Nursing


2019 Application Cycle
Minimum application requirements

- 30 of the 45 credits of designated prerequisite credits must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the February 15th deadline and must include:
  - BI 231
  - Math course or competency by approved placement test (see below)
- The remaining prerequisites must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission

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.

*Please note: OHSU will not accept grades of C- or lower.

Prerequisite Courses with a 7-year expiration (The last year accepted for the 2019 application is 2012)

**BI 231, 232 & 233-Anatomy and Physiology I, II & III, 12 Credits:** BI 231 must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline. BI 232 & 233 must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission. 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 taking the BI 231-233 sequence.

**BI 234-Microbiology, 4-5 Credits:** Must be completed with a C or better by the end of spring term prior to admission. Lecture and laboratory need to cover: bacterial identification, morphology, metabolism and genetics; bacterial, viral, and parasitic relationships with human health and disease; and basic immunology. PCC requires BI 112 prior to taking BI 234.

**FN 225-Nutrition, 4 Credits:** Class should cover biological functions, dietary sources of essential nutrients and the relationship of diet to health. PCC requires that BI123, WR121 and MTH60 be complete prior to registering for FN 225.

**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.** Applicants must demonstrate math competency by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline by one of the following methods:

- Pass MTH 95, or higher with a grade of "C" or better
- Place into MTH 105/111 (College Algebra) as determined by PCC equivalent placement scores for COMPASS, ASSET ACUPLACER, or ALEKS placement tests. Raw test scores are required and are evaluated using PCC’s testing center guidelines for placement. Applicant who meet the math competency by placement exam will need to complete and/or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 course credits required for admission to the program. Applicants who use math placement exams to meet admissions requirements are still required to meet the math course requirements for the Associates of Applied Science (AAS) Degree (MTH 65 or higher).

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. The requirement is waived with completion of previous U.S. Bachelor’s degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution. Applicants who have completed a U.S. Bachelor’s degree (waived the WR 121 & 122 requirement) must complete or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 credits required for admission to the program.

**Social Science Prerequisite Electives, 6-8 Credits:** Prerequisite elective credits are required for application and a minimum of 6 credits must come from social sciences (excluding PSY 215). For a list of approved general education courses, please review the AAS Degree requirements and general education courses from the PCC Catalog at http://catalog.pcc.edu.

**Basic Computer Competency:** The nursing program does not require a computer science prerequisite course. However, success in the nursing program requires that applicants be computer literate, including word processing, data entry, use of spreadsheets and internet research. Applicants 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 complete a biology course with genetic content prior to the second term of the nursing program. Successful completion of BI 102, or BI 222, or BI 212 or BI 112 at PCC will satisfy this requirement.

**AAS General Education & Nursing Program electives:** In addition to the 45 credits of prerequisite courses required for admission, students will need an additional 30 credits of general education 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. OHSU will not accept/transfer any courses to with a grade of “C-” or below.

**WR 123, 222 or 227-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.

**Additional courses that may be taken for the Bachelor of Science:**

**Math 243-Statistics**

**Foreign Language** (see 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 also count as general education or elective credits.
# PCC Nursing Program Point Distribution

Program selection for PCC’s Nursing program is a three-Phase process. The first Phase is based on a points system worth up to 70 points as detailed below. Please see page 6 for selection process details. **Information is subject to change.** Visit www.pcc.edu/nursing for updated program information. PCC will not consider degrees, work experience, certifications, or courses earned for points after fall term prior to application deadline.

## PHASE I: OCNE POINTS (51 points possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE GPA</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GPA is calculated based on the grades earned among the 45 credits of prerequisites (GPA x 24) – 56 = Points (See FAQs for GPA calculations)</td>
<td>/ 40</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPLETION OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (A &amp; P) SEQUENCE</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 points - Awarded for completion of the full sequence by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline</td>
<td>/ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 points - Awarded for completion of the first two quarters of the sequence by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPLETION OF ALL PREREQUISITE CREDITS</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 points - Awarded for completion of all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline</td>
<td>/ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 points - Awarded for completion of 36-44 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPLETION OF A PRIOR DEGREE</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 point – Awarded for completion of a previous U.S. Associates Degree or higher. Degree must be earned by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.</td>
<td>/ 1</td>
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## PHASE I: PCC LOCAL CRITERIA POINTS (19 points possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE CREDITS TAKEN AT PCC</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credits are calculated based on the number of prerequisite credits completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.</td>
<td>/ 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 points – Awarded for completion of ALL 45 prerequisite credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 points – Awarded for completion of 36 – 44 prerequisite credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 point – Awarded for completion of 24 – 35 prerequisite credits</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>US ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBER / VETERAN STATUS</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formal Letter from commanding officer or DD214 Member 4 Copy required documenting service and honorable discharge. See FAQs for more information.</td>
<td>/ 2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY SERVICE</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Point – Awarded to applicants who have a minimum of 20 documented hours of volunteer experience in any setting. Community service hours may be accumulated though the application deadline date.</td>
<td>/ 1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B GRADE IN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (BI 231, BI 232 &amp; BI 233)</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Points – Awarded to applicants that have earned a B grade in at least one of the A &amp; P courses. If a course is repeated, the most recent attempt will be considered.</td>
<td>/ 2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE &amp; CERTIFICATIONS</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants may earn up to 10 points for health care experience and/or work experience in a medical setting with supporting documentation of certification/license. A medical setting is a hospital, clinic, nursing home or other environment where licensed practitioners diagnose, treat, and prevent acute and chronic illness or injury. Work experience hours may be accumulated through December 31st prior to the application deadline. Points can be earned from only one category listed below.</td>
<td>/ 10</td>
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### Health Care Category I:
Applicants with licensure/certification as a: CNA, LPN, CMA, EMT, Paramedic, Military Medic, Hemodialysis Tech, or Respiratory Therapist. Points will be awarded based on the number of (post-certification) paid work experience hours in a medical setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Experience Hours</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000+ hours = 10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 – 1999 hours = 8 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>240 – 999 hours = 6 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 – 239 hours = 4 points</td>
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### Health Care Category II:
Applicants who have a minimum of 480 hours of paid work experience in a medical setting without one of the above designated Health Care Category I certifications.

- WITH direct patient contact = 3 points
- WITHOUT direct patient contact = 2 points

## PHASE I TOTAL POINTS / 70

The above detailed point distribution WILL CHANGE for the 2020 application cycle. Please regularly check the nursing website for updates. Requirements & selection criteria are subject to change on a yearly basis.
All prerequisite courses (45 credits) must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission. For minimum eligibility requirements to apply, see page 2 of this Guide. Courses completed at a college other than PCC are subject to transferability.

### PREREQUISITE COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>TERM / YEAR</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BI 231 Anatomy &amp; Physiology I <em>(within 7 years)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 232 Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (within 7 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BI 233 Anatomy &amp; Physiology III (within 7 years)</td>
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<td>BI 234 Microbiology* (within 7 years)</td>
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**ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY: 12-15 credits**

**MICROBIOLOGY: 4-5 credits**

**INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA: 0–5 credits**

OR

**INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA: 0–5 credits**

**ENGLISH COMPOSITION : 6-8 credits**

**NUTRITION: 4 credits**

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: 4 credits**

**SOCIAL SCIENCE PREREQUISITE ELECTIVES: 6 credits**

**PREREQUISITE GENERAL EDUCATION: HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCE OR NATURAL SCIENCE**

Additional credits may be needed to meet the 45 prerequisite credits. General education prerequisite electives must include at least 6 credits of social science *(noted above)*. Refer to the PCC Catalog at [http://catalog.pcc.edu/](http://catalog.pcc.edu/) under the General Education heading for a list of approved general education courses.

**Total prerequisite credits completed:** 45

Requirements and selection criteria are subject to change on a yearly basis. Significant changes will occur for the 2020 admissions cycle.
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 (the pace of taking prerequisite courses will vary based on placement in prerequisite courses and can extend the student's timeline to five years for completion of the BS in Nursing).

Year one  Prerequisites* *(typically takes students 4 – 6 terms to complete)
Year two  Accepted 1st year Nursing core courses and clinical at PCC*
Year three  Accepted 2nd 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 BS with a major in nursing track students complete additional upper division electives and nursing coursework to complete a bachelor’s degree.*

*This timeline is not typical. Most students will take 5 years to complete their BS in Nursing.

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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Educational Planning for Prerequisites

Notes:
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PRIOR TO APPLYING

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to research the field of nursing and volunteer or work in the health care industry to gain knowledge of professional duties and responsibilities.
- Applicants 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 95 competency (both within 7 years of application). The minimum requirements must be met by the end of fall term 2018. 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.
  - Please note: OHSU will not transfer/accept grades of C- or below.
- If a course has been taken more than once, the most recent grade received will be the grade used for prerequisite grade evaluation.
- Admission is highly competitive, completion of prerequisite courses does not guarantee entrance into the program. Applicants should have alternative options and apply to as many nursing programs as possible.

HOW TO APPLY

- Applications Open: November 1, 2018
- Application Deadline: February 15, 2019- 9:00pm Pacific Standard Time (PST) 12:00am Eastern Standard Time (EST)
- Apply to PCC as a credit seeking student. Applicants can apply to Portland Community College online at www.pcc.edu/admissions
- Pay a required, non-refundable supplemental application fee to PCC for $40.
  - Payment link can be found online during the open application period.
- Create a NursingCAS (NCAS) account at www.nursingcas.org and submit/upload all application materials for your NCAS & PCC application.
  - NCAS may take up to 4-6 weeks to show receipt of your transcripts—Make sure to send your transcripts at least 2-3 weeks prior to the application deadline to ensure your transcripts are processed as early as possible.
  - Mail official transcripts, including PCC transcripts directly to NCAS
  - Upload a copy of your payment receipt from the non-refundable $40 PCC supplemental application fee, healthcare work experience forms, community service forms, supporting licensure/certification documentation, AND submit the NCAS $50 application fee by February 15th, 2019 at 9:00pm PST/12:00am EST deadline.

PROGRAM ADMISSION SELECTION PROCESS

Phase I: Application Evaluation- Applications are evaluated on a 70-point scale (see page 3). Applicants must meet minimum eligibility requirements. Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered.

Phase II: Proctored Essay- Applicants who score the highest in phase I of selection will be invited to participate in the proctored essay worth 30 points. The proctored essay is mandatory. Applicants will be notified of their proctored essay invitation through the email address listed on their NCAS account.

Phase III: Post-Selection Requirements- Following the proctored essay, applicants offered a seat in the Nursing Program must complete all outstanding prerequisite courses (45 credits) by the end of spring term prior to starting the Nursing Program in the Fall Term. In addition, prior to beginning nursing courses, applicants must meet the following requirements:
  - 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 and current certification in CPR for Health Care Providers

Applications should NOT pursue meeting the above requirements prior to being offered a seat in the Nursing Program. Applicants with an admissions offer will receive specific directions (at summer orientation) from PCC’s Nursing department on how to fulfill these requirements.

TIMELINE FOR FALL 2019 ADMISSION

- Applications Open: November 1, 2018
- December 31, 2018: Last day to count healthcare experience hours for 2019 application
- Application Deadline: February 15, 2019 – 9:00pm (PST) /12:00am (EST)
  - NCAS applications must be electronically submitted and all fees must be paid to PCC and NCAS by this date and time. All transcripts must be received by this date and time as well. Please be advised that if you wait until the deadline to send your transcripts, NCAS may not show date of receipt by the deadline, which will make your application ineligible.
- Late-March, 2019 (Phase I admission): Applicants are notified via email of proctored essay invitation.
- Mid-April, 2019: Proctored essay held on campus. Invited applicants must attend for the program.
- Mid-May, 2019 (Phase II admission): Top scoring applicants will be offered placement in the Nursing Program.
- Summer 2019 (Phase III admission): Applicants offered a seat in the program must attend two mandatory, on-campus orientations. They must also meet post-selection requirements before starting the program fall term.
- September 2019: Program begins.
PCC Nursing Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is OCNE?
The PCC Nursing Program is partnered with eleven other Oregon community college programs and all Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) Campus programs in a unified approach to nursing education. This statewide partnership is known as the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE). OCNE schools have a common curriculum, admission/prerequisite requirements and admissions timelines. OCNE community college campus graduates have the option of completing the Associate of Applied Science degree in nursing, taking the RN licensure exam, and continuing directly to OHSU senior level coursework required for the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree through the Portland campus or online/distance delivery.

How can I earn a BSN if I start at PCC? As an OCNE partner school graduate you can seamlessly transition with your AAS degree to the OHSU School of Nursing for your final year of nursing coursework to receive the Bachelors of Science (BS) with a major in nursing degree. Depending on when you are making your transition from an OCNE partner school there are two delivery options (in person or online). Students must complete the AAS degree and pass the NCLEX RN before transitioning to OHSU.

How many applicants get offered a seat in the PCC Nursing Program?
Since the fall of 2016, Portland Community College’s Nursing Program has experienced a reduction in admission numbers due to the nursing faculty shortage (which is being experienced across the country as well). Below you will find the number of admitted students who started in the first year of the program on the first day of the fall term:

- Fall 2015 - 76
- Fall 2016 - 65
- Fall 2017 - 54
- Fall 2018 - 32

Beneath is a link to the Oregon Center for Nursing, which collects statewide data regarding the nursing faculty shortage: http://oregoncenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/OR-Nurse-Faculty-Workforce_Why-Are-They-Leaving.pdf

Each admission cycle the Nursing Program, in collaboration with the college’s administration, determines the faculty/staffing/resources needed to deliver the excellent nursing education that it has provided throughout the years. Elements that are considered are the faculty to student ratios, number of faculty available to hire into open positions, ratio of new to experienced nurse educators, and clinical placement availability.

How can I earn health care experience points for my military medical training?
Most applicants will find it easiest to provide their DD214, member 4 copy. Military Medical experience will be considered as a licensed certification with supporting documentation. Please submit any & all documentation regarding military title, job duties and length of service in that role, honorable discharge papers (if applicable). Documentation may come from formal discharge papers or a commanding officer on letterhead from the respective military branch. For more information, please follow up with the Health Admission Office.

How competitive is PCC’s program?
Admission to PCC’s Nursing Program is competitive, with approximately 500+ applicants each year. Points are awarded for multiple 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 applicants complete all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term before application and gain work experience in a medical setting with a category I certification (see page 3).

Why do applicants with a B grade in Anatomy and Physiology receive additional points?
PCC’s Nursing Department elected to provide applicants with B grades in Anatomy and Physiology more of an opportunity to compete for the proctored essay portion of selection. While applicants with B grades in one or more of their Anatomy and Physiology courses receive 2 points, applicants with A grades in all of their prerequisite courses still receive more points by earning the maximum 40 points for GPA.

Do I get my nursing license when I graduate from PCC's Nursing Program?
When you graduate from the PCC Nursing Program, you have earned an Associates of Applied Science in Nursing (Associates Degree in Nursing or an ADN). Graduates from PCC’s Nursing Program, will apply to sit for the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN). By passing the NCLEX-RN graduates are issued an Oregon nursing license.

Do I need to have a Social Security Number to get my Nursing License?
In order to decrease the chance of fraud in obtaining licenses from individuals who live overseas and do not intend to work in the US or Oregon, Social Security Numbers are required (per Oregon Revised Statute 25.785) for all applicants (including renewals). Refusal to provide your SSN will result in denial of licensure/certification, and the denial will be reported to the National Practitioner Databank. US work visas (H1B, I-766 or other current federal government form authorizing you to work in the United States) will be accepted. If you are attending school on an F1 Visa, provide a copy of the I-94 and I-20 signed by the designated school authority with your application. For more information, contact the OSBN office via email: oregon.bn.info@state.or.us.

Portland Community College is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution. Students are admitted without discrimination as to age, race, religion, gender, sexual preference, national origin or marital status.
PCC Nursing Program Technical Standards

PCC Nursing Program provides the following technical standards to inform applicants of the skills required to complete the nursing program curriculum and provide health care services. These technical standards reflect the performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of clinical based health care programs.

Cognitive

- Recall, collect, analyze, synthesize, and integrate information from a variety of sources.
- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize data.
- Problem-solve and think critically in order to apply knowledge and skill.
- Communicate verbally, and through reading and writing, with individuals from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
- Relay information in oral and written form effectively, accurately, reliably, and intelligibly to individuals and groups, using the English language.

Physical

Motor

- Coordinate fine and gross motor movements.
- Coordinate hand/eye movements.
- Maintain balance from any position.
- Negotiate level surfaces, ramps and stairs.
- Function with both hands free for performing psychomotor tasks.
- Maneuver in small areas.
- Attend to cognitive and psychomotor tasks for up to 7-12 hours.

Sensory

- Acquire information from demonstrations and experiences, including but not limited to information conveyed through online coursework, lecture, small group activities, demonstrations, and application experiences.
- Collect information through observation, listening, touching, and smelling.
- Use and interpret information from diagnostic maneuvers.

Behavioral

- Demonstrate emotional stability to function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments.
- Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with others.
- Examine and modify one’s own behavior when it interferes with others or the learning environment.
- Possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, altruism, integrity, honesty, responsibility and tolerance.
- Accept responsibility for own actions and communicate in a courteous, assertive, non-aggressive, non-defensive manner with instructors, peers, staff and healthcare team members.
- Integrate feedback into own performance.

Additional Nursing Resources

Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education: www.ocne.org
Oregon Health Science University Nursing Program: www.ohsu.edu/son
Oregon State Board of Nursing: www.osbn.state.or.us
National Student Nurses Association: www.nsna.org
Oregon Center for Nursing: www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

Portland Community College - Health Admissions Office
Sylvania Campus, CC 208
Phone: 971-722-4795  Fax: 971-722-4837
www.pcc.edu/hao
www.pcc.edu/nursing
syhao@pcc.edu