

# PRACTICAL NURSE ENHANCED CERTIFICATE

## A Two Year Program

### *Program Coordinator:*

Practical Nurses help clients with daily living activities, perform assessments, provide prescribed medical treatments and create safe, comfortable environments for their clients. Our Practical Nurse program educates you to provide high-quality nursing care in hospitals, community-care facilities and other health-related institutions.

*Note: Other programs offered include the Part-time Practical Nurse Certificate, Practical Nurse Equivalency Program, Aboriginal Practical Nurse Program, Alternate Delivery Practical Nurse Program and Practical Nurse Re-Entry Program.*

Close to one hundred percent of our last graduating class found employment in the health care field. You will receive instruction in theory and practice in the classroom and skills laboratory, plus 20 weeks of work experience in a variety of health care settings.

### **Transferability**

Athabasca University Licensed Practical Nurse to Bachelor of Nursing Program. Students may also transfer into one of Prairie's Bachelor of Arts degrees.

### **Admission Requirements**

- 60% or better in English 30-1 (30) or 70% or better in English 30-2 (33).
- 60% or better in Pure Math 20, Math 20, Applied Math 30 or Math 33 OR 70% or better in Applied Math 20 or Math 23.
- 60% or better in Biology 30 or 60% in Bow Valley College's Anatomy and Physiology/Microbiology.
- A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from a recognized Canadian post-secondary institution will be recognized in lieu of the above requirements. Certificates and diplomas from Alberta Advanced Education approved post-secondary institutions will be considered on an individual basis by the Practical Nurse Program Coordinator.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must present a minimum score of 560 written, or 220 on the computer, on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam. An assessment of applicants' skills in listening and speaking English may also be required. Or complete the Bow Valley College EAP program with a grade of "B".
- All applicants educated outside of Canada must also demonstrate that they have successfully completed the English Language, Mathematics and Science academic requirements specified above. All foreign transcripts must be assessed by the International Qualifications Assessment Service.
- Up-to-date immunization required.
- Minimum 18 years of age.
- CPR Level C Basic Rescuer.
- Criminal record check.
- The Practical Nurse program is very demanding and requires that you have the mental and physical stamina to succeed. The demands of a job as a Licensed Practical Nurse will require you to:
  - work shifts and weekends;
  - be on your feet for extended periods of time;
  - use your knees, back and arms to move clients who have minimal strength;
  - function effectively in stressful situations;
  - work unassisted to perform skills.
- It is strongly advised that applicants have computer access with word processing and Internet capabilities.

Should you require further information about our admissions policy, please contact the Admission Office at (800) 661-2425.

### **Transfer Credit Request**

A limited number of transfer students from Prairie Bible College can be admitted into this program. Students wishing to transfer into the program who have completed courses from the Bible, Theology, Spiritual Formation and Arts & Sciences portion of the program will be required to take alternate courses in their place. For complete details please contact the Admissions Office.

### **Fees**

Please see the 2006/2007 tuition and fees page for more information. Additional program costs (approximate amounts):

Books and Modules	\$1,700
Criminal Record Check	\$25
Shoes, Uniforms, Watch	\$350
Stethoscope	\$110
Printing	\$45
CPNRE	\$523

*\*Note: The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) administers the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE): The fee is \$523 for 2005 (subject to change).*

## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

All courses are three credits unless shown otherwise.

### **Anatomy and Physiology/Microbiology (6 credits)**

An introduction to the normal structure and function of the human body according to body systems. Includes Microbiology - an introduction to microorganisms and their relationship to disease process.

### **Growth and Development**

A comprehensive overview of human growth and development and normal behavioural responses through the life span. Emphasis is placed upon the stages of development and their linkage to common events and adaptations.

### **Interpersonal Relationships and Communication Skills**

An introduction to the concept of self-awareness and the process of communication. Emphasis is on the application of therapeutic communication skills, reporting and documentation skills, and client teaching. Included are adaptations for special needs.

### **Nursing Theory I (5 credits)**

Holistic nursing care (developmental, psychological, sociocultural and spiritual) and skills are emphasized within the framework of the nursing process. Focus is on the principles underlying nursing actions, health promotion and integration of concepts from other courses.

### **Nursing Lab I (2 credits)**

In the nursing skills lab, utilizing the underlying theoretical principles, students will develop psychomotor nursing skills to provide safe, competent care.

### **Professional Growth I (2 credits)**

Focus is on the role and responsibilities of the Practical Nurse, trends, issues, legal, ethical and philosophical aspects of nursing practice and leadership are discussed. Care of self is emphasized as well as strategies for success.

**Continuing Care Practicum I (4 credits)**

Introduction to continuing care settings with opportunities to apply knowledge and assist client with activities of daily living. These include providing careful and knowledgeable hygiene care, feeding, transfers, and diversional activities. All these are based on a foundation of respecting the individual and the need for autonomy and independence.

**Applied Pharmacology**

The application of knowledge of therapeutic drugs, their effects on the body, and nursing responsibilities when administering medications by oral/enteral, percutaneous, subcutaneous and intramuscular routes. Thirty hours of nursing skills lab is included in this course.

**Adult Health Assessment (4 credits)**

The application of knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and microbiology applied to the skill of completing an adult physical assessment. Forty hours of nursing skills lab is included in this course.

**Pathophysiology and Related Nursing Care (6 credits)**

An introduction to common health problems and related nursing care.

**Nursing Theory II**

Holistic nursing care (developmental, psychological, sociocultural and spiritual) and skills are emphasized within the framework of the nursing process. Focus is on the principles underlying nursing actions, adult physical assessment, health promotion and integration of concepts from other courses.

**Nursing Science Lab II**

In the nursing skills lab, utilizing the underlying theoretical principles, students will develop psychomotor nursing skills to provide safe, competent care.

**Community Nursing**

Focus is on meeting the needs of the client in a variety of community settings.

**Continuing Care Practicum II (4 credits)**

This clinical experience is again in the continuing care setting. Skills refined in PRNR 192 will be relied on for providing holistic care. Added to this will be a focus on health assessment and medication administration.

**Nursing Theory III**

Holistic nursing care (developmental, psychological, sociocultural and spiritual) and skills are emphasized within the framework of the nursing process. Focus is on the principles underlying nursing actions, adult physical assessment, health promotion and integration of concepts from other courses.

**Nursing Science Lab III**

Development of the nursing skills required to provide safe, competent care for patients requiring medical or surgical interventions.

**Maternity Nursing**

An introduction to the needs and nursing interventions of childbearing families. Community resources and client teaching are addressed.

**Mental Health**

Focus is on the promotion of mental health, prevention and management of mental disorders throughout the life cycle, within various health care settings.

**Pediatric Nursing**

An introduction to the needs and nursing interventions of child rearing families. Community resources and client teaching are addressed.

**Professional Growth II (1 credit)**

Focus is on the role and responsibilities of the graduate Practical Nurse, trends and issues, and leadership at an introductory level.

**Acute Care Practicum (8 Credits)**

The basics of nursing (hygiene, transfers, assessment, and medication administration) of previous semesters will be challenged in the faster paced acute care setting. Added to this challenge will be new skills such as dressing changes, catheterizations, oxygen therapy, and pre/post operative care.

**Continuing Care Practicum III (2 credits)**

Return to continuing care settings with opportunities to apply knowledge and perform skills of medication administration and team leading.

**Focused Practicum (1 credit)**

A variety of community and acute care settings are used to provide students the opportunity to apply nursing knowledge and skills in paediatric, maternity, specialty, and/or community settings.

**Comprehensive Practicum (5 credits)**

To facilitate the transition from working under the supervision and guidance of an instructor to an independent practitioner, the student has the opportunity to work with a mentoring nurse or preceptor for a period of time.