

Mesa State College
Department of Health Sciences
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)



Please read all application materials and the section of the catalog that pertains to the nursing program, and visit our website at www.mesastate.edu.

Does *everything* have to be in to the Nursing Office before the deadline?

Yes, all college transcripts, transcript evaluation (if you have classes from other colleges), proof of current CPR for the Professional Caregiver, T.E.A.S. test results, and program application must be in prior to the deadline.

Does Nursing have an admission fee?

No, but the Admissions Department for the College does.

Should I take any courses prior to applying to the nursing program?

Yes, you should take the general education and program (pre-requisite) courses needed for the program you are applying for admission. These are non-nursing courses which include any required course name that does not start with NURS. In addition, applicants are required to take a Test of Essential Academic Standards, TEAS (cost \$30.00).

Are there any scholarships specifically for nursing students?

Yes, but these are mainly for students already in the program. The applications for scholarships awarded by the department faculty are processed during the spring semester to assist the students in paying for the next academic year. Please contact the Financial Aid Department for further aid information.

Do I have to be accepted in to the College *before* I can be accepted into the nursing program?

Yes.

When do courses start?

PN Nursing courses begin in the fall semester.

The LPN to AAS starts in the spring semester.

How long are the programs?

The PN program is 9 months of nursing courses, *plus the time it takes the student to complete general education and prerequisite courses.*

The LPN to AAS program is 1 year of nursing courses, *plus the time it takes the student to complete general education and prerequisites.*

How many students are accepted into the program each year?

We accept approximately 30 students annually in the PN program depending on resource availability. We accept 30 students annually in the LPN to AAS program depending on resource availability.

How much does the nursing program cost?

Tuition and fee information can be obtained from the Admissions Department. We also have compiled from previous experience, an approximate list of projected expenditures for each program to assist you in budgeting.

Should I apply before I ask for the transcript to be sent?

You may turn in the application form before you ask other schools to send transcripts. As long as your file is complete before the deadline, we do not care in what order things arrive. (It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure everything is received and on file before the deadline.) Contact the Registrar's Office at 248-1977 to have transfer credits evaluated for possible acceptance at Mesa State College. Also, applicants should have their advisor evaluate their credits for transfer.

Should I speak to an advisor before I sign up for classes?

We encourage you to take advantage of group advising sessions posted on the www.mesastate.edu website.

Do you give credit for life experience or related medical or healthcare experience?

While this experience is helpful in the learning process, it does not count for college credit. The Practical Nursing program does give credit in the application process for proof of Certified Nursing Assistant or Emergency Medical Technician training.

Can I go part time?

While you are doing your general education, you can go part time, but once you start the nursing courses, it is required that you take them in succession. Courses are only offered annually therefore part time progression is quite time consuming.

How do you choose candidates?

We look at your grade point average from college courses you have taken in the past 5 years, the grades you achieve in required sciences (Anatomy & Physiology, Anatomy & Physiology II and Pathophysiology), how many of the required general education courses you have completed, and the score on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). In addition, we look at state and local residence, and for the PN program, EMT or CNA certifications. Applicants with the highest scores are accepted.

Do you use a waiting list?

No, we do not. If an applicant is turned down one semester and wishes to be considered again another semester, they must reapply.

How much does a credit hour cost?

Please see the **Tuition and Fees** page on the Mesa State College website for the most current tuition fees.

Do you have night nursing classes?

Generally classes are during the day, but there may be evening clinical labs.

Can I work while I take classes?

We do have students who are work part time while they take their classes. It is difficult for them and we **do not** recommend it for most students, but it can be done. *You should consider that ordinarily you need to spend on average, 2 hours of study and preparation for every hour of class and/or clinical.*

What classes can I take to fulfill general education requirements?

You should refer to the Graduation Requirements section in the Mesa State College Catalog. Only selected 100 and 200 level classes listed in this section are acceptable for fulfilling general education requirements.

Do I need my own computer?

Many courses include computer and Internet-based assignments. Having your own computer gives you more freedom in completing course assignments. Computer labs are available on campus for student use. As a student, you receive free access from home to the Internet and an email address, which you will be required to access regularly.

Program Costs/Supplies – In-State (approximate as of Spring Semester 2010)

	Practical Nursing	LPN to AAS
Mesa State College Application Fee	30.00	*
Matriculation Fee	95.00	*
***Tuition & Fees-approx. for NURS courses	5622.00	5198.00
Background Check-American DataBank	60.00	*
Professional Liability Insurance-per year	30.00	98.00
Test of Essential Academic Skills	30.00	*
Books at Mesa State Bookstore	800.00	600.00
Supplies/Uniforms (approximate):		
Stethoscope – (\$30 - \$100)	100.00	*
Hemostat	13.00	*
Watch w/Second Hand	20.00	*
Scrubs (\$40 x 2 recommended)	80.00	*
Scissors	12.00	*
Black Pen	3.00	*
Shoes	70.00	*
*Name Tag	7.00	*
Khaki/Polo Uniform	50.00	*
Lab Fees	385.00	300.00
Nurse Kit	68.00	
TOTAL	7475.00**	6206.00**

*One time fee/cost

**additional one time fees apply if not already incurred at MSC

*** Tuition and fees are listed as in-state and assume COF eligibility. Does not include cost of general education and prerequisite courses.