



Practical Nurse Program – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is the program online?

The Practical Nurse Program is a blended program, which means that the theory classes are delivered live online; labs and clinicals are delivered face-to-face at select sites. Theory classes are recorded for students who are not able to attend live classes, however, attendance in live classes is strongly encouraged and may become mandatory if overall grades fall below a passing mark at any time during the term.

2. What are the schedules for the labs and clinical classes?

- There are 3 lab days in TERM 1, and 1 lab day each week in TERM 2 & 3 (usually scheduled on Thursdays and Fridays).
- Clinical sessions are 4-5 weeks long and occur at the end of TERM 2, 3 & 4.
- Labs will be offered 1 week per month at the High Level & High Prairie sites in Term 2 and 3.

3. Can you start the program in Winter or Spring?

No, the program only starts in September every year.

4. When can I apply for the program?

Applications are available on the Northern Lakes College website beginning late October or early November, annually.

5. What are the academic requirements for the program?

To be eligible for the program, all students (no exceptions) must meet the following requirements:

- Biology 30 (60%) or BIOL0190 (60%) or ANPY1000 (60%);
- English 30-1 (60%) or English 30-2 (70%) or ENGL0190 (60% or an assessed English equivalency);
- Math 20-1 (50%) or Math 20-2 (60%) or MATH0190 (60%).

6. What happens if I am missing one or some of the requirements for the program?

If you are missing one or some of the academic requirements, then you will need to book and complete an assessment for the requirement missing or upgrade the course through Academic Upgrading or the College and Career Preparation Program. Information on both programs can be found on our website at: www.northernlakescollege.ca.

7. I have a Health Care Aide Certificate, am I eligible to take the PN program?

A Health Care Aide certificate is not sufficient for entry into the program. You will need to meet the requirements stated above before you would be eligible for the program.

8. Can I take the program part-time?

Yes, you can take the program part-time. You have 5 years to complete the program if you are part-time, and 3 years if you are full-time.

9. Can my previous courses be transferred into the Practical Nurse Program?

Upon acceptance into the program, you can have your courses reviewed for transfer credits by filling out a Recognition of Prior Learning Form (RPL), and send the form along with your OFFICIAL transcript(s) to the Program Coordinator. RPL forms can be downloaded here: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/public/download/documents/35033>. You will also need to submit a course outline for each course you have listed on your RPL form, from the indicated post-secondary institution. The course outline must be from the year and semester you originally took it.

10. Can International students apply for the Practical Nurse program?

Yes, you can apply to the program by submitting an application online. International students can find more information about the admissions process here:

<https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/future-students/international-students>

NOTE: The application deadline for International students is May 1.

11. Is there an application fee?

Yes, there is a non-refundable \$50.00 application fee for each application submitted. The application fee is mandatory to all students who want to apply for the PN program.

12. What is the process for being accepted into the Practical Nurse Program?

Once you have submitted your application and transcript(s), if applicable, they will be reviewed by admissions. If all requirements have been met, the student will be accepted as long there are still seats available, or, added on the waitlist if seats are full. Once accepted, the student is required to pay a non-refundable and non-transferable commitment fee to reserve their seat.

13. What happens if I am added on the waitlist?

Once you are added on the waitlist, you will be contacted if a seat becomes available for you. If you were unable to secure a seat in the current intake, then you could take the Practical Nurse elective courses through our University Studies program while you wait for the next intake.

14. Are the textbooks included in the tuition fees?

No, students must purchase their own textbooks. Students can review booklists on the website under 'program resources' on the Practical Nurse page.

15. Do we need to purchase our own uniform and equipment for the program?

Each student is provided with 4 scrub tops for clinical but must provide their own (black) Scrub pants. All other materials related to lab/clinical will be provided by the program area.

16. How do I know how much I owe for tuition/fees?

Fees are charged on a per credit basis, each term. A general fee estimate will be emailed to each student. Fee estimates can also be found on the Northern Lakes College website when available.

17. How can I pay my fees?

You can pay your fees by using one of the 2 options below:

- Through your online banking by using Northern Lakes College as the payee and your student ID number as the account number.
- Online on our website: <https://www.northernlakescollege.ca/make-a-payment>