



*Department of Health Sciences*

*Practical Nurse  
Information Packet*



## About the Practical Nurse Program

The Practical Nurse program prepares the student to be a direct care giver in hospitals, long-term facilities, and ambulatory care-clinic settings. This program is designed for students interested in becoming a practical nurse as an entry into the nursing career ladder program. Completion of the practical nurse certificate allows students to apply to the LPN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program.

Once a Colorado Mesa University practical nurse student earns the certificate and passes the NCLEX (State Boards) the student can either exit the program and work as a licensed practical nurse – or apply to the LPN-BSN program. All prerequisites for the LPN-BSN program must be completed with a “C” or better before students can enter the program.

The potential student must demonstrate college-level proficiency in reading and writing in order to be admitted to this program. This program has selective admission requirements and requirements may change from year to year. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the current admission requirements.

**Transfer students who were enrolled in a nursing program at another college will need to take a comprehensive written test and skills test and pass with a 90% or better before being considered for admission to the Colorado Mesa University Practical Nursing Program.**

We encourage all students to apply, but be aware that students are admitted contingent upon their passing a criminal background investigation through **castlebranch.com** that is conducted at the expense of the applicant.

***Students admitted to the program will be required to attend a mandatory orientation before classes begin.***

Potential students should be aware that the practical nurse program requires a large time commitment from the student due to classes, clinicals, labs, homework, as well as obligations outside of regularly scheduled class times such as health fairs, etc. Due to the intensity of the program and the time commitment, it is strongly recommended that students do not attempt to work while in the program.

To schedule an advising appointment for the Practical Nurse program at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction; contact **Genell Stites, Practical Nurse Program Director**, at [gstites@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:gstites@coloradomesa.edu) or (970) 248-1828. Please see the Colorado Mesa University Department of Health Sciences website at [www.coloradomesa.edu/health-sciences](http://www.coloradomesa.edu/health-sciences) for information on this and all nursing programs at Colorado Mesa University.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

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# Practical Nurse Program Requirements

The Colorado Mesa University Department of Health Sciences admits 35 students to the practical nurse program each fall. Prior to being accepted into the PN program, students must apply and be accepted to Colorado Mesa University.

The following non-nursing prerequisites and Essential Learning courses are required for admission into the practical nurse program.

## Essential Learning:

ENGL 111—English Comp. I (3 credit hours)  
ENGL 112—English Comp. II (3 credit hours)  
MATH 113—College Algebra (4 credit hours)

**ESSENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED OR IN PROCESS OF COMPLETION BY THE MARCH 1 APPLICATION DEADLINE. "LATE START" OR "SECOND MODULE" CLASSES BEGINNING AFTER MARCH 1 DEADLINE DO NOT COUNT TOWARD PREREQUISITES.**

**NOTE:** Essential Learning requirements are waived for those students who have previously earned a Baccalaureate of Arts or Science or Associate of Arts or Science degree. *(This does not include either an Associate of Applied Science or an Associate in General Studies.)*

## Prerequisites:

BIOL 209/209L—Anatomy & Physiology I (3 credits-lecture; 1 credit-lab) \*\*  
BIOL 210/210L—Anatomy & Physiology II (3 credits-lecture; 1 credit-lab) \*\*  
BIOL 241—Pathophysiology (4 credit hours) \*\*  
PSYC 150—General Psychology (3 credit hours) \*\*\*  
PSYC 233—Human Growth & Development (3 credits-lecture) \*\*\*

**PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS AND ESSENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED OR BE IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETION AT THE MARCH 1 APPLICATION DEADLINE. "LATE START" OR "SECOND MODULE" CLASSES BEGINNING AFTER MARCH 1 DEADLINE DO NOT COUNT TOWARD PREREQUISITES.**

**\*\*BIOL 209/209L, BIOL 210/210L, and BIOL 241 must have been completed within five years prior to applying to the PN program.**

**\*\*\* These courses are counted with Essential Learning courses, but are prerequisites for the PN program.**

**Applicants who completed any of the essential learning or prerequisite requirements at a college other than Colorado Mesa University must have official transcripts sent to the registrar's office at Colorado Mesa University and request to have a transcript evaluation done.**

## Practical Nursing Technical Certificate

This is a recommended sequence of course work. Certain courses may have prerequisites or are only offered during the Fall or Spring semesters. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the assigned advisor and check the 2 year course matrix on the CMU website for course availability.

### Suggested Course Sequencing for Essential Learning and Prerequisite Courses

FIRST YEAR
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Fall Semester	Hours	Spring Semester	Hours
ENGL 111    English Composition	3	ENGL 112    English Composition	3
BIOL 209 *    Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3	BIOL 210 *    Human Anatomy and Physiology II	3
BIOL 209L *    Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1	BIOL 210L *    Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	1
MATH 113    College Algebra	4	PSYC 233 **    Human Growth & Development	3
PSYC 150 **    General Psychology	<u>3</u>	BIOL 241 *    Pathophysiology	<u>4</u>
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\*BIOL 209/209L, BIOL 210/210L and BIOL 241 must have been completed within five years prior to applying to the nursing program.

\*\*This course is counted with the Essential Learning courses, but is a prerequisite for the Licensed Practical Nursing program.

\*\*\*Students desiring to progress onto the LPN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing should check with their advisor to develop a full time schedule of general education and program requirements during this first year.

### Mandatory Course Sequencing for Nursing Courses

SECOND YEAR
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Fall Semester	Hours	Spring Semester	Hours
NURS 101    Pharmacology Calculations	1	NURS 117    Obstetrics/Pediatrics	4
NURS 106    Adult Concepts I/Pharmacology	5	NURS 117L    Obstetrics/Pediatrics Lab	2
NURS 106L    Adult Concepts I Lab	2	NURS 156    Socialization into Practical Nursing	1
NURS 107    Foundations of Nursing	3	NURS 172    Adult Concepts II/Mental Health	5
NURS 107L    Foundations of Nursing Lab	<u>3</u>	NURS 172L    Adult Concepts II/Mental Health Lab	<u>4</u>
	<b>14</b>		<b>16</b>