

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THE

TRANSITION PROGRAM STUDENT

1. **How can I get in contact with a nursing representative for specific questions?** You may contact Rhonda Boles in the Allied Health Building – Lake Worth Campus at (561) 868-3441 for appointments or most preferably by email bolesr@palmbeachstate.edu. Ms. Latisha Myrick, our Health Science Advisor, can be reached at (561) 868-3819 or by email at myrickl@palmbeachstate.edu for questions and appointments.
2. **Does Palm Beach State maintain a waiting list?** Yes. The wait list is for transition students only (LPN'S and Paramedics). Entry is based on space availability for the RN program.
3. **Are any courses subject to an expiration date before entry into the nursing program?** Only your sciences courses have expiration dates. All Science courses such as Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology II and Microbiology must be completed within 10 years of entry into the registered nurse program. Anatomy & Physiology I is waived if A & P II is within 10 years.
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 Palm Beach State did not equate?** Attach a course description of the course in question along with a letter addressed to the District Registrar, Ed Mueller, requesting that the similar class be made equivalent to a Palm Beach State course. Provide your student ID, address and phone number on the letter for point of contact. Please see attached link for Course Re-Evaluation Appeal: <http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/x13776.xml>.
6. **How long is the nursing program?** The completion of the RN program depends on which semester the transition student is able to test into. The Full Time Program for Lake Worth and Belle Glade span two years in length from Semester I or (four semesters excluding summers), while the Evening/Weekend Program is two years eight months from Semester I including summers (year-round program). The transition student can challenge semesters I and enter semester II by passing an Accelerated

Challenge Exam (ACE). See Mrs. Rhonda Boles for a permission slip and testing dates.

7. **When can I sit for the challenge exams?** The following pre-requisites **MUST** be completed before you can sit for the first challenge exam:
 - *Chemistry (CHM 1020 or CHM 1045)
 - *Anatomy & Physiology I and II (BSC 2085/2085L and BSC 2086/2086L)
 - *Developmental Psychology (DEP 2004)
 - *Microbiology (MCB 2010/2010L)
 - *Math Pro-Calc Proficiency Exam (80% or higher)
8. **What subject area does the ACE exam cover?** ACE I will test you on the Fundamentals of Nursing, which is covered in our 1st semester of nursing. The ACE exam has approximately 185 questions. The transition student will need a passing score of 75% or higher on the exam in order to skip semester one of the RN program.
9. **What are the deadline dates for entry?** August 1st for every Fall Term (Student begins August of each year) and November 30th for every Spring Term (Student begins January of each year).
10. **Where can I find study material for the ACE Exam?** Please see Rhonda Boles for study material and/or purchase an NCLEX review guide from any bookstore such as Barnes and Noble or Borders.
11. **Where can I find study material for the Pro-Calc Math Proficiency Test?** You may practice Pro-Calc at any of the PBSC Campus location Computer labs or visit the Pro-Calc homepage at <http://www.privateguru.com>. Click on Pro-Calc in the left hand column.
12. **Where should I turn in my completed nursing application?** Applications are not required for the transition student. Your RN Information sheet given to you in a required information session will serve as your application along with the required license and American Heart Healthcare Provider CPR card.
13. **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 or 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).
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14. **What degree will I earn after completing the Registered Nurse Program at Palm Beach State?** An Associate of Science Degree in Nursing.
 15. **If I attended another nursing program, can I transfer those credits into the RN program at Palm Beach State?** No. The nursing program does not accept transfer nursing credits. The LPN or Paramedic will transition into the RN program with the passing of an ACE exam. A current LPN or Paramedic license must be on file with the RN Office in order to transition into the RN program.
 16. **Are online nursing classes offered at the Belle Glade Campus?** No. Online nursing classes are offered for Full Time students on the Lake Worth only.
 17. **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. ENC 1101 is a pre-requisite for Semester I; HUN 1201 is a pre-requisite for Semester II; and PSY 2012 is a pre-requisite for Semester III. You may register for your humanities course during any one of the four semesters of the RN program.
 18. **How can I add my name to the list for entry into the RN program?** Once the pre-requisites courses are complete, please make an appointment with Mrs. Rhonda Boles where she will issue you a permission slip to sit for the challenge exam.
 19. **What is the cost of the ACE Exam?** The cost of the exam is \$70. To register for the exam, the transition student needs a **“money order”** in the amount of \$55 payable to NLN. On the day of the test, the student will pay the remaining \$15 by cash, check or charge through the cashier’s office.

20. **How long is the wait list for entry into the RN Program?** Best estimate is about one semester from the date of your ACE exam. We will try and admit each transition student as soon as space provides in the RN program.
21. **How much work experience must I have before transitioning into the RN program?** We require every transition student to have at least six months of work experience in their designated field.
22. **Approximately how much per semester is the cost of the RN program?** In-State Residents will spend approximately \$1750 per semester, and Out of State Residents will spend approximately \$4400 per semester.

For additional information call:

Palm Beach State College Nursing Program

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

Palm Beach State College

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