Overview

Students should select the AAS/General Occupational and Technical Studies (GOTS) until such time as they have been officially accepted by the department into this program.

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program is designed to prepare nurses who, as beginning practitioners, are able to give quality nursing care to clients and function as members of nursing and health teams. Upon completion of the program, a graduate may be eligible to take the examination for licensure as a registered nurse.

Registered nurses are employed in hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies, physicians' offices, clinics, and community agencies.

The curriculum for nursing is career-oriented. The program is accredited by the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (404-975-5000, www.acenursing.com).

Student Learning Outcomes of the Associate Degree Nursing Program

1. Integrate EBP with clinical reasoning and nursing judgement to minimize risk to the patient and provider while delivering optimal health care to patients and families across the lifespan in a variety of health care settings.
2. Collaborate effectively within nursing and inter-professional teams, fostering communication, respect and decision-making to achieve safe, quality health care for the patient, family, and the community.
3. Advocate for the patient recognizing the patient (or designee) as the source of control and full partner in providing compassionate and coordinated care based on respect for patient preferences, values and needs.
4. Evaluate outcomes of care processes. Use quality improvement methods to design and test changes that will continually improve the quality and safety of healthcare practices.
5. Utilize information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, reduce error and support decision making.
6. Develop a professional identity that internalizes the values, perspectives and philosophical components inherent in the art and science of nursing.

Admission Requirements

Each applicant must meet the following admission requirements and will be evaluated on an individual basis:

1. High school graduate or equivalent.
2. If applying as a high school student: top 25% of high school graduation class or consent of nursing department.
3. ACT composite score of 20 or above if applicant has graduated from high school within the past five years and has taken no college courses.
4. Any developmental courses that are required as determined by placement scores.
5. A 2.7 (C+) cumulative grade point average in college courses. Minimum of nine college level credit hours required if out of high school over five years or does not meet high school requirements.
6. Completion of pre-admission exam.
7. Completion of Prospective Nursing Student Orientation.
8. Physically able to provide client care.
9. Transfer students are admitted into the ADN program on an individual basis. In addition to following transfer admission guidelines (see index), a transfer student intending to enroll in the ADN program must produce unofficial transcripts at their individual conference with nursing faculty and/or nursing advisor.
10. Anatomy and physiology coursework must have been completed within five years of acceptance into the program.

Students should refer to the [ADN Program Booklet 2023 (PDF)](#) and student handbook for additional guidelines.

Students with chronic health problems or physical disabilities will be accepted unless the health problem or disability is such that the student would be unable to complete the objectives of the program. (See *Technical Abilities Required by Health Care Programs* for more information.)

For Licensed Practical Nurses who desire to apply for the ADN program, all admission requirements must be met. There is not advanced standing placement.

All students must achieve grades of "B" or above in BIOL 145 and 146 and a "C" or above in all other required general education courses.

Required general education courses may be repeated until a "C" grade is earned. Students

may drop out of nursing courses in order for the general education course to be properly sequenced within the nursing curriculum.

Students must achieve a grade of "C" or better in all nursing courses. If the student drops a course or a lower grade is earned the course may be repeated once. If the student fails to earn a grade of "C" or better on the second attempt, they will be dismissed from the program. A second failure to earn a "C" in subsequent nursing courses, even though the first course may have been successfully repeated, is also grounds for dismissal.

Students returning to the nursing program after a period of absence will be evaluated on an individual basis as to both theory and clinical competencies before re-admission.

Non-nursing courses may be taken prior to or concurrently with the nursing courses in the same level, unless permission is obtained from the Associate Degree Nursing Department to alter the plan.

Laboratory fees for nursing courses are assessed and are in addition to other College fees.

Students must successfully document and meet all health and background checks required by academic programs and/or clinical sites prior to admission to program and/or courses.

[ADN 2023-2024 Admission Requirements (PDF)](#)

Applying to the Program

August 2024 Start Date

We will continue to take applications until May 1, 2024 for those that have completed the HESI test and received a score of 70 or above.

[ADN Application for Aug. 2024 Admission (PDF)](#)

Students wanting to be considered for the Associate Degree Nursing program need to complete an application.

- To request transcripts that Black Hawk College has received from other colleges, submit the [Nursing Transcript Request (PDF)](#).
- Take the HESI Test at the [Testing Center](#) at the Quad-Cities Campus. Tests will be available in July, August, September, December, January, and February.

- Admission into the Associate Degree Nursing program is highly competitive. Not all eligible candidates will be able to be admitted regardless of the date of submission of their application.

HESI RN Admission Assessment Exam

All prospective ADN students are required to take the HESI Exam. Students are encouraged to prepare for this exam in order to assure that the necessary score is achieved to be considered for admission into the nursing program. Study materials can be found at www.evolve.elsevier.com and at the BHC bookstore.

- A minimum score of 70 is required to be considered for admission.
- Retests are allowed once per application cycle, but there must be a 3-week gap between the 1st test and the 2nd test.
- HESI exam must be re-taken if it is over a year from the application due date.

Accreditation

The Associate Degree Nursing program is accredited by the Illinois Department of Finance and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate Degree nursing program is "Continuing Accreditation."

[View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program »](#)
Date of last visit: February 1-3, 2023
Next Site Visit: Spring 2031

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
404-975-5000
www.acenursing.org

Student Achievement Data

ACEN Standard 5: Criterion 5.4. Share the analysis of the job placement rate data with communities of interest.

BHC Expected Level of Achievement (ELA): 80% of graduates are employed or continuing their education within 12 months

BHC ADN Graduates Employed as a RN within 12 months of Graduation

Semester	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021*	Fall 2021	Spring 2022	Fall 2022*
Number of students	27	14	18	23	28	12
Percent of responding graduates employed within 12 months	96.3%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Responses to date.

ACEN Standard 5; Criterion 5.3.e

Share the analysis of the licensure and/or certification examination pass rate data with communities of interest.

BHC Expected Level of Achievement (ELA): The program's most recent annual licensure examination pass rate will be at least 80% for all first-time test-takers during the same 12-month period.

BHC NCLEX – RN Pass Rate by Year:

Year	Completing	Pass	Percent
2019	39	38	97%
2022	40	31	78%

Year	Completing	Pass	Percent
2021	35	34	97%
2020	52	49	94%

ACEN standard: 5.2 The written systematic plan for evaluation describes the process for annual assessment of the nursing program completion rate: The faculty will:

f. Share the analysis of the program completion rate with communities of interest.

BHC ADN Program Completion Data

Academic year students graduated	Students entering program	Students completed in 4 sem. (100%)	Students completed in 6 sem. (150%)
AY 19-20	88 (started AY 17-18)	36	46
AY 20-21	86 (started AY 18-19)	25	35
AY 21-22	78 (started AY 19-20)	30	42
AY 22-23	71 (started AY 20-21)	27	45

[Discover careers and salaries for this program »](#)