KLAMATH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Registered Nursing Program
Associate of Applied Science

Program Information

The KCC Program prepares the graduate to practice as a registered nurse. The nursing program meets the minimum degree requirements for the Associate of Applied Science degree. This degree is awarded upon completion of the curriculum and the student will be eligible to apply to take the national NCLEX-RN examination leading to licensure as a Registered Nurse. Graduation from an accredited program is only one of the requirements and does not mean automatic licensure as a nurse.

Employment opportunities in nursing are available in Klamath and Lake Counties and throughout most of the state. Additional employment opportunities exist in the border counties of California. According to the Oregon Employment Department, job opportunities in nursing will continue to grow at a faster rate than most other occupations. The average hourly salary for this region is $36.00/hour with a range of $26.41 - $41.99. The average annual salary of RNs in Klamath and Lake Counties was $74,870 in 2014.

Demands of the Program

It is important to understand the mental and physical demands of the nursing program and the career of the nurse. Applicants to the nursing program must be physically and mentally able to cope with the rigors of the curriculum and the demanding nature of the health professions. Nursing students must be able to grasp scientific concepts, set up and solve basic math and algebra problems, and communicate well verbally and in writing. Physically, students must be able to remain on their feet for extended periods, lift up to 35 pounds, distinguish heart and lung sounds, read fine print, and identify skin tones such as pale, ashen, gray, or bluish.

Established academic and clinical requirements essential to the program of instruction apply to all students and cannot be waived. Attempts will be made to accommodate and retain qualified applicants with disabilities unless results of evaluations indicate that given reasonable accommodation an individual is still unable to perform the technical standards required by the program. A complete list of the required technical standards can be found on the nursing website. Students who believe they may need academic accommodations for a disability should make an appointment with the KCC Student Services office (541.882.3521) as soon as possible.

The nursing program utilizes a variety of clinical sites throughout Klamath and Lake Counties. These include hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, etc. Students will be assigned to have clinical experiences in most if not all of the sites and must expect to travel to communities other than those in which they reside for these experiences. At times carpooling to clinical sites will not be possible and reliable transportation will be needed by students. Required clinical experiences are assigned during days, evenings, and/or night shifts during the program. During the final clinical rotation of the program, students are assigned to match a staff clinical teaching associate’s work schedule which may include nights and weekends. Nursing classes, labs, and clinicals typically involve 15-20 hours of attendance and up to 30 hours of preparation/assignments/study per week. Meeting these requirements means that students will need to adjust employment and family responsibilities. Because of the need to be mentally alert when caring for patients, students are not allowed to work the shift immediately preceding scheduled clinical experiences.

Rev. 1/2019

RNAppProcessPacket2019-1
Eligibility Criteria

To qualify as an applicant for entry into the RN program, the student must:

1. Complete all program prerequisites with a letter grade of “C” or better and a cumulative prerequisite GPA ≥ 3.0 prior to application to program.
2. Submit unofficial copy of transcripts showing completion of the required prerequisite and support courses (or their equivalent).
3. Show evidence of a negative TB status (within six months).
4. Proof of current immunity against rubella, measles, mumps, diphtheria, tetanus, varicella, pertussis, and hepatitis B.
6. A negative background check (to be scheduled after packet is received).
7. A negative drug screen (to be scheduled after packet is received).

Admission Requirements

Students who seek admission into the program must be deemed eligible and must follow and complete all procedures and requirements, and must meet Program requirements in effect at the time.

General required courses for AAS Degree that must be completed prior to application to program:

- MTH 111: College Algebra or MTH 243: Statistics I
- SPE 111: Fundamental of Speech
- WRI 121 English Composition I or WRI 122
- PSY 235 Human Growth & Development
- CAS 133: Intro to Computer Applications

Prerequisites that must be completed prior to application to program:

- BIO 231 and 231 L: Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab
- BIO 232 and 232 L: Anatomy & Physiology II with Lab
- BIO 233 and 233 L: Anatomy & Physiology III with Lab
- BIO 234 and 234 L: Microbiology with Lab
- HPE 225: Nutrition

Application Process (details and application deadline to be announced)

Completed application packets must be received no later than 5 pm on the date of the deadline. The packet should include the application, letter to the Program Director, transcripts, vaccination records, and current CPR card. Other steps of the process will be scheduled after packets are reviewed for eligibility and degree of completeness. Applicants will be notified of decisions.

The student must complete the RN Application (available on line) and submit a letter to the Program Director explaining why the student believes he/she is a strong candidate for success in the RN Program. Applications will be considered for the application/selection process and available openings in the RN Program. Applicants will be assessed according to the following:*
1. **Prerequisite GPA:** A maximum of 40 points are awarded. The application must provide unofficial transcripts from regionally accredited college or universities for all prerequisites. The 39 credits of prerequisites will be calculated in the GPA for assignment of points in the selection process. Points are assigned using a linear equation: Points = 24 times GPA minus 56.

2. **National Standardized Test:** Up to 20 points will be awarded for scores on the TEAS V. (Points = applicant’s score in decimal form times 20.)

3. **Word processed short answer questions:** Up to 20 points will be awarded for scores on the short answer question assignment using a rubric for accuracy and content.

4. **Interview panel ranking:** Up to 20 points will be awarded based on cumulative scores submitted by the interview panel using a rubric for appearance and responses.

5. **Work experience:** Documentation of CNA/CMA work experience ≥ 960 hours (approximately 6 months full-time) within last three years:
   - ≥ 960 hours = 5 points
   - 480 – 959 hours = 3 points
   - 160 – 479 hours = 2 points

6. **Tie Breakers:** In the event that two or more applicant scores cluster at the same cut-off point, KCC will use tie breakers in the following order:
   a. No evidence of having repeated any of the prerequisite BIO courses (unless required due to time limit)
   b. Overall prerequisite/preparatory GPA
   c. Math grade

**Admission to the Program**
Priority is given to qualified candidates who have been residents of Klamath or Lake County for at least 12 months.

**Progression through the Program**
All core program courses must be completed with a 75% or higher score to continue in the program. Both lecture and clinical portions must be passed to progress to the next term.