



Practical Nursing Program Admissions Information

Revised 9.2026 lah

Practical Nursing Program — Holistic Admissions Criteria

[Click here for the Nursing Application Link](#)

Priority application due date: **Feb. 1** to begin the fall semester program, applications will be considered on an ongoing basis as seats are available [Click here for Nursing Program Information](#)

We Consider Metrics – 70%

A cumulative **GPA of 2.5** or above and letter grades of “C” or higher across all *required* general education courses (see GPA’s slightly below 2.5 with strong life experience &/or attributes will be considered. Our holistic admissions process recognizes

The Health Science Reasoning Test must be taken at a Minnesota North College campus. You may take the HSRT up to two times per application cycle. If testing for a second time, you must wait two weeks (14 calendar days) between attempts.

The HSRT cut score required is 63, a score of 70 is paired with moderate critical thinking.

We Consider Experiences & Attributes – 30%

Diverse life experiences, such as healthcare and non-healthcare work, volunteer activities, formal education, and personal background, are valuable to the nursing profession. This approach considers factors such as diverse life experiences, background, and unique perspectives as integral to fostering a well-rounded and inclusive workforce.

Attribute qualities, including strong interpersonal skills, empathy, resilience, and a growth mindset, are essential for building meaningful connections and effectively navigating challenges with optimism and adaptability. Possessing these qualities contribute to personal and professional growth in dynamic environments.

Acceptance Requirement Highlights

- Admissions application requirements must be completed to be considered for acceptance.
- Visit minnesotanorth.edu/nursing for complete admission information.
- Currency on the MN Nursing Assistant Registry or an unencumbered PPN license throughout the program.
- Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers certification (AED on infant, child and adult) with in-person test out of skills component by September of program start (a completed ALHE 1400 course with testout fulfills), not to expire prior to program completion.
- General elective course completion and GPA met – see above
- Minnesota North College MN DHS background study clearance (through NetStudy prior to July 31 (initiate May or June for submission)
- Minnesota North College federal background study clearance (through Castle Branch) prior to July 31 (initiate May or June for submission)

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Contact Information

Practical Nursing (PN) Admissions

Minnesota North College – Itasca, Mesabi-Eveleth, and Rainy River Campuses

Phone: 218-293-6850

Email: admissions@minnesotanorth.edu

Practical Nursing information is available on our website:

[/https://minnesotanorth.edu/programs/nursing/](https://minnesotanorth.edu/programs/nursing/)

Practical/Vocational Nursing Program

The Minnesota North College Practical/Vocational Nursing Program holds continuing accreditation from the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA), located at 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20037. 202-909-2487.

This nursing education program is approved by the

Minnesota Board of Nursing

1210 Northland Drive Suite 120

Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Phone: 612-317-3000

<https://mn.gov/boards/nursing/>

Thank you for your interest in the Practical Nursing Program at Minnesota North College!

We've created the Admission Packet to help you understand the program's admission resources and the application process. We encourage you to read it thoroughly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the advisor or counselor on the campus of your choice or fill out the [Request Information Link](#).

Please note that only students with a completed application for the Practical Nursing Program will be considered for admission. Applications will be accepted from September 1 to **February 1** of each year or until the classes are filled and waiting lists are established. Students move off the wait list as space becomes available. Wait list movement may happen right up until the first day of fall semester. Remember, only complete applications will be evaluated for acceptance. You must first be accepted to Minnesota North College through the general college application before completing the nursing application.

If you are conditionally accepted but placed on the waitlist and do not secure a seat in the current class, you may request to be moved to the accepted list for the following year by contacting the enrollment team.

Minnesota North College Estimated Costs PN

*NOTE: Please note that these are ESTIMATED costs. Before making any payments, check with appropriate department for exact costs.

Tuition and Fees (2025-2026 School Year)

Practical Nursing	\$231.00 per credit
General Education (Non-Nursing)	\$188.09 per credit
Online Courses	\$215.26 per credit

*NOTE: Differential tuition rates apply to all resident, reciprocity, and non-resident/non-reciprocity students.

Nursing Learning Resources

ATI Program Supplies/Live Review	\$1800
Nursing Textbooks/Resources	\$380 using Davis direct order code located in the Portal
Laptop Computer – see handbook specifications	\$300.00 +

Clinical Supplies

Skills Bags – for nursing lab and simulation activities	\$98.00
Uniform, Shoes, etc.	\$340.00 depending on qty and brand
Liability Insurance	\$10.00 each fall semester
CastleBranch Immunization Tracker	\$83.75 – pay after conditional acceptance in May
Background Study/Fingerprinting Fee	\$47.50 – pay after conditional acceptance in May

After Graduation Fees

NCLEX-PN Test Registration Fee (Pearson-Vue)	\$200.00
Minnesota Board of Nursing Licensure Fee	\$105.00
MN Board of Nursing Background Check	\$33.25
Nursing Pin at Graduation (Optional Choices)	\$10 - \$80 style dependent

The following steps are meant to guide you through the process of submitting your application for the nursing program as well as give you details on how criteria are gathered and used in making admission decisions. Only students with a completed Practical Nursing Program Application are considered for admission.

August / September Prior To Start
❑ STEP 1: Apply to Minnesota North College following the Minnesota North Enrollment Checklist ❑ Begin or complete prerequisite coursework ❑ Submit all required transcripts to the enrollment specialists
October
❑ Go to the college homepage Program Overview - Nursing. Scroll down through the information. Click on the hyperlink "Nursing Application" ❑ A welcome letter from the enrollment team and directions will follow.
November / December / January
❑ Schedule and complete the Health Science Reasoning Test entrance exam at a Minnesota North College campus ❑ Upload required documentation to D2L 9850 PN Portal ❑ Monitor Portal announcements and grades weekly
February
❑ February 1: Priority Applications Deadline ❑ Check the Portal to confirm all submissions are submitted ❑ Submissions will be reviewed by the nursing admissions team and used to determine selections.
March
❑ Conditional acceptance decisions released by the end of March ❑ Accept or decline your offer by contacting the information provided in the email
April
❑ Upload all assignment drop box documentation available to you (MN NA registry, BLS, DL...) prior to the May Onboarding meeting. ❑ Schedule Tb testing for the end of May or in June, so you are in compliance through the academic year.
May
❑ Mandatory Spring Onboarding meetings will take place on the Itasca, Rainy River, and Mesabi-Eveleth campuses. The date, time and delivery will be communicated in the D2L 8850 PN Portal. ❑ Complete required PN Portal assignments ❑ Contact your advisor for course registration &/or questions about courses.
June
❑ Start your Tb compliance – annual, X-ray, TSpot or obtain your 1st Mantoux and get it read within 72h. ❑ If initial Mantoux is your selection route, obtain your 2nd one within 7-28 days, then read within 72h. ❑ Complete all immunization (except annual flu shot) requirements and upload all documentation to Castle Branch. ❑ If questions regarding Castle Branch arise, call their help desk customer service phone number. ❑ Customer service 8am-8pm EST Mon-Thurs, 8am-6:30pm EST Friday (888) 723-4263 for questions regarding CB ❑ Initiate both background studies (the Federal is in Castle Branch, instructions and Minnesota North College code for the MN DHS one is available on the D2L 8850 PN Portal course.
July
❑ Finalize the completion of all PN Portal assignments including quizzes ❑ Finalize all compliance requirements on or before July 31st
August
❑ MANDATORY NURSING STUDENT ORIENTATION IS LIKELY SCHEDULED FOR THE WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO THE START OF FALL SEMESTER – Keep this day free for in-person attendance. SEE MORE INFORMATION IN THE PN PORTAL.

Student Pre-Program Requirements Planner – Upload to 8850 PN Portal for use in application

- Pre-program requirements do NOT have to be completed prior to applying to the program. A plan for completion prior to the July 31 needs to be in place (indicate when you plan to take courses).
- Pre-program courses must be complete prior to entrance into core PRNU courses in August with a GPA of 2.5 or greater and a “C” or better in each. GPA is calculated from 8 credits of Anatomy & Physiology, 3 credits of lifespan psychology and 1 credit of medical terminology.
- Students - completely fill out this planner. If you have not completed a requirement prior to application, note when and where you have made plans to be successful in your completion.
- This planner does not replace your official transcripts. This form will be informally used to determine readiness to enter the Practical Nursing Program.

Required courses - Scan this doc. and save as a PDF (Lastname, Firstname.). Attach to the assignment “Pre-Program Planner” in LSKL 8850 PN Portal *A&P can be I & II + advanced = 8 credits	Course completed (or plan to complete) Where and When	Credits required	Grade (student self -reported, will be verified by advisors)
BIOL 2371 Anatomy and Physiology I - “C” or better, part of admission 2.5 GPA		4	
BIOL 2372 Anatomy and Physiology II - “C” or better, part of admission 2.5 GPA		4	
PSYC 1220 Lifespan Development - “C” or better, part of admission 2.5 GPA		3	
ALHE 1610 Medical Terminology - “C” or better, part of admission 2.5 GPA		1	
NAHA 1100 Nursing Assistant or alternative. Must be current on MN registry (directions for printing out registry in PN Portal)			
ALHE 1400 American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Healthcare Provider Or alternative in obtaining BLS certification (not CPR) *Includes adult, child, infant and AED. Includes physical demonstration.			
PRNU 1105 Medical Math highly advised			
ENGL Comp 1 ready or completed			
HSRT exam – 63 or above. *A score of 70 is paired with moderate critical thinking. Schedule Nov./Dec./Jan. to be assessed for conditional acceptance Feb. 28			
Holistic Admissions Quiz (in lieu of essay) – link is in Portal announcements			
Student Pre-Program Planner (this page!) uploaded to the D2L PN Portal			
Once other requirements, such as BGS clearance, are approved - full acceptance status is granted. ○ No financial holds at other higher education institutions ○ Student immunization requirements uploaded & approved in Castle Branch prior to July 31. Non-compliant status students will be dropped per handbook language ○ DHS background study clearance (initiate May or June for submission) prior to July 31 ○ Federal Background Study clearance by clinical facility prior to July 31, initiated in Castle Branch			

- Contact the counselor/advisor for testing out options for math, English and computer using Accuplacer.
- Scan this doc. and save as a PDF (Lastname, Firstname.).
- Attach this page to the assignment “Pre-Program Planner” in LSKL 8850 PN Portal