

LPN to RN Bridge Nursing Program Standards & Requirements for Application & Admission

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Introduction:

The LPN to RN Bridge nursing program at Eastern West Virginia Community College is a one year (threesemester) hybrid program that leads to an Associates in Applied Science Degree in Nursing whereby graduates are eligible to sit for the NCLEX examination which upon successful passing of that exam graduate nurses can apply for licensure within their state of choice.

Nursing is a professionally recognized health career that adheres to certain professional and ethical standards. Nursing students enrolled in the program are expected to adhere to these same standards of professionalism and health related ethics. Nurses are licensed health professionals and as such must comply with certain state regulations and requirements to obtain and maintain a professional nurse license. It is very important for students pursuing a career in nursing to fully understand these requirements and examine their fitness for this role.

Program Admission Standards & Requirements:

• Accepting LPN applicants with residence in West Virginia and Maryland only at this time.

• Current, Unencumbered WV LPN License:

All students accepted into the nursing program must submit a copy of a current, unencumbered WV, Maryland, and/or Compact LPN license" LPN license. They must also keep their license current throughout the course of the program.

- Minimum College GPA of 2.0 (if applicable)
- Minimum GPA of 2.75 from Accredited Practical Nursing Program recommended
- Current American Heart Association BLS Certification

• Drug Screen:

All students accepted into the nursing program must submit to a drug screen. A positive drug screen for an illegal narcotic (without a prescription) could result in termination in the program.

• Criminal Background Check:

All students accepted into the nursing program must submit to a criminal background check. Presence of a criminal history may impact a student's ability to gain clinical experiences at clinical sites which could lead to failure to complete the required clinical experiences and failure to complete the program. Clinical affiliates have a right to determine whether they want to allow students with a criminal history into their hospitals. In most instances, clinical sites may deny a student access if they have a violent felony on their criminal record. A criminal misdemeanor typically will not impact a student's ability to access a clinical site. Likewise, a state licensure board may deny a state license depending on the severity of the criminal background. Hospitals and other health entities also may refuse to hire someone who has a significant criminal background.

• Vaccinations & Medical Health Physical:

All students accepted into the nursing program must have a complete medical physical on file and appropriate vaccinations. Vaccinations include yearly TB titer, and record of Tdap and MMR. Clinical affiliates may mandate additional vaccinations such as influenza and Covid vaccines. It is highly recommended that you get the flu vaccine each year and complete your Covid vaccinations and booster. Hospitals and health care facilities can deny students access to patient care if they fail to meet the minimum vaccine mandates established by that facility, state or federal agency.

• Transcripts:

In order to accurately process your nursing admission application, applicants should submit applicable high school and/or college transcripts at the same time they are submitting their application to the program, or prior to. College transcripts must be submitted directly to Eastern from the other institution.

• ATI TEAS Exam:

All applicants must take the ATI TEAS exam. Two attempts are allowed; the highest score will be accepted. The exam will be provided and proctored online. Registration and payment for the exam will be done directly with ATI through their website. <u>Each</u> exam fee is approximately \$120.

Previous TEAS scores are valid for three years prior to the beginning of the academic year for which you are applying; this date will fall in August each year.

• Prerequisites

All applicants are required to have completed the following college level courses prior to acceptance into the program:

- English 101
- Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab I
- General Psychology

Other courses that are recommended for completion prior to enrollment, but may also be completed during the program:

- Human Anatomy and Physiology II
- Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab II
- General Ed Elective (see listing of acceptable courses in Eastern catalog)

• Program Travel & Costs

As part of the required clinical experience of the nursing program, students are required to travel to certain clinical sites. Students must have the ability to travel and the expense to travel to sites is the student's responsibility. Students can carpool if the students in the clinical group have a common schedule. There are other associated costs such as purchase of uniforms and equipment that may be required as part of the nursing program.

Program Selective Admission Criteria & Ranking:

The LPN to RN Bridge nursing program at Eastern is a selective admission program and can take up to 10 students every year into a new cohort. Selective admissions mean it is a competitive process to enter into the program based on a set of criteria that all students are subject to. The criteria are established to be as objective as possible for the admission process to be fair to all applicants. The following is the weighted criteria areas for submission and how ranking is calculated:

- I. Previous completion of college coursework in a specific set of classes
- II. Performance score on the ATI TEAS Exam
- III. Additional Areas of Applicable Credit

Section I: College Coursework (Maximum of 50 total points) [50% WEIGHTED]

[Points assignment: A = 10 points, B = 8 points, C = 6 points]
Anatomy & Physiology (Bio 124):
Anatomy & Physiology (Bio 125):
English Composition I:
General Psychology:
General Ed Elective (see listing of acceptable courses in Eastern catalog)

Section II: ATI TEAS Examination (Maximum of 40 total points) [40% WEIGHTED]

For students to have an increased chance of selection into the program, a minimum score of 60 on this examination is recommended. Students have up to two attempts on this exam.

Section III: Additional Areas of Applicable Credit (10 max points- Select One Category only) [10% WEIGHTED]

GPA 3.5 or greater from Practical Nursing Program: College Degree from accredited agency: Military Service (honorable discharge; DD214): Earned Allied Health Certification*, such as: o Allied Healthcare

o EMT or Paramedic licensure

o Technical Studies:

- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Certified Medical Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy Technician

*A copy of the certificate should be included in the application.

TOTAL POINT AVAILABLE: 100 POINTS

The ATI TEAS will be administered and proctored online. This exam includes reading, mathematics, science, and English language usage. The cost is the responsibility of the applicant and will be paid directly to ATI. An applicant who has already achieved a successful score on the TEAS exam within the past three years does not need to repeat the test BUT must ensure that an official score is available for the program director. Each applicant is allowed two attempts to take the TEAS during the month of November 2024.

ATI TEAS study materials available on the ATI website:

ATI TEAS Study Guide | ATI TEAS Study Manual 2024-2025 | ATI (atitesting.com)