



# Nursing Admissions Guide

**Opportunity – Then. Now. Always.**

**2026 Application Cycle**

LEARN MORE: [pcc.edu/nursing/](https://pcc.edu/nursing/)



# Table of Contents\*

Nursing at PCC .....	3
Application Requirements .....	3
Prerequisite Courses .....	4
Courses with a 7-year Expiration Date .....	4
Courses with No Expiration Date .....	4
Nursing Degree Requirements That May Be Taken Prior To Acceptance .....	5
Transfer Considerations for OHSU Bachelor of Science Degree (OCNE Graduates) .....	5
Selection Process .....	6
Phase I .....	6
Phase II .....	6
Phase III .....	6
2026 Phase I Point Distribution .....	7
Application Timeline & Details .....	8
Preapplication Checklist .....	9
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) .....	10
General FAQs .....	10
Prerequisite Course FAQs .....	11
Preapplication FAQs .....	13
Phase I FAQs .....	13
Phase II FAQs .....	14
Phase III FAQs .....	15
Program Completion FAQs .....	15
Additional Support Resources .....	16
PCC Internal Support Resources .....	16
External Support Resources .....	16
Nursing Program Technical Standards .....	17
Cognitive .....	17
Physical .....	17
Behavioral .....	17

\*To navigate this admissions guide with ease, you can hold the “control” button on your computer and click in the table of contents to navigate to that particular section.



## Nursing at PCC

PCC's highly competitive two-year Nursing program, located at the Sylvania campus (pictured above), equips students with the knowledge and skills essential for an entry-level registered nursing position. Graduates will earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Nursing and become eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN). Successfully passing the NCLEX-RN leads to earning an Oregon nursing license. Each fall, the program accepts **up to 40** out of over 400 applicants.

As a member of the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE), PCC's Nursing program offers graduates the opportunity to seamlessly continue their education at OHSU and earn their Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. For more details on OCNE and admission to this competitive program, please thoroughly review the rest of the Admissions Guide.

## Application Requirements

- All applicants need to be active, credit-seeking students at PCC at the time of the application
  - Apply online at [pcc.edu/admissions](https://pcc.edu/admissions) by December 17, 2025
- 30 of the 45 designated prerequisite credits must be completed by the end of PCC's fall term prior to the February 16, 2026 deadline. At minimum, the 30 credits must include,
  - Anatomy and Physiology I, BI 231
  - Math course or competency by approved placement test
  - The remaining prerequisites must be complete by the end of PCC's Spring term in the year applying
- Grade requirements
  - Cumulative prerequisite GPA must be at least a 3.0
  - Individual prerequisite courses must be taken for a letter grade of "C" or higher
    - OHSU will not accept grades of C- or lower
  - If a course has been taken more than once, the **most recent grade** received will be the grade used for prerequisite grade evaluation

Completion of the above application requirements does not guarantee admission to the program.

# Prerequisite Courses

Applicants must ensure they are following the listed application requirements (found on page 3). See the [Prerequisite Course FAQ section](#) for details regarding which courses can be waived and more.

## Courses with a 7-year Expiration Date

(The last year accepted for the 2026 application is 2019)

### □ MTH 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 105Z/111Z/211 and/or STAT 243Z **no later than December 14, 2025**

### □ BI 231 - Anatomy and Physiology I, 4 Credits

- BI 231 must be complete by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline
  - BI 112, or BI 211 and BI 212, or BI 221Z are the prerequisites for BI 231

### □ BI 232 - Anatomy and Physiology II, 4 Credits

- BI 231 is a prerequisite to BI 232

### □ BI 233 Anatomy and Physiology III, 4 Credits

- BI 232 is a prerequisite for BI 233

### □ BI 234 - Microbiology, 4-5 Credits

- BI 112 or BI 211 and BI 212 are prerequisites for BI 234

### □ FN 225 - Nutrition, 4 Credits

- BI 112, WR 121Z and MTH 60 are prerequisites for FN 225

### □ PSY 215 - Human Development, 4 Credits

- Class should cover the developmental process of human life through the full life span
  - WR 115 and RD 115 or IRW 115 and MTH 20 or equivalent placement are the prerequisites for PSY 215

## Courses with No Expiration Date

### □ WR 121Z - English Composition I, 3-4 Credits

### □ WR 122Z - English Composition II, 3-4 credits

### □ Social Science Prerequisite Electives, 6-8 Credits

- Prerequisite elective credits are required for application and a **minimum of six credits must come from social sciences (in addition to 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 [catalog.pcc.edu](https://catalog.pcc.edu)

## Degree Requirements That May Be Taken Prior To Acceptance

### AAS General Education & Nursing Program Electives

- In addition to the 45 credits of prerequisite courses required for admission, students will need to complete general education electives to graduate with the AAS in Nursing
- See PCC's [Associate of Applied Science Degree](#) page for more information
  - Elective courses do not expire

## Transfer Considerations for OHSU Bachelor of Science Degree (OCNE Graduates)

### STAT 243Z: Statistics (was previously MTH 243)

- Course completion is recommended prior to applying to OHSU as it is a prerequisite or co-requisite of NRS 411 at OHSU. For more information, visit: [ohsu.edu/son](https://ohsu.edu/son)

### Genetics Module

- Students must complete a biology course with a human genetics component prior to the start of the OHSU Bachelor of Science program
  - Successful completion of BI 102, BI 112, BI 221Z, BI 225, or BI 222Z (BI 212) at PCC will satisfy this requirement

### WR 123, 222, or 227Z: Technical Writing

- Students who have completed WR 121Z and WR 122Z at four credits each are not required to complete a technical writing course
  - WR 121Z and WR 122Z completed at three 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 credits may be required for graduation

### Arts and Letters

- OHSU OCNE Community College transition students will need a total of nine Humanities credits to meet OHSU's transfer requirements. Please visit the OCNE RN to BSN admissions instructions for OCNE graduates: [son.ohsu.edu/apply-on-campus-RNBS](https://son.ohsu.edu/apply-on-campus-RNBS)

# Selection Process

Program selection of **up to 40 seats** for PCC's nursing program is based on the following three-phase process. Visit [pcc.edu/nursing](https://pcc.edu/nursing) for the most up-to-date program information. **Note:** PCC and OCNE reserve the right to change or update the selection criteria as necessary.

## Phase I: Initial Application Evaluation

- Applicants must meet all application requirements listed on page 3
- Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered
- Applications submitted to NCAS for the PCC program will be evaluated on a 52-point scale
- Applicants who score the highest points in phase I will move on to phase II

## Phase II: Letter of Interest, Resume, Essay Responses, and the Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT)

- Phase II consists of a review of letter of interest, resume, essay responses (all uploaded to the NCAS application in phase I), and HSRT scores (takes place in phase II)
  - Previous attempts of the HSRT at PCC or at other institutions cannot be used
- Information regarding the letter of interest, resume, and essay question response guidelines can be found in the [Phase II FAQ section](#)
- Phase II scores alone (not a combination of scores from phase I and II) will determine which applicants receive seat offers and move on to phase III
- OCNE consortium members have agreed that the applicant's scores and/or phase II feedback on the HSRT, essay responses, letter of interest and resume will not be shared with applicants

## Phase III: Post-Selection Requirements

Prior to beginning the nursing program in the fall term, the applicants offered a seat in the nursing program must meet the following requirements:

- Show successful completion of any and all outstanding prerequisite courses (45 credits) by the end of PCC's Spring term (June 14, 2026)
- Pass a criminal background check from an agency designated by PCC
- Pass a ten-panel drug screen from a lab designated by PCC
- Submit proof of current immunizations
- Submit proof of current American Heart Association BLS certification for Healthcare Providers

For additional details regarding the above requirements, visit [Phase III FAQs section](#) of this guide or visit the [Requirements for Clinical & Field Education document](#).



# 2026 Phase I Point Distribution

The PCC Admissions team will evaluate your application in Phase I using the criteria on this page. To be competitive, ensure your application is complete and all supporting documents are submitted by the deadline, as points are awarded for completeness.

Category	Evaluation Criteria	Points Possible
Prerequisite GPA	3.67 - 4.00 = <b>25pts</b> 3.15 - 3.19 = <b>17pts</b> 3.33 - 3.66 = <b>23pts</b> 3.00 - 3.14 = <b>15pts</b> 3.20 - 3.32 = <b>20pts</b>	/ 25pts
Anatomy & Physiology Sequence Completion	<b>1pt:</b> Completion of BI 231 & BI 232 by end of PCC's fall term <b>2pts:</b> Completion of BI 231, BI 232, & BI 233 by end of PCC's fall term	/ 2pts
Prerequisite Credit Completion	<b>1pt:</b> Completion of 36-44 credits by end of PCC's fall term <b>2pts:</b> Completion of all 45 credits by end of PCC's fall term	/ 2pts
Previous Degree	<b>1pt:</b> Completion of an international or domestic associate's degree or higher by the end of PCC's fall term	/ 1pt
Science GPA	<b>1pt:</b> Completion of BI 231, BI 232, BI 233, & BI 234 with a 3.75 - 4.0 GPA	/ 1pt
Support Courses	<b>2pts:</b> Completion of a <b>maximum of two</b> of the following courses with a C grade or higher (see the <a href="#">Prerequisite Course FAQs</a> section for details): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic Communication Level 7 - ESOL 254</li> <li>Chemistry Elective Course - CH 100 or higher</li> <li>Child Development - HEC 226</li> <li>Communications Elective Course - COMM 100 or higher</li> <li>Healthcare Career Essentials - MP 108</li> <li>Information Research - LIB 127</li> <li>Medical Terminology - MP 111</li> <li>Mental Health First Aid: Adult - HUS 102</li> <li>Provider CPR/AED First Aid/BBP - MP 113</li> </ul>	/ 2pts
PCC Students	<b>2pts:</b> Completion of a degree or certificate at PCC <b>4pts:</b> Enrollment in credit or non-credit courses at PCC in the last 2 years	/ 6pts
Service Members	<b>3pts:</b> Active military, Veteran, Reserve Status, Peace Corps or AmeriCorps service accepted. See the <a href="#">Phase I FAQs</a> section for details	/ 3pts
Alternate Status	<b>2pts:</b> Reapplicants who were offered a seat or waitlisted in the 2025 application cycle	/ 2pts
Healthcare Credentials	<b>4pts:</b> Completion of a professional international or domestic healthcare credential – no minimum number of practice hours required or expiration	/ 4pts
Healthcare Experience (Completed within the last 10 years)	International or domestic, paid or unpaid; Examples include: medical setting, home care, community health, or health education. <b>2pts:</b> Completion of 240-999 healthcare experience hours <b>4pts:</b> Completion of 1000+ healthcare experience hours	/ 4pts
Phase I Total Points		/ 52pts

# Application Timeline & Details

## Late August 2025: Start Building the Common Nursing Application Pieces

- Create a Nursing CAS (NCAS) account at [nursingcas.org](https://nursingcas.org)
  - All email notifications will be sent to the email designated to creating the NCAS account
  - Applicants are responsible for checking this email regularly throughout the admissions process

## December 1, 2025: PCC Nursing Application Opens in NCAS

- Applicants are able to add PCC as a program in NCAS
- Begin completing PCC specific requirements and upload all application materials in NCAS
- **Order all official transcripts (including PCC transcripts) to be sent directly to NCAS**
  - NCAS may take up to 4-6 weeks to show receipt of your official transcripts
  - Send official transcripts at least 2-3 weeks prior to the application deadline

## December 14, 2025: End of Fall Term

- Last day to count prerequisites, support courses, healthcare license/credentials, healthcare experience, and ALEKs placement exams for the 2026 application
- If prerequisite courses are in-progress in fall term, do not request electronic transcripts to be sent until after January 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure your fall term course grades are reflected on your official transcript
  - See the Preapplication FAQ section for additional details about sending transcripts to NCAS

## December 17, 2025: PCC General Application Deadline

- Applicants must be admitted to PCC as an active credit-seeking student before applying to the Nursing program, to apply to PCC, visit [pcc.edu/admissions](https://pcc.edu/admissions)

## February 16, 2026: Nursing Application Deadline

- Applicants must electronically submit their official transcripts, healthcare work experience forms, supporting license/credential documentation, resume, letter of interest, essay responses AND submit the NCAS \$60 application fee by February 16, 2026, at 8:59pm PST/11:59pm EST deadline
- Apply as early as possible and track your application process through the NCAS “Check Status” tab

## Early April, 2026: Phase II Notifications

- Top scoring applicants will receive phase II invitations and confirm participation for the HSRT

## Mid-Late April, 2026: Phase II

- Top scoring, qualified applicants are invited to sit for the HSRT while their resume, letter of interest, and essay responses are reviewed by nursing faculty



## Mid-May, 2026: Official Seat Offer Notification

- Top scoring applicants in Phase II will be offered a seat in the nursing program

## June 12, 2026: First Mandatory In-Person Orientation

- Mandatory in-person orientation #1 will take place at the Sylvania campus and the phase III completion resources and timeline will be reviewed. Please hold the entire day

## September 11, 2026: Second Mandatory In-Person Orientation

- Second mandatory in-person orientation. Please hold the entire day

## September 21, 2026: Start of the Full-Time Program

- Phase III requirements must be complete prior to the starting the program in the fall
- Students will be assigned to a clinical site and will not be able to choose their rotation time
- Students are responsible for ensuring reliable transportation to and from clinical sites

# Preapplication Checklist

Ensure all application requirements are met by the end of PCC's Fall term prior to the application deadline.

- ☐ Attend an information session by going to [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/](https://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/)
- ☐ Get admitted to PCC as an active credit-seeking student by going to [pcc.edu/enroll/#first-time](https://pcc.edu/enroll/#first-time)
- ☐ Complete a minimum of 30 credits of the required prerequisite credits (including BI 231 & math competency) by the end of PCC's Fall term
- ☐ Begin building the NCAS common application at [nursingcas.org](https://nursingcas.org) as early as the end of August
  - Refer to [nursingcas.org/how-to-apply/](https://nursingcas.org/how-to-apply/) page for a helpful week-by-week timeline
- ☐ Add the PCC program in NCAS when the application goes live on December 1<sup>st</sup>
- ☐ Gather and upload any completed supporting documents to the NCAS application
  - To review a list of supporting documents, application information, and transcript ordering details, visit [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/](https://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/)
- ☐ Request official transcripts be sent to NCAS from all colleges attended (including PCC)
  - If you are in progress with classes during the fall term (prior to the application deadline) wait until January 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure your fall term course grades are reflected on your official transcript
- ☐ Once all uploads and sections of the PCC NCAS application are complete, pay the \$60 NCAS application fee to submit your application (applicants cannot modify their application after submission, however, after submission, NCAS will still match transcripts to applications)
- ☐ Ensure your application and all supporting documents are submitted by the February 16 8:59pm (PST) application deadline
  - Learn how to check your application status by visiting [nursingcas.org/resource/how-to-check-your-application-status/](https://nursingcas.org/resource/how-to-check-your-application-status/)

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## General FAQs

### I have questions about the admissions process, what should I do?

First, thoroughly review the admissions guide and watch the recorded admissions information session or attend a live session, if you haven't done so already. If you still have questions, please email [admissions@pcc.edu](mailto:admissions@pcc.edu) and one of our admissions specialists will reach out to you.

### How do I make sure I am an active credit-seeking student?

Applicants need to be an active credit-seeking student prior to applying to the Nursing program. If you haven't taken a credit course at PCC in the last year, please **update your application** by going to [pcc.edu/apply](https://pcc.edu/apply). To confirm your status as an active credit-seeking student email [enroll@pcc.edu](mailto:enroll@pcc.edu).

### Will more live admissions information session dates be posted?

Four live admissions information sessions are offered each academic year. If you are unable to attend a live session, a prerecorded session, which contains the same information, is available for your convenience. Visit [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/](https://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/) to view live session dates and the prerecorded session.

### What was your 2025 applicant profile?

The 2025 application cycle had:

- **400+** applications received
- **286** complete nursing applications
- **93** applicants invited to sit for the HSRT
- **40** seat offers extended

Students invited to take part in Phase II had the following:

- **3.79** was the average prerequisite GPA
- **90%** had some documented healthcare experience
- **90%** had a healthcare certification
- **94%** had the full A&P sequence completed prior to applying
- **66%** had all their prerequisite courses completed prior to applying

**Please note: These numbers change on a yearly basis. Point totals or average scores are not released.**

### Do I need to have a Social Security Number (SSN) to get my Nursing License?

To combat fraud, the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) requires a Social Security Number (SSN) from all applicants, including those renewing their licenses. This is in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 25.785. Refusal to provide your SSN will lead to the denial of your license or certification, and this denial will be reported to the National Practitioner Databank.

### If you're not a U.S. citizen, here's what you can provide instead of an SSN:

- A copy of your **U.S. work visa** (such as H1B, I-766, or any other current federal government form authorizing you to work in the United States).
- If you're on an **F1 student visa**, submit copies of your **I-94 and I-20 forms**, signed by your school's designated authority.

For more details, contact the OSBN office at [oregon.bn.info@osbn.oregon.gov](mailto:oregon.bn.info@osbn.oregon.gov).

### **What is the estimated total program cost of the Nursing program?**

The total estimated cost of the two-year program, not including prerequisites, is between \$21,700 - \$22,500. To learn more about general admissions and fees, visit: [pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/](https://pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/).

## **Prerequisite Course FAQs**

### **I need help with planning my prerequisites, where should I start?**

If you are new to PCC, please go to [pcc.edu/advising/](https://pcc.edu/advising/) for next steps on how to connect with an advisor or fill out the New Student Question Form by visiting [pcc.edu/visit/new-student-questions/](https://pcc.edu/visit/new-student-questions/). If you are already taking classes at PCC, please follow this link: [pcc.navigate.eab.com/app/#/](https://pcc.navigate.eab.com/app/#/) to set up an appointment with your assigned academic advisor.

### **Will my transfer courses be accepted at PCC?**

Applicants with transfer courses are strongly encouraged to submit their official transcripts to Student Records for evaluation by visiting [pcc.edu/student-records/transfer/](https://pcc.edu/student-records/transfer/). Student Records will evaluate lower division collegiate (LDC) coursework.

Upper division coursework (UDC) is evaluated upon request. We do not recommend you request all UDC to be evaluated by Student Records, instead, please request they evaluate only the courses you intend to use as prerequisites for the Nursing program. Each transfer course is subject to review by the PCC Student Records Office, the Nursing Department, and/or the Admissions Team to determine transfer equivalency.

### **My completed prerequisite course now has the letter Z attached to it; do I need to retake it?**

No. If the course has not expired, applicants will not need to repeat the prerequisite course. For example, prerequisite courses such as MTH 111Z used to be numbered as MTH 111 and would not need to be retaken. Courses such as WR 121Z, WR 122Z, STAT 243Z, and many others are part of the new Oregon Common Course Numbering system. Visit the Common Course Numbering page by going to [pcc.edu/common-course-numbering/](https://pcc.edu/common-course-numbering/) for more information and a list of current course changes.

### **What if I take a prerequisite course pass/no pass?**

Individual prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher. Pass/no pass grading options are not accepted as proof of successful course completion.

### **Can I use Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) courses from an unaccredited institution to meet a prerequisite course requirement?**

CPL courses are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All prerequisite courses, including transfer work, must be completed with a C grade or higher from a regionally accredited institution to meet prerequisite course requirements. If you are planning on using a CPL course to satisfy a prerequisite course requirement, email your academic advisor and copy [admissions@pcc.edu](mailto:admissions@pcc.edu) on the email prior to submitting your program application.

### **How do I waive WR 121Z & WR 122Z with completion of a U.S. Bachelor's degree?**

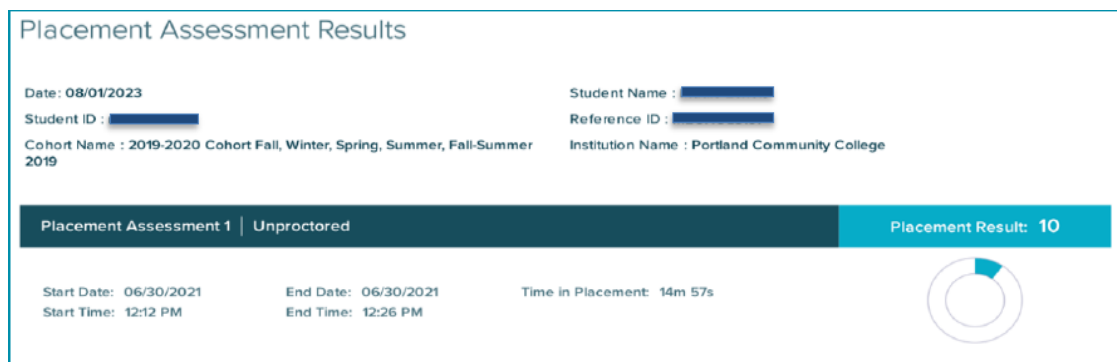
Applicants who have completed a U.S. Bachelor's degree (waived the WR 121Z & 122Z requirement) must use additional lower division general education electives to fulfill the 45 credits required for admission.

### **What other math courses can be used to meet the MTH 95 requirement?**

The math requirement for the nursing program is to complete, by the end of PCC's fall term prior to applying, a course of MTH 95 or higher or complete equivalent ALEKS math placement (place into MTH 105Z/111Z/211 and/or STAT 243Z). Other completed courses that can be used to meet this requirement include, but are not limited to, MTH 98, 105Z, 111Z, 112Z, or STAT 243Z.

## Do I need to complete the ALEKS math placement test for admission?

If you haven't completed MTH 95 or a higher math course within the last seven years (by the end of PCC's fall term), you can demonstrate math competency using the ALEKS math placement test. **To be considered, you must place into MTH 105Z/111Z/211 and/or STAT 243Z by December 14, 2025.** Remember to upload your raw ALEKS placement test score directly to your NCAS application. Your ALEKS raw test score should look like this:



**Important Note:** If you use the ALEKS placement exam to meet the admissions requirement, you will need to complete an additional general education elective to reach the required 45 course credits. Furthermore, using a placement exam for admission does not exempt you from fulfilling the math course requirements for the AAS Degree.

## Does my ALEKS placement expire?

PCC's testing center uses your ALEKS math placement scores for course placement for three years. However, the nursing program has a different requirement: it will accept ALEKS placement exams to meet its math admissions requirement if the scores are less than seven years old at the time of program application.

## How do I choose which support courses are right for me?

We recommend working with an academic advisor when considering which two support courses to take. Some of the support courses can be used to meet lower division [general education](#) requirements. For example, a communication elective may be used to meet the AAS Arts and Letters general education requirement. To see an extended list of approved communication courses that will meet the support course requirement and general education requirement, visit [pcc.edu/enroll/registration/planning-your-first-term/general-education-classes/#arts-and-letters](http://pcc.edu/enroll/registration/planning-your-first-term/general-education-classes/#arts-and-letters). Other support courses that can be used to meet general education requirements include HEC 226 and CH 100 level or higher.

## Should I take MP 113 as a support course?

The following are considerations to make when thinking about taking MP 113 as a support course. MP 113's course is titled Healthcare Provider CPR/AED, First Aid/Bloodborne Pathogens. This course can be used in Phase I for points and would meet the phase III requirement for American Heart Association BLS certification for Healthcare Providers; HOWEVER, we would only recommend taking this course if you do not already have a credential or if you are wanting to work in the healthcare field and this is a requirement for your job. **Be aware that if you receive your credentials prior to the start of the program you risk having to renew your credentials while in the program, as the credential is only valid for two years.**

## Does the Nursing program require basic computer competency?

The Nursing program does not require a computer science class as a prerequisite. However, success in the nursing program requires that applicants are confident and comfortable in their computer literacy skills. This may include but is not limited to, word processing, data entry, use of spreadsheets and internet research.

## Preapplication FAQs

### How soon should I start working on my NursingCAS (NCAS) Application?

The general NCAS application becomes available in late August each year. When applying, be sure to select the correct fall term you plan to start. At this stage, you can input your personal information, academic history, and review general NCAS requirements. You will not be able to access the specific PCC Nursing Application within NCAS until December. Once it opens in December, you can add PCC to your application and begin working on the PCC-specific requirements.

### Do I need to send my official transcripts to NCAS even if I have already sent them to PCC?

Yes, applicants must send every official college transcript, including PCC transcripts, to NCAS before the application deadline even if all your official transcripts have been sent to PCC. **It is your responsibility to ensure that NCAS receives and verifies all your official transcripts.**

### Do I have to fill out the transcript entry?

Yes, applicants must complete the transcript entry with all college courses ever taken. Applicants can pay an additional fee on the application for NCAS to fill out the transcript entry on their behalf. This is called the [Professional Transcript Entry \(PTE\)](#). **We do not recommend using PTE as it can contribute to your application being late and rendered ineligible as NCAS is not monitoring program specific deadlines.** If using PTE, we recommend submitting your application at least 6 weeks prior to the application deadline.

### I applied last year; do I need to send my official transcripts to NCAS again?

If you applied last year, you may not need to send all official transcripts to NCAS again, instead you can use the reapplication function in NCAS. To learn more, visit:

[help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS\\_Applicant\\_Help\\_Center/Starting\\_Your\\_NursingCAS\\_Application/Creating\\_and\\_Managing\\_Your\\_NursingCAS\\_Account/2\\_Use\\_an\\_Existing\\_Account\\_to\\_Re-Apply](http://help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Starting_Your_NursingCAS_Application/Creating_and_Managing_Your_NursingCAS_Account/2_Use_an_Existing_Account_to_Re-Apply)

### How will I be notified of my NCAS application status?

All program application correspondence will be sent to the designated email used in your NCAS application (the email you used to create your NCAS account). **Applicants are responsible for checking email regularly and understanding admissions related dates and deadlines.**

Once admitted to the nursing program, all program related correspondence (including Financial Aid, post-selection requirements, etc.) will be sent through your MyPCC email address.

### Will appeals be considered for applicants who miss admissions related deadlines?

At PCC we are committed to maintaining a fair admissions process by adhering to firm deadlines for application submissions and supporting documentation. Due to the high volume of applications, PCC will not accept appeals for missed deadlines. Applicants are encouraged to be aware of program and college deadlines, to plan accordingly, and submit required materials well in advance.

## Phase I FAQs

### Will my Phase I score be shared with me?

Our admissions team does not share individual Phase I scores nor is the overall Phase I cut-score shared. Each year the Phase I score, applicant pool, and/or the selection criteria changes. Instead of sharing the Phase I cut-score, the admissions statistics for the most recent application cycle are published.

### How do I know if my healthcare credential will be accepted for points in phase I?

Review the [Approved Healthcare Credentials](#) form to identify your specific credential. Reach out to [admissions@pcc.edu](mailto:admissions@pcc.edu) for specific credential inquiries.

### Can I use old verification forms on my 2026 application?

Applicants can use old verification forms on their 2026 application; however, they are responsible for understanding the new requirements and hours needed to ensure the forms are properly documenting the 2026 requirements. Applicants should check the [Application Materials](#) page to ensure all PCC documents are gathered before uploading them to their PCC application in NCAS.

### How do I document service member experience?

To earn points for service, submit the [service member experience form](#) if you have served as active or reserve members of the United States Military, Veterans of the United States Military and AmeriCorps, or Peace Corps Volunteers. Upload supporting documents to the NCAS application by the application deadline.

- **Active US Military and Veterans:** Submit the DD214, member 4 copy.
- **Peace Corps volunteers:** Provide a Certification of Service for Employment Purposes form. This document can be requested via the RPCV Portal. For more information, visit [peacecorps.gov/returned-volunteers/](https://peacecorps.gov/returned-volunteers/).
- **AmeriCorps volunteers:** If you are a current or former national service member and need a service verification letter, log in to the My AmeriCorps Portal: [my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do](https://my.americorps.gov/mp/login.do).

## Phase II FAQs

### What are the guidelines for the resume and letter of interest?

The resume must include your: education, work experience, community engagement, awards/achievements or special skills. The letter of interest should be addressed to the “PCC Nursing Admissions Committee” and must address the three following topics:

- Why are you interested in applying to the PCC nursing program.
- What research you have done to ensure nursing is the right career for you and your long-term goals.
- Was there a specific experience, interaction or person you can cite that has influenced your decision to pursue a nursing degree.

For more details, visit [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/](https://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/).

### What are some writing tips for responding to the essay prompts?

Essay prompts for the NCAS application will be available in December. We highly recommend starting your essays early rather than waiting until the last minute. Here are a few tips:

- Type your responses in a separate document, then copy and paste them into the NCAS application.
- Essays have a 2,000-character limit, so be concise.
- Always save your application after completing your essays to avoid losing your work.
- All essays must be your own original work; do not use artificial intelligence.

Review the prompts as soon as they're released. This will give you plenty of time over winter break and in the months before the deadline to craft thoughtful responses.

### How should I prepare for the Health Sciences Reasoning Test (HSRT)?

The HSRT is a critical thinking exam which makes it difficult to study for. Most of the questions are situational and may have more than one correct answer. You can read more about the HSRT on the [Insight Assessment FAQ page](#) under the Testing and Administration section. Applicants usually have 50 minutes to complete the exam and are assessed based on how they answer the questions rather than the completion of the test. For more info, see [How to Prepare](#) and [Top 10 Critical Thinking FAQ's](#).



## Phase III FAQs

### After I receive a seat offer, and accept program placement, what is required of me?

After being offered a seat in the program, and the seat is accepted, students will be required to successfully pass a criminal background check, a ten-panel drug screen, provide proof of required immunizations, and CPR certification for healthcare providers (American Heart Association). Please review the following requirements for clinical and field education: [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf](https://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf).

### Can I start working on these requirements now?

Please wait to start working on the above requirements until you are offered a seat offer in the nursing program. Admitted students will receive specific directions (at the June orientation) from PCC's Nursing department on how to fulfill and document these requirements.

## Program Completion FAQs

### When I complete this program, what will I have a degree in?

PCC's Nursing program awards an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Nursing. After graduating, you'll be eligible to take the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN). Passing this exam allows you to become a licensed nurse in the state of Oregon.

### What is the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE)?

PCC's Nursing program is part of the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education ([OCNE](#)), a collaborative effort between OHSU and other Oregon community colleges. OCNE uses a shared curriculum, admission requirements, and timelines across all participating schools.

A major benefit of OCNE is the seamless pathway to a Bachelor of Science (BS) with a major in Nursing degree at OHSU. **This means you won't need to reapply to a separate bachelor's program or compete for admission.** After completing your AAS at PCC and passing the NCLEX-RN, you can transition directly to OHSU to complete your bachelor's degree, often in just one additional year of online coursework ([either full-time or part-time](#)). While the OCNE coursework is designed as a four-year framework, your individual timeline may vary based on prerequisite course placement, potentially extending it to five years for the BS degree. You can learn more about OHSU's nursing programs at [ohsu.edu/school-of-nursing/sample-programs-study](https://ohsu.edu/school-of-nursing/sample-programs-study).

### What are the benefits of getting my Bachelors of Science with a major in Nursing?

Earning your Bachelor of Science with a major in Nursing offers significant professional advantages:

- **Employer Preference:** Many employers, especially Magnet® designated hospitals, prefer or require a bachelor's degree for hiring and career advancement.
- **Career Growth:** Nurses with a BS degree often have higher earning potential and more access to leadership roles.
- **Further Education:** A bachelor's degree is a prerequisite for pursuing graduate nursing degrees, such as becoming a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse leader, or nurse educator.

The OCNE partnership with OHSU makes getting your bachelor's degree efficient and flexible, designed to accommodate working nurses.

# Additional Support Resources

## PCC Internal Support Resources

- Academic Advising: [pcc.edu/advising/](http://pcc.edu/advising/)
- Accessible Ed & Disability Resources: [pcc.edu/disability/](http://pcc.edu/disability/)
- Application Materials Page: [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/](http://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/application-materials/)
- Apply to Nursing Program Page: [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/](http://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/apply/)
- Career Services: [pcc.edu/careers/](http://pcc.edu/careers/)
- Clinical & Field Education Requirements: [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf](http://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf)
- Financial Aid: [pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/financial-aid/contacts/](http://pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/financial-aid/contacts/)
- Information Session Page: [pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/](http://pcc.edu/programs/nursing/info-sessions/)
- International Students: [pcc.edu/international-students/](http://pcc.edu/international-students/)
- Job Finding Support: [pcc.edu/careers/jobs/](http://pcc.edu/careers/jobs/)
- Orientation Center: [pcc.edu/visit/orientation-centers/](http://pcc.edu/visit/orientation-centers/)
- Placement Process: [pcc.edu/enroll/placement-process/](http://pcc.edu/enroll/placement-process/)
- Scholarship Support: [pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/scholarships/](http://pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/scholarships/)
- Tutoring: [pcc.edu/tutoring/](http://pcc.edu/tutoring/)

## External Support Resources

- Health and Science Reasoning Test (HSRT): [insightassessment.com/product/hsrt](http://insightassessment.com/product/hsrt)
- National Student Nurses Association: [nsna.org](http://nsna.org)
- NursingCAS Help Center: [help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS\\_Applicant\\_Help\\_Center/](http://help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/)
- Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education: [ocne.org](http://ocne.org)
- Oregon Center for Nursing: [oregoncenterfornursing.org](http://oregoncenterfornursing.org)
- Oregon Health Science University Nursing Program: [ohsu.edu/son](http://ohsu.edu/son)
- Oregon State Board of Nursing: [osbn.state.or.us](http://osbn.state.or.us)
- Oregon State Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check Information: [oregon.gov/osbn/pages/criminal-history.aspx](http://oregon.gov/osbn/pages/criminal-history.aspx)

# 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 healthcare services. These technical standards reflect the performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of clinical based healthcare programs. If you need reasonable accommodations, please contact PCC's [Accessible Ed & Disability Resources](#) by visiting [pcc.edu/disability](http://pcc.edu/disability) for assistance.

## 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

**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.**