



# SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

## VOCATIONAL NURSING

### CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

#### 2021-2022 Catalog

#### Revised 11-16-2020

#### PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

##### Program Coordinator:

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##### Nursing Program Counselors:

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##### Dean of Nursing:

P. Gail Meagher, Nursing Department, Health Science Bldg. Room H222, Rio Grande Campus

Applicants must satisfy all Specialized Admissions criteria to include, General Requirements, ATI TEAS minimum composite scores, Mandatory courses and Pre-Program Specifics to qualify for ranking. Ranking courses should all be completed to be competitive for ranking. 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.

#### GUIDED PATHWAYS PROGRAM MAP



Guided Pathways provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones. WEB LINK: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/program-map?programID=346>

Applicants for Specialized Admissions must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for consideration of ranking. The applicant is required to meet all the following:

- Acceptance by EPCC as an academic credit student
- Successful completion of **ATI TEAS –The Test of Essential Academic Skills**
- **Mandatory Orientations are required for the Nursing program-(2x)**
  1. Complete a **Nursing Specialized Admissions Orientation** in person or virtually with the Nursing counselors  
**For an appointment** at the RG campus, call 831-4036 or 831-4636 or for the MDP campus contact 831-7142
  2. Complete an **on-line Health Careers Orientation-** <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation> or in person to declare Nursing and/or Vocational Nursing as a secondary major
    - Pay application fee at Cashier's window or by contacting the Tuitions Dept. at 915-831-2107,(M-F) from 10 am to 2 pm.  
**Submit Health Careers Specialized Admissions Application to: Specialized Admissions Office for processing. Send application to [sreyes34@epcc.edu](mailto:sreyes34@epcc.edu) or [jgarc283@epcc.edu](mailto:jgarc283@epcc.edu) or via mail to EPCC Enrollment Services Center; Admissions and Registration Office, 919 Hunter, El Paso, TX 79915**
- 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 possess a High School Diploma or GED. Submit official transcripts to:**  
**EPCC Admissions Office, P. O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998 or <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/transcripts>**

*It is the student's responsibility to check with a **designated Nursing Counselor** for any program updates and/or revisions as they progress through the ranking process and program progression.*

## ASSESSMENT SCORES

Below is the minimum ATI TEAS composite score requirement for qualification and ranking into the Nursing program. Official scores are **valid for two years** and **only the most recent composite scores** will be used for qualification and ranking. 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 will need to be sent to the EPCC TESTING CENTER along with your Student ID.*
- *Additional costs will be charged by ATI.*
- *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 ranking into the VN program.
- ATI TEAS scores are valid for 2 years
- Contact a Nursing Counselor for testing and re-testing guidelines
- If you are ranking June 2021 for Fall 2021 entry or ranking October 2021 for Spring 2022 entry you will take the ATI TEAS assessment
- You can purchase an ATI TEAS Study Guide at: [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com)

## MANDATORY COURSES

**Mandatory courses are those courses that a student must have successfully completed prior to ranking. Applicants who do not satisfactorily complete mandatory course work will not qualify or be eligible for ranking.**

(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 through the Biology placement exam or course completion.)

- **BIOL 2401** Anatomy & Physiology I
- **BIOL 2402** Anatomy & Physiology II
- **RNSG 1301** Pharmacology
- **MATH 1324** Mathematics for Business & Social Sciences or **MATH 1314** College Algebra or **MATH 1342** Elementary Statistical Methods

For qualification, BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, and RNSG 1301 has a **10-year limit**. Mandatory courses cannot be substituted with the exception of Math. All mandatory courses must be successfully completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better to qualify for ranking.

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

## RANKING COURSES

- BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II
- RNSG 1301 Pharmacology

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

## DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

**DOCUMENTS and APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITY**- Documentation of all **Pre- Program Specific Requirements 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 placement 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:

**Pat Chavez Montes, Nursing Lab Supervisor, RG Campus, Room H 221 Call 915-831-4010 for office hours. Email Address: [pmontes1@epcc.edu](mailto:pmontes1@epcc.edu)**

**Transmittal Form Link: [https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing\\_Pre-Clinical\\_Clearance\\_E-mail\\_Transmittal\\_Form.pdf](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf)**

Background Check and Substance Abuse Screening are **Post Specialized Admissions** requirements, see page 4 for additional requirements.

## PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for specialized programs must also meet all pre-program specific requirements **PRIOR to qualifying for ranking**. **Everything must be current through the complete academic semester or summer you want to register.**

Below are two orientations required for all applicants:

- Health Careers Orientation-Online-to declare your intent to pursue EPCC Nursing programs- RN and/or VN
- Nursing Specialized Admissions Program-Virtually through Black Board Ultra Collaborative

- **CURRENT CPR CERTIFICATE**- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider
- **FIRST AID CERTIFICATION** - National Safety Council Course or American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeon; (8 hr. course)
- **IMMUNIZATIONS AND TITERS – Immunizations and Blood titers must be completed prior to placement. 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 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)
  - **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, 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 for ranking qualification. Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/7.01.03.10.pdf#page=7>
- **PHYSICAL TECHNICAL STANDARD form (completed)** -form obtained through Nursing Counselor or Nursing Lab Supervisor. Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/7.02.01.14.pdf>

**NOTE: After a vaccination is administered, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.**

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.

Pre-Program Specific Materials should be turned in and documented as soon as completed to: Pat Chavez Montes, at [pmontes1@epcc.edu](mailto:pmontes1@epcc.edu) with Transmittal Form Link: [https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing\\_Pre-Clinical\\_Clearance\\_E-mail\\_Transmittal\\_Form.pdf](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_E-mail_Transmittal_Form.pdf)

## OTHER DEGREE PROGRAM COURSES

Check the 2021-2022 El Paso Community College Catalog for prerequisites.

PSYC 2314 Lifespan Growth & Development (Prerequisite to VNSG 1234, VNSG 1262, VNSG 1230 and VNSG 1263)  
ENGL 1301 Composition I

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Official Ranking Dates:**
  - **June 1, 2021** for Fall 2021 entry-( **Clinical clearance documentation due One Month prior to ranking date**)
  - **October 1, 2021** for Spring 2022 entry-( **Clinical clearance documentation due One Month prior to ranking date**)
- **Program Begins** - Fall and Spring
- **Program Hours** - 51 hours
- **Maximum Students Admitted:** 24 students in Fall and Spring (unless otherwise noted)
- Students must have successfully completed all required courses on the degree plan in order to graduate with a Vocational Nursing Certificate of Completion
- The Texas Board of Nursing allows a student three years to complete the Vocational Nurse Certificate of Completion after official enrollment in the first Vocational Nursing course.
- Students will be expected to pay the fees that are associated with ATI standardized testing.

Background Check and Substance Abuse Screening are **Post Specialized Admissions** requirements, see page 4 for additional information.

## POST-SPECIALIZED ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for the following requirements **AFTER you are accepted into the program**. Everything must be current through the complete academic semester or summer you want to register.

- **PROGRAM ORIENTATION**-one day in person or virtually-(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 and Liability Insurance required for clinicals.
- **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, it is to be done annually) or Chest x-ray (as needed) (or as requested by clinical facilities)
- **TWO BACKGROUND CHECKS** will be completed by each student. **1<sup>st</sup>**- 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](http://www.elpasoex.com). **2<sup>nd</sup>** - 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. A positive background check 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. (Background check questions can be directed to the Dean of Nursing at (831-4529.) **Students who fail to obtain clearance may be prohibited from admission or enrollment in specified programs/courses for one year.**
- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE SCREENING**-[www.elpasoex.com](http://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.
- **EBOLA SCREENING**-Link: [https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Ebola\\_Screen\\_Form\\_for\\_Nursing\\_Program.pdf](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Ebola_Screen_Form_for_Nursing_Program.pdf)
- **PROVIDE PROOF OF PERSONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE TO MEET HOSPITAL AFFILIATE REQUIREMENTS**

Further information; contact the Nursing Lab Supervisor, a Nursing Counselor or the Nursing Program Coordinator

## VOCATIONAL NURSING (CLINICAL) COURSES

**NOTE: Students must be formally admitted into the Vocational Nursing Program to enroll for these courses.**

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1160</b>	Clinical-Licensed Practical/ Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1323</b>	Basic Nursing Skills
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1402</b>	Applied Nursing Skills I
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1260</b>	Clinical-Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1227</b>	Essentials of Medication Administration

**Exit Certificate of Completion: Fundamentals of Vocational Nursing**- Students who successfully complete VNSG 1323-VNSG 1160 and VNSG 1260 (or RNSG 1413 and RNSG 1260) with a "C" or better may apply for a Nurse Aide Certificate of Completion and are eligible to become a Certified Nursing Assistant.

<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>2413</b>	Applied Nursing Skills II
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1161</b>	Clinical-Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>2214</b>	Applied Nursing Skills III
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1163</b>	Clinical-Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1166</b>	Practicum (or Field Experience) - Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse Training
<b>FINAL SEMESTER</b>	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1234</b>	Pediatrics
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1262</b>	Clinical-Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1230</b>	Maternal-Neonatal Nursing
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1263</b>	Clinical - Licensed Practical /Vocational Nurse Training
	<b>VNSG</b>	<b>1219</b>	Leadership and Professional Development

**ATTENTION ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDENTS:** RNSG 1115- Health Assessment must be completed prior to admission as an Advanced Placement student into the LVN-RN Transition Nursing Program. See a designated Nursing program counselor to register for RNSG 1115.

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 November 16, 2020 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 Vocational Nursing Certificate program is accredited by the Texas Board of Nursing. Addresses are located in the current catalog.

## CLINICAL CLEARANCE FOR PRE-PROGRAM & POST ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

### PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS-Documentation needed to clear for qualification and ranking

All Pre Program Specific requirements documentation needs to be submitted by :

- **May 3, 2021 for qualification and ranking for June 1, 2021**
- **September 1, 2021 for qualification and ranking for October 1, 2021**
- Pre Admissions Requirements listed on page 3
- All Pre-Program Specific Documentation needs to be submitted to Pat Chavez Montes, Nursing Lab Supervisor at [pmontes1@epcc.edu](mailto:pmontes1@epcc.edu)
- 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\\_Email\\_Transmittal\\_Form.pdf](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Nursing_Pre-Clinical_Clearance_Email_Transmittal_Form.pdf)
  - Student Id
  - Full Last name and first name
  - Phone number
  - Valid email address
- Documents **will not be accepted** or processed without a transmittal form
- Email subject line should indicate: **June ranking clearance or October ranking clearance**
- Future correspondence, i.e. Questions, without documents should include EPCC student Id and full name

### PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FORM LINKS AND INFORMATION

- **Current CPR Certificate-(BLS)-** American Heart Association Healthcare Provider-Accepted online or in person-
- **First Aid Certification** – National Safety Council Course or American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeon- Accepted online or in person
- **Positive Titers** – Immunizations and Blood titers must be completed prior to placement. **Immunizations MUST be started now if you are selecting nursing.** Immunizations include: **Hepatitis B series, Tuberculin Test, MMR, Tdap, Varicella, Influenza, Meningitis,** or as directed by DSHS-**Titers do not expire-**  
[https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Immunization\\_and\\_Blood\\_Titer\\_Requirements\\_for\\_Health\\_Students.pdf](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)
- **Ebola Screening-Link:**  
[https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Ebola\\_Screen\\_Form\\_for\\_Nursing\\_Program.pdf](https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Nursing/Documents/Ebola_Screen_Form_for_Nursing_Program.pdf)
- **Physical Exam** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the USA-valid for 6 months for ranking qualification Link:  
<https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/7.01.03.10.pdf#page=7>
- **Physical Technical Standard form (completed)** -form obtained through Nursing Counselor or Nursing Lab Supervisor-valid for 6 months for ranking qualification  
Link: <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/7.02.01.14.pdf>

### POST ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS-DOCUMENTATION Documentation needed to clear for full acceptance into Nursing Program and Nursing course registration clearance.

- Post Admissions Requirements listed on page 4
- All Post Admissions Requirements will follow the same process as for the Pre-program Specific Requirements
  - Transmittal form will be required. No documents will be accepted without Transmittal form
  - Email subject will indicate June Registration Clearance or October Registration Clearance
- Deadline to submit documentation will be identified in the Post Admissions Checklist provided to top ranking students
- Contact person for submission of documents will be identified in the Post Admissions Checklist provided to top ranking students

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