

**NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE  
DIVISION OF NURSING  
LPN CHALLENGE OF NURSING COURSES**

**NOTE: The LPN-RN challenge student must be able to complete the nursing program within 2 years after starting Maternal-Child nursing. If this requirement is not met, the student has the option of repeating the program in its entirety, with approval from the faculty and/or chair.**

**Policy**

The opportunity to receive credit for designated nursing courses is limited to LPNs who hold current active unencumbered LPN licensure. To qualify for the challenge applicants will:

- hold current active unencumbered LPN license
- meet criteria for admission to the nursing program
- complete required core courses with a grade of "C" or better
- successfully pass 3 exams. (NLN tests - (1) Foundations of Nursing, (2) Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and (3) Care of the Adult Client **or** Excelsior tests (1) Fundamentals of Nursing (2) Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing and (3) Adult Nursing). These tests must be taken by March 1st.
- successfully complete summer LPN transition course with at least a "C".
- successfully complete summer LPN psychiatric course with at least a "C" if did not have a psych clinical rotation of at least 24 clinical hours or did not successfully pass the Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing exam.
- Upon completion of requirements the LPN will be eligible to enroll in sophomore level nursing courses as space is available. Advanced positions are competitive in terms of the student's ability to achieve at the level of entry and the capacity of the program to accommodate additional students at that level. College retention GPA may be used to determine eligibility if needed.
- Credit for the challenged nursing courses will be recorded with a grade of "Pass" and filed with the registrar's office after completion of 12 credit hours.
- The nursing program must be entered within one-two (1-2) calendar year after passing the summer LPN transition course.

**Procedure**

1. Complete an application for the Northern Oklahoma College nursing program before the beginning of the fall semester. Designate applying for the LPN challenge program. Applicants will be notified of acceptance status.
2. Make an appointment with the nursing office to enroll in non-nursing courses.
3. The applicant must complete at least 17 credits of general education\* and core courses\*\* before entry into the fall semester nursing course (NURS 2334). These credits must include:
  - a. PSYC 1113 General Psychology, with a minimum grade of "C"
  - b. SOCI 1113 Principles of Sociology, with a minimum grade of "C"
  - c. BISI 1114 Biology **or** CHEM 1314 Chemistry I **and**
  - d. BISI 2214 Human Anatomy & Physiology with a minimum grade of "C"
  - e. NURS 1253 Introduction to Nursing with a minimum grade of "C"

Applicants do not have to have all of the courses completed before testing but they must be completed before enrolling in the sophomore year courses.

4. Challenge (test out of) the freshman year nursing courses. The NLN tests are administered by appointment at Northern. Applicants must have permission 10 days in advance from the Nursing Chair before tests can be scheduled. Fees must be paid prior to the exam. Applicants may elect to take the Excelsior exams. If this is the route chosen, applicants must make arrangements with Excelsior by calling 1-888-647-2388. These tests must be taken by March 1st.
5. If applicants fail the NLN tests, they may take the Excelsior tests one time only. If the applicant fails the Excelsior tests, the NLN tests may be taken once. If the applicant does not successfully complete any one of the exams (NLN or Excelsior) after the 2nd attempt, the student will be required to complete the corresponding freshman level nursing course as space is available.
6. Upon successful completion of the 3 tests and prerequisites, applicants will be eligible to enroll in the sophomore level nursing courses as space is available. Admission is not guaranteed. If space is a problem LPNs with the highest college GPA will be admitted. If the non-nursing course Microbiology (4 hours) has not been completed with a minimum grade of "C", this will be required to be taken concurrently with the first sophomore nursing course.
7. The LPN summer transition course must be successfully completed to be eligible to enter the nursing program at any advanced level. Applicants must enroll in the LPN transition course if they are successful in challenging the Fundamentals of Nursing course but are unsuccessful with Nursing of Adults I tests.
8. If an applicant did not have a psych clinical rotation of at least 24 hours in the LPN program, NURS 1353 Introduction to Psychiatric Nursing must be taken. If applicant chooses to take the psych test and passes, the clinical rotation of the psych class must be completed. Test must be taken by March 1st.
9. Non-nursing courses needed to complete the requirements for graduation include those listed in step 3 plus:
  - English Composition I - 3 hours
  - English Composition II - 3 hours
  - American History - 3 hours
  - American Government - 3 hours
10. To qualify for advanced standing credit the nursing applicants must:
  - a. meet criteria for admission to the nursing program.
  - b. complete the required core courses with a grade of "C" or better.
  - c. show proof of current active, unencumbered LPN licensure.
  - d. have approval of the nursing chair.
  - e. have paid the appropriate fees.
  - f. have successfully completed the challenge examinations
11. Enrollment in all courses should be done in collaboration with the Division of Nursing.

\* GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

Comp I	1113 (May CLEP)
Comp II	1213 (May CLEP)
History	1483 or 1493 (May CLEP)
Government	1113 (May CLEP)
Leadership/Orientation	1101 (May be waived)

\*\* CORE COURSES

Biology (May CLEP)	1114 <b>or</b> Chemistry 1314 (May CLEP)
Anatomy & Physiology	2214
Microbiology	2124
Psychology	1113 (May CLEP)
Sociology	1113 or Social Problems 2223 (May CLEP)

Suggested course sequence for LPN challenge program:

Fall Semester #1

BISI 1114 - General Biology ( <i>May CLEP</i> ) <b>or</b>	
CHEM 1314 - General Chemistry I ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	4
PSYC 1113 - General Psychology ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	3
ENGL 1113 - English Composition I ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	3
HIST 1483 - American History to 1865 ( <i>May CLEP</i> ) <b>or</b>	
HIST 1493 - American History since 1895 ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	<u>3</u>
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(NLN or Excelsior challenge exam)

Spring Semester #1

BISI 2214 - Human Anatomy & Physiology	4
SOCI 1113 - Principles of Sociology ( <i>May CLEP</i> ) <b>or</b>	
SOCI 2223 - Social Problems	3
ENGL 1213 - English Composition II ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	3
POLI 1113 - American National Government ( <i>May CLEP</i> )	<u>3</u>
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(NLN or Excelsior challenge exams) - *There are 2 exams*

Summer Semester

NURS 1253 - Introduction to Nursing	3
NURS 1353 - Introduction to Psychiatric Nursing	<u>3</u>
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Fall Semester #2

BISI 2124 - Microbiology ( <i>May take this course earlier</i> )	4
NURS 2334 - Maternal-Child Nursing	4
NURS 2344 - Maternal-Child Nursing Practicum	4
NURS 2070 - Nursing Seminar I	<u>1</u>
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Spring Semester #2

NURS 2415 - Nursing of Adults II	5
NURS 2425 - Nursing of Adults II Practicum	5
NURS 2070 - Nursing Seminar II	<u>2</u>
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