

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **How can I get in contact with a nursing representative for specific questions?** You may contact, Rhonda Boles in the Allied Building –Lake Worth Campus at (561) 868-3412 for appointments or by email bolesr@palmbeachstate.edu. You may also contact our Health Science Advisor, Ms. Latisha Myrick, who can be reached at (561) 868-3819 or myrickl@palmbeachstate.edu for questions and appointments.
2. **Does Palm Beach State maintain a waiting list?** No. The Nursing Department has implemented a point scale system to determine entry into the program.
3. **Are any of my courses subject to expiration before entry into the nursing program?** Only your science courses have expiration dates. All Science courses such as Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology II and Microbiology must be completed within 10 years of entry into the registered nurse program.
4. **How can I transfer in my credits from another college/university?** Please have the prior college send an official copy of your transcripts to any of the Palm Beach State Campus Admissions offices.
5. **How can I appeal a similar course taken at another school that PBSC did not make equivalent?** Attach a course description of the course in question to a letter addressed to the District Registrar, Ed Mueller, requesting that the similar class equate to a Palm Beach State course. Provide your student ID, address and phone number on the letter for point of contact.
6. **How long is the nursing program?** The Lake Worth and Belle Glade Full Time Program both span two years in length or (four semesters excluding summers), while the Evening/Weekend Program is two years eight months including summers (year-round program).
7. **How many students do you accept each semester?** The Lake Worth Full Time program accepts 90 students each semester for a total of 180 students per year. The Evening/Weekend Program accepts 30 students once a year and the Belle Glade Full Time Program accepts 24 students once a year.

8. **What are the deadline dates for entry?** The Lake Worth Full Time Program has a Fall Term application deadline of June 1st of each year and the Spring Term deadline date of October 1st of each year. The Evening/Weekend Program and the Belle Glade Full Time Program both accept application once per year with an application deadline of October 1st of each year.
9. **What Pre-entrance Exam will Palm Beach State accept?** The HESI A2 Exam is required for entry with a minimum cumulative test score of 75. The HESI A2 exam must contain all 9 sections of the test in order to submit your application. Please refer to PBSC testing website at www.palmbeachstate.edu/hesi.xml to register at one of the four campus site locations.
10. **Where can I find study material for the Pro-Calc Math Proficiency Test?** You may practice Pro-Calc at any of the Palm Beach State Campus location Computer labs or visit the Pro-Calc homepage at www.privateguru.com
11. **Where should I turn in my completed nursing application?** You may submit your completed nursing application along with your \$20 application fee receipt to the Limited Access Office (Admissions Office) in Lake Worth or any campus Admissions Office by the close of business on the deadline date.
12. **If I have a prior conviction, will that hinder me from being accepted to the nursing program?** We advise all students to check with the Board of Nursing at (850) 245-4125 and inquire about your ability to sit for State Boards at the end of program completion. **IMPORTANT NOTICE: Effective July 1, 2009**, section 456.0635, Florida Statutes, provides that healthcare boards or the department boards or the department shall refuse to issue a license, certificate or registration and shall refuse to admit a candidate for examination if the applicant has been:
 1. Convicted or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a felony violation of chapters 409, 817, or 893, Florida Statutes; or 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970 of 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any probation or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the application.
 2. Terminated for cause from Florida Medicaid Program (unless the applicant has been in good standing for the most recent five years).
 3. Terminated for cause by any other State Medicaid Program or the Medicare Program (unless the termination was at least 20 years prior to the date of the application and the applicant has been in good standing with the program for the most recent five years).

The background screenings will be completed at the student's expense. All records will be sent directly to the Program Coordinator and will be kept in a confidential file. These files will not be part of the student's college records.

13. **May I volunteer at a healthcare facility in order to receive the one point for healthcare experience?** Yes, as long as you have the facility write a letter confirming your employment or volunteer hours on company letterhead with your status of duties in their office. In order to receive one point for healthcare experience you must complete a minimum of 100 hours of work or volunteer experience over a consecutive three month period within the last three years.
14. **What degree will I earn after completing the Registered Nurse Program at Palm Beach State?** An Associate of Science Degree in Nursing.
15. **Does Palm Beach State College offer a Bachelor of Nursing (BSN) Program?** Yes, once you obtain your RN license you may apply to the RN to BSN program here at Palm Beach State. See website for details:
<http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/x15550.xml>
16. **Can I apply to more than one program?** No. There is one application which has three program boxes for the student to choose. You can only apply to one program per term.
17. **If I attended another nursing program, can I transfer those credits into the RN program at Palm Beach State?** No. Palm Beach State College does not recognize any previous completion of nursing course work. A transfer nursing student will have to apply through the generic applicant pool.
18. **Are online nursing classes offered at the Belle Glade Campus?** No. Online nursing classes are offered for Lake Worth students only.
19. **If the application deadline falls on a weekend, can I turn in my application the following Monday?** Yes. The Monday following the June 1st or Oct 1st deadline will be the final day to turn in applications.
20. **Can I take any nursing courses prior to entering the nursing program?** Yes. Pharmacology is the only nursing course permitted for a student to take prior to entry. You may choose from the 2 credit (NUR 1141) or 3 credit (NUR 2140) Pharmacology course.
21. **Can I transfer the 3 credit Pharmacology to a University?** No. You will still have to complete a higher level Pharmacology at the University level. The 3 credit Pharmacology has more Pathophysiology contained in the material. Either Pharmacology course is acceptable towards your RN degree, but the 3 credit Pharmacology will transfer into the RN to BSN program here at Palm Beach State College.

22. Which co-requisites should I take before entering the RN program? We suggest getting as many co-reqs if not all co-reqs out of the way before you apply to the program, since we are based on a point scale system. ENC 1101, A & P II and MCB 2010 are all Semester I pre-reqs; HUN 1201 is a Semester II pre-requisite; PSY 2012 is a Semester III pre-requisite; and a Humanities elective is a semester IV pre-requisite. These courses must be taken before the entering semester or along with the registered semester.
23. How many students apply to the RN program each semester? The Spring Term has more applicants since we accept applications for all three programs. Best guess, around 400 students.
24. Where can I pick up a nursing application? You MUST download the application from the Palm Beach State Nursing webpage at <https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/nursing.xml>. The application usually becomes available a month before the application deadline.
25. What is the minimum amount of time it takes to complete the RN degree? The minimum amount of time to complete the RN program is three years if you are a Full Time student. One year of pre-requisites and co-requisites and two years of the RN Full Time program.

For additional information call:

Palm Beach State College Nursing Program

@ (561) 868-3412 Monday - Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Palm Beach State College

An Equal Opportunity Institution