



SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

LVN to RN- TRANSITION NURSING

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

2023-2024 Catalog

Revised 12-6-2022

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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Applicants must satisfy all Specialized Admissions criteria to include, General requirements, ATI TEAS minimum composite scores, Mandatory courses, Pre-program specifics and the ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor exam to qualify for ranking. ATI PN Comprehensive exam is by appointment, the exam will be available at the Rio Grande Testing Center, located at 103 Montana, 3rd floor of the Student Services Building. Once a completed applicant, ranking points are derived from the most recent ATI TEAS composite score and the most recent G.P.A. of Ranking courses.

PROGRAM MAP

Program Map provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones.

WEB LINK: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/program-map?programID=339>

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must satisfy all criteria in order to be eligible for ranking consideration. The following is required:

- Acceptance by EPCC as an academic credit student
- Successful completion of **ATI TEAS -The Test of Essential Academic Skills**
- **Successful completion of the ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor**
 - Two mandatory orientations are required for the Nursing program
 1. Complete a **Nursing Specialized Admissions Orientation online**.
Web link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/nursing-specialized-admissions-orientation>
 2. Complete an **on-line Health Careers Orientation- Web link: www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation** to declare LVN-RN Transition as a secondary major
 - Pay application fee at cashier's window and **submit** the Health Careers Specialized Admissions Application to the Specialized Admissions Office for processing. Send application via email to: specialized.adm@epcc.edu or hand carry to:
VV Campus, 919 Hunter, Enrollment Services Center; Admissions and Registration Office
- Completion with a **"C" or better** of all academic and specialized courses listed on the degree plan
- **Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required**
- Submit all previous college/university transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required) **prior to ranking**
- **Must have a High School Diploma or GED. Request official transcripts be sent to: EPCC Admissions Office, P. O. Box 20500, El Paso, TX. 79998 or sendtranscripts2@epcc.edu**

Background check and substance abuse screening are Post Specialized Admissions Requirements; see page 5 for additional information.

ASSESSMENT SCORES

A minimum of 57% composite score is required on the ATI TEAS assessment for qualification and ranking into the Nursing programs. Official scores are **valid for two years** and **only the most recent composite scores** will be used for qualification and placement. There is a **21-day** waiting period for re-testing with a maximum of **(4) four** attempts. Re-testing **prior** to the 21-day period will **invalidate** your ATI TEAS scores for EPCC Nursing qualification and ranking.

- *If the ATI TEAS exam is taken outside of EPCC, official scores of your ATI TEAS must be sent to the EPCC TESTING CENTER along with your Student ID.*
- *Additional costs will be charged by ATI to send official scores.*
- *Student is responsible to assure official ATI scores are received.*

ATI-TEAS Assessment

- Minimum Composite score-57%
- Official composite scores must contain all four (4)-subject areas (English and Language Usage, Math, Reading, and Science).
- The ATI TEAS exam must be taken for qualification and ranking into the RN program.
- ATI TEAS composite scores are valid for 2 years
- Contact a Nursing Counselor for testing and re-testing guidelines
- If you are ranking June 2023 for Fall 2023 entry or ranking October 2023 for Spring 2024 entry you will take the ATI TEAS assessment
- You can purchase an ATI TEAS Study Guide at: www.atitesting.com

ATI PN COMPREHENSIVE PREDICTOR EXAM

A second qualifying exam is required: The **ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor Exam**. The **ATI Predictor exam** must be taken for qualification and ranking into the LVN-RN Transition Program. Web link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Services/TestingServices/specialized-testing>

- **ATI Predictor exam:**
 - Is valid for two (2) years
 - requires a passing score of 90% or above.
- **21-day** waiting period for re-testing with a maximum of **(2) two** attempts; after two attempts must wait 6 months before retesting
- Re-testing **prior** to the 21-day period will **invalidate** your scores for qualification and placement.
- Only the **most recent scores** will be used for placement
- Highly recommend you purchase a VN/PN Review Course prior to taking the ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor exam.
- **Official ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor Exam scores used for graduation requirements cannot be used for ranking qualification. ATI PN Comprehensive Exam scores received must be dated after LVN licensure is attained.**

MANDATORY COURSES

Mandatory courses are those courses that a student must have successfully completed prior to ranking. Applicants who do not satisfactorily complete Mandatory Courses will not be eligible to be ranked into the Nursing program.

NOTE: BIOL 1306 and BIOL 1106 are pre-requisites for BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402. Prerequisite can be met through CLEP- (College Level Examination Program) or course completion.

Check 2023-2024 El Paso Community College Catalog for prerequisites

- **BIOL 2401** Anatomy & Physiology I
- **BIOL 2402** Anatomy & Physiology II
- **RNSG 1115** Health Assessment- (**registration requires clearance from designated Nursing Counselor and has a 3-year limit.**)
- **PSYC 2314** Lifespan Growth & Development
- **RNSG 1301** Pharmacology
- **ENGL 1301** Composition I
- **MATH 1324** Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences or **MATH 1314** College Algebra or **MATH 1342** Elementary Statistical Methods Algebra and Geometry or higher-level Math course

- **For qualification, BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, and RNSG 1301 have a ten (10) year limit.**
- **RNSG 1115 has a three (3) year limit.**
- All mandatory courses must be successfully completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better to qualify for advanced placement. **You may repeat a course, however only the MOST RECENT grades will be considered for ranking.**

RANKING COURSES

Ranking courses cannot be substituted. The ranking GPA is calculated based on the following courses:

- **BIOL 2401** Anatomy & Physiology 1
- **BIOL 2402** Anatomy & Physiology II
- **RNSG 1301** Pharmacology

You may repeat a course, however only the **MOST RECENT** grades will be considered for ranking.

OTHER DEGREE PROGRAM COURSES

- **3 HRS. HFA Elective (select 1):** ENGL 2322, ENGL 2323, ENGL 2332, ENGL 2333, ENGL 2351, PHIL 1301, PHIL 2306, PHIL 2303, HIST 2321, HIST 2322
- **1 HR. Open Elective-any college level course**

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants for specialized programs must meet all Pre-Program Specialized Admissions requirements PRIOR to qualifying for ranking.
2. Everything must be current through the entire academic semester or summer you want to register.
3. Pre-Program Specialized Admissions documents should be turned into: nursingclearance@epcc.edu along with a Transmittal form. Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf

Below are two orientations required for all applicants:

1. **Health Careers Orientation-Online**-Required to declare your intent to pursue EPCC Nursing programs- LVN-RN Transition
Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation>
 - Submit the Health Careers Orientation application to the Specialized Admissions Office for processing to: specialized.adm@epcc.edu
2. **Nursing Specialized Admissions Orientation-Online**
Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/nursing-specialized-admissions-orientation>
 - Submit Nursing Specialized Admissions certificate to: nursingclearance@epcc.edu along with a Transmittal form.
 - Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf

- **CURRENT CPR CERTIFICATE**- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider
 - **LVN licensure in lieu of First Aid Certification**
 - **IMMUNIZATIONS and TITERS – Immunizations and Blood titers must be completed prior to ranking.** Immunizations MUST be started now if you are selecting Nursing. Immunizations include: **Hepatitis B series, MMR, Tdap, Varicella, Influenza, Meningitis**, or as directed by DSHS
 - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Hepatitis B; if negative, repeat immunization series or Twinrix series or Heplisav-b immunization and repeat titer (ask your healthcare provider for information)
 - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Measles
 - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Mumps
 - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Rubella, (MMR) (if any Negative, series must be repeated)
 - **POSITIVE TITER** required for Varicella (if Negative, series must be repeated)
- NOTE: After a vaccination is administered, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER**
- **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)** or as directed by DSHS-(Expires after 10 years)
 - **Influenza** is required for **October placement but not for June placement**; renew every year
 - **Meningitis** may be required-(Good for 5 years) (required by college, check with Registrar's office)- (Monitored by Admissions Office)
- **PHYSICAL EXAM** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the USA-valid for 6 months for ranking qualification. Web Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FFAA-1.pdf>
 - **PHYSICAL TECHNICAL STANDARD form (completed)** –form obtained through Nursing Website
Web Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FB-8.pdf>
 - **COVID 19 vaccine plus 1st booster is now** required by all hospitals. Medical or religious exemption is allowed but proof of either is expected.
 - **NURSING DISCLOSURE FORM**- Web Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Disclosure_Form.pdf
 - **ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor Exam scores**-(scores received must be dated after LVN licensure is attained.)
 - **Submit proof of current LVN or LPN licensure**

A tracking system, American Databank COMPLIO, will assist students and coordinators to be compliant with immunizations, CPR, First Aid, physical, etc. Implementation is pending for the Nursing program. Students will be expected to pay all fees that are associated with the America Databank COMPLIO tracking system.

Start a Clinical Nursing folder: For ranking, the Nursing Discipline creates a folder when you submit the Titer lab results with any other documents that you have at this point to review them and evaluate what you're pending.

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

DOCUMENTS and APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITY- All Pre- Program Specific Requirements documentation is due **ONE MONTH prior to ranking date**. Processing can take place in a few days or weeks depending on document type and individual circumstances. If documents have been received, but not processed, a student will be **coded as ineligible** for that ranking because sufficient time was not given for validating and processing the information. It is ultimately the APPLICANT'S **RESPONSIBILITY** to submit **all** required documentation to allow for normal processing and **VERIFY** that all documents are coded in our Banner system. Pre-Program Specific clearance is issued by submitting all Pre-Program documentation **along with a transmittal form** to: nursingclearance@epcc.edu
Transmittal Form Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Official Ranking Dates:**
 - June 1st for Fall 2023 entry--**(Clinical clearance documentation due one month prior to ranking date)**
 - October 2nd for Spring 2024 entry-- **(Clinical clearance documentation due one month prior to ranking date)**
- **Program Begins:** Fall and Spring
- **Maximum Students Admitted:** 20 students (unless otherwise noted)
- **Must have had previous work experience as a Licensed Vocational, (LVN), or Practical Nurse, (PN)**
- **Students must maintain their LVN or LPN licensure current throughout the program.**
- Students must have successfully completed all required courses on the degree in order to graduate with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in LVN-RN Transition Nursing.
- Students will be expected to pay the fees that are associated with ATI standardized testing.
- The Nursing Program allows a student 3 years to complete the AAS Degree in Nursing after official enrollment in the first Nursing course.
- Students who have previously completed a vocational nursing program, and are a Licensed Vocational or Practical Nurse will be able to transfer their vocational nursing courses to this program under the Texas Nursing Articulation Plan. Students will receive credit for their first two semesters of the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing.
- See a designated LVN-RN Transition Nursing Program Counselor to register for RNSG 1115. RNSG 1115 has a three (3) year limit.

POST-SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for the following requirements AFTER you are accepted into the program. Everything must be current through the entire academic semester or summer you want to register. Along with a Transmittal form, Post Specialized Admissions documents should be turned into: nursingclearance@epcc.edu

- **PROGRAM ORIENTATION** –one day in person or virtual orientation –(mandatory)
- **COMMUNITY WIDE ORIENTATION-** <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation> --(Renew every year)
- **HIPAA TRAINING** <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa> --(Renew every year)
- Uniforms, Specialized Equipment, Lab Supplies required for labs and clinical; and Liability Insurance required for clinical.
- **TUBERCULOSIS – Two PPD's to be completed after ranking.** After initial immunization, second one must be completed within 7-21 days later. If before 7 days or after 21 days, must start series again. Timing is critical. After initial double PPD, single is to be done annually) or Chest x-ray (as needed) (or as requested by clinical facilities) or a Quantiferon Blood Test or Tspot
- **TWO BACKGROUND CHECKS** will be completed by each student. **1st** – Upon qualification and placement into the program the student is required to complete an annual background check through the American Data Bank– www.elpasoex.com **2nd** A positive background check from the Texas Board of Nursing, (BON), may prevent students from entering/staying in the program. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas or health care facilities until cleared. **Students who fail to obtain clearance may be prohibited from admission or enrollment in specified programs/courses.**
- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE SCREENING**–www.elpasoex.com - American Data Bank - Students who cannot participate in clinical rotations due to adverse activities revealed through substance abuse testing cannot complete course or program requirements. **Students who fail to obtain clearance may be prohibited from admission or enrollment in specified programs/courses.**
- **Provide Proof of Personal Medical Insurance to meet affiliate requirements.**

NURSING (CLINICAL) COURSES

Note: All students entering from the LVN-RN Transition program courses in the 1st semester must meet Advanced Placement requirements. LVN to RN Transition students will receive credit for the following courses after Advanced Placement., (Non-traditional student) requirements are met.

- Upon acceptance into the LVN-RN Transition program, the student must contact their designated LVN-RN Transition counselor to generate a Student Petition for awarding of Non-Traditional credit and submission to the Dean of Nursing for approval.
- **It is the student's responsibility to request the Student Petition be generate as the Student will need to provide verification of their LVN or LPN licensure to receive Non-traditional credits for the courses below.**
- **Student should request the Non-traditional credit during their first (1st) semester of the LVN-RN Transition program to prevent delays in awarding of credits and prevent delays in meeting degree requirements.**

Non-Traditional Credits are awarded with current LVN or LPN licensure and acceptance into the LVN-RN Transition program. Student needs to request that a Student Petition is generated by designated Nursing counselor after acceptance into the LVN-RN Transition program.

RNSG	1208	Dosage Calculations for Nursing
RNSG	1260	Clinical- Registered Nursing / Registered Nurse
RNSG	1413	Foundations for Nursing Practice
RNSG	1441	Common Concepts of Adult Health
RNSG	1261	Clinical- Registered Nursing / Registered Nurse
RNSG	2213	Mental Health Nursing
RNSG	2260	Clinical- Registered Nursing / Registered Nurse

Upon accepting a seat into the program, your name is submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing (BON). The BON will email the student the Texas Fingerprint Service Code Form which enables the student to make an appointment with Identigo to get their fingerprinting completed. Fingerprinting with a background check from FBI is required by the BON for licensure requirements and must be completed prior to the end of the first semester of the program.

NOTE: You must be formally admitted into the Associate Degree Nursing Program as an LVN to RN Transition Nursing student in order to enroll in these courses:

First Semester	RNSG	1347	Concepts of Clinical Decision-Making
	RNSG	1262	Clinical Registered Nursing Registered Nurse
	RNSG	1327	Transition to Professional Nursing
Second Semester	RNSG	1343	Complex Concepts of Adult Health
	RNSG	2162	Clinical Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse
	RNSG	2130	Professional Nursing Review and Licensure Preparation
	RNSG	2221	Professional Nursing Leadership and Management
	RNSG	2261	Clinical Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse

*It is the student's responsibility to check with a **designated LVN-RN Transition Nursing Counselor** for any program updates and/or revisions as they progress through the Specialized Admissions process. Once you have identified a designated **LVN-RN Transition Nursing Counselor**, please continue to work specifically with that counselor. If hyperlinks do not open, go to the Nursing website for documents at www.epcc.edu*

This document is for informational purpose only and is not to be construed as a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised December 6, 2022 and is subject to change without prior notice. This document is intended to be used with the College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures.

The A.A.S. in the Nursing Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing and the Texas Board of Nursing. The Associate of Applied Science Degree Nursing Program is approved by the Texas Board of Nursing. Addresses are located in the current catalog.

The El Paso County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Approved by Nursing Discipline

CLINICAL CLEARANCE FOR PRE-PROGRAM & POST ADMISSIONS

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Documentation needed to clear for qualification and placement. All Pre-Program Specialized Admissions documentation needs to be submitted by:

- **May 1, 2023 for qualification and ranking for June 1, 2023**
- **September 1, 2023 for qualification and ranking for October 2, 2023**
- All Pre-Program Specialized Admissions documentation needs to be submitted to nursingclearance@epcc.edu
- Future correspondence, i.e. Questions, without documents should include EPCC student Id and full name

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FORMS, LINKS AND INFORMATION

- **Current CPR Certificate-(BLS)-** American Heart Association Healthcare Provider-Accepted online or in person--(accepted on-line with skills training or face to face)
- LVN Licensure in lieu of **First Aid Certification**
- **Positive Titers** – Immunizations and Blood titers must be completed to qualify for ranking. **Immunizations MUST be started early if you are selecting nursing.** Immunizations include: **Hepatitis B series, Tuberculin Test, MMR, Tdap, Varicella, Influenza, Meningitis,** or as directed by DSHS
- Immunization and Blood Titer Requirements for Health students flow chart:
- https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Immunization_and_Blood_Titer_Requirements_for_Health_Students.pdf
- **Immunizations**
 - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap)** or as directed by DSHS-(Expires after 10 years)
 - **Influenza** is required **for October placement but not for June placement;** renew every year
 - **Meningitis** may be required by college if under 22 years of age; check with registrar's office -(Good for 5 years)
- **Physical Exam** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the USA-(valid for 6 months) Web Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FFAA-1.pdf>
- **Physical Technical Standard form (completed)** - Nursing website -(valid for 6 months) **complete with Physical exam** Web Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FB-8.pdf>
- **COVID 19 vaccine plus 1st booster** is now required by all hospitals. Medical or religious exemption is allowed but proof of either is expected.
- **NURSING DISCLOSURE FORM-** Web Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Disclosure_Form.pdf
- **ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor Exam scores**-valid for two (2) years-
- **Submit proof of current LVN or LPN licensure--(scores received must be dated after LVN licensure is attained.)**

POST SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Documentation needed to clear for full acceptance into Nursing Program and Nursing course registration clearance. Post Specialized Admissions requirements listed on page 4

- **New Nursing Student Program Orientation**-virtually
- **HIPAA Training**-link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa>
- **Community Wide Orientation**-link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation>
- **Substance Abuse Screening**-link: www.elpaso.com -American Data Bank
- **Provide proof of Personal Medical Insurance**
- **Tuberculosis-Two PPD's to be completed after ranking**
- **Two background checks-(1)-** link: www.elpaso.com -American Data Bank; (2) Nursing discipline will submit your name to the Texas Board of Nursing-BON

SUBMISSION OF PRE AND POST SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS DOCUMENTS FOR CLINICAL CLEARANCE

- Submission for both Pre and Post Specialized Admissions documents will follow the same process.
 - Email subject will indicate June Clearance or October Clearance
 - Include a completed Transmittal form along with your documents. Only select what documents you are submitting for review. Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf
- Documents **will not be accepted** or processed without a transmittal form
- All Post Specialized Admissions documentation needs to be submitted to nursingclearance@epcc.edu

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the EPCC Continuing Education Division. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-4116 for more information. <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/>
- CPR-and First Aid training is accepted on-line with skills training or face to face
- **LPN or LVN licensure must be maintained throughout the Nursing program**

Upon accepting a seat into the program, your name is submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing (BON). Fingerprinting with a background check from FBI is required by the BON for licensure requirements and must be completed prior to the end of the first semester of the program.