

Schuylkill Technology Centers North Campus

Practical Nursing Program Program Catalog 2020 – 2022



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SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM
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SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

INSTITUTIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement of the Schuylkill Technology Centers Post-Secondary Programs is to enable the adult student to acquire the attitude, knowledge, skills, and values necessary to become a lifelong learner and a productive citizen of a global economy by developing an educational pathway for excellence driven by a partnership with education, business, industry, government, family, and the community.

PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing Program is to empower the Practical Nursing student with the knowledge skills, diversity, attitude, and values required to promote healthy lifestyles and to deliver high quality patient-centered care to all persons along the healthcare continuum. The administration, faculty and staff recognize and value the role of the Practical Nurse with the healthcare community. The program faculty will encourage the Practical Nursing student to continuously pursue the acquisition of knowledge throughout their nursing careers.

INSTITUTIONAL BELIEF STATEMENT

The Schuylkill Technology Centers believe that:

- Education is the responsibility of the student, parent, teachers, and the community
- All individuals can learn, but learning occurs at different rates through diversified learning styles
- Individuals are more successful when they are active participants and demonstrate learning
- Individuals are more successful when they set goals, make choices, and accept responsibility
- Individuals enrich their learning by participating in family, school, and community activities
- Humanity prospers when people work together
- Diversity enhances growth and strengthens society
- Excellence is achievable and a worthwhile investment
- Learning is a life-long process that is essential for economic stability
- The future of our society depends on the effectiveness of a high-quality education

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

The Schuylkill Technology Center is an integral part of the educational process and is reflective of the local educational culture. The faculty and staff of the Schuylkill Technology Centers choose to articulate tomorrow's educational challenges through curriculum, human relations, business, industry, and the community as identified by the internal and external needs assessment. Therefore, the Schuylkill Technology Centers embrace the following institutional outcomes for each graduate:

- Mathematical, verbal, and written communication skills
- Rigorous performance-based skills
- Effective interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Work ethic and civic responsibility skills
- Lifelong learning skills

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

ACCREDITATION/APPROVALS

Accreditation (For information about national and program accreditations, contact the institution.)

- Accredited by Pennsylvania State Board of Vocational Education, Bureau of Career and Technical Education

Approvals

- Approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
- United States Department of Education for Pell Grants and for participation in the Federal Family Education Loan Program
- Pennsylvania Department of Education for Veterans Training
- Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation for training of rehabilitation students

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Kimberly O'Neill BSN, RN, CSN

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM STAFF

Nicole Melnick BSN, RN – Full Time
Catherine Kenenitz MSN, RN – Full Time

PRACTICAL NURSING PART-TIME STAFF

Amanda Gallagher MSN, RN – Part Time/As Needed
Regina Farr-Killian BSN, RN – Part Time/As Needed
Shavon Stiely RN – Part Time/As Needed
Sherry Whitecavage MSN,BSN, RN – Part Time/As Needed
Cyndi Thurs BSN,RN-Part Time/As Needed

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM SECRETARY

Breon Grickis

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

ADMISSION PROCESS

Practical Nursing Program Requirements

In order to be considered for admissions to the Schuylkill Technology Centers (STC) Practical Nursing Program, you must be a graduate of an accredited high school or possess a Pennsylvania General Education Diploma (GED) and successfully complete the STC's admission/application process. The part-time day program will run for 18 months. Start times for the part-time day program will vary. Full-time classes begin in July. Applicants who successfully complete these requirements are considered for admission to the next available class.

Admission Process

- I. Pre-Admission Assessment Exam
 - A. Applicants for the Practical Nursing Program are required to take a pre-admission assessment (Test of Essential Academic Skills – TEAS) in Reading, Mathematics, and English. The purpose of the pre-admission exam is to evaluate whether you have the academic skills and aptitude necessary to successfully complete the program. Students who have prior college level course work may be exempt from taking the pre-admission exam based upon review of transcripts by the admission committee. Students who successfully complete the 2-day pre-admission preparation course at the Life Long Learning center and achieve high passing scores may also be exempt from taking the pre-admission exam based upon review by the admission committee.
 - B. In order to prepare for the pre-admission exam it is recommended that applicants complete the 2-day pre-admission preparation course at the Life Long Learning Center in order to help the applicants be successful on the first attempt of taking the pre-admission exam.
 1. Register for the Pre-Admission Program by calling the Life Long Learning Center at 570- 628-5761. The Pre-Admission Program at the Life Long Learning Center, 2221 West Market Street, Pottsville is scheduled from 8:30 – 2:30 on two consecutive Fridays.
 2. Students that complete the Pre-Admission Program have the option to register to take the TEAS exam or to first attend a more intensive TEAS Prep – remediation day.
 - C. Register for the TEAS admission exam by calling the Practical Nursing Office at 570.874.1412.

II. Application Process

- A. Submit your application and the \$110.00 non-refundable processing fee to STC- Practical Nursing Program, 101 Technology Drive, Frackville, PA 17931. Money order (NO CASH) should be made payable to *Schuylkill Technology Centers*.
- B. Request official copies of your high school transcript or GED scores to be sent to the Practical Nursing Office at Schuylkill Technology Centers - North Campus.
- C. Upon receipt application/application fee and high school transcript or GED scores, you will be notified of a testing date for the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), which will be administered as a computerized examination at the Schuylkill Technology Centers, Frackville and will take approximately 3 hours.
- D. The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) measure basic essential skills in the academic domains of Reading, Mathematics, Science, and English. The Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing program does not include the Science portion of the test in the admission process. The test is tended for use primarily with adult nursing program applicant populations. The objectives assessed on TEAS are those, which nurse educators deemed most appropriate and relevant to measure entry-level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants. The TEAS is a 116-item, four option, and multiple-choice assessment. To prepare in an organized and efficient manner, you should know what to expect from the real assessment.

Content Area	Number of Test Items	Amount of Time Allotted
Reading	39	64 minutes
Mathematics	34	54 minutes
English and Language Usage	23	28 minutes
Science	44	63 minutes
Total	150	209 minutes

A combined average total score of the Reading, Math, and English scores of 55% is needed in order to pass the TEAS. The highest scores achieved on each Individual section will be calculated into the average. Students who fail the TEAS more than two times may be referred to the Life Long Learning Center to enroll in the two-day TEAS prep course prior to rescheduling the TEAS exam.

- E. Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing Program will accept TEAS assessment results obtained within the last 5 years.
- F. Products are available to help as you prepare for the TEAS Assessment: TEAS Study Manual (highly recommended) and the Online Practice Assessment. For a complete student package, both may be purchased at www.atitesting.com/onlinestore or review the free practice site in ATI's website.

Khan Academy is a free website for math tutorials.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

III. Acceptance Process

- A. Admission to the Practical Nursing Program is competitive based upon the TEAS results and the completed satisfactory application process. Students will be notified of their admission by mail.

- B. In order to be accepted, applicants will be required to submit a completed Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check, FBI Background Check (Fingerprinting through the Department of Education and the Department of Human Services), Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, and Drug Screening. Please note: Individuals who have a positive criminal history or positive drug screening may be denied admission to the Practical Nursing Program. In addition, a criminal record may be a potential barrier to completing the program, receiving permission to take the state licensing examination, and obtaining a practical nursing license. It is the student's responsibility to inform the program coordinator of any criminal infraction which occurs while the student is attending STC.

The TEAS
(Test of Essential Academic Skills)

Purpose of the TEAS

The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) measures basic essential skills in the academic area domains of Reading, Mathematics, and English and language usage. The test is intended for the use primarily with adult nursing program applicant populations. The objectives assessed on TEAS are those which nurse educators deemed most appropriate and relevant to measure entry level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants.

The TEAS is a 150-item, three option, multiple choice assessment. To prepare in an organized and efficient manner, you should know what to expect from the real assessment.

Two products are available to help as you prepare for the TEAS Assessment:**Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Study Guide)**

The study manual is written specifically to address the needs of students preparing to take the TEAS or those who need additional help after testing.

Strategies: “Your Guide to Classroom & Test Taking Success” (This book is available for test taking strategies.

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Online Practice Assessment

The TEAS Online Practice Assessment is available for students desiring additional test preparation material.

For a complete student preparation package, the TEAS Online Practice Assessment and the TEAS Study Guide and book may be purchased at www.atitesting.com/onlinestore.

Answers your Importance Questions

The guide will also answer your two most urgent questions:

What is on the TEAS examination?

How can I best prepare for this test?

Observance of a few simple test taking guidelines can improve your understanding of what is required on the test, without a great effort on your part. For example, numerous investigations have shown that applicants can often save from one fourth to one third of their test taking time if they systemize their efforts in accordance with well researched, but well know, principles of test taking.

Reading and Math Skills

The guide will assess your reading comprehension and basic mathematics skills that are assessed on the TEAS.

English and Language Usage Skills

Grammar and Word Meaning in Context, Spelling and Punctuation, and Structure will be covered.

Avoid Exam Stress

With the Guide you can anticipate the test with fewer unknowns and, therefore, less stress and anxiety as you prepare for the TEAS.

Prepare for Your New Career

The guide will also improve your basic academic processing skills of math, reading comprehension, and English and Language Usage which is absolutely essential for success in your chosen career

To order the TEAS Study Guide visit www.atitesting.com
Or Call 1-800-667-7531

Reading Sample Questions:

Directions: Read the following passage and answer questions 1 and 2.

The 2,315- mile Missouri River tops this year’s list of the “10 Most Endangered Rivers in North America,” compiled annually by the conversation group American Rivers. The “Big Muddy” has been dammed, channeled and diked to the point that one-fifth of the species native to the river and its flood plains are now classified as endangered, threatened, or of special concern, according to American Rivers. The other nine rivers on the list are New York’s Upper Hudson, Washington’s White Salmon, California’s San Joaquin, Wisconsin’s Wolf River, Arizona’s Pinto Creek and Potomac, Ohio’s Mill Creek, the Lower Colorado, and the Tennessee River.

1. Which of the following may be concluded from the passage?
 - A. Wolf River is located in Washington, DC.
 - B. Bodies of water with “creek” in their name are not rivers.
 - C. The damming, diking, and channeling of a river is detrimental to the organisms that inhabit it.
 - D. The rivers of North America have been found to be more endangered than those of South America.

2. A conservation group organizes for which of the following principle purposes?
 - A. Collecting data for scientific research
 - B. Saving rain forests
 - C. Channeling rivers
 - D. Preserving nature

Mathematics Sample Questions:

3. Thirty percent of the students in a mathematics class received an “A.” if 18 students received an “A,” which of the following represents the number of students in the class?
- A. 18
B. 30
C. 54
D. 60
4. A student earns \$1,280.50 each month at a part-time job. The student pays the following amounts for expenses each month:

Rent....	\$350.00
Food....	\$320.00
Utilities	\$215.60
Car Expenses	\$240.00

- After paying the monthly expenses listed above, which of the following represents the amount of money the student has left for other expenses?
- A. \$106.70
B. \$154.90
C. \$1,075.60
D. \$1,125.60

English and Language Usage Sample Questions:

5. The rapacity of our vile, disgusting and despicable stepfather was not satisfied until he had taken all that we had.
Which of the following words are redundant in the sentence above?
- A. rapacity, vile
B. vile, disgusting
C. rapacity, despicable
D. disgusting, despicable
6. Jennifer mailed a sympathy card to the family of the dead man in a hurry.
Which of the following phrases is misplaced in the sentence above?
- A. in a hurry
B. to the family
C. of the dead man
D. Jennifer mailed a sympathy card

Solutions to Sample Questions

1. C
2. D
3. D
4. B

5. B
6. A

Practice Sites which may be helpful prior to the test.

<https://www.test-guide.com/free-teas-practice-tests.html>

<http://www.tests-guide.com/TEAS/?gclid=CNa7tvnEzcICFcxQ7AodOGUArw>

<http://testpreppractice.net/TEAS/Free-Online-TEAS-Practice-Tests.aspx>

<http://uniontestprep.com/cna/practice-test>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/math>

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RECRUITMENT

Recruitment activities for candidates to the PN Program include:

1. Word of mouth by successful career satisfied PN's who have graduated from the program.
2. Program presentations, Open House, Mall Exhibits, and other Health Fair displays and participation.
3. Encouragement by local health care agencies administrative and nursing staff for employees to upgrade their potential by attending a licensure program.
 - a. Scholarship and loan programs are available to assist qualifying applicants to further their education.
4. Distribution of information brochures to all Guidance Counselors in the Schuylkill County Schools as well as Health Care Agencies, Employment Centers, County Industrial Sites, Career Link, etc.
5. Cooperative referral from the Bureau of Employment Security, Department of Public Assistance, Regional Development Corporation, and other county agencies.
6. Referrals & Cooperative Contracts with agencies in surrounding counties are encouraged e.g., Northumberland, Luzerne, Dauphin, Berks, Lehigh.
7. The Schuylkill Technology Centers social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, & Pinterest.

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STUDENT HEALTH

I. Pre-Entrance:

The applicant is required to submit evidence of the following:

- A. Physical Examination (on physician form provided by STC and AAMC Standardized Immunization Form) including emotional clearance by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner of the applicant's choice.

- B. Immunization Record
 1. Tetanus (within 10 years).
 2. Hepatitis B Vaccine - Series must begin prior to starting school and documentation of the doses kept in the student file.
 3. Laboratory evidence of immunity to Hepatitis B (positive Hepatitis B antibody). If laboratory evidence of immunity to Hepatitis B cannot be documented, documentation of a negative Hepatitis B antigen titer done within the past 6 months. If non-immune, your doctor may choose to give a booster or repeat the series.
 4. 2-Step Mantoux PPD test (within one (1) year of start date). Initial testing will be a two-step procedure, with the second “booster dose” given 7-14 days after the first, if the first dose is negative. If the “booster dose” is also negative, yearly testing will then be conducted by the single-step method. A new positive Mantoux will require a chest x-ray and follow-up with the Health Department or applicant’s own physician. Yearly symptom review questionnaires are required for those with a positive Mantoux PPD. If symptoms are identified, a chest x-ray and follow-up with the Health Department or the student’s own physician is required. A Mantoux test is required every 12 months. A PPD will be required within 3 months prior to the start of clinical at Lehigh Valley Health Network – Schuylkill; this PPD will be provided by STC. Students that have a positive PPD will be required to have a chest x-ray 6 months prior to the start of clinical at Lehigh Valley Health Network – Schuylkill.
 5. Rubeola - 2 doses of measles vaccine (preferably MMR) received on or after first birthday, laboratory evidence of immunity, or MMR booster.
 6. Rubella - one dose of rubella vaccine on or after first birthday, laboratory evidence of immunity or MMR booster.
 7. Varicella (Chicken Pox) - proof of immunity by evidence of disease or by titer or vaccine. If proof of immunity cannot be verified, student must have titer or vaccine.
 8. Influenza immunization-Required to be received during flu season. Students unable to receive the influenza vaccine will be required to submit evidence of such from their health care provider and will be required to follow the policies of clinical facilities.

C. Criminal History Record Clearance.

1. Criminal History Record Clearance (State Police/PATCH). This form is mandatory for attendance in the Practical Nursing Program and must be submitted prior to the start of the nursing program.
2. Child Abuse History Clearance. The form is mandatory for STC and clinical experiences and must be submitted prior to the start of the nursing program.
3. FBI fingerprint check through the Pennsylvania Department of Education needs to be done by all students. In addition, a FBI fingerprint check with the Pennsylvania Department of Aging will need to be done by any student that has not been a resident of Pennsylvania for the past 2 years.
4. FBI fingerprint check through the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services needs to be done prior to the start of clinical. In addition, a FBI fingerprint check with the Pennsylvania Department of Aging will need to be done by any student that has not been a resident of Pennsylvania for the past 2 years. DO NOT complete this step until you are notified by the PN Program nursing office.
5. Drug Screening: All students will be required to have a urine drug screening to include the following; methamphetamines, amphetamines, opioids, cocaine, methadone, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, marijuana, and phencyclidine done prior to the start of entering the program. The testing and cost of the screening is the student's responsibility and if it is determined that further testing is required the student is responsible for any additional costs.
6. A criminal record may be a potential barrier to completing the program, receiving permission to take the licensing examination and obtaining a practical nursing license. It is the student's responsibility to inform the program coordinator of any criminal infraction, which occurs while a student, is attending STC.
7. All of the required background checks must be completed by the date indicated in your letter.
8. Previous Employment Termination Disclosure Form and Drug Screening Disclaimer Form.

D. Health Insurance

1. Students must maintain health insurance while enrolled in the program; it is a requirement of the clinical sites.

Please note: The cost of all tests and clearances are the student's responsibility.

II. During the Program

A. School Injury

1. Injuries, regardless of how minor they appear should be reported to the instructor. Emergency first aid is provided in the school. Injuries that are more serious will be dealt with at the discretion of the school director.

B. Clinical Injury

1. A hospital or physician of the student's choice will provide emergency treatment for accidents and/or injuries occurring while in the clinical area. Costs incurred are the student's responsibility. An incident report must be filled out.

C. Student Responsibility

1. Students are responsible for costs incurred for the pre-entrance physical, immunizations, medical screening, necessary medical care, and normal check-ups throughout the school year.

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
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TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A technical standard is a non-academic admissions criteria that must be met by the student to enable the student to participate in and successfully complete the practical nursing program. All potential applicants must be able to show sufficient abilities in five categories; observation and communication, physical abilities, cognitive, and intellectual capabilities, ability to make sound decisions and behavioral, social, and professional abilities. The following skills are required.

Observation and Communication

Students must have adequate sensory capabilities in order to properly assess and observe the patient as well as communicate with the patient, family, and medical staff. These include but are not limited to:

- Vision (with correction if necessary) – Students must be able to read medication labels, physician’s orders, and syringes.
- Hearing – Students must be able to correctly hear blood pressures, lung sounds, and cardiac sounds.
- Speech – Students must be able to show evidence of effective written and verbal communication using the English language and be able to communicate effectively in the health care setting in order to take care of the patient’s needs.
- Sense of touch – Students must be able to feel pulses and make assessments.

Physical Abilities

Students must have the strength, mobility, flexibility, and coordination to adequately perform patient care activities. These would include, but are not limited to the ability to:

- Push, pull, or lift various weights utilizing proper body mechanics.
- Stand, walk, or sit for long periods of time.
- Manipulate objects with fingers.

Cognitive and Intellectual Capabilities

Students must have the ability to read and understand the written word as well as to think critically.

- Students must be able to collect and analyze data.
- Students must be flexible and be able to adapt to changing situations.
- Students must be able to logically reason and prioritize when planning care for the patient.

- Students must demonstrate interpersonal skills and have the ability to get along with classmates, faculty, and staff.

Ability to Make Sound Decisions

Nurses often have to make quick decisions regarding a patient's care that will have an outcome on the patient's health and life.

- Students must be able to exercise good judgement and decision making skills.

Social and Professional Abilities

Along with physical health, students must possess the emotional and behavioral attributes necessary to have an effective relationship with their peers, faculty, patients, and other health care providers.

- Students must accept accountability and responsibility for one's actions.
- Students must comply with the policies of the nursing program.
- Students must comply with the ethical and legal standards of nursing practice.
- Students must be able to work well with others.

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATIONS

The Schuylkill Technology Centers is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Documented disabilities may include, but are not limited to, learning disability; attention deficit disorder; a visual, hearing, or physical mobility impairment. A reasonable accommodation is one that is consistent with the academic standards of the Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing program and does not require substantial course or program alteration. The Schuylkill Technology Centers is committed to working with students directly and individually throughout the accommodation process. Final authority to determine the most appropriate and effective accommodation rests with the Schuylkill Technology Centers and is based on the nature of the course or program and the individual student's disability – related need.

Students may request accommodations to the technical standards of the Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing program based on current (i.e. within 1 to 5 years depending on the nature of the disability) relevant documentation of a disability that meets the qualifying disabilities under the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act
<http://www.phrc.pa.gov/Resources/Law-and-Legal/Pages/The-Pennsylvania-Human-Relations-Act.aspx#.V2q0bfkrLIU>

Because the laws guiding eligibility for accommodations in grades K – 12 and post-secondary education differ, documentation that includes recommendations corresponding to collegiate – level demands is highly recommended to ensure the proper type of accommodation is implemented to help the student transition into post—secondary education.

Such accommodations will be provided in accordance with the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29, Practical Nursing Program Policies and state and federal laws.

The Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing program does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities and will make every effort to make reasonable accommodations for the applicant or student with a disability. If you have a disability and do not require special accommodations, you are not required to disclose your disability.

After a request for accommodations is made by a student, the Director of Career and Technical Education at the Schuylkill Technology Centers will determine what accommodations may be appropriate or necessary. The Director of Career and Technical Education will communicate with the faculty members to determine whether the suggested accommodations are appropriate in the context of their course design and evaluation. The student should meet with the course instructor during the first week of class to discuss the accommodations request. If a student is dissatisfied with an instructor's decision or the implementation of accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to notify first the Practical Nursing Coordinator who can intervene to attempt to address a student's concerns.

If you have a disability and require accommodations, you are required to submit documentation of the disability including recommendations for the accommodations. This should be done as soon as possible after admission to the program and before enrollment. It is the student's responsibility to identify his/her disability to the Practical Nursing Program Coordinator if any accommodations are requested. A licensed physician or licensed psychologist/psychiatrist must complete the documentation. It should verify the disability and suggest appropriate accommodations appropriate for collegiate – level learning. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the documentation and to pay the provider's fees.

All students, including those with disabilities are responsible to meet the requirements of the Practical Nursing Program.

Documentation should be typed on letterhead stationery and include the following:

- Diagnosis of the disability that explains the impairment or limitation created by the disability and the type of accommodation being requested.
- Explanation of the applicant's limitation for which the applicant is requesting accommodations to successfully participate in an academic/clinical environment of the practical nursing program.
- The accommodation that you are requesting along with an explanation why the accommodation is necessary for the student to participate in the program.
- The name, title, professional credentials, and signature of the health care provider that is treating the student.

The Schuylkill Technology Centers cannot guarantee that the same accommodations can or will be provided when a student takes the NCLEX-PN examination.

Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing Program
Request for Accommodation Form

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Please provide a brief description of the disability/special circumstances for which you are requesting an accommodation:

Documentation attached to support this request (**REQUIRED**)

Recommended accommodation(s):

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Practical Nursing Coordinator Signature: _____ Date: _____

The school provided the following accommodation(s)

The school was unable to provide the requested accommodation.

Please attach all appropriate paperwork to this form and place in the student's file

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
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PROGRAM OF LEARNING

The Practical Nursing Program is held at the North Campus in Frackville and is available on a full-time and part-time basis. The full-time class covers a 12-month period with enrollment beginning in June/July of each calendar year. The part-time class covers an 18-month period with varying enrollment dates. Employment opportunities for LPNs are available in hospitals, clinics, prisons, schools, public health agencies, doctor's offices, extended care facilities, and private homes. LPNs can also continue their education to enter professional nursing and other health care fields. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-PN). Success in the examination qualifies graduates to function as licensed practical nurses.

Anatomy & Physiology I – 97 hours

Anatomy and Physiology is the study of the structures and functions of the human body. Anatomy and Physiology I is the first of two courses that covers the basics of human anatomy and physiology including anatomical terminology, principles of chemistry and microbiology, cells, tissues, integumentary system, skeletal system, muscles, central nervous system, sensory system, endocrine system, and reproductive system. This course includes examining changes in the structure and function as they relate to disease process.

Anatomy & Physiology II – 48 hours

Anatomy & Physiology is the study of the structures and functions of the human body. Anatomy & Physiology II covers the gastrointestinal system, urinary system, cardiovascular system, hematologic system, respiratory system, and lymphatic system. This course includes examining changes in structure and function as they relate to disease process.

Family Centered Health Care – 60 hours

This course deals with the normal physical, psychological, and social patterns of development. Included are theory and related clinical experience in the care of mothers and newborn infants; physiology and mechanics of reproduction, pregnancy, antepartum, parturition, and post-partum. Psychosocial aspects of patient care and the concept of the family unit is emphasized. Applied Diet Therapy and Drug Therapy are included.

Fundamentals of Nursing – 178 hours (Theory – 136 hours and Lab- 42 hours)

The Fundamentals of Nursing course provides the students with the knowledge to provide both basic and advanced nursing care to patients across the lifespan utilizing the nursing process. Nursing principles of assessment, vital signs, comfort measures, positioning, transferring, nutritional requirements, aseptic and sterile technique, death and dying, and effective communication are covered in this course. Course emphasizes the theory behind procedures, development of skills in therapeutic measures, and preparation of patients for diagnostic tests.

Transcultural nursing concepts are introduced. Related clinical labs and clinical experiences are scheduled to correlate theory and practice.

Medical – Surgical Nursing I – 136 hours

The study of specific diseases and disorders affecting the central nervous system, sensory system, musculoskeletal system, endocrine system, reproductive system and integumentary system of adults and children. The course covers the symptoms, diagnostic studies, treatment regimens (including diet therapy and related pharmacology), and nursing care as it relates to the specific disorder. Mental health concepts of the adult and child are covered in this course. The nursing process is emphasized as the foundation upon which nursing care is based.

Medical – Surgical Nursing II – 137 hours

This course builds upon the study of specific diseases and disorders that affect the body systems of adults and children. The body systems covered include respiratory, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, urinary, and immune. The course covers the symptoms, diagnostic studies, treatment regimens (including diet therapy and related pharmacology), and nursing care as it relates to the specific disorder. The nursing process is emphasized as the foundation upon which all nursing care is based. The course includes the study of basic leadership and management skills. Various cultural aspects will be studied, as well as community services available to the public.

Pharmacology I – 31 hours (Theory – 25 hours and Lab 6- hours)

Students will learn the fundamental principles of medication administration and develop the skills to administer specific drugs used in the treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of disease; and the ability to implement appropriate nursing actions to maximize the desired outcomes of therapy. In Pharmacology I, students will learn safe and effective drug administration, drug calculations, appropriate assessments, and documentation, implementation, evaluation, and communication skills in a controlled laboratory setting. Course also includes various systems of measurements and the conversions between the systems. Note: Course includes 6 hours of lab and 8.5 clinical lab hours.

Pharmacology II – 57 hours (Theory – 51 hours and Lab – 6 hours)

Safe and effective drug administration is an important component in providing high quality patient care for all nurses in all settings. To perform this vital role, the practical nurse must understand the fundamental principles of drug action; develop skills to administer specific drugs in the treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of disease; develop the ability to implement appropriate nursing actions to maximize the desired outcomes of therapy; and possess the observational skills to determine patient response. The course includes the basic principles and practices for the implementation of IV therapy as mandated by 49 PA Code Regulations 21.145 and 21.203.

Pharmacology III – 38 hours

Safe and effective drug administration is an important component in providing high quality patient care for all nurses in all settings. To perform this vital role, the practical nurse must understand the fundamental principles of drug action; develop skills to administer specific drugs in the treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of disease; develop the ability to implement appropriate nursing actions to maximize the desired outcomes of therapy; and possess the observational skills to determine patient response. Students will learn about medications and the nursing process related to the diseases processes of the following body systems; respiratory, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, and urinary.

Personal and Vocational Relations – 40 hours

A presentation of the program of studies, rules, and regulations with a review of the Student Handbook provides the new student with insight into his/her role and responsibilities. Student is oriented to the health delivery system and preliminary preparation for Nursing Assistant certification. A brief history of nursing is also presented as part of this course.

Preparation for the world of work including job interview skills, resume writing, and professional accountability are discussed. The process of applying for licensure and the NCLEX are included in this unit. Current health care trends and basic leadership skills are taught in the classroom. Students are also scheduled for leadership clinical rotation to practice the application of these skills.

Virtual ATI

Following the completion of ATI Capstone the student practical nurse will have the opportunity to engage in Virtual- ATI, a 12-week, personalized innovative, online partnership to help prepare them for NCLEX-PN success. The student will be assigned a personal nurse educator who will work one-on-one with them to guide them through a comprehensive content review. The student will receive a “Green Light” when the Virtual-ATI nurse educator deems they are ready to pass the NCLEX-PN. This is an independent, optional experience afforded to the student practical nurse following graduation. Students are highly encouraged to actively participate in this experience; however, it is not mandatory and opting out of the experience does not prevent the student from taking their NCLEX-PN if they have successfully completed the program.

Clinical Practicum

Clinical Practicum progresses from basic to complex nursing care. Each clinical practicum is planned to augment the theory component presented in a given term. Each clinical practicum is a unique entry in and of itself. Progression through these practicums requires the student to perform at a progressively more independent level. Evening clinical rotations may be necessary in the acute care setting based on the availability of the site.

Clinical I – Fundamentals of Nursing

Students are introduced to nursing care in a geriatric setting. This rotation provides an opportunity to practice communication skills, basic hygienic care procedures, socialization, and teamwork skills. The student will practice nursing care measures, as indicated, under close supervision. These include, but not limited to, vital signs, hygiene, transfers, and medical aspects.

Clinical II – Long Term Care – Intermediate and Medical – Surgical Nursing

Students are assigned to a long-term care facility where they will function under supervision of program faculty to give safe and efficient nursing care. The nursing process will be utilized as a basis for that care. Students begin to perform procedures using both medical and surgical aseptic techniques. Students will be introduced to administering medication in the long-term care setting. Students will also be assigned to an acute care facility where they will function under supervision of program faculty to give safe and efficient nursing care to the stable acutely ill client. Students will have the opportunity to prepare clients for specialized diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and administer medications. This rotation is also planned to acquaint the students with various specialty units, outpatient clinics, rehabilitative services, and the emergency department. Observational experiences, as well as the care of patients with specialized nursing problems (e.g. oncology, respiratory, coronary) will be assigned during this rotation. The nursing process will be applied in each setting.

Clinical III – Advanced Long Term Care – Advanced Medical – Surgical Nursing

This clinical rotation in the long-term setting is designed to expose the student to the multiple roles and responsibilities of the practical nurse in a geriatric setting such as charge nurse, treatment nurse, and medication nurse. Leadership skills learned in the classroom are applied in the clinical setting. This clinical rotation in the acute care setting is planned to provide an opportunity for the student to utilize the nursing process while caring for patients with complex nursing problems. Under supervision, the student is expected to consider legal and ethical boundaries while functioning as a member of the health care team.

The Practical Nursing program consists of 1545 hours. Students receive 768 hours of theory and 777 hours of clinical and lab experience.

This program encompasses the giving of direct patient care, recording data, performing treatments, assisting with restoration of function, and administration of medications. Practical Nursing also involves participation in assessment of planning, implementation, and evaluation of nursing care in all settings where nursing takes place.

Theory and laboratory sessions are held at the Schuylkill Technology Centers – North Campus in Frackville. Clinical experience in concurrent and/or sequential to theory, and is scheduled at Shenandoah Senior Living Community in Shenandoah, Rosewood Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in Schuylkill Haven, Mount Carmel Senior Living Community in Mount Carmel, Manor

Care in Pottsville, Schuylkill Center (Genesis) in Pottsville, Hometown Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Hometown, Broad Mountain Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Frackville, Lehigh Valley Health Network – Schuylkill (East) in Pottsville, Geisinger Shamokin Area Community Hospital in Coal Township, STC School Nurse, Frackville, Schuylkill IU 29 Early Intervention Preschool, Schuylkill IU 29 Maple Avenue, and Schuylkill Learning Academy Maple Avenue in Marlin. Students are responsible for individual transportation to and from the classroom as well as clinical sites. Reliable transportation is imperative to proper learning. The Schuylkill Technology Centers Practical Nursing program adheres to a strict absentee policy.

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

GRADING

Students are required to complete each “Term” with a satisfactory minimum grade of grade of 80% in each “Theory” course of study, and satisfactory grade in the “Clinical Practicum” for the term.

Passing Grade – 80% in Theory Performance

- Grading Scale:
 - 94 – 100 = A
 - 87 – 93 = B
 - 80 – 86 = C
 - 79 = Failure

- Numerical grades are used for theory achievement, as well as reports, care plans, pass or fail is used for clinical achievement.

- Final grade for Academic Achievement is determined by:
 - Written exams
 - Class presentations
 - Class projects

This grading policy is refined to meet program guidelines and all requirements of the Schuylkill Technology Centers grading policy. The student must achieve an 80% in all theory courses required, as well as a satisfactory grade in clinical practicum in each term. Students who have failed or withdrawn are readmitted on a space- available basis in accordance with the Practical Nursing program policies.

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

FINANCIAL AID

The Schuylkill Technology Centers recognizes the expense of a quality education and encourages students to apply for all available financial aid. The Financial Aid Office assists students to applying for federal grants, loans, and the Veterans Administration Program. Other agencies providing funding are Team PA Career Link and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Financing opportunities available to qualified students include Federal Pell Grants, Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan, Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans, and Federal Plus Loans.

*Tuition and fees are established by the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit Board of Directors. The tuition and fee schedule for the current year is listed below.

2020 – 2022 *Tuition and Fee Schedule			
Program	Start Date	Length	Estimated Cost
Practical Nursing	Full Time July – June	12 months (1545 hours)	\$20,375.50 (Includes tuition, textbooks, uniforms, clearances, medical lab, computer, and test fees)
	Part Time	18 months (1545 hours)	\$30,375.50 (Includes tuition, textbooks, uniforms, clearances, medical lab, computer, and test fees)

*The tuition and fee scheduled is subject to change on June/July 1 of each year. In the event that a student fails to pay the term tuition payment in full (less any approved PELL, GSL, or Scholarship Awards), the student will not be permitted to continue attending classes.

Definition of an Academic Year: Practical Nursing Program – 48 weeks/1545 clock hours. When determining refunds, the following fees will be considered NON-REFUNDABLE.

- \$110.00 (\$30.00 Application Fee and \$80.00 Pre-Admission Exam fee)
- All books, uniforms, medical, lab, and test fees

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at www.stcenters.org

SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
POST – SECONDARY



Schuylkill Technology Centers – North Campus
101 Technology Drive
Frackville, PA 17931
(570) 874-1412
Fax: (570) 874- 4028

Schuylkill Technology Centers – South Campus
17 Maple Avenue
Marlin, PA 17951
(570) 544 – 4748
Fax: (570) 544 – 3895

Important Telephone Numbers

North Campus (570) 874 – 1034

- Admission: Extension 4881
- Job Placement: Extension 4816
- Practical Nursing Office: Extension 4881
- Fax: (570) 874 – 4028

South Campus (570) 544 – 4748

Job Placement: Extension 3116

Pre Admission Testing (570)628 – 5761

Financial Aid Coordinator and Student Accounts (570) 874-1034, ext. 4881

- Email address: friem: friem@stcenters.org

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 will not discriminate on its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected category. This policy is in accordance with state law, including the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and with the federal law, including Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The Schuylkill Intermediate Unit commitment to non-discriminatory practices extend to prospective students and employees, current students and employees, parents of students, community members, and representatives of outside agencies.

Schuylkill Intermediate Unit employees, community members, and agency representatives who have a complaint of harassment or discrimination or who seek information about accommodations for individuals with disabilities should contact Dr. Gregory Koons, Executive Director, Equal Rights and Opportunities Director, Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, PO Box 130, 17 Maple Avenue, Marlin, PA 17952, Telephone number (570) 544 -9131, or fax (570) 544-6412. Visit our website at www.stcenters.org