



Vocational Nursing Program Information Packet

Midland College's Vocational Nursing Program is a 12-month curriculum leading to a level II certificate of completion. Courses are completed in two 16-week academic semesters and a 13-week summer semester. Classes begin each August with the fall semester.

The Vocational Nursing program is fully approved by the Texas Board of Nursing. The program includes classroom and laboratory work on campus, as well as clinical experiences at various area health care facilities. The Vocational Nursing Program is offered in Midland at the main campus and in Fort Stockton at the Williams Regional Technical Training Center (WRTTC). Classes use interactive video technology to link to both campuses.

Students who complete the Vocational Nursing program become eligible to take the Licensing Examination for Vocational Nurses (NCLEX-PN) in order to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) within the guidelines set by the Texas Board of Nursing. Licensure eligibility rules apply and can be found at https://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure_examination.asp

Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN's) provide basic nursing care. They work under the direction of Registered Nurses and doctors. They work in many settings including nursing homes and extended care facilities, hospitals, physician's offices, and private homes. The average base salary for LVN's in Texas is \$63,895 in 2023.

Students will need to plan two to three hours of studying and preparation time weekly for each class and clinical course. The schedule is rigorous with classes, labs and/or clinical scheduled four to five days a week. The demands of nursing courses are such that students may not be able to work full-time while enrolled in this curriculum. Courses are offered during the daytime hours only.

The program's clinical experiences require that students be physically able to care for sick patients. This involves lifting, moving, bathing and transferring patients into and out of bed. Students will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases.

Clinical rotations may take place at:

- Ashton Medical Lodge
- Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital
- Monahan's Managed Care Center
- Midland Memorial Hospital
- Odessa Regional Medical Center
- Pecos County Memorial Hospital
- Medical Center Health
- Big Spring State Hospital
- Hospice and Home Health
- Various clinics and doctors' offices

Certificate Plan

Fall Semester

HPRS 1106 Essentials of Medical Terminology, 1-hour
VNSG 1320 Anatomy & Physiology for Allied Health, 3-hour
VNSG 1405 Health Science, 4-hour
VNSG 1304 Foundations of Nursing, 3-hour
VNSG 1323 Basic Nursing Skills, 3-hour
VNSG 1260 Clinical I, 2-hour

Total Semester Credit Hours - 16

**VNSG 1320 & HPRS 1106 may be taken before nursing classes begin for priority points into the program*

Spring Semester

VNSG 1301 Mental Health and Mental Illness, 3-hour
VNSG 1230 Maternal-Neonatal Nursing, 2-hour
VNSG 1329 Medical-Surgical Nursing I, 3-hour
HPRS 2200 Pharmacology for Health Professionals, 2-hour
VNSG 1361 Clinical II, 3-hour

Total Semester Credit Hours – 13

Summer Semester

VNSG 1205 NCLEX-PN Review, 2-hour
VNSG 1119 Leadership & Professional Development, 1-hour
VNSG 1234 Pediatrics, 2-hour
VNSG 1332 Medical Surgical Nursing II, 3-hour
VNSG 2363 Clinical III, 3-hour

Total Semester Credit Hours – 11

Tuition – Students pay tuition and fees based on the number of hours they are enrolled in for each of the three semesters of the program. The estimated tuition and fees for in-district students is about \$5,700.00 for the entire program. The estimated cost for books and supplies is about \$2,000.00. This does not include uniforms, health insurance, and drug testing fees. Out of pocket fees are also required to apply to the Texas Board of Nursing to take the licensing exam and for the NCLEX-PN exam itself (total of \$300.00) which is due at the beginning of the summer semester.

Financial Aid and Scholarships – Financial aid should be arranged early by contacting the Financial Aid Office at 432-685-5511 or by viewing the Financial Aid page on the Midland College website. Go to the home page and click “Enrollment & Aid”, then click “Paying for College”. Many scholarships are available based on need and/or academic achievement. Click “Scholarship” to find the steps to apply using My MC Portal.

Drug Testing – The out of pocket fee for drug testing must be paid before classes begin each semester. Urine drug screens are conducted after classes begin. Should the urine drug screen be positive, the student will be removed from the program.

Admission Requirements

The Vocational Nursing program has a competitive admission process, therefore not all applicants are offered admission. Admission to the Vocational Nursing program is based on admission points, and that the applicant meets all admission requirements. Obtaining a background check from the Texas Board of Nursing and completing the Hepatitis B immunization series (6 months) can be a lengthy process. It is recommended that applicants begin this admission process as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to submit all required documentation to the Director of the Vocational Nursing program to complete application process. Please ask questions and seek advisement, we are here to help you succeed.

1. **Midland College Application** – If you are not already enrolled at Midland College, you need to complete an application and be accepted to Midland College. Apply online at <http://www.midland.edu/enrollment-aid/steps-enroll>. If you need assistance visit the Welcome Center on the main campus or the WRTTC in Fort Stockton.
2. **Health Science Division Application** – Complete the Health Science Division application, which can be found online at <https://midland.edu/academics/degrees/health/hs-general-application.php>. For assistance with this please contact the director of the Vocational Nursing program. Contact information is listed at the end of this packet.
3. **High School Transcript/GED** – Submit an official copy of your high school transcript or GED certificate to Midland College's Registrar Office. An additional official copy must also be submitted to the Vocational Nursing program as part of the application process.
4. **College Transcript(s)** – Submit two official copies of all college transcripts. One copy to the Midland College Registrar's Office, and the second copy to the Vocational Nursing program as part of the application process.
5. **Placement Test** – All applicants must complete the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements in reading, writing, and math or meet the requirements for exemption.
6. **Texas Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check (CBC)** – In order to be considered as a qualified applicant for a nursing program, the Texas Board of Nursing requires all prospective students to be fingerprinted and undergo a criminal background check. Fingerprints are analyzed by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in accordance with the Texas Board of Nursing standards for criminal history, including felonies and misdemeanors. Results of the CBC must be available to the nursing program before an applicant can be accepted.

All applicants must complete a Texas Board of Nursing Background Check Information Form and submit it to the Director of the Vocational Nursing program, as part of the application process. The applicant's information will be forwarded to the Texas Board of Nursing. Upon receiving verification that the applicant has been added to the fingerprints list, instructions will be emailed for the procedure for obtaining fingerprints. Applicants must carefully follow the instructions and must not initiate this process on their own. Applicants are responsible for all associated fees pertaining to the CBC process. **Please note that the CBC process takes at least 30 days to complete.**

After the results of the CBC are received and reviewed by the Texas Board of Nursing, the applicant is notified of the findings. If the applicant has a clear background check, he/she will

receive by mail a "blue card" which states the Texas Board of Nursing has received the background check and the applicants file is clear. A copy of both sides of the "blue card" must be included with your application. Prospective applicants with a positive CBC will receive an "Outcome Letter" by mail. One type of outcome letter comes from the Board of Nursing Department of Operations. This letter states that there was criminal activity noted on the background check, but the Texas Board of Nursing has cleared the applicant and they are not required to do anything further. This letter is sent when there are minor offenses that are reviewed and cleared by Board of Nursing staff. A copy of this letter must be included with your application. Applicants should keep this letter in a safe place, because a copy will need to be attached to the application for licensure during the summer semester.

Another type of "Outcome Letter" is one that directs the applicant to pay a fee and submit a *Petition for Declaratory Order*. This letter comes from the Enforcement Office at the Board of Nursing. The declaratory order process can take from six months to a year before applicant receives a decision from the Board of Nursing. If the declaratory order is granted, the applicant will then receive an "Outcome Letter". A copy of the letter should be included with your application. If the declaratory order is denied by the Board of Nursing, the applicant cannot be admitted into the Vocational Nursing program.

If the applicant can answer "yes" to any of the following eligibility questions, it is strongly recommended the applicant begin the Declaratory Order process immediately because this process can take six months to a year to complete. Do not wait until you submit your fingerprints to begin this process. For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:

- a. Been arrested and have any pending criminal charges?
- b. Been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- c. Been convicted of a felony?
- d. Pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- e. Received deferred adjudication?
- f. Been placed on community supervision or court ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
- g. Been sentenced to serve jail, prison time, or court-ordered confinement?
- h. Been granted pre-trial diversion?
- i. Been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
- j. Been subject of a court martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgement/punishment/action?

**You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations*

- Note: Expunged and Sealed Offenses: While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to our (Texas BON) office with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not in fact expunged or sealed, will at a minimum subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character. (See 2 TAC §213.27)

- **Note: Orders of Non-Disclosure:** Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code §552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on this form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of the Gov't Code chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of a non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal the matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character and fitness.

1. Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?
2. Has any licensing authority ever refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, or refused to renew a professional license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?
3. In the past 5 years have you been diagnosed with or treated or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder which impaired or does impair your behavior, judgment, or ability to function in school or work?
4. Within the past (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?

7. Immunizations – All applicants must show documentation (shot records or titers) that the following immunizations have been completed:

- Mumps-Measles-Rubella (MMR) – 2 doses or titer
- Hepatitis B – 3 doses or titer
- Varicella (chickenpox) – 2 doses or titer
- Tetanus Diphtheria Pertussis (Tdap) – one dose within the past 10 years
- Influenza – seasonal, must be updated yearly
- Tuberculosis Skin Test – must be updated yearly (2 years for chest x-ray). P.P.D skin test is required.
- Students who are 22 years old or younger will be required to have a Bacterial Meningitis vaccine as part of the college/state requirements. This dose must have been taken within the past 5 years. Exemptions can be filed with Enrollment Services for the Bacterial Meningitis.
- COVID-19 vaccine or an approved medical/religious exemption

8. International Students – Applicants who did not graduate from a high school in the United States must pass the internet based TOEFL iBT (Test of English as a Foreign Language) and obtain a minimum

score of 79. The TOEFL score is valid for two years. Information regarding the TOEFL can be obtained at <https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/about>

9. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification – Applicants must be certified in American Heart Association Health Care Provider or Basic Life Support Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The CPR certification must stay current through the applicants anticipated graduation date. Online CPR courses are not acceptable. CPR courses are offered once a month by the Midland College Health Sciences Continuing Education (HSCE). In order to enroll for the class, contact Kimberly Daw at 432-681-6338 located at the Advanced Technology Center, 3200 West Cuthbert.

10. Current Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Certification – Applicants must have a current CNA Certification. Applicants must provide a copy of the certification as part of the application process. For information regarding the CNA program, contact 432-681-6354, or visit the website <https://www.midland.edu/academics/degrees/health/nursing/nurse-aide.php>

11. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) – Applicant must obtain a satisfactory score on the nursing entrance exam, Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), most current version. The minimal acceptable score is in the academic preparedness level of “Basic”. Applicants must wait 6 weeks between retakes, and are only allowed 3 attempts within an application year. The TEAS score is valid for two (2) years. For more information on the TEAS exam and how to get registered to take the TEAS exam, please visit the Testing Services page at <https://www.midland.edu/enrollment-aid/testing-services.php>

Admission Points

Admission points will be awarded for the following courses, which are included in the Vocational Nursing Certificate plan. These courses must be completed prior to the application deadline of July 7th in order to qualify as admission points. No course grade lower than a "C" will be accepted. The points are awarded as follows: A = 4 points, B = 3 points, and C = 1 point. The courses are:

- VNSG 1320 Anatomy and Physiology for Allied Health – Must be completed within the last five (5) years. If the course is more than five (5) years old, it will have to be repeated. Course substitutions are:
 - BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I **AND** BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II (Grade for both courses are averaged to determine admission points)
 - BIOL 2404 Human Anatomy and Physiology (This is a refresher course and can only be taken after other A&P courses have expired)
- HPRS 1106 Medical Terminology – Must be completed within the last two (2) years. If the course is more than two (2) years old, it will have to be repeated.

Additional Admission Points

Additional admission points will be awarded for the following:

- EDUC 1100 Effective Learning – 1 point
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Institutional Award – 2 points
- Certificate awarded by an accredited college – 2 points
- Degree awarded by an accredited college – 4 points
- Applicants that score higher than an academic preparedness level of "basic" on the TEAS exam will be awarded the following admission points:
 - Level of Proficient – 5 points
 - Level of Advanced – 8 points
 - Level of Exemplary – 10 points

Application Deadline – The application deadline for the Fall class is July 7th each year. If July 7th falls on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday then applications are due by 5:00 p.m. the next business day (Monday). **Only applications that are complete will be considered for admission. Students must turn all required documents at once, turning in documents individually will not be accepted.**

Please call Brooke Foutch, Director of Vocational Nursing, to make an appointment to submit your application and required documents. **To guarantee availability, it is recommended that applications email or call to schedule an appointment.**

Contact Information:

Brooke Foutch, RN
Technology Center – TC 157
432-685-5597
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