



**REGISTERED NURSING**  
**Associate of Applied Science: 66 Credits**

GRADE	DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES	HOURS
	GSTD0103 College Reading	3
	GSTD0243 Essential English	3
	GSTD0201 Composition I Lab	1

GRADE	RN PRE-REQUISITES – 33 Credits	HOURS
	ENGL1113 Composition I	3
	ENGL1123 Composition II	3
	MED1223 Medical Math	3
	PSYC2003 General Psychology	3
	PSYC2033 Developmental Psychology	3
	BUS1003 Microcomputer Applications	3
	BIOL2003 Nutrition and Diet	3
	BIOL2064 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
	BIOL2074 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
	BIOL2094 General Microbiology	4
<b>Total Pre-Requisites</b>		<b>33</b>

GRADE	RN PROGRAM CORE – 33 Credits	HOURS
	RNSG2119 Nursing Process I	9
	RNSG2123 Nursing Practicum I	3
	RNSG2216 Nursing Process II	6
	RNSG2223 Nursing Practicum II	3
	RNSG2318 Nursing Process III	8
	RNSG2323 Nursing Practicum III	3
	RNSG2311 NCLEX-RN Preparation	1
<b>Total Program Core</b>		<b>33</b>

The LPN to RN transition program is a 12 month program that begins in January and ends in December each year. It is available through the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium (ARNEC). It combines classroom instruction with clinical experiences and offers a new and innovative approach via a nontraditional delivery format of nursing theory through interactive video. Theory (nursing lectures) will be scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 3:30 – 8:30 PM and most clinical time will take place on weekends. This program was designed to meet the needs of working LPNs/LVNs. Colleges participating in ARNEC include: Arkansas State University-Newport, Black River Technical College-Pocahontas, University of Arkansas Cossatot-Nashville, Ozarka College-Melbourne, South Arkansas Community College-Eldorado, University of Arkansas Community College-Morrilton, University of Arkansas Community College-Hope, and Rich Mountain Community College-Mena. Each program will serve from sixteen to forty-eight students at each of the eight colleges. All classes are taught in the English language. Students must be able to read, speak, write, and comprehend the English language proficiently. All international students and students who speak English as a second language must pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The course of study meets the requirements of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. Graduates of the program receive an Associate of Applied Science degree that prepares them to take the Registered Nurse licensing exam, the NCLEX-RN.

Application deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and while all pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to the start of the program in January, applicants may lack one of the pre-requisite courses at the time of application. In order to be considered for admission, applicants must:

- Meet all college admission requirements
- Complete an ARNEC online application located on the UA Cossatot website as well as additional packet information located on the ARNEC website at <http://www.arnec.org>
- Have graduated from a State Board approved practical nursing program or show successful completion of the NCLEX-PN exam
- Possess a valid unencumbered LPN/LVN license
- Complete all pre-requisite courses with a grade of C or better prior to the start of the program
- Have a cumulative pre-requisite GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Submit an official high school transcript or GED and official transcripts from all colleges attended by the date on the application packet
- Take the pre-entrance exam
- Undergo a drug screen per admitting institution protocol

**NOTE TO ALL APPLICANTS:** ARNEC faculty reserves the right to alter the curriculum and admission policies whenever change is

*deemed necessary.*

Applicants are ranked and selected based on pre-requisite GPA and pre-entrance exam scores. Students selected for admission will receive a letter of acceptance into the program by mid-October and must provide the admitting institution a written letter stating acceptance and intention to enroll in the program. This letter can be emailed to the program chair, faxed, or brought to the Division of Medical Education in person. If the student chooses to email or fax their letter of acceptance, they should follow up by calling the Medical Education Division to make sure it was received. In the event that the student does not plan to enroll, the student needs to notify the institution so an alternate student may have the slot. Each institution will have an alternate list of students in the case of a selected student declining his/her acceptance letter.

Upon acceptance into the program, the student must provide the following:

- Current American Heart Association: Healthcare Provider CPR course (AHA/BLS-HCP)
- Current PPD Skin Test or Chest X-Ray
- Varicella titer showing immunity or series of injections
- Current flu vaccination
- Verification that the Hepatitis B series has been completed or started, or that a Waiver Claim Form is signed
- Students may lack one prerequisite course at the time of the August 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. This course must be completed by the end of the fall semester
- All required general education courses must be completed by the time nursing courses begin the following January
- Selected applicants must complete and pass a criminal background check. An instruction sheet will be provided to the applicant (approximately \$60.00 cost)

**GRADING SCALE FOR ARNEC PROGRAM:** 90-100 = A; 84-89 = B; 78-83 = C; 70-77 = D (failing); 69 or below = F

*\*This program is a consortium of eight two-year colleges and therefore has a common grading scale approved by the ARNEC board.*

In order to progress in the nursing curriculum, the student must maintain a 2.0 "C" (on a 4.0 scale) in all general education and nursing classes, including nursing practicum. Nursing courses require students to achieve at least a 78% (lowest "C" grade) to progress. Due to the strenuous nature of the nursing curriculum, the admitting institution reserves the right to determine eligibility of any student to enroll or continue in the nursing program. Eligibility is determined by the faculty's evaluation of the student's ability to perform the tasks and responsibilities of a Registered Nurse and to complete the clinical and course objectives. These abilities are re-evaluated during and after each course.

Re-admission will be decided by the admitting institution. A student who fails or leaves the program for any reason will be permitted one opportunity to re-enroll (regardless of which semester). The student has the right to appeal to the administration of the admitting institution and should follow that institution's appeal procedures. Due to differences in nursing curriculum in other nursing programs, ARNEC will not accept transfer credit for previously taken Registered Nursing courses. Students who were enrolled in another program will follow the same requirements and admission procedures as students who have never attended another nursing program. If an enrolled ARNEC student needs to transfer to another ARNEC member institution, then permission may be granted from the institution that the student wishes to transfer to, based on space availability and the institution's requirements for transfer students.

Students must successfully complete all general education courses and all nursing courses with a grade of "C" or better. Upon completion, the student's status will be submitted to the state board of nursing declaring that the student wishes to sit for the licensing examination. Students MUST achieve a score at or above the current national passing average on the final comprehensive exit exam to complete the requirements for the NCLEX-RN Preparation course. The student will be allowed to take the final comprehensive exit exam a total of three times. Students cannot sit for each exam attempt more than once per day. Should the student not achieve the required score after the third attempt, the student will be given an incomplete grade "I" for the final semester until the student can provide documentation of enrollment and completion of the ATI virtual NCLEX review with a coach. Once the student has followed all recommendations of the coach and the coach releases the student for testing, the student's final grade will be posted and transcripts will be released to the ASBN for approval and authorization to test. Due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e., unacceptable criminal background check), graduation from the ARNEC LPN/LVN to RN Transition program does NOT automatically enable the student to sit for the NCLEX-RN. This is determined by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and may be reviewed at [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org) along with the criminal background FAQs at <http://www.arsbn.org/examination>.

#### **TRANSFER OPTIONS:**

- University of Central Arkansas to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- Southern University of Arkansas to complete Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- Central Methodist University to complete Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- Arkansas Tech University (ATU) to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing or Professional Studies.
- If planning to transfer to an institution other than the ones listed above, students may visit <https://acts.adhe.edu/studenttransfer.aspx> to inquire about transferability of courses to any Arkansas college or university.