

VOCATIONAL NURSING

GUIDED PATHWAY: VOCATIONAL NURSING

For more information, [click here](#) and or visit the College of Health Sciences Nursing Advisors.

Vocational Nursing: The program is a clinical intensive one-year certificate program that offers classroom instruction and related clinical practice in four basic areas of nursing: fundamentals, medical/surgical, maternity/pediatric, and psychiatric.

In order to be eligible to apply to the program the applicant will need to answer questions related to his or her alcohol/drug use, psychiatric conditions, and criminal convictions. Questions regarding eligibility please contact Texas Board of Nursing at <https://www.bon.texas.gov/>.

This is an example course sequence for students interested in pursuing a certificate in Vocational Nursing. It does not represent a contract, nor does it guarantee course availability. Following this pathway will help you earn a certificate in Vocational Nursing.¹ For official degree requirements, [click here](#).

Visit [Career Pathways](#) to view guided pathways created for students who complete an AAS degree and the options for transfer. Speak with an academic advisor at your college to choose courses that will help you to transfer to a specific university.



COLLEGE READINESS REQUIREMENTS

Enrolling in one or more courses may be necessary if assessment activities and previous academic experiences indicate a need for additional knowledge and skills:

READING & WRITING PLACEMENT	MATH PLACEMENT	ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
TSIA 2 MET: YES NO <i>IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED</i> <input type="checkbox"/> INRW _____ <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	TSIA 2 MET: YES NO <i>IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED</i> <input type="checkbox"/> DEV MATH _____ <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	TSIA 2 MET: YES NO <i>IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED</i> <input type="checkbox"/> ESOL _____ <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____

Exemptions/waivers may exist. Speak with an academic advisor regarding placement in college readiness courses and your ability to enroll in core academic coursework.

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER MAP FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS²

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER PATH FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS				
D	CT2		PREREQUISITES	ACTION ITEMS
♦			PSYC 2314 – Lifespan Growth & Development (Core)	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor to confirm academic and career goals prior to taking courses and then again before the end of the semester. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with a nursing department advisor to receive application instructions and information on the ATI TEAS Pre-entrance exam.
			MDCA 1409 – Anatomy and Physiology for Medical Assistants Or BIOL 2301– Anatomy and Physiology I (Core), BIOL 2101 – Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory, BIOL 2302– Anatomy and Physiology I (Core), & BIOL 2102 – Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 7				
D			SEMESTER 1	ACTION ITEMS
♦			VNSG 1323 – Basic Nursing Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor to track your progress towards completion of program.
♦			VNSG 1500 – Nursing in Health and Illness I	
♦			VNSG 1260 – Clinical-Licensed Practical/V.N. Training (Fundamentals)-	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 10				
D			SEMESTER 2	ACTION ITEMS
♦			VNSG 1230 – Maternal - Neonatal	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor to track your progress towards completion of program.
♦			VNSG 1234 – Pediatrics	
♦			VNSG 2331 – Advanced Nursing Skills	
♦			VNSG 1409 – Nursing in Health and Illness II	
♦			VNSG 1262 - Clinical-Licensed Practical/V.N. Training (Med/Surg; Maternity/Newborn; Pediatric)	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 13				
D			SEMESTER 3	ACTION ITEMS
♦			VNSG 2410 – Nursing in Health and Illness III ³	<input type="checkbox"/> Meet with your advisor to track your progress towards completion of program/degree. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with a career advisor for assistance in preparing for job search. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet with faculty to ensure TBON and Pearson Vue (NCLEX-PN) requirements are met.
♦			VNSG 1205 – NCLEX-PN Review ³	
♦			VNSG 1263 – Clinical Licensed Practical/V.N. (Adv. M/S)	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 8				
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS/PATHWAY TOTAL: 38 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS				

¹. Degree plans may change in later catalogs. Be sure to consult with your advisor if you are continuing on an older degree plan.

². Students must earn at least 25% of the credit hours (15 hours) required for graduation through instruction by Laredo College awarding the degree.

³. Capstone Experience

Core This course counts for the Core Curriculum at any public college or university in Texas.

Certification and Licensure Information

Upon completion of the Vocational Nursing Program the graduate will receive a Level 2 Certificate and may register for the NCLEX-PN licensure exam to become a Practical/Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas. <https://www.bon.texas.gov/>
The National Council State Boards of Nursing provides examination details at <https://www.ncsbn.org/index.page>

Career Information

Common Job Titles

Licenses Practical Nurse – L.P.N. or Vocational Nurse – L.V.N.

Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses work in many settings providing basic nursing care in the local community. Most work full time in the following areas: acute care and long-term care facilities, home health, dialysis clinics, plasma centers, correctional facilities, community health clinics/physician's offices and school districts.

Regional Labor Market Information

As of April 18, 2025, the average annual salary for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) and Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) in the United States is **\$62,340**, according to the [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/).

In Texas, as of May 1, 2025, the average salary for LVNs is **\$54,166** per year, with typical earnings ranging from **\$49,155 to \$60,204**, according to [Salary.com](https://www.salary.com). Salary ranges can vary widely depending on many important factors, including education, certifications, additional skills, the number of years you have spent in your profession. Source: <http://www.salary.com>

Career and labor market research tools

[Laredo College Career Coach](#) for *career advising and jobs*.

Bureau of Labor Statistics: [Bureau of Labor Statistics: VN](#)

Career Resources: Laredo College career services website provides information on [career exploration](#) and [employment](#). Students are encouraged to consult with their area of study advisor for additional career assistance. The above information is provided as a guide and reference tool for occupations related to this program. This is not a guarantee of job placement in any of these occupations after successful completion of an LC program. The common job titles listed are representative titles and are provided for career research. These are not the only occupations possible in this area of study.

Transfer Information

Associate Degree Nursing Program - Transition Track

The Laredo College Associate Degree Program believes in the upward mobility of persons with previously acquired health care knowledge. The Transition Track is a means of upward mobility. The ADN Transition Track can be completed in three semesters leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and approved by the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners (BON). Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Laredo College: [LVN to A.D.N Transition Track](#)

Laredo College: [ADN-RN to BSN](#)

Transfer Guides: The universities listed here do not constitute a Laredo College endorsement. Transfer course evaluations and determination of which courses will count toward a Bachelor's degree are made by the receiving transfer institution.

Texas A&M International University: <http://www.tamui.edu>

South Texas College: <https://www.southtexascollege.edu/>

Additional Transfer Resources: Laredo College transfer website provides information on additional colleges & universities. Students are encouraged to consult with a faculty advisor, area of study advisor, and/or their chosen transfer institution to ensure courses taken at LC will apply toward their bachelor's degree program. Please refer to the Advising Center or visit, [Advising Center](#) for information on transfer planning guide.