



Nicholls State University
College of Nursing
Department of Nursing
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program

LPN to BSN Articulation

The LPN-BSN Articulation provides an opportunity for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) to pursue a BSN degree, and is designed to validate and award credit for existing knowledge, while remaining consistent with the BSN Program student learning outcomes.

Admission Criteria

1. Accepted to Nicholls State University.
2. Application for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program on file in the Department of Nursing.
3. Completion of first 35 hours of BSN curriculum with a minimum grade of “C” and 2.75 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) in the first 35 hours. Maintain a minimum grade of “C” in all required courses.
4. Approval to enroll in a clinical nursing course by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.
5. Official license verification from the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners.
6. Score of 77% or higher on the NLN NACE-I Foundations of Nursing Exam
7. Prior work experience as LPN is not required for admission to the LPN-BSN Articulation.
8. Qualified students will be enrolled on a space available basis.
9. Evidence of health requirements must be provided and validated through CastleBranch™ *prior* to participating in any clinical experience.

Retention/Progression Criteria

1. Retention and progression is in compliance with BSN Program guidelines.
2. Official license verification from the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners annually.
3. A student is permitted one failure or withdrawal once admitted to the clinical nursing sequence. A second failure or withdrawal, in any clinical nursing course, constitutes dismissal from the program.
4. Students who do not successfully complete a required clinical course, who fall below a GPA of 2.0 in the BSN curriculum, or who withdraw from a required course must submit an application requesting re-entry into the clinical sequence prior to regular registration.
5. A student must earn at least 33 credit hours in residence and earn a majority of the credits in the BSN major through this University. Required credits in nursing courses = 57.
6. Requirements for graduation must be completed within seven years from the date of entry into the first semester of the sophomore year. Failure to do so will necessitate the individual having to repeat all Nursing-prefixed courses.

Course Substitutions

Course substitutions may be submitted for equivalent course work taken at Nicholls and other universities if a grade of “C” or better has been earned. Credit is awarded following approval by the Vice-President of Academic Affairs.

Credit by Examination/Competency Testing

A maximum of fifty percent of Nicholls degree requirements may be earned through correspondence, extension, military service, military service schools, College Level Examinations Program (CLEP), or any accumulation from all categories of testing, placements, and similar programs. Since the university policy on granting credit for CLEP scores excludes certain academic areas, the student should request further information on the policy regarding CLEP from the Office of Records and Registration or the Academic Testing Center. Courses for which credit by examination may be earned include the following:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Allied Health Science 220 – Pathophysiology	3	Allied Health	(985) 493-2624
Allied Health Science 221 – Pharmacology	3	Allied Health	(985) 493-2624
Dietetics 200 – Applied Nutrition	3	Allied Health	(985) 493-2624
OIS 200 – Computers in the Office	2	Computer Information Systems	(985) 449-7014
Nursing Electives	3	BSN Program	(985) 448-4695
Nursing 222 – Basic Nursing Process I	3	BSN Program	(985) 448-4695
Nursing 223 – Basic Nursing Process II	3	BSN Program	(985) 448-4695
Nursing 371 – Nursing and the Childbearing Family	5	BSN Program	(985) 448-4695
Nursing 381 – Nursing and the Childrearing Family	5	BSN Program	(985) 448-4695

Three (3) examinations are available: (a) NACE-I Foundations Exam for NURS 222 & NURS 223, (b) NACE-I Care of the Childbearing Family Exam for NURS 371, and (c) NACE-I Care of the Childrearing Family Exam for NURS 381. Successful completion requires a score of $\geq 77\%$. Exams are administered by the BSN Program Office once each semester. Students must complete NACE I Foundation of Nursing exam by semester 3 for possible entrance into clinical sequence in semester 4. Students must complete NACE I Nursing Care of Child and Nursing Care of Childbearing Family exams by clinical semester 2 for progression in the LPN-BSN articulation. Students not successfully completing either or both of the exams will revert to the traditional BSN curriculum progression.

Program of Study

Freshman Year***

Semester One (prerequisites)	Sem Hrs.	Semester Two (prerequisites)	Sem. Hrs.
Biology 114.....	3	Biology 116.....	3
Biology 115.....	1	Biology 117.....	1
Chemistry 109.....	3	Biology 205.....	3
English 101.....	3*	English 102.....	3
History.....	3*	Humanities.....	3*
Mathematics 101 or 117*.....	3*	OIS 200.....	2
UNIV Course.....	<u>1</u>	Psychology 101.....	<u>3</u>
	17		18

Sophomore Year****

Semester Three (prerequisites)	Sem Hrs.	Fall/Spring Semester #1 (Clinical Course Work Begins)	Sem. Hrs.
Allied Health Science 220.....	3*	Nursing 226.....	3
Allied Health Science 221.....	3*	Nursing 228.....	2
Dietetics 200.....	3	Nursing 255.....	7
English Literature.....	3	Nursing 340.....	<u>3</u>
Sociology 204.....	<u>3</u>		15
	15		

Junior Year****

Fall/Spring Semester #2	Sem Hrs.	Fall/Spring Semester #3	Sem. Hrs.
English 468.....	3	Nursing 400.....	5
Math 214.....	3	Nursing 420.....	5
Nursing 355.....	<u>8</u>	Nursing 422.....	<u>3</u>
	14		13

Senior Year****

Fall/Spring Semester #4	Sem Hrs.
Fine Art Elective.....	3
Nursing 427.....	3
Nursing 428.....	4
Nursing Elective.....	<u>3**</u>
	13

Total General Education = 59; total Nursing = 61 (43 by enrollment, 18 by competency testing);
Total Hours for Degree= 120

*Gen Ed courses; may earn credit via examination (CLEP, etc.) – minimal score 50

**Nursing courses; may earn credit via examination/competency testing

***GPA with all course work "C" or higher $2.75 \geq$

****GPA with all course work "C" or higher $2.0 \geq$

Revised: 8/15; 8/17

Reviewed: 8/15, 8/16