1. **How can I get in contact with a nursing representative for specific questions?** You may contact Rhonda Boles in the Allied Health building at the Lake Worth Campus at (561) 868-3412 for appointments or by email at bolesr@palmbeachstate.edu. You may also contact our health science advisor, Cathy Lombard, who can be reached at (561) 868-3602 or by e-mail at lombardc@palmbeachstate.edu for questions and appointments.

2. **Does Palm Beach State maintain a waiting list?** No! A point scale system is utilized to determine entry into the program. The maximum amount of points a student can receive towards their application is 31. Please attend one of the monthly information sessions to find out the breakdown of points.

3. **Are any of my courses subject to expiration before entry into the nursing program?** Only your science courses have expiration dates. All Natural Science courses like Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology II and Microbiology MUST have a completion date within 10 years of the start of the semester in which the student is applying for entry. Anatomy & Physiology I is waived from the ten-year rule if Anatomy & Physiology II is within ten 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 one of the Palm Beach State Admissions offices.

5. **How can I appeal a similar course taken at another school that Palm Beach State did not make an equivalent?** Attach a course description of the course in question to an appeal form located on the Admissions Office homepage located under Admissions Forms. Request that the similar class equate to the comparable Palm Beach State course. Provide your student ID, address and phone number on the form and submit it to the Admissions office. [http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/admissions/forms.aspx](http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/admissions/forms.aspx)

6. **How long is the nursing program?** The Lake Worth and Belle Glade full-time programs both span two years in length or four semesters excluding summers, while the Evening/Weekend program takes two years eight months including summers to complete. This is a year-round program.
7. **How many students are selected for the RN program 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 per year and the Belle Glade full-time program accepts 24 students once per year.

8. **What are the deadline dates for entry?**
   The Lake Worth full-time program has a fall term application deadline of May 15th of each year (August start date) and a spring term application deadline date of September 15th of each year (January start date). The Evening/Weekend program and the Belle Glade full-time program both accept applications once per year with an application deadline of September 15th of each year (January start date).

9. **What pre-entrance exam will Palm Beach State accept?**
   The HESI A2 exam is the **ONLY** required test for consideration to the RN program. The nursing program requires a minimum cumulative test score of 80% from all nine sections of the exam and a minimum Math score of 80% by the application deadline. The student MUST complete all 9 sections of the test in order to submit the application. Please refer to the following website to ensure your exam contains all nine sections of the HESI exam:
   
   https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/nursing/hesi.aspx
   
   Please refer to Palm Beach State testing website at [https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/testing/default.aspx](https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/testing/default.aspx) to register for the Belle Glade, Boca or PB Gardens campus site locations. **The Lake Worth Campus will allow students to test for the HESI exam on a walk-in basis for HESI testing.** Students MUST arrive before 1:45 pm in order to test on the Lake Worth campus. Students who wish to retake the HESI exam for a better score **MUST wait a minimum of 61 calendar days** from their last test date before they can sit for the HESI exam again. If score reports are 60 days or less, the student’s test score is deemed invalid.

10. **What are the Math requirements for the RN program?**
    Yes! Students MUST complete Statistics (STA2023) before or along with semester two of the nursing program. It is recommended that the student completes Statistics before an application is submitted so that the student can receive one point towards their nursing application. The student will also need an individual math score of 80% or higher on the HESI A2 exam in order to submit an application to the Registered Nurse Program. For study material on the Math section, please contact the Math Lab @ 561-868-3208; regarding tutoring sessions.
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 any one of our campus Admissions Offices located on the Lake Worth, Belle Glade, Boca Raton, Loxahatchee or Palm Beach Gardens campuses by the close of business on the deadline date. Please check the closing hours of the Cashier’s Office and Admissions Office on each campus to ensure the processing of your application.

12. If a student has a prior conviction, will it hinder them from being accepted to the nursing program? We advise all students to check with the Board of Nursing at (850) 245-4125 to inquire about your ability to sit for State Boards at the end of program completion. Background checks, fingerprint and drug screens are required for all accepted students to the RN program. All students conditionally accepted to the RN program will pay out of pocket for these screenings. Financial Aid does not cover the cost of required screenings.

**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 contender 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? Beginning October 1, 2014, healthcare and volunteer experience is no longer factored into the point scale system.

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-BSN program here at Palm Beach State College. See website for detail: [https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/bachelor/default.aspx](https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/bachelor/default.aspx)

16. **Can I apply to more than one program?** No! You may apply to one program **ONLY** per term so please apply to the program that best meets your work/family life. Students who check two or more boxes on the application will automatically default to the Lake Worth Full Time Program.

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 completion of any previous nursing course work. A transfer nursing student will have to apply through the generic applicant pool or through the transition program as a Licensed Practical Nurse depending on their exit status from the prior nursing school.

18. **Are online nursing classes offered at the Belle Glade Campus?** No! If a student wishes to apply to the Belle Glade RN Program, then you will have to drive to the Belle Glade campus during the course of each of the four nursing semesters. Belle Glade RN students are **ONLY** permitted to register for online Pharmacology, which is taught on the Lake Worth campus.

19. **If the application deadline falls on a weekend, can I turn in my application the following Monday?** No! The application will default to the Friday before the deadline date of May 15th or September 15th. **Please do not wait to turn in your application on the last day as it delays the notification of acceptances and denials.**

20. **Can I take any nursing courses prior to entering the nursing program?** Pharmacology (NUR 1141) is the only nursing course that pre-nursing students may take prior to acceptance to the RN program.

21. **Can I transfer the Pharmacology course (NUR 1141) to a University?** No! A higher level of pharmacology is required at the university level. The BSN program at Palm Beach State will accept Pharmacology (NUR 1141) into their program.
22. **Which co-requisites should I take before entering the RN program?** We suggest that students complete as many co-requisites if not all of them before applying to the RN program because each successfully completed course will give the students extra points towards the application. BSC2086 with Lab and MCB2010 are both Semester I pre-requisites. ENC 1101 and STA 2023 are Semester II pre-requisite. PSY2012 is a Semester III pre-requisite. The Humanities elective is a semester IV pre-requisite. These courses must be taken before or along with the required semester.

23. **How many students apply to the RN program each semester?** The spring term usually has more applicants because we accept applications for all three of our programs. Our best guess is approximately 350 students for the Spring Term and 250 for the Fall term. Applicants who do check a box on the application is automatically defaulted to Lake Worth full-time.

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/programs/Nursing/](https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/Nursing/)

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 will consist of pre-requisites and co-requisites, and the remaining two years will focus on the Full-Time nursing program itself.

26. **What is the approximate cost of the RN program?** In-state residents will spend approximately $2000 per semester, and out-of-state residents will spend approximately $4800 per semester.

For additional information call:

Palm Beach State College Nursing Program

@ (561) 868-3412, Monday - Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm

Palm Beach State College is an Equal Opportunity Institution Revised September 2018