequisites and comparable application processes for students. The program is designed to provide students the option of completing an associate's degree from PCC and/or a bachelor's degree in nursing from OHSU.

## How can I earn a BSN if I start at PCC?

Acceptance to the PCC nursing program allows students non-competitive entry Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). This agreement that enables applicants who complete PCC's nursing program to be eligible to complete a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Nursing (BSN) at OHSU without an additional competitive application process. At the completion of the second year in PCC's nursing program, students may choose to transfer to OHSU without completing the AAS from OHSU or choose to complete the AAS and take the NCLEX before transitioning to OHSU. Those who do not continue their education immediately after the two-year PCC program will need to apply directly to OHSU's RN to BSN completion program.

## How many spaces to you have in your program?

PCC's Nursing Department will select **up to 100 students** to begin the program each fall. The Nursing Department reserves the right to adjust acceptance numbers and final acceptance numbers may change from year to year depending on several factors.

## How competitive is PCC's program?

Admission to PCC's Nursing Program is competitive, with approximately 800-1000 students applying each year for up to 100 spots. Points are awarded for several criteria and it is difficult to predict the chances of acceptance in advance. It is important to be as successful as possible in your prerequisite coursework. We strongly advise that students complete all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term before application, and gain work experience in the medical field.

## What skills and abilities are required of nursing students?

Nursing students must be able to grasp scientific concepts, set up and answer basic math and algebra problems, and have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Physically, students must be able to remain on their feet for extended periods, lift up to 25 pounds, hear heart and breath sounds, and read fine print. The competencies of the OCNE curriculum addresses the need for nurses to be skilled in clinical judgment and critical thinking, evidence-based practice, relationship-centered care, interdisciplinary collaboration, assisting individuals and families in self-care practices for promotion of health and management of chronic and acute illness, end-of-life care, and teaching, delegation, leadership and supervision of caregivers. Students should visit <http://www.pcc.edu/programs/nursing/technical-standards.html> and become familiar with the Nursing Program Technical Standards.

## How do I calculate my prerequisite GPA?

To calculate your prerequisite GPA you need to divide your total grade points by your total number of credits.  
The grade you receive in a course is awarded grade points as follows: **A = 4 points**    **B = 3 points**    **C = 2 points**

### **STEPS:**

- Multiply the credits the course is worth by your grade points in the course to get your *Grade Quality Points*.
- Sum your total *Credits*.
- Sum your total *Grade Quality Points*.
- Divide your *Total Grade Quality Points* by your *Total Credits* to get your *GPA*.

Example:

Course	Grade	Grade points	X	Credits	=	Grade Quality Points	
WR 121	A	4	X	3	=	12	
BI 231	B	3	X	4	=	12	<b><u>33 quality points ÷ 10 credits= 3.3 GPA</u></b>
PSY 101	B	3	X	3	=	9	
				10 total credits		33 total quality points	

## Before you apply

- Applicants are encouraged to research the field of nursing and volunteer or work in the health care industry to gain knowledge of professional duties and responsibilities.
- Students are eligible to apply for admission to the nursing program after completion of a minimum of **30** quarter credits of courses from the prerequisite list. The 30 credits must include **BI 231** and **math competency** (MTH 95 or higher). The minimum requirements must be met by the end of fall term prior to application. **All prerequisites in progress at the time of application must be completed by the end of the spring term prior to program admission.**
- Application to the nursing program requires a **minimum prerequisite GPA of 3.0**. All 45 completed prerequisite credits will be counted toward the prerequisite GPA.
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a letter grade of "C" or better. Plus and minus grades will not be factored into the GPA. Pass/no pass grades are not accepted.
- If a course has been taken more than once, the most recent grade received will be the grade used for evaluation.
- Admission is highly competitive, with up to 100 students and approximately 50 alternates chosen each year from a pool of 800 - 1000 applicants. *Completion of prerequisites courses does not guarantee entrance into the program.* Applicants should have alternative options and apply to as many schools as possible.

## How to apply

- Apply to Portland Community College online at [www.pcc.edu/admissions](http://www.pcc.edu/admissions) or in person at any PCC campus.
- Complete the PCC Nursing Program Application Packet. Applications will be available 4 weeks before the open application period. We begin accepting applications on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. Applications submitted before this date will be returned.
- Submit application, final official transcripts (other than PCC), supporting documentation, and a \$40 application fee to the Health Admissions Office by February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. We do not accept faxed or emailed applications or materials. Mailed applications must be received in the Health Admissions Office by the 5 p.m. deadline.
- Official transcripts, other than PCC, must be submitted with the program application. Transcripts mailed separately will not be accepted.

## Application timeline for Fall 2013 admission

- **FILING DEADLINE:** February 15, 2013 by 5 p.m. This is **NOT** a postmark deadline. Applications must be received in SY HT 205 by this deadline. No exceptions.
- After the filing deadline has passed, admissions personnel will evaluate each application for completeness and eligibility.
- Students who are selected as one of the top 150 - 200 applicants will be invited to complete a proctored essay, held approximately at the end of April. For the essay, students will be expected to discuss personal experience with issues including but not limited to diversity, personal values, communication, problem solving, tolerance for stress and transferable skills.
- Final selection takes place at the end of May. Notification letters will be mailed in the beginning June. All admission decisions are final.

## Post-acceptance admissions requirements

All admitted PCC Nursing Students must meet the following requirements before they can begin any Nursing courses.

- Successfully complete any outstanding prerequisite courses with a grade C or higher.
- Successfully pass a criminal background check from an agency designated by PCC
- Successfully pass a ten-panel drug screen from a lab designated by PCC
- Submit proof of current immunizations
- Submit proof of current CPR for Health Care Providers certification

Applicants should **NOT** pursue meeting these requirements prior to being admitted to the Nursing Program. Admitted students will receive specific directions from PCC's Nursing department on how to meet these requirements.

## Additional Resources

- Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education: [www.ocne.org](http://www.ocne.org)
- Oregon Health Science University Nursing Program: [www.ohsu.edu/son](http://www.ohsu.edu/son)
- Oregon State Board of Nursing: [www.osbn.state.or.us](http://www.osbn.state.or.us)
- Nursing programs in the US: [www.allnursingschools.com](http://www.allnursingschools.com)
- National Student Nurses Association: [www.nсна.org](http://www.nсна.org)
- Oregon Center for Nursing: [www.oregoncenterfornursing.org](http://www.oregoncenterfornursing.org)

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