



## Nursing Associate of Applied Science (RN/ADN) Frequently Asked Questions

### Prerequisite Coursework

#### 1. Which prerequisite courses do I need to take prior to applying to the RN program?

- ENG 1021 (3 credits)
- PSY 2440 (3 credits)
- BIO 2101 (4 credits with lab)
- BIO 2104 (4 credits with lab)
- Either HPR 1010 (1 credit) or HWE 1050 (3 credits)

#### 2. What grades do I need in prerequisite coursework?

- Applicants must pass all prerequisites with a grade of C or better.
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for ENG 1021, PSY 2440, BIO 2101, and BIO 2104 (HPR 1010/HWE 1050 is excluded from the calculation).
- The RN program has a competitive admissions process, so a higher GPA will award you more points on the [Registered Nursing Admissions Ranking Table](#).

#### 3. Do prerequisite courses expire?

- All required science courses must be completed within 10 years of entry into the RN program. We will only look at the first two attempts of science courses within those 10 years and will take the higher grade. Contact the nursing department if you are unsure about science course expiration dates.
- ENG 1021, PSY 2440, and HPR 1010/HWE 1050 do not expire.

#### 4. Can I repeat prerequisite coursework for a higher grade?

- If prerequisites are repeated, no more than one D or F in each course is allowed within the previous 5 years.
- We will only look at the first two attempts of science courses within the last 10 years and will take the higher grade.
- We recommend meeting with a Health Science & Wellness Pathways Advisor and a Financial Aid Advisor (if applicable) prior to repeating coursework.

#### 5. Can I take the CLEP exam for any of the prerequisite coursework?

Yes. Students may take a CLEP exam for ENG 1021 and PSY 2440, however, there will be no grade awarded, and the courses will not be included in the calculation for GPA points on the RN application. Please visit our testing center website for more information on [CLEP exams](#). We recommend talking with an advisor prior to taking a CLEP exam.

**6. Should I take MAT 11120 now?**

No. Wait to take MAT 1120 until you have been admitted into the RN program. Our MAT 1120 course is offered as a cohort and is specially designed for nursing students.

**7. I'm finishing my last prerequisite course now. Can I still apply?**

Prerequisite coursework **may not** be in progress at the time of applying. Your final grades must be posted on your FRCC transcript before the application deadline.

**8. I've completed all required prerequisite courses. What other classes can I take prior to applying?**

We recommend taking BIO 2102 Anatomy & Physiology II, BIO 2116 Pathophysiology, and a 3-credit elective in Arts & Humanities or Social & Behavioral Sciences prior to applying. By taking BIO 2102 prior to applying and receiving a C or higher, applicants are awarded 2 points on their application. Completing BIO 2116 Pathophysiology and a 3 credit Elective in Arts & Humanities or Social & Behavioral Sciences before starting the nursing program cuts down on workload during the program. Plus, BIO 2116 helps prepare students for nursing classes.

Some students also begin BSN general education courses prior to applying. Please meet with a Pathways Advisor and Financial Aid Advisor (if applicable) to discuss this option.

### Transferring Coursework

**9. How do I transfer prerequisite coursework to FRCC?**

Follow the steps on our [transfer website](#). You will be asked to complete the Transfer Credit Evaluation Form. You must also have your previous college(s) send **official** transcripts **directly** to the Office of the Registrar. Transcripts issued to the student, hand-carried, or faxed cannot be accepted. Please note that the evaluation can take up to **30 days** after the Transfer Credit Evaluation Form and official transcripts are received. If grades for prerequisite coursework are not posted on your FRCC transcript, you **may not** apply to the registered nursing program.

### Admission Requirements

Visit the FRCC/LC Nursing Department [admissions website](#) for an overview of the admission process.

**10. Where do I find the nursing application and when are the application periods?**

Nursing application periods are posted to the [admissions website](#). A link to the application will appear under step seven during the application period.

**11. How are points calculated for admission into the RN program?**

Review our [Registered Nursing Admissions Ranking Table](#) to see how points are calculated.

**12. What grades do I need in prerequisite coursework?**

- Applicants must pass all prerequisites with a grade of C or better.
- A minimum combined GPA of 3.0 is required for the following courses: ENG 1021, PSY 2440, BIO 2101, and BIO 2104. HPR 1010/HWE 1050 is excluded from the calculation.
- The RN program has a competitive admissions process, so a higher GPA will award you more points on the [Registered Nursing Admissions Ranking Table](#).

**13. What is the HESI A-2?**

- Students are required to take the HESI Admission Assessment (HESI A-2) prior to applying to the Larimer Campus Registered Nursing program.
- Applicants must complete the HESI A-2 with a minimum average score of 80% in the following required subjects: Reading Comprehension, Math, Biology, and Chemistry.
- The HESI A-2 may be taken twice in 365 days.
- All required sections must be submitted on **one** cumulative report (scores cannot be mixed and matched).
- Cumulative reports can be used for up to 15 months.
- If you've tested in additional subjects, average the score for our four required subject areas.
- You may take the exam at an FRCC Testing Center or through Proctor U. Visit our [Testing Center website](#) to learn more about registering for the HESI A-2.

**14. How many students are accepted into the nursing program?**

There are two cohorts each year. One cohort starts in the spring semester, and one starts in the fall semester. We typically accept 45 students into each cohort, although the number of admitted students may be reduced due to limitations in clinical experiences. We create a list of 6 alternates in case any of the accepted students choose not to join the program prior to the first day of class. Students who are designated as an alternate but aren't admitted must reapply for admission if they'd like to be considered for future admission.

**15. Is there a wait list for the RN program?**

We do not have a wait list. If students are not accepted, they may reapply during the next application period. There is no limit to how many times students can apply, but we highly recommend meeting with an advisor if an applicant is denied acceptance.

**16. I have a previous degree. Does this help my admission status?**

No, we do not award points for previous degrees or certifications.

**17. I am either a GNA, CNA or EMT. Does this help my admission status?**

An introduction to the health care field is valuable, but it will not award you additional points on the [Registered Nursing Admissions Ranking Table](#).

### Admission Requirement Video & On-Campus Forums

**18. Where can I find forum dates and the admission requirement video?**

We offer On-Campus Forums twice a year to provide students an opportunity to ask questions about the Larimer Campus PN and RN programs. Visit the [Larimer Campus Nursing Department website](#) for the next On-Campus Forum date.

Our RN admission requirement video is available to watch anytime on the [Larimer Campus Nursing Department website](#). Please watch the admission requirement video prior to joining an On-Campus Forum.

## Final Admission Requirements

**19. I received an email stating my overall score placed me into the RN program. What are my next steps?**

Final admission into the program occurs when immunization documentation is received and you have passed the required screenings. Once admitted, we will email instructions for completing the required documentation.

**20. Do I need to purchase and complete a background check?**

Newly admitted student are required to purchase and complete a criminal background check and an evaluation for disqualifying offenses according to the [Colorado Community College System](#). Review the following document for more information: [Background Check Disqualifying Offenses](#).

**21. Do I need to purchase and complete a drug screen?**

Newly admitted students are required to purchase and complete a random drug screen as a condition of acceptance in the registered nursing program.

**22. What type of CPR card is required?**

We only accept American Heart Association BLS Provider CPR cards. BLS cards must be valid through the upcoming semester. We cannot accept Red Cross or Heart Saver cards.

**23. What immunizations will I need?**

Newly admitted students receive a list of immunizations to complete prior to starting the program. Certain immunizations can be completed prior to applying, but they cannot expire during the first semester of the program. Visit the [Larimer Campus Required Immunizations webpage](#) for a current list of required immunizations.

## Nursing Classes

**24. Does the RN program have a part-time or online option?**

There are no part-time or online options to complete the RN program. It is a full-time program offered primarily in-person. Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) courses, however, are offered in the online format.

**25. Can I take any nursing courses prior to applying?**

Students **may not** register for NUR courses prior to their acceptance into the registered nursing program.

## Acceptance into the Registered Nursing Program

### **26. How are students prepared for the nursing program?**

Students attend an all-day boot camp and orientation. Items covered include lifestyle changes, work outside of school, time management, orientation to our calendar and D2L, NCLEX style questions, adaptive quizzing, tutoring/test anxiety, resources/support systems, and a short tour.

### **27. How long will it take me to graduate?**

Prerequisite coursework may be completed at your own pace. Nursing coursework must be completed in four semesters. View the [Registered Nursing Curriculum](#).

### **28. Can nursing courses be taken over the summer?**

Nursing classes are not offered over the summer. Summer is a great time to take BSN courses, BIO 2102, BIO 2116, and a 3-credit elective in Arts & Humanities or Social & Behavioral Sciences, if you haven't already taken them.

### **29. How does dual enrollment work?**

FRCC Larimer Campus RN students are encouraged to work toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) during the time they are enrolled in FRCC's Registered Nursing A.A.S. program. Students may choose FRCC's RN-to-BSN Completion Program or any other RN-to-BSN program.

### **30. Where do nursing students complete their clinicals? What will my clinical schedule be like?**

The hospital facilities we use the majority of the time are Poudre Valley Hospital, McKee Medical Center, and Medical Center of the Rockies. Various doctor's offices, clinics, and long-term care facilities are also used.

Clinicals can be 2-5 days in a row and can be as early as 6am and as late as 11:30pm. We try to meet your needs, but no particular shift or clinical location can be guaranteed. It's also possible you could have 12-hour clinicals, and they can also occur on weekends.

### **31. Will my RN license be valid if I move out of state?**

Your Colorado nursing license is valid in any state which has joined the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC). For other states you must apply for licensure by endorsement.

### **32. Can I work during the registered nursing program?**

We recommend working no more than 20 hours per week while enrolled in our RN program.

## Registered Nursing Program Denial

### **33. I didn't get into the RN program, but I got into the PN program. Is this a good path for me?**

If your ultimate goal is to become an RN, we do not recommend taking the PN classes first, as the FRCC Larimer Campus does not have a bridge program. We strongly recommend meeting with an advisor to discuss your career and academic goals if you are undecided about your major.