

# NURSING

## Associate in Nursing Degree and Licensed Practical Nurse Certificate

The Nursing program at DACC affords students the opportunity to become a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse and members of a respected and rewarding profession by offering classroom and clinical education courses in nursing. Nursing is a dynamic and exciting discipline offering the rewarding experiences of helping others achieve their health care goals by providing professional nursing care, patient teaching, effective communication, and management of patient care.

Upon acceptance into the nursing program, and successful completion of all prerequisite and nursing courses, the new graduate will be prepared as an entry-level generalist in Licensed Practical Nursing or Registered Nursing. Graduates of the program are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN or NCLEX-RN licensure exams and become licensed Practical Nurses or Registered Nurses anywhere in the United States. Students should note, however, that program completion does not in and of itself guarantee licensure, which is a function of the various state boards of nursing, nor does it guarantee employment.

The DACC nursing program philosophy embraces the concepts of caring, health, and wellness. Faculty assist adult learners with achievement of their maximum educational potential through exposure to a variety of teaching and evaluation methods. Special emphasis is placed upon the nursing process, critical-thinking, clinical judgment, evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, teamwork and collaboration, safety, professionalism, nursing informatics, and the evolving teaching-learning process.

## Accreditation/Approval <sup>1</sup>

The DACC Nursing program is approved for operation by the New Mexico Board of Nursing. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Board directly:

New Mexico Board of Nursing  
6301 Indian School Road NE, Suite 710  
Albuquerque, NM 87110  
Phone: (505) 841-8340

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the DACC Nursing program website for more information regarding the accreditation and/or approval status of the Nursing program.

## Categories of Essential Functions

In order to participate in the Nursing Program, the student must be capable of performing the following:

### Observation

- Visually discriminate incremental readings on various medical equipment
- Visually discriminate between different colored objects
- Discriminate between various auditory stimuli

### Communication

- Communicate effectively in English using verbal, nonverbal and written formats
- Read and interpret the English language without assistance

- Communicate effectively via electronic means, including computers and "smart" devices

### Motor

- Stand for long periods of time
- Lift 50 pounds
- Perform patient care procedures with manual dexterity

### Intellectual

- Collect, interpret, and integrate information

## Special Admission Criteria

As a professional educational program, the Nursing Program is a limited-entry program. To be considered for admission, students are required to successfully complete:

1. all prerequisites,
2. the designated entrance exam, and
3. submit all materials required for the student selection process (complete application package).

Information on requirements, transfers, and deadlines for applications are available on the Nursing program website, or by calling (575) 527-7735 or 575-874-7786

Prior to the first day of classes, each student must submit documentation of the following: current immunizations, TB test, American Heart Association CPR for Healthcare Providers, background clearance for Healthcare Providers and drug screening. Additional information regarding specific requirements is available from the Nursing Program office.

## Nursing Program Prerequisites

Prior to applying to the Nursing Program, students must be admitted to DACC. Students are also responsible for understanding all of the information in the related-requirement science courses of Anatomy and Physiology I and II, regardless of when these courses were taken.

## Security Background Check

Prospective students are required to successfully complete a security background check in order to participate in clinical or practicum courses. Past criminal violations may prevent a student from completing the degree and/or obtaining licensure or employment in the nursing field. Students must maintain required security clearance throughout the nursing program. Any changes to a student's background status must be reported to the program's clinical coordinator, who will determine the student's eligibility to continue in the program and complete required clinical or practicum coursework.

## Requirements to Remain in the Nursing Program

To remain in the program, students must earn a **minimum cumulative course grade of 77%** and a **exam average of 80% or higher** in each course attempted.

## Course Fees

In addition to tuition, a fee of \$250 is charged for each of the following courses:

NURS 1121 Foundations of Nursing Practice, formerly, NURS 136  
Foundations of Nursing Practice

NURS 1125 Medical Surgical I, formerly, NURS 147 Adult Health I

NURS 2225 Medical Surgical II, formerly, NURS 226 Adult Health II

NURS 2996 Nursing Topics, NCLEX Review, formerly, NURS 201 NCLEX  
Review