

Practical Nursing Program

Additional Admission Requirements

Students interested in pursuing admission into the Practical Nursing program at Iowa Western Community college must complete all admission requirements listed below in sections 1 and 2. In order to be eligible for admission, the requirements listed below must be submitted to the Admissions Office by the priority deadline. If the program does not fill on this date, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until the program has filled.

The Nursing programs are approved by the Iowa Board of Nursing, River Point Business Park, 400 SW 8th Street, Suite B, Des Moines, IA 50309-4685, (515) 281-3255.

Location	Semester program begins	Acceptance deadline	Program Capacity
Council Bluffs	Fall (August)	January 31	78
Council Bluffs	Spring (January)	September 1	78
Shelby County Center	Fall (August)	January 31	24
Clarinda Center	Fall (August)	January 31	24

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all admissions requirements are on file with the Admissions Office and that his or her admissions application is correct, including intended start term, start year, and location.

Section 1: Complete College Admissions Requirements

- Complete an Iowa Western application for admission:** The application is online at www.iwcc.edu and there is no application fee. When completing the application for admissions, applicants should select which location (Council Bluffs, Clarinda Center, etc.) and which start term (Fall or Spring - see chart above) they wish to begin the program.
- Request Transcripts:** You need to have a final, official high school transcript or HiSET/GED transcript sent to Iowa Western. If you have completed college course work, you will need to have an official college transcript sent to Iowa Western from the institution where the credit was earned.
- Test scores are not required for admission to the College.** However, students who have taken a standardized college aptitude test, like the ACT or SAT, need to have their most recent scores sent to the Admissions Office. Test scores, in addition to previous coursework and non-cognitive assessment results, are utilized by advisors to help determine placement into appropriate math and English courses.

Once you complete the application for admission, you will be accepted to Iowa Western as a Prep-Practical Nursing student and will be eligible to register for general education courses required for the Practical Nursing Program. For more information on getting registered for general education courses or for help with the admissions requirements, please contact us at admissions@iwcc.edu or call 712.325.3277.

Section 2: Complete Practical Nursing Program Admissions Requirements

1. Submit a copy of a current valid CNA. Iowa Western offers a credit CNA course, HSC-172 Nurse Aide, as well as non-credit CNA course offerings through the Office of Continuing Education.

NOTE:

- The CNA must remain active during the two semesters of the Practical Nursing program.
- If your CNA is outside of the state of Iowa, please review <https://dia.iowa.gov/node/376>.

2. **Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or higher:**

- PSY-121 Developmental Psychology
- ENG-105 Composition I

3. **Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “B” or higher:**

- BIO-168 Human Anatomy & Physiology I
 - This course has a prerequisite:** A grade of “C” or higher in Human Biology at the college level, or one year of high school Anatomy and Physiology with a grade of “C” or higher earned within the last two years).
 - NOTE:** For acceptance into the Practical Nursing program, students must receive a grade of “B” or higher in Anatomy and Physiology I.
- BIO-173 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
 - This course has a prerequisite:** A grade of “C” or higher in Anatomy and Physiology I).
 - NOTE:** For acceptance into the Practical Nursing program, students must receive a grade of “B” or higher in Anatomy and Physiology II.

4. **Successfully pass the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Examination with a composite score of 58.7% or higher.**

Applicants who score lower than 58.7% will not be considered for admission to the program.

- Exam must be successfully completed within three years of the applicant’s intended start term.
- Information about the cost, test location and payment, test preparation, etc. can be found online at <https://www.iwcc.edu/admissions/teas/>.
- If the TEAS was completed at a testing center other than Iowa Western, scores should be sent to the Iowa Western Admissions Office.
- **NOTE:** The TEAS Test is limited to a total of 3 attempts. Students who have three failed attempts on the TEAS must wait one year to retest from their first attempt and reapply to the program.

Recommended Course Sequence

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
BIO 157 Human Biology – <i>may be waved</i>	4	*BIO 168 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
*ENG 105 Composition	3	*Developmental Psychology	3
HSC 172 Nurse Aide – <i>may be waived if CNA</i>	3		
Total Credit hours	10	Total Credit Hours	7

Third Semester	Credits
*BIO 173 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
Total Credit hours	4

*Classes listed with an asterisk are required for admission into the Practical Nursing program. Students seeking full-time enrollment can complete additional general education courses required for the Practical Nursing or Associate Degree of Nursing program – [see list of non PNN or ADN classes here](#). It is important to remember that taking the additional program general education courses may affect your full-time status when enrolled in the Nursing program(s).



Section 3: Acceptance process for Practical Nursing Program

After completing Section 1: College Admissions Requirements and Section 2: Practical Nursing Admissions Requirements your application is complete. The Admissions Office does not require a separate application. Our office uses what is called your "Start Term" (example: fall 2019) for acceptance in our competitive programs. It is important that the start term on file correctly reflects the semester you anticipate starting the program. Students can request to have their start term updated by submitting the [Update Start Term Form](#).

Acceptance will begin on the listed acceptance deadline, see chart on page one. After the priority deadline, points will be totaled for all completed application files. The Practical Nursing Program Application Scoring Criteria will be used to assign points. The Admissions Office totals points for all applicants for all three locations. Students with the highest point totals will be accepted. Students are notified of their acceptance status within two weeks of the deadline via email.

If the program does not fill on the priority acceptance deadline, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until the program is full. If there are more eligible students than space available, students with the highest point totals will be accepted. If a tie breaker is required, preference will be given to the students with the highest number of prerequisite courses completed at Iowa Western. If a second tie breaker is needed, preference will be given to the students with the earliest application file completion date.

Once the program is full, students will be placed on an alternate list. If the program is full and an accepted student declines acceptance into the Practical Nursing Program, students on the alternate list will be offered a spot in the program.

Practical Nursing Application Scoring Criteria

Points will be awarded based on the following criteria. To be calculated in the point total, all documentation must be on file with the Admissions Office on or before the priority deadline.		Possible Points
1. Grade Point Average for anatomy and physiology		
Points will be awarded based on the grade point average the student earns in BIO 168 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and BIO 173 Human Anatomy and Physiology II:		
BIO 168 & BIO 173	Points awarded	10-20
4.0	20	
3.5	15	
3.0	10	
2. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Examination		
Points will be awarded based on the composite score received on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) examination.		
Composite score	Points awarded	10-20
90.7% or above	20	
78.0% - 90.6%	15	
58.7% - 77.9%	10	



Section 4: Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Practical Nursing Program have additional admissions requirements?

The Practical Nursing Program is a rigorous academic program which requires students to be academically prepared for success, including a strong background in human biology, anatomy, and physiology.

Does the Practical Nursing Program have a waiting list?

No, we do not utilize a waiting list. Once you have completed the College Admission Requirements and the Practical Nursing Program Admissions Requirements listed above, you will have everything you need to be considered for admission to the program for an upcoming term. It is important to ensure that your record is up to date with the Admissions Office, including your start term and start year.

How long does it take to get into the Practical Nursing Program?

Iowa Western does not utilize a waiting list, so the amount of time it takes to get into the program varies by student depending on how long it takes to complete the College Admissions Requirements and the Practical Nursing Program Admissions Requirements listed above. The prerequisite courses typically take two to three semesters to complete for students who enter the college with no college credit.

Is there a separate application process to apply for the program?

Iowa Western requires that students submit an application of admission to the college. There is no separate application for the Practical Nursing program. The Admissions Office uses what is called your "Start Term" (example: fall 2021) for acceptance in our competitive programs. It is important that the start term on file correctly reflects the semester you anticipate starting the program. Students can request to have their start term updated by submitting the [Update Start Term Form](#).

If I do not complete the requirements for the program in time to be accepted, can I reapply?

Yes. To re-apply, simply update your start term – [Update Start Term Form](#). You may also visit the Admissions Office, contact us at admissions@iwcc.edu or 712.325.3277 and request to change your start term.

How will I know if I get accepted to the Practical Nursing Program?

Approximately two weeks after acceptance begins, which is January 31 for the Fall semester and September 1 for the Spring semester, you will receive an email from the Admissions Office indicating your acceptance status. If the program does not fill during our priority acceptance, we will continue accepting students who complete the requirements until the program has reached capacity.

What do I need to do once I get accepted to the Practical Nursing Program?

Students accepted to the Practical Nursing Program will have to complete a few additional steps in order to be ready to begin the nursing program, which include registering for classes, attending a nursing orientation event, and completing criminal background check and physical paperwork. All of these steps will be included in your letter of acceptance or in additional communication from the Nursing Department.



*Admissions Requirements are subject to change. Contact Admissions Office for questions.

Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of Iowa Western Community College to provide equal educational opportunities and not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, genetic information, physical or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, marital status, veteran status, AIDS/HIV status, citizenship, or medical condition, as those terms are defined under applicable laws, in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices.

Questions or complaints? Contact Title IX and Equal Opportunity Coordinator for Students, Reanna Heim; Robyn Porter, Title IX and Equal Opportunity Coordinator for Employees; or ADA Coordinator for Students, Samantha Larson, equity@iwcc.edu, 712-325-3200, or Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, John C. Kluczynski Federal Building, 230 S. Dearborn Street, 37th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604-7204, Telephone: (312) 730-1560 Facsimile: (312) 730-1576, TDD 800-877-8339 Email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.

Admissions Office

Hours: M-F 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Ph: (712) 325-3277

E-mail: admissions@iwcc.edu

