FBCC/WSC* Dakota Nursing Program
Practical Nursing Program

Program Purpose
The Practical Nursing Curriculum prepares individuals with the knowledge, abilities and skills to provide basic nursing care to individuals across the life span. Students will participate in the application of safe nursing care in a dependent manner under the supervision of a registered nurse, advanced practice nurse, or a licensed practitioner to meet the basic health needs of individuals. Graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN®), which is required for practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Employment opportunities include acute practice, long term care practice and community-based practice.

Mission
The mission of the Dakota Nursing Program is to provide quality undergraduate education, which prepares graduates for nursing practice in multiple-structured, culturally diverse health care settings for clients across the lifespan.

Program Outcomes
The Dakota Practical Nursing Program will:
1. Produce safe, competent practical nurses capable of passing the NCLEX-PN®.
2. Serve as the foundation for further professional advancement and lifelong learning.
3. Assist in meeting the needs of the community and greater surrounding area for Licensed Practical Nurses.

Graduate Outcomes
These outcomes describe the consortium expectations for graduates from the Dakota Practical Nursing Program. The graduate will:
1. Utilize the nursing process with guidance, to provide basic nursing care in meeting the human health needs of individuals across the lifespan with diverse cultural backgrounds.
2. Apply principles of social, biological, behavioral, and nursing sciences to the practice of nursing to identify the physical, psychological, and cognitive human needs of individuals along the health-illness continuum.
3. Demonstrate verbal, written and therapeutic communication when caring for individuals and interacting with families.
4. Practice within the ethical and legal framework for the practical nurse.
5. Function as an interdisciplinary team member by participating, planning, and implementing nursing care for clients with stable or predictable health problems and assisting with clients whose conditions are critical or unpredictable.

Application Processes and Timelines
1. Applications will be available at each college from January 15, until March 5. Any applications received after March 5 will be considered on available space.
2. Letters of acceptance will be sent by each respective college to students by April 30.
3. Students must return a written letter of acceptance to the college by May 15.
4. Each campus will release their student waiting lists by June 15.
5. DNP Director will coordinate admission processes and participate on designated admission’s committee on each campus.

Admission Policy
The Dakota Nursing Program prepares students to be able to work under the supervision of a registered nurse, advanced practice nurse, or a licensed practitioner. LPNs assist with the performance of acts, utilizing specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities for people in a variety of settings (ND Nurse Practice Act 2003). Employment is found in hospitals, nursing homes, health centers, and private clinics, as well as a variety of other settings. This program of study leads to a Practical Nursing Certificate. Upon completion of the program the individual is qualified to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses, as required by all State Boards of Nursing.

Criteria for Admission
Admission to the program is on a competitive basis.

The following are prerequisites for consideration for admission to the Certificate in Practical Nursing Program:

1. High School Diploma or GED.
2. Students must be 18 years of age by December 31st of the year they start the program.
3. Admission to respective college
4. Proof of completing a CNA class and current North Dakota certification or proof of recent CNA work experience and current North Dakota certification.
5. Current CPR Certification for Health Care Providers
6. ENGL 110 - Composition I with “C” or better.
7. CHEM 115/115L - Introductory Chemistry with “C” or better.
8. High School Algebra/Beginning Algebra (ASC-92) or the COMPASS/ASSET exam equivalent within the last 5 years upon date of application. Students may verify this knowledge with a minimum COMPASS math score of 25-26 in the algebra domain or an ASSET Intermediate Algebra test of 33 or ACT math score of 16 or Accuplacer math score of 44-108.
9. An ACT composite score of 19 or COMPASS/ASSET test with an equivalent score (minimum writing score of 75 and a minimum reading score of 75) is required of students who have not completed 12 credits of classes included in the program requirements with a minimum GPA of 2.75 unless student can provide ACT equivalents of COMPASS, ASSEST, or Accuplacer test(s).
10. Minimum GPA of 2.75 for all completed college courses that are requirements for the Dakota Nursing programs.
11. An overall minimum GPA of 2.5 for all college courses taken. Students with composite GPA 2.5 or lower may appeal for a conditional admission. Conditional admissions must be reported to the director and addressed in Leadership meetings.
12. “C” or better in all required courses previously completed.
13. Anatomy and Physiology I/L and II/L, Developmental Psychology, and Pharmacology courses older than 5 years will need to be repeated.
14. Students who meet the prerequisites and their file is complete, are accepted into the program based on each college’s admission criteria.
15. Students accepted into the nursing program must have access to reliable, high speed internet.
16. Completion of a formal application form for admission to the Dakota Practical Nursing Program, which includes the following:
   ▪ A copy of your high school transcript or equivalent and all college transcripts.
   ▪ A brief narrative summarizing past work experiences and reasons for entering the Dakota Practical Nursing Program
   ▪ Three letters of reference
17. Admission to the PN program does not guarantee progression into the ADN program.
18. Students must submit to a background check and pass a mandatory drug screen to be completely admitted to the program.

Application forms for admission to the Dakota Practical Nursing Programs may be obtained from the nursing office during spring semester. The admissions committee will review the applications and qualifications of each individual. Each student will be notified in writing of his/her acceptance into the program. Additional information regarding health requirements, uniforms, insurance, etc., will be provided to each student who is selected.

Students accepted into the Dakota Nursing Program can find curriculum from Williston State College* or in the Dakota Nursing Program handbook.

Upon successful completion of the above curriculum, students will receive a Certificate in Practical Nursing from Williston State College*. Students may make application to continue into Year 2 and/or apply to take the NCLEX PN.

*The Fort Berthold Community College is a distant site of the Dakota Nursing Program under Williston State College. The Dakota Nursing Program is a collaboration among Bismarck State College, Dakota College at Bottineau, Lake Region State College, and Williston State College

**FBCC/WSC* Dakota Nursing Program
Associate Degree Program

Purpose
This associate degree nursing curriculum prepares individuals with the knowledge, abilities, and skills to practice nursing independently and interdependently through the application of the nursing process to provide safe nursing care to individuals and families across the life span in a variety of settings. Graduates of this program may apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN®) which is required for practice as a registered nurse. Employment opportunities include acute care centers, long term care facilities, clinics, outpatient offices, industry, and community agencies.

**Mission**

The mission of the Dakota Nursing Program is to provide quality undergraduate education, which prepares graduates for nursing practice in multiple-structured, culturally diverse health care settings for clients across the lifespan.

**Associate Degree Nursing Program Outcomes**

The Dakota Associate Degree Nursing Program will:

1. Produce safe, competent associate degree nurses capable of passing the NCLEX-RN®
2. Serve as the foundation for further professional advancement and life long learning.
3. Assist in meeting the needs of the community and surrounding areas for Registered Nurses.

**Associate Degree Nursing Graduate Outcomes**

These outcomes describe the consortium expectations for graduates from the Dakota Associate Degree Nursing Program. The graduate will:

1. Adapt the nursing process to provide nursing care in diverse settings to meet the human needs of individuals along the health-illness continuum.
2. Incorporate various communication techniques in developing therapeutic relationships with individuals, families and members of the interdisciplinary team.
3. Function within the legal and ethical scope of practice as an accountable member of the health care team providing leadership and management in the delivery of quality nursing care consistent with the associate degree registered nurse.
4. Demonstrate professional behaviors as a member of the dynamic health care discipline of nursing incorporating independent and continuous learning.
5. Integrate teaching-learning principles in providing individuals and families with health care information and skills related to health promotion and maintenance.
6. Integrate social, biological, behavioral and nursing sciences when providing evidence-based nursing care to diverse individuals across the lifespan.

**Application Process/Admission Policy**

**Requirements for continuation in the Dakota Associate in Applied Science Degree Program in Nursing (RN):**
1. Successful completion of the first year of the Dakota Nursing Program with a minimum GPA of 2.75 in all prerequisite courses and a minimum GPA of 2.75 in the 47 credit course requirements as defined in the PN curriculum. The student must maintain an overall GPA of 2.5.
2. Students must complete application process for continuation to the AD program dated no later than March 5 of the year the student would be entering the 2nd year of the program. Students must have positive references from faculty to progress.
3. Students must pass a preadmission examination. See ATI policy found later in this handbook.
   Students must submit to a background check and pass a mandatory drug screen to be completely admitted to the program.

OR

Prerequisites for Incoming Application toward the Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing (ADN):
1. Unencumbered license to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the United States of America.
2. Minimum GPA of 2.75 in all prerequisite courses (including nursing classes) and an overall minimum GPA of 2.5
3. Admission to the college of choice as well as completion of a formal application to the Dakota Associate Degree Nursing Program. **Admission to the College does not guarantee admission to the ADN program.** Application forms for admission to the Dakota ADN Program may be obtained from the Nursing Department beginning January 15 with application due on or before March 5.
4. Pass a preadmission examination.
5. Currently enrolled (if competitive) or satisfactory completion with a “C” or better in each of the following courses:
   - **All required nursing courses from an accredited Practical Nursing Program**
   - CHEM 115 Introductory Chemistry and lab
   - ENGL 110 Composition I
   - PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology
   - BIOL 220 Anatomy and Physiology I with lab
   - BIOL 221 Anatomy and Physiology II with lab
   - PHRM 215 Introduction to Pharmacology (must have been completed within 5 years of ADN admission).
   - PSYC 250 Developmental Psychology
6. Students must submit to a background check and pass a mandatory drug screen to be completely admitted to the program.

Students who meet the prerequisites and have completed their file are accepted into the program based on each college’s admission criteria.

Students accepted into the Dakota Nursing Program can find curriculum from Williston State College* or in the Dakota Nursing Program handbook.
Students accepted into the nursing program must have access to reliable, high speed internet.

Upon successful completion of the above curriculum, students will receive an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing from Williston State College*.

*The Fort Berthold Community College is a distant site of the Dakota Nursing Program under Williston State College. The Dakota Nursing Program is a collaboration among Bismarck State College, Dakota College at Bottineau, Lake Region State College, and Williston State College.