Thank you for your interest in the Rogue Community College Nursing Program! The Nursing Program is approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN, 17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Portland, OR, 971-673-0685).

The Nursing program is both exciting and challenging; offering graduates the opportunities for employment in a variety of settings and for a lifelong career that is personally fulfilling. The program demands may pose unique personal as well as academic challenges. Most students have multiple responsibilities in addition to going to school (e.g. family, job). Success in the program takes a firm commitment, and the nursing faculty members are here to help you succeed. LPNs interested in the advanced placement process are asked to make an advising appointment with Linda Wagner, Nursing Department Chair, by calling the program secretary at 541-956-7308. Minimum criteria for eligibility by the application deadline of October 15, 2014 (for fall 2015 entry into the second year) include completion of all program prerequisites (46 credits or more) with a cumulative GPA of ≥3.0 (and each individual course with a C or better), a current unencumbered Oregon LPN license and ≥500 hours of work experience as an LPN. (Notes: The ATI LPN Step Test must be taken and passed on the date indicated on the application. Microbiology with lab may be completed after the application deadline but must be completed with a grade of C or higher by the end of fall term to progress to Phase L2 of the application/selection process and the winter term pharmacology and pathophysiology courses.)

About the Program
The Rogue Community College (RCC) Nursing Program is one of nine community college programs that has joined with the Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing in a unified approach to nursing education. This coalition of statewide nursing educators and programs is known as the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE). Faculty members from RCC have been actively involved in the development of the competency-based curriculum that is used in all full partner consortium schools. See the OCNE website for a list of partner colleges.

The OCNE curriculum competencies address the need for nurses to be skilled in clinical judgment and critical thinking. The competencies also focus on skill in:

- evidence-based practice
- relationship-centered care
- interdisciplinary collaboration
- assisting individuals and families in self-care practices for promotion of health and management of chronic and acute illness
- end-of-life care
- teaching, delegation, leadership and supervision of caregivers

Acceptance to the program allows for co-admission to Rogue Community College and Oregon Health & Science University Nursing Programs. Co-admission is an agreement that students who are affirmed by the community college nursing faculty as having successfully completed all program requirements and earned the associate of applied science degree in nursing will be eligible to enroll in the upper-division nursing courses and complete a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Nursing if they choose to do so at OHSU without an additional competitive application process. The co-admitted LPN advanced placement student may choose to matriculate and be entered into the OHSU student record system only following successful completion of the nursing curriculum at RCC and passing of the national licensure exam (NCLEX-RN). Students who successfully complete the Nursing Program at RCC will meet the
educational requirements to be eligible to take the RN-licensure examination. Additional information regarding matriculation opportunities will be provided at regular intervals throughout the RCC Nursing program.

**Employment Outlook and Expected Income**
Employment opportunities in nursing are available in the Rogue Valley and throughout most of the state. Graduates from Rogue Community College generally find employment within three to six months of graduation. According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average hourly salary was $38.25/hour and the average annual salary of RNs in Josephine and Jackson counties was $79,553 in 2013.

**Demands of the Program**
It is important to understand the mental and physical demands of the nursing program and the career of the nurse. Applicants to the nursing program must be physically and mentally able to cope with the rigors of the curriculum and the demanding nature of the health professions. Nursing students must be able to grasp scientific concepts, set up and answer basic math and algebra problems, and communicate well verbally and in writing. Physically, students must be able to remain on their feet for extended periods, lift up to 35 pounds, hear heart and breath sounds, read fine print and identify skin tones such as pale, ashen, gray or bluish.

Established academic and clinical requirements essential to the program of instruction apply to all students and cannot be waived. Attempts will be made to accommodate and retain qualified applicants with disabilities unless results of evaluations indicate that given reasonable accommodation an individual is still unable to perform the Technical Standards required by the program. A complete list of the required technical standards can be found on the nursing website. Persons with questions concerning particular qualifications are encouraged to contact the Disability Services office to arrange an appointment for individual consultation and advice prior to application. Any student who feels that she or he may need an academic accommodation for any disability should make an appointment with the Disability Services Office at (541) 956-7337 (Redwood Campus, Grants Pass) or (541) 245-7537 (Riverside Campus, Medford) as soon as possible.

The nursing program utilizes a variety of clinical sites throughout Josephine and Jackson counties. These include hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, etc. Students will be assigned to have clinical experiences in most if not all of the sites and must expect to travel to communities other than those in which they reside for these experiences. At times carpooling to clinical sites will not be possible and reliable transportation will be needed by students. Required clinical experiences are assigned during days, evenings, and/or night shifts during the program, and client selection and care preparation takes place typically the day before clinical, e.g. on Sundays when clinical is scheduled on Monday. During the final clinical rotation of the program (spring, second year), students are assigned to match a staff clinical teaching associate’s work schedule for two or three full 8- or 12-hour shifts per week which may include nights and weekends. Nursing classes, labs, and clinicals typically involve 20-30 hours of attendance and more than 40 hours of preparation/assignments/study per week. Meeting these requirements will mean that students will need to adjust employment and family responsibilities. Because of the need to be mentally alert when caring for patients, students are not allowed to work the shift immediately preceding scheduled clinical experiences. (For example, students typically spend most of Sunday afternoon and evening preparing for patient care and with clinical experiences starting at 5:45am on Monday cannot work at any job after 11pm on Sunday.)

**Application Eligibility Criteria**
LPN Advanced Placement applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria by specified times:
- Completion of all program prerequisites (minimum of 46 credits) with a letter grade of “C” or better and a cumulative prerequisite GPA ≥3.0 by end of summer term (before the October 15 application deadline) in the year of application. Program prerequisite/preparatory course information can be accessed from the program website. For purposes of OCNE academic policies, letter grades are used/recognized without +/- designation. Therefore, a C- would be an accepted grade for a prerequisite course.
Credits taken pass/no pass (if accepted by the college as meeting requirements) may be considered only if the “pass” was equivalent to a “C” or better.

Prior to the application deadline of October 15, 2014, submit official transcripts from all colleges or universities previously attended demonstrating a minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA for all completed prerequisite/preparatory general education coursework. General education courses must be completed at a regionally accredited college or university to transfer to RCC.

Prior to the application deadline of October 15, 2014, submit official transcripts showing successful completion of a practical nursing program.

Completion of all required forms, including the RCC admission application (for students who have not previously been admitted to RCC. Select the appropriate profile and follow the instructions). NOTE: The application for admission to Rogue Community College must be completed (in order to obtain an RCC ID number) IN ADDITION to the LPN Advanced Placement Nursing Program Application.

International students (individuals with a non-immigrant visa) will be required to follow enrollment services processes for admission and/or registration. If prerequisites were completed outside the United States, a course-by-course evaluation by a credential evaluation service is required. Contact Enrollment Services at 541-956-7427 with questions regarding transcript evaluation. Note that the timeframe for an evaluation of courses completed outside the U.S. can be lengthy and the evaluation and document submission to Enrollment Services must be completed by the application deadline for the transcript to be considered in the application process.

Current unencumbered Oregon LPN license and ≥500 hours of LPN work experience by October 15, 2014. LPN license must remain current and unencumbered throughout the advanced placement process to progress.

Microbiology with lab may be completed after the application deadline but must be completed with a grade of C or higher by the end of fall term to progress in the application/selection process and be allowed to enroll in the nursing pharmacology and pathophysiology courses.

Reservation by October 15, 2014 of a seat for the test followed by completion of the ATI LPN Step Test at the time scheduled (October 28, 2014) in the application materials.

Submission of completed 2014 LPN Advanced Placement Application forms and payment of $80 fee.

Application Process

If an applicant has taken an equivalent course elsewhere which has a course number, title, or credit hour different from the required RCC course, the applicant must complete the online credit evaluation request at Transfer Request for Evaluation Form. - Submit official transcripts from each school where courses were completed to Rogue Central (at any RCC Campus), as far in advance of the application deadline as possible.

See the LPN Advanced Placement Application and the LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement Timeline at http://go.roguecc.edu/department/nursing/lpn-advanced-placement-rn-program for more information. Applicants will have to take the ATI LPN Step test (of LPN knowledge) on October 28, 2014 on the Redwood Campus in Grants Pass (time and classroom information will be provided by secretary at time reservation is made). Applicants must email the program secretary at mweast@roguecc.edu by October 15, 2014 to reserve a seat for the test. The cost of the test is included in the $80 application/testing fee (check or money order made out to RCC and attached to the LPN Advanced Placement application). Applicants are encouraged to study a recent NCLEX-PN review text before the test. See the “Security and Other Information” document for more information.

Application Requirements and Selection Points

Eligible LPN Advanced Placement applicants will be considered for the three phases of the application/selection process and available slots in the second year of the Nursing Program. Applicants will be assessed according to the following:

Phase 1:
1. Prerequisite GPA: A maximum of 40 points will be awarded. The applicant must provide official transcript(s) from regionally accredited colleges or universities for all prerequisites. The 46
credits of prerequisites will be calculated in the GPA for assignment of points in the selection process. Points will be assigned using a linear equation, Points = 24 times GPA minus 56.

2. **Prior Degree:** Applicants who provide official transcripts as proof of a prior degree will be awarded 1 point for an Associate or higher degree.

3. **Required references:** See application forms.

4. **National Standardized Test:** Up to 20 points will be awarded for scores on the ATI LPN Step exam. (Points = applicant’s score in decimal form times 20.)

5. **License and Practice as an LPN:** Current unencumbered license in Oregon as an LPN and 500 or more hours of work experience as an LPN are required. No points are awarded.

6. **Discretionary Points:** The RCC Nursing Program will award discretionary points to applicants who meet the following criteria by October 15, 2014: Resident of Josephine or Jackson county (proof of residency may be required) = 3 points; Completion of in-program first and second year electives with C or above as follows: all 22 credits = 3 points, 15 credits = 2 points, 8 credits = 1 point; Cumulative GPA for PN Program (PN courses only) as follows: ≥3.5 = 8 points, 3.0-3.49 = 5 points, 2.5-2.99 = 3 points, 2.25-2.49 = 1 point; military veteran (with proof of honorable discharge) = 2 points; at least 400 hours student clinical and/or work experience in a hospital as a CNA-2 acute care student or employee or PN student or LPN employee or medic or corpsman = 2 points; no evidence of having repeated any of the prerequisite A&P courses (unless a repeat was required because of an RCC Nursing Program Time Limit) = 3 points.

7. **Tie Breakers:** In the event that two or more applicant scores cluster at the same cut-off point, RCC will use tie breakers in the following order: 1) In-district student; 2) overall prerequisite/preparatory GPA; ; 3) Completion of BI234 before application deadline; 4) Math grade

Based on the point system, applicants are ranked and selected for enrolling in the available slots for the pharmacology 1 and pathophysiology 1 courses (NRS230 and NRS232), Phase L2 of the process.

**Phase L2:**
Selection for enrollment in the pathophysiology and pharmacology courses does not guarantee admission to the nursing program but allows applicants to progress (if both Pharmacology 1 and Pathophysiology 1 courses are successfully completed) to Phase L3, the Pharmacology 2 and Pathophysiology 2 and spring term bridge (NRS115) courses (on a space available basis). Phase L2 advancement to Phase L3 is based on points and combines the points earned in Phase L1 with up to 10 points for the patho/pharm grades as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Pathophysiology 1</th>
<th>A = 5 points</th>
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<tr>
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<td>B = 3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacology 1</td>
<td>A = 5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B = 3 points</td>
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Acceptance or alternate status for the RCC Nursing Program is made after the completion of Patho/Pharm I courses.

Applicants may complete both pharmacology courses and both pathophysiology courses at any partner program with spaces available, and may apply for any available LPN Advanced Placement slots in any community college OCNE partner nursing program. For example, MHCC and other Consortium partners may provide the pharmacology and pathophysiology courses through distance delivery. Contact the appropriate nursing program director for more information.
**Phase L3:**
Selected applicants and alternates are eligible to take Pharm/Patho II (NRS231 and NRS233) and the NRS115 and NRS115C bridge course on a space available basis. Applicants must complete all courses with a C or better. Top ranked applicants (four or more depending on available spaces) will progress and be admitted to the fourth term (beginning of second year) of the RCC nursing program. Alternates must earn a C or better in the bridge course (and all pharmacology and pathophysiology courses) to become eligible for admission to slots that may become available by the start of fall term.

Applicants must also complete all program first year general education courses with a C or better by the end of the summer term in order to progress into the fall nursing courses in the second year of the program.

LPN Advanced Placement applicants who successfully completed all pharmacology and pathophysiology courses and the bridge course and were alternates in a prior year but not admitted to the second year of the Nursing Program because of space restrictions will be assigned an additional 5 points for subsequent application processes for up to three years.

**Credit Award for Previous Practical Nursing Courses**
Following successful completion of Phases L1, L2 and L3, the Nursing Program Director will review the accepted applicant’s prior Practical Nursing Program transcripts. The director will arrange with Enrollment Services for awarding of 15 credits for equivalency to NRS110, NRS111 and NRS112 to ensure at least 90 required credits (prerequisites through the Nursing Program’s first year) have been completed prior to entry in the second year of the program.

**Progression Through Advanced Placement Process and Program**
All nursing courses must be completed with a C or higher grade to continue in the advanced placement process and/or program. Applicants should understand that the RCC Nursing Program, in agreement with other Consortium partners, has a policy that states “Students who have failed any nursing course more than once (or any two nursing courses), regardless of the program, will not be considered for re-entry or admission to the program,” and failure of any two pharmacology and/or pathophysiology or other nursing courses will eliminate them from any future advanced placement or other application or progression opportunities in the RCC Nursing program.

**Nursing Program Curriculum, Second Year**
See the Nursing Program graduation guide for more information about the required courses in the second year of the program.