

## **PRACTICAL NURSING (LPN) ON MECC CAMPUS APPLICATION PROCESS 2009**

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The Mountain Empire Community College Practical Nursing Program is a limited enrollment program that accepts a maximum of 25 students in the Spring Semester 2009 and 30 students in the Fall Semester 2009. To apply for the Practical Nursing Program please complete the Practical Nursing Program Application Packet. If you are a new student or have not attended classes within the past year, you will also need to complete an Application for Admission to the College. You may access this information from our website [www.me.vccs.edu](http://www.me.vccs.edu). Click Admission/Financial Aid. Next select Health Science Program Admission to view all the information available for download. Adobe Acrobat is required and a link to download this is provided at the top of the page. It is strongly recommended that applicants apply early and make sure all transcripts are received since the College admits qualified applicants in the order completed application packets are received.

### **Application Requirements**

- a. State accredited high school diploma, home school diploma, or GED.
- b. Minimum of “C” average on high school and college academic work attempted.
- c. Completion of:
  - Algebra I (high school) with a “C” or better *and/or* assessment test scores into Algebra I (college). **Algebra I Part 1 does not satisfy this requirement.**
  - Biology with a lab (high school or college) with a “C” or better. **Applied biology does not satisfy this requirement.**
  - Assessment placement into Eng 111 **OR** completion of ENG 111 with a “C” or better
  - A **GPA** (Grade Point Average) of at least a **2.3** in high school or at the last college or university where at least 12 credits hours were completed.
- d. Applicants are solely responsible for completing and/or submitting the following items:
  - MECC standard application for admission
  - MECC Practical Nursing Program Application Packet (Spring Semester - accepted September 10 - December 1, 2008, Fall Semester - accepted Jan 1-August 1, 2009).
  - A copy of high school transcript/GED scores and any college transcripts must be submitted to Enrollment Services attached to the Application for Practical Nursing as part of the application packet.

The College reserves the right to refuse admission to any applicant completing an application after the advertised deadline, or to extend the deadline for admission applications to include any group of applicants without further notice.

- e. Anyone who has been convicted of a federal or state felony or misdemeanor (excluding minor traffic violations) and anyone with a history of drug or alcohol habituation should arrange for a conference with the Program Director or a nursing faculty member upon application to the program.

### **Selection of the Freshman Class**

- a. Coursework:
- Algebra I (high school) with a “C” or better **AND/OR** assessment test scores into Algebra I (college)
  - Biology with a lab (high school or college) with a “C” or better
  - Assessment placement into Eng 111 **OR** completion of ENG 111 with a “C” or better
  - **A GPA of a least a 2.3 in high school or at the last college or university where at least 12 credits hours were completed**
- b. Applicants meeting the above requirements by the application deadline date will be accepted as completed application packets are received. All other applicants (minimum of high school diploma and ‘C’ average) will be considered on an individual basis after October 1, 2008 for Spring 2009 and April 1, 2009 for Fall 2009. The Practical Nursing Director and nursing faculty will make final admission decisions on applicants who do not meet all of the coursework criteria in section ‘a’ above.
- c. Priority will be given to all qualified applicants applying by the deadline for the respective semester who are domiciled residents of Lee, Wise, Scott, Dickenson Counties and the City of Norton, and to Virginia domiciled residents not having access to a given program at their local community college. A domiciled resident is one who has lived in the locality or state for the twelve months before September 1, 2008 (Spring Semester applicants) or April 1, 2009 (Fall Semester applicants). Applicants moving out of the locality or state between April 1 or September 1 and the first day of classes will lose their preferred status and any offer of admission to the program may be withdrawn. In addition, residents of localities with which the college has clinical-site affiliation (Sullivan County, TN, and the city of Kingsport) may receive equal consideration for admission as local residents. **Applicants who do not meet requirements for domicile should meet with a faculty advisor to discuss other educational opportunities.**
- d. All applicants will receive written notification of acceptance/non-acceptance. **If the applicant’s acceptance of an admission offer is not received by the stated deadline, the offer will be withdrawn without further notice.** Appeals of an admission decision must be made in writing to the Program Director.
- e. Individuals accepted into the program must pass a physical examination given by a licensed physician, and be free of any physical or mental condition, which would adversely affect performance as a member of the nursing profession. A criminal background check and a drug test are required as a condition of clinical facilities and will be conducted through Certified Background/Castlebranch and will require an additional fee estimated at \$100. Students are responsible for the fee. A tuberculin test is required on admission and at the conclusion of the first year of the program, except for previous positive reactors who must have a chest x-ray. Immunizations must be current, including

MMR and Hepatitis B (Hep B vaccinations or declination form). Students must also be certified in CPR.

### **Reapplication to the Practical Nursing Program**

If a student is not admitted to the program but wishes to reapply for the next year's class, he/she **MUST** complete a new Practical Nursing Program Application form and submit it to Enrollment Services/Admission prior to established deadlines for the next year.

### **Evaluation During the Practical Nursing Program**

Upon admission and during the course of the program, the LPN faculty will carefully observe and evaluate the student's suitability for nursing. Students are expected to complete all courses listed in each semester of the curriculum before being allowed to enter subsequent semesters.

Any student who earns a grade **lower than "C" in any practical nursing course or HLT 130 must repeat the course and earn a final grade of "C" or better** before progressing to the next nursing course or graduating from the nursing program. **Students may repeat one nursing course one time only. Enrollment is limited to the original enrollment and one additional enrollment in one course.** If a student fails a second or subsequent course, the student will be dropped from the practical nursing program. Any exception to the above policy must have the approval of the Director of the nursing program. Students who must repeat a nursing course will be admitted to that course on "space available" basis.

### **Financial Requirements**

In addition to the usual college tuition and fees, the purchase of items such as uniforms, accessories, liability insurance, achievement tests, and transportation costs are the financial responsibility of the individual student. Students who fail to meet these responsibilities will not be able to continue in the program.

### **Licensure Requirements**

Qualifications for a Practical Nurse licensure have been established by the Virginia State Board of Nursing and can be found in Nursing Law of Virginia that may be seen in the Program Director's Office. Upon satisfactory completion of the Practical Nursing Program, the student should apply to graduate and will be awarded the Certificate in Practical Nursing. Graduates are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-PN examination and subsequent licensure.

A new Practical Nursing Application Packet must be submitted for each year that you wish to be considered for admission to the Practical Nursing Program.

If you have additional questions, please call 276-523-2400. You may speak to Mary Phillips, ext. 324 ([mphillips@me.vccs.edu](mailto:mphillips@me.vccs.edu)) or Carolyn Helms, ext. 316 ([chelms@me.vccs.edu](mailto:chelms@me.vccs.edu)) in Student Services, or Program Director, Brigitte Casteel, ext. 421 ([bcasteel@me.vccs.edu](mailto:bcasteel@me.vccs.edu))

### ***Our Customer Service Promise***

Our promise in Enrollment Services/Admission is to provide you with accurate, timely, and courteous processing of all your materials as you apply for admission to the Practical Nursing Program. This includes processing your application materials and responding to you no later than 21 working days after they are received. You can help us provide our best level of service by promptly responding to our requests for additional information needed to complete your file.

If you encounter any service from us that you believe is not accurate, timely, or courteous, please bring it to my attention immediately while there is time to resolve any problems you have with our service:

Kristy Hall, Director of Enrollment Services

Godwin Hall

[khall@me.vccs.edu](mailto:khall@me.vccs.edu)

276-523-7474

MECC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, natural origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice-President of Academic Services, 3441 Mountain Empire Road, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219, 276-276-523-2400 (Virginia Relay users dial 711).