



SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Success Starts Here

Updated July 2025

Southside Virginia Community College Nursing Information Packet

*Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing (ADN)
Certificate in Practical Nursing (PN)*

Spring (January) 2026 ADN Weekend Clinical Program

(May) 2026 LPN to RN Bridge Program

Fall (August) 2026 ADN Clinical Program

(August) 2026 PN Clinical Program – Alberta



Southside Virginia Community College is dedicated to the belief that all citizens should be given an opportunity to acquire an educational foundation that develops and extends their skills and knowledge.

**“Welcome! We are glad you are here.
Come join us on a journey through
SVCC’s Nursing Programs.”**

Johnny Paws, SVCC Mascot

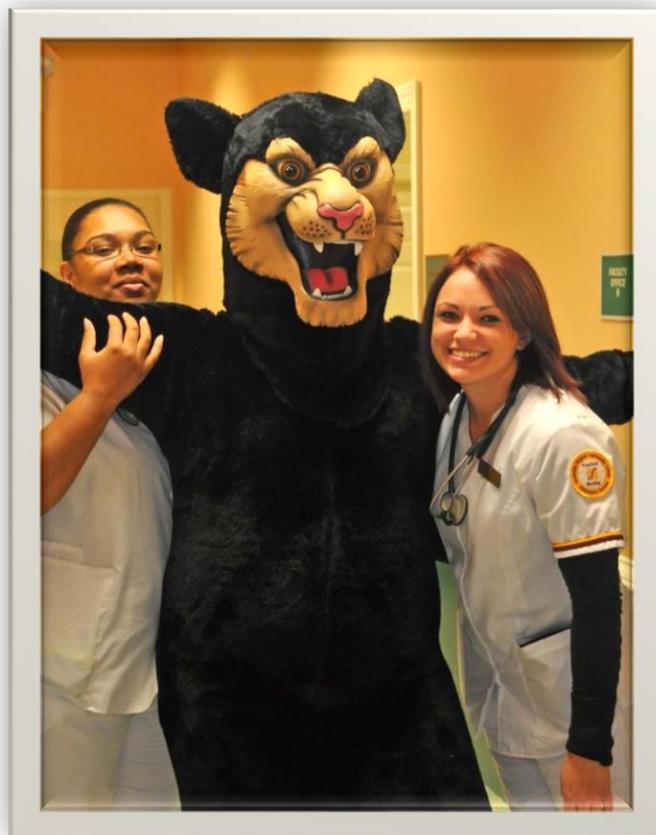


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What do you already know?

Nursing = learning and growing – before and during your formal nursing education, as well as continually throughout your nursing career. Start now to incorporate effective learning strategies, such as asking yourself questions to prime your brain to search for and retain answers. Nurses think critically, examine situations and ask questions, such as . . .

“What do I know?”

“What is my current knowledge based on?”

“Is there more I need to find out?”

“Do I need to be thinking about a situation or question differently?”

*There is no better time to start that process than now! In order to focus your thoughts as you read through this packet, first answer each question as **T (TRUE)** or **F (FALSE)**, based on what you already know.*

- _____ 1. SVCC’s Nursing Programs have two phases: pre-clinical phase, during which students take general education classes, attend an Info Session, and take their pre-entrance test and the clinical phase, during which students take nursing classes and practice patient care in healthcare facilities under the direction of faculty.
- _____ 2. SVCC has both RN programs and LPN programs.
- _____ 3. There are very few jobs for LPNs, so it is better to become an RN.
- _____ 4. Commitment, regular investment of time and effective studying correlate more with nursing school success than does IQ.
- _____ 5. In both nursing programs, students must earn a C or better to remain in the program and the lowest C in nursing is 78%.
- _____ 6. Financial aid should cover all of your expenses for nursing school.
- _____ 7. Once you have completed your pre-requisite courses, you will be automatically considered for the clinical nursing program.

It is also helpful to ask yourself about your “why”. “Why do I want to become a nurse?” Fill in the blank with ONE word!

8. If I had to describe nursing in one word, it would be _____.

Check your answers as you read through this packet.



You might be surprised by what you find!

Look for this box as you read to find the answers to questions 1 – 8 above. Each answer box is located near additional information on the topic of the question.

SVCC Nursing Program Philosophy

Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing (ADN)

Nursing is an art and a science. The art of nursing is the holistic application of nursing science, behavioral and natural science, the humanities, and the arts. The science of nursing is built on current evidence and professional standards that help promote positive patient and family outcomes across the lifespan.

Nurses use clinical judgment to provide safe, effective, and compassionate care by collaborating with other members of the nursing and healthcare team. We believe in professional accountability and practice within the scope of nursing. Nurses recognize the uniqueness of each person and advocate for their diverse patients and colleagues.

The Associate Degree Nursing education program (ADN) provides students with the knowledge, skills and values needed to practice as beginning nurse generalists. The ADN program prepares a nursing workforce for healthcare organization in Southside Virginia, improving the health of the community.

The faculty facilitates learning by using multiple teaching/learning modalities to meet the needs of our diverse adult student population. Learning involves the interpretation of information to expand knowledge and influence behavior. (SVCC ADN Program, 2011)

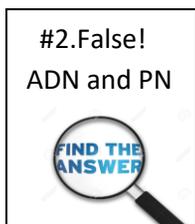
Certificate in Practical Nursing (PN)

Nursing is a crucial subsystem of the health care delivery system. Nursing is accountable to, is sanctioned by, and exists for the good of society. Nursing is the art and science of meeting man's bio-psycho-social-cultural needs for homeostasis. Nursing care is provided by the use of the nursing process that includes assessment, analysis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Nursing's goal is to maximize the individual's potential for independence from nursing through the use of the therapeutic relationship, regardless of the individual's location on the wellness-illness continuum. Nursing's focus across the life span is to promote wellness, provide care for the ill, assist in rehabilitation, assist in adaptation to chronic illness, provide patient education, and provide comfort to the dying.

Practical Nursing is an integrated component of nursing. Practical nursing requires basic nursing knowledge. The practical nurse provides care to individuals with various health care problems. When providing care, the practical nurse performs basic teaching to patients, families and significant others. The practical nurse forms a therapeutic relationship with patients in a variety of settings. The practical nurse intervenes to promote wellness and relieve suffering. Practical nursing is the vocation in which the practical nurse, an essential member of the health care delivery system, practices the art of nursing under the supervision of the registered nurse and/or physician within the legal scope of practice.

Accreditation: The ADN and PN Nursing Programs at SVCC are approved by the Virginia Board of Nursing. For more information: <https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/Boards/Nursing/EducationPrograms/ProspectiveStudents/>

Additionally, SVCC's ADN Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). For more information, see <http://acenursing.org/>



Find out in our Info Session why our programs are NOT called the RN or LPN program!



SVCC Nursing Programs Overview

ADN

Overview of Associate Degree Nursing Program

To earn an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing, students complete a 67 credit curriculum, designed to give the beginning registered nurse a solid background and understanding of humans, both body and mind, and an overview of how humans interact with and are impacted by the society and culture around them. The required general education courses are designed to provide the beginning nurse with good oral, written, and electronic communication skills as well as good study skills, recognizing that a competent nurse never stops learning in this age of ever-changing knowledge and practice in the field of nursing and health. These courses also provide support for success in the rigorous nursing curriculum.

The clinical portion of the ADN Program lasts **4 semesters**. Admission into this portion of the program is not automatic. It requires an application separate from the SVCC application followed by a competitive admission process. A new clinical cohort begins yearly, **each Fall Semester, (August)** at:

Christanna Campus, Alberta

John H. Daniel Campus, Keysville

Southern Va Higher Education Center, South Boston

Weekend ADN Program, Estes Community Center, Chase City – Starts Spring Semester (January)

Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) to become a registered nurse.

PN

Overview of Practical Nursing Program

To earn a Certificate in Practical Nursing, students complete a 49 credit curriculum, designed to prepare beginning practitioners with the knowledge and skills needed to provide basic nursing care and health teaching for clients of all age groups. The general education courses within the Practical Nursing Program give students a broad understanding of human physiology as well as the psycho-social aspects of being human. These courses also help the practical nursing student build a solid academic background and good communication skills and study skills for success within the practical nursing program and beyond in the field of nursing.

The clinical portion of the PN Program lasts **3 semesters**. Admission into this portion of the program is not automatic. It requires an application separate from the SVCC application followed by a competitive admission process. A new clinical cohort begins every 1 ½ years (August or January) at the following locations:

Christanna Campus, Alberta

Southern Va Higher Education Center, South Boston

Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) to become a licensed practical nurse.

LPN to RN Bridge Program

SVCC's LPN to RN Bridge program is designed to allow qualified LPNs to complete the ADN clinical program in 1 year or 3 semesters, beginning each summer semester. After successful completion of the summer transition courses, students advance into the 2nd year of the ADN Clinical program. The summer LPN to RN Transition is a combined class from all three ADN locations and is held in Chase City. Students then move to their main campus program for Fall and the following Spring semesters.

All General Education requirements in the ADN program are still required for LPN to RN bridge. LPNs earn advanced standing in the ADN Fundamental Concepts via a Level 1 Nursing Concepts test during the application/admission process.

Clinical Locations (subject to change)

POSSIBLE ADN CLINICAL LOCATIONS – including, but not limited to:

Alberta: South Hill, Emporia, Richmond, Burkeville, Petersburg, VA and Roanoke Rapids, NC.

Keysville: Farmville, South Boston, Richmond, South Hill, and Burkeville, VA

South Boston: South Boston, Clarksville, Burkeville, and Richmond, VA

Chase City Weekend Program: Combinations of above locations

#3.False! Need for both RNs and LPNs is growing. Many facilities hire both.



POSSIBLE PN CLINICAL LOCATIONS – including, but not limited to:

Alberta: South Hill, Emporia, Chase City, Clarksville, Burkeville, VA and Roanoke Rapids, NC

South Boston: South Boston, Farmville, Clarksville, Chase City, and Nathalie, VA

Students also must attend Simulation Lab experiences. Our Simulation Labs are in Chase City and South Boston.

Time Commitment Necessary to be a Successful Nursing Student

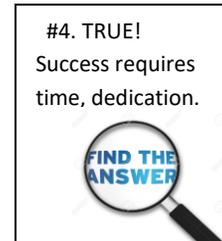
Clinical Nursing courses are courses in which students apply what they are learning in the classroom, nursing lab, and Simulation Laboratory to patient care in hospitals, long-term care and other facilities. Students typically spend one to two days per week at a clinical site, sometimes 3. In addition to time spent outside of class studying the rigorous course content, preparation time outside of class to be ready for the clinical experience is vital as lack of preparation can result in a student being dismissed from clinical for that day. It is wise to plan ahead and enlist the help of family and friends to help you achieve your goals. You may need to allow others to take over some responsibilities for you during the clinical courses. When you look ahead to the long-term gains, you and your family will likely agree that it is worth it!

What might a typical week look like for a nursing student in either ADN or PN Programs?

Monday through Thursday	Friday	Saturday/Sunday
Class 2-4 hours 2-3 days/week Campus lab ~3 hours weekly Clinical up to 6-7 hours 1-2 days/week (1 day first semester, more later). Some clinical rotations could occur in evening hours. Reading/study 3-5 hours most days	Depending on the semester and location, clinical experiences, simulation lab, and/or other lab or class time may occur on Fridays as well. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> *Classroom, lab, and clinical days vary by site. </div>	Study, study, relax, worship, work if necessary, enjoy family and friends!

Attendance

It is vital that students attend class and clinical faithfully. Missed information or skills can have serious consequences when caring for clients. Absences totaling more than 20% of a course's semester class meetings or more than 12% of clinical will result in referral to the dean and possible dismissal from the course. Instructors may impose more stringent requirements as specified in their course outlines. The responsibility of the administration shall be to make the decision as to whether or not to allow the student to continue in the course that semester. Arriving tardy to class or clinical will also have consequences if it becomes habitual.



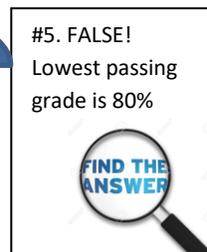
Grading

During clinical program, students must maintain at least a C in all Nursing Courses and an Overall GPA of at least 2.0.

Grades are NOT rounded.

ADN Grading Scale: A: 92-100 B: 84-91 C: 80-83

PN Grading Scale: A: 93-100 B: 86-92 C: 80-85



Nursing skills will be evaluated by using a Clinical Evaluation Guide

Personal qualities, attitudes, and skills of the student in the clinical area will be evaluated on the basis of anecdotal notes maintained by both faculty and students. These notes will be discussed in individual conferences and used for guidance purposes. Standards for clinical laboratory must be maintained at all times

Periodic Testing to Assess Knowledge and Skills Expected Nationally

Students must take a proctored online test at the end of each nursing course. These periodic tests are designed to hone your knowledge and test-taking skills to help prepare you for your licensure exam. Costs of these tests and study materials (see "Nursing Assessments" on cost estimate) are covered by your approved Financial Aid package.



Sixteen Categories of Functional Abilities Necessary for Nursing Students

Category	Description
Gross Motor Skills	Gross motor skills sufficient to provide the full range of safe and effective nursing care activities.
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor skills sufficient to perform manual psychomotor skills.
Physical Endurance	Physical stamina sufficient to perform client care activities for entire length of work role,
Physical Strength	Physical strength sufficient to perform full range of required client care activities.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from place to place and to maneuver to perform nursing activities.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of client health care needs.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for accurate observation and performance of nursing care.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of health care needs.
Smell	Olfactory ability sufficient to detect significant environmental and client odors.
Reading	Reading ability sufficient to comprehend the written word at a minimum of a tenth grade level.
Arithmetic	Arithmetic ability sufficient to do computations at a minimum of an eighth grade level. It includes the following three concepts: Counting: the act of enumerating or determining the number of items in a group. Measuring: the act or process of ascertaining the extent, dimensions or quantity of something. Computing: the act or process of performing mathematical calculations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
Emotional Stability	Emotional stability sufficient to assume responsibility/accountability for actions.
Analytical Thinking	Reasoning skills sufficient to perform deductive/inductive thinking for nursing decisions.
Critical Thinking Skills	Critical thinking ability sufficient to exercise sound nursing judgment.
Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups respecting social, cultural and spiritual diversity.
Communication Skills	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in oral and written form.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

Information for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who meet the program prerequisites, complete the physical exam and submit the physical form signed by the health care provider stating that they are able to perform as a registered nurse or practical nurse in the clinical setting are admitted. It is the responsibility of the student to meet the physical/mental/legal requirements for state certification.

SVCC Disabilities Statement: Southside Virginia Community College complies with the provisions set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The College is committed to providing an equal opportunity for academic success to all students. This commitment includes the provision of reasonable accommodations to students who have self-identified with the Office of Disability Services and who have provided the required documentation. Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact:

Dr. John Hicks, Coordinator of Disability Services – College-wide
434-949-1070 or email: john.hicks@southside.edu

Additional information may be found at <https://southside.edu/disability-services>

Information on Accommodations on the ATI-TEAS test

Students with identified disabilities who have followed the procedures outlined above under “Disabilities Statement” may receive reasonable accommodations on the TEAS test. Please request these accommodations of the testing director for the TEAS (Health Sciences Counselor or Nursing Program Director - See contacts on page 19) well in advance of your scheduled TEAS test. Four weeks in advance is recommended.

It is also wise to discuss your accommodations relative to the nursing program and ultimately the licensure exam for nursing (NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN) with SVCC’s Coordinator of Disability Services prior to entering the clinical portion of your nursing program. He can advise you in consultation with the Health Sciences Counselor and the Dean of Nursing. Decisions on accommodations for the NCLEX exam are not made by SVCC, but by the Virginia Board of Nursing based on documented need at the time of your application for that exam (after successfully completing the nursing program).

Financial Aid

The college has state and federal financial aid programs as well as several scholarship programs administered by the SVCC foundation. Some of these programs may cover uniforms and/or stethoscopes. Contact Financial Aid (contact information at end of packet) for assistance. Hospitals may have scholarships and loans as well. More information on financial aid can be found here: <https://southside.edu/financial-aid>

Scholarships

To apply for scholarships at SVCC, visit <https://southside.edu/scholarships>

Pay attention to deadlines for payment! Financial Aid typically takes 2 weeks to process and you must apply (complete the FAFSA) yearly for financial aid for the upcoming academic year, which runs Fall – Spring - Summer. Scholarships also have application deadlines and may require you to complete your FAFSA as well.



#6. False! Financial aid may cover many expenses, not all. Read on!

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Costs Associated with Nursing Programs

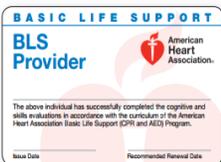
Costs are approximate and subject to change. Be sure to allow for transportation costs as well.

Item	Estimated cost ADN	Estimated cost PN	Comments
Tuition \$171.80/credit	67 credits \$11,510.60	49 credits \$8,418.20	Includes gen ed classes – does not include developmental courses, which vary by student need
Pre-clinical phase (Gen Ed.) textbooks	~\$900	~\$600	
Pre-entrance test	~\$92	~\$92	Paid online to ATI when registering for test
Textbooks 1 st clinical year	~\$1000	~\$600	Some books used through entire program
Textbooks 2 nd clinical year	~ \$750	~\$250 (x2 semesters)	
Campus Lab Kit	~ \$200 - \$250	~ \$200 - \$250	
Nursing Assessments (ATI)	~\$500 per semester (\$2000 over 2 years – 4 semesters)	~\$500 per semester (\$1500 over 3 semesters)	Includes practice tests, proctored tests, online and print resources
Uniforms, shoes, name pin, watch	~\$250 - \$300	~\$250 - \$300	Must purchase school-approved uniform through SVCC bookstore.
CPR Certification	\$50 - \$75	~\$50 - \$75	Must be current AHA, BLS for healthcare provider – NOT done within program
Physical Exam Immunizations/ Titers PPD X2 (TB test)	Varies by practitioner and individual immunization needs	Varies by practitioner and individual immunization needs	
Criminal Background/ Drug Screen	~\$150- \$160	~\$150- \$160	2 nd year ~\$75 - 80 Includes secure online document storage
Clinical Site Fees	~\$50 - 100 per semester		
Graduation Pin	~ \$45 - \$65	~\$45 - ~\$65	
Licensure Exam	NCLEX-RN ~\$200	NCLEX- PN ~\$200	Future costs – after program completion
License Application	~\$190	~\$170	
Passport Picture/Fingerprinting	~ \$70	~\$70	

ADN-Specific Information - Summary of ADN Application and Acceptance Process

1. Apply to SVCC
 - a. Submit SVCC application and non-VCCS college transcripts. See <https://southside.edu/admissions> Click "Apply Now".
 - b. Meet with our Navigator or a counselor to complete program placement in pre-nursing curriculum.
 - c. Complete any required developmental courses as determined necessary by counselor during program placement.
2. Attend a Nursing Information Session **early** in pre-clinical phase. Attendance at a session **specific to the year for which you are applying** is mandatory **prior to** submitting application to the clinical program. Info Sessions are currently virtual and found here: <https://southside.edu/nursing> (Includes video on website AND joining our Pre-Clinical Nursing page in Canvas)
3. Complete pre-requisite courses with at least a 2.5 GPA and C or better in every required course. Human Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 141/142, or BIO 231/232) must be within 10 years (Spring 2015 or after). It is allowed for students to be enrolled in the courses in Spring 2026 for the two-year program, Fall of semester prior to Weekend program, and still apply. The ADN Admissions committee meets after grades are posted, so those will be considered "complete" and those grades will be used in admissions decisions. Note: Multiple C's in prereqs can make your curricular GPA too low to be eligible to apply! Strive for higher.
4. Co-requisite courses - BIO 142, BIO 150, ENG 112, and HUM EEE (200-level course) - may be completed prior to beginning the clinical program. When taken during the clinical program, they add the number of credits needed to be full-time. With the co-requisites completed, the nursing courses alone are less than 12 credits (full-time), which will affect your financial aid award those semesters. You do NOT have to be in 12 or more credits to qualify for most types of aid. Most students do choose to take the co-requisites in advance of their clinical program so that they may focus just on nursing. It is wise to save money ahead to help with additional costs in the first semester. See Cost Estimate on page 11.
5. Study, register for (www.atitesting.com), and take **ATI-TEAS 7**, Pre-entrance test for Nursing, scoring at least 65% Adjusted Individual Total Score. We accept scores **up to 3 years prior**, so ATI-TEAS 6 is still accepted. If you have recently taken Kaplan or HESI elsewhere, reach out to us (Contacts: page 19) to determine whether your test scores can be used in place of the ATI-TEAS. Upcoming SVCC TEAS Test dates: <https://southside.edu/teas>
6. Submit Associate Degree in Nursing application **after** attendance at a Nursing Information Session specific to the year for which you are applying, successful completion of pre-requisite courses, and scoring at least minimum scores on the TEAS Test. Application on website at <https://southside.edu/nursing>. 2026 ADN Application deadline is **April 15, 2026**.
7. If you are a licensed or certified healthcare professional working in a healthcare setting, you may earn points toward admission **by listing your certification or license number on your application**. More points may be earned by submitting a letter of reference from a supervisor, using the reference form available online on the ADN page, <https://southside.edu/associate-applied-science-nursing-rn>, under "Info Session/Application/Links".
8. Students with a Bachelor's Degree in a related field may earn points toward admission with official transcript on file.
9. While waiting to hear about acceptance, obtain American Heart Association Health Care Providers CPR (or BLS) certification if you have not already. Deadline for submitting current card is in JULY before the program begins each August. This may be accomplished with a class through SVCC Workforce, or in the community. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the class you take is a healthcare provider course. See list of some local CPR training options in this packet, page 18.
10. After receiving acceptance letter, return letter of intent and attend the mandatory New ADN Student Orientation in June or July. Date, time, and location is included in the acceptance letter.
11. Follow procedures outlined in acceptance letter and orientation to complete medical forms, immunizations, background check and urine drug screen. Details and deadline for completion will be given at orientation. A student who does not pass the background check will not be allowed to enroll in a nursing program.

ADN Requirements Checklist (See Flow Chart for more details)	DATE COMPLETE or N/A
<p>Application to SVCC (online or paper) completed, including the following. (Done upon first applying to SVCC. These do <u>not</u> need to be done again prior to applying to the ADN program.)</p> <p>___ SVCC Placement: Place out of or take MDE 10/EDE 10/NAS 2. Placement determined by Counselor in Student Services during college enrollment or program-change process.</p> <p>___ Official High School Transcript from approved high school, or from homeschool, or GED scores sent to SVCC (Necessary for program-placement in nursing)</p> <p>___ Official college transcripts (if applicable) sent to SVCC. Other VCCS college transcripts usually not needed. For extra points for Bachelor’s Degree in related field, must submit official transcript. All college transcripts go to Admissions: admissions@southside.edu</p> <p>___ Meet with a SVCC counselor to be placed in <u>Pre-Clinical</u> Program</p>	
<p>Attendance at a Nursing Information Session addressing 2026 Programs - Do this early! Info Session is virtual. Find video on the nursing website - www.southside.edu/nursing - click “ADN Info Session and Links.” Completion of the session includes self-enrolling in the Pre-Clinical Nursing Resources page in Canvas (directions early in video) AND signing in at URL given near end</p>	
<p>Completion with C or better of all pre-requisite courses. NOTE: Grades in these courses matter! Students with multiple C’s are at risk of not meeting the minimum prerequisite GPA requirement.</p> <p>___ SDV 100, 1 credit</p> <p>___ ENG 111, 3 credits</p> <p>___ PSY 230, 3 credits</p> <p>___ ITE 152 or ITE 119 within last 5 years, 3 credits</p> <p>___ BIO 141 or equivalent, must be within 10 years, Spring 2015 or later, 4 credits (NAS 2 or BIO 101 pre-req for BIO 141 or NAS 2 Test out)</p>	
<p>Curricular GPA (GPA on prerequisites) of 2.5 or better. Note that 2.5 GPA is accepted minimum, but might not be competitive. Strive for higher!</p>	
<p>ATI-TEAS 7 test completed with at least minimum scores required: ≥ 65% overall. Preferred section scores are: Math 73.5%, Reading 73%, Science 55%, English 62.5%. The ATI-TEAS 7 may only be taken 3 times within the admission cycle or four times in a year. If you take the ATI-TEAS 7 test at a location other than a SVCC campus, it is your responsibility to provide an official report of your scores to SVCC. Order score report at www.atitesting.com to be sent to SVCC.</p>	
<p>Submission of Associate Degree in Nursing Program Application between February 2nd and April 15, 2026. Available online at https://southside.edu/nursing. Click Associate in Applied Science in Nursing, click under “Info Session/Application/Links”. Answer to question #7 – FALSE! Must apply!!</p>	
<p>Applicants with other healthcare licensure or certification (LPN, CNA, EMT-B, etc.):</p> <p>___ Enter your license or certification title and number on application in the appropriate field.</p> <p>___ If you do not enter your number as well on the ADN Application, you may not receive extra points!</p> <p>___ If you work or have recently worked in healthcare as a certified or licensed professional in another healthcare area, you may qualify for extra points toward admission. Give our reference form to your supervisor, providing them with a business envelope, stamped and addressed to SVCC Admissions, allowing them enough time to return it to SVCC by April 15, 2024. Reference form available on ADN Important Links page, below ADN application.</p>	



Though not required prior to acceptance, accepted students must provide proof of current CPR certification prior to beginning the clinical program. Plan to obtain this at least 2 months before the start of your clinical program. **You may not start clinical without it! Your certification must be American Heart Association BLS Provider.** Contact SVCC Workforce, local hospitals, EMS, or heart.org for upcoming classes. Electronic certification card is acceptable. See page 18.

LPN to RN Bridge

2026 Applications accepted January 12 – February 16, 2026

LPNs now have two options to earn their Associate Degree in Nursing at SVCC:

1. Complete the full 2-year clinical ADN Program - Recommended for LPNs who have not worked recently in acute patient care.
2. LPN to RN Bridge – For LPNs with recent patient care experience (preference given to acute care) interested in completing ADN in one year (3 semesters)

Requirements to apply to LPN to RN Bridge for 2026:

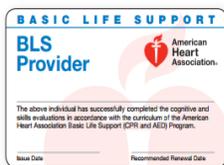
1. LPN to RN Bridge is designed for qualified LPNs to complete the ADN clinical program in one year instead of two. It begins in summer semester, May 2026.
2. Applicants must complete the same course requirements as those required to apply to the full ADN program, including
 - a. The five prerequisites: SDV 100, ENG 111, PSY 230, ITE 152 or ITE 119 (in the last 5 years), and BIO 141 – and any developmental courses required, as determined by SVCC counselor upon program placement
 - b. Co-requisites from 1st year ADN Clinical Program – BIO 142, BIO 150 (2nd year corequisites, ENG 112 and HUM elective, could be taken during Fall 2025/Spring 2026, though it is advised to take those ahead)
 - c. Curricular GPA of 2.5 or higher
 - d. Attendance at current Nursing Information Session
 - e. Submission of SVCC LPN to RN Bridge Program Application, including a resume. Application will be on ADN page of southside.edu/nursing website under “Info Session/Application/Links” during application window - Jan 12 – Feb 16, 2026.
 - f. All applicants must take the Level 1 RN Fundamental Concepts Test (~\$83 cost. Study guide available in Canvas page that accompanies Nursing Info Session). To be eligible for consideration, must score at least Level 2 Proficiency. Several test dates will be available in the week after application deadline.
3. Applicants will be notified of their admissions status to LPN to RN Bridge prior to end of the application window for full ADN program, so they may take the TEAS if needed and apply to full program if desired.
4. Space is limited, so students should not be discouraged if not accepted.
5. Accepted LPN to RN Bridge program students will take NSG 115 and NSG 200 in summer 2026 semester, beginning late May. This will be a combined cohort from all 3 Nursing program locations. Fall 2026 semester, successful students will progress to 2nd year ADN on the specific campus to which they applied - Alberta, Keysville, or South Boston.

PN-Specific Information - Summary of PN Application and Acceptance Process

1. Apply to SVCC
 - a. Submit SVCC application and official high school transcript or GED certificate/scores and any college transcripts. See <https://southside.edu/admissions> for details.
 - b. Meet with a counselor to assess if developmental courses are needed and be placed in pre-clinical portion of PN program.
 - c. Complete any required developmental courses, as determined by SVCC Counselor.
2. Attend a Nursing Information Session **early** in your pre-clinical phase so you have the information to be successful. Attendance at a session **specific to the year for which you are applying** is mandatory prior to submitting an application to the clinical program. Information sessions are virtual. <https://southside.edu/nursing>
3. Pre-clinical phase
 - a. Enroll in the non-nursing general education courses that are part of the 49 required credits. It is a good idea to take these general education courses before applying to the clinical program. Though students may be able to complete all 49 credits in 3 semesters, most find it difficult to complete these courses while doing clinical nursing courses. Doing them prior to clinical is advised, but this also makes you less than full-time during some semesters of the clinical program. Most types of financial aid are still available for students in fewer than 12 credits in a semester!
 - b. Register, study, and take ATI-TEAS, 7 – Nursing pre-entrance test, scoring at least 53% correct overall and at least 53% correct on the math subtest. TEAS scores accepted within 3 years.
 - c. Obtain **American Heart Association Health Care Providers CPR** (also called BLS Provider) Certification. This may be accomplished through a course taught by SVCC’s Workforce Development Department or by taking the proper CPR course in the community. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the course you take is a Healthcare Provider course. **This does not have to be completed prior to application, but must be completed in time to get your card BEFORE clinicals.** It is recommended you have this card no later than two months prior to the start of your program so you have it in time to turn in for your program. See page 18 for some local options to obtain CPR Certification.
4. Submit Practical Nursing Program Application AFTER successful completion of developmental courses, Nursing Information Session for the year to which you are applying, and TEAS test. You may apply while working to complete the general education requirements.
Alberta: Application window for Fall 2026 program is March 2, 2026 – **May 1, 2026**
South Boston: Application window for Spring 2027 program is June 29, 2026 - **September 4, 2026**
5. After receiving acceptance letter, return the letter of intent and attend the mandatory New PN Student Orientation. This is different than the earlier Nursing Information Session! This is for accepted students only. The date, time, and location is included in your acceptance letter. Any questions about procedure for background check or medical exam will be clarified at the orientation meeting. Details on uniform ordering and payment is also available at this orientation meeting.
6. Follow procedures as outlined in your acceptance letter and orientation session to complete medical forms, required immunizations, background check and urine drug screen. These documents and current CPR certification card are due usually ~one month prior to start of clinical program. A student who does not pass the background check will not be allowed to enroll in the practical nursing program.

Special Note for Non-Residents of SVCC’s Service Area: When number of qualified applicants exceeds program space, priority must be given to qualified applicants who are residents of the political subdivisions supporting SVCC.
<https://southside.edu/locations>

PN Requirements Checklist (See Flow Chart for more details)	DATE COMPLETE or N/A
<p>Application to SVCC (online) completed, including the following. (Done upon first applying to SVCC. These do <u>not</u> need to be done again prior to applying to the PN program.)</p> <p>___ SVCC Placement: Place out of or take MDE 10/EDE 10. Placement determined by Navigator or Counselor in Student Services during college application/enrollment process or program-change process.</p> <p>___ Official Transcript from approved high school, or homeschool, or GED scores (Necessary for program-placement in Nursing...Bring to mandatory orientation meeting)</p> <p>___ Official college transcripts (if applicable) sent to SVCC. Other VCCS college transcripts usually not needed. Send transcripts to admissions@southside.edu.</p> <p>___ Meet with a SVCC counselor to be placed in pre-clinical portion of the PN.</p>	
<p>Attendance at a Nursing Information Session addressing 2026 Programs - Do this early! Info Session is virtual. Find the video on the nursing website – www.southside.edu/nursing - click “PN Info Session and Links”. Completion includes self-enrolling in the Pre-Clinical Nursing Resources page in Canvas, as directed early in video, and signing in (URL near end of video)</p>	
<p>Completion of any required developmental courses (MDE, EDE): Must be done prior to applying. Lack of successful completion of any developmental courses you were required to take based on your placement or high school transcript can prevent you from being accepted into the program unless they were waived by the Dean of Nursing.</p>	
<p>Begin taking general education courses that are part of the curriculum. These are not pre-requisites and you do not have to complete any certain ones prior to applying. It is just difficult to do them all while in the PN clinical program. Be aware, however, that taking these prior to the clinical program will mean that you are not a full-time student during some semesters of the program, affecting the amount of any financial aid award for that semester. Most types of financial aid are still available if you are in less than 12 credits.</p>	
<p>Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher - strive for higher!</p>	
<p>ATI-TEAS 7 test completed with at least minimum score requirements ($\geq 53\%$ overall and $\geq 53\%$ on math). If you take the ATI-TEAS test at a location other than a SVCC campus, it is your responsibility to provide an official report of your scores to SVCC. The ATI-TEAS 7 may only be taken 3 times within the year preceding the application deadline. Scores up to 3 years old are accepted, meaning we will still take ATI-TEAS 6.</p>	
<p>Submission of Practical Nursing Program Application during the application window specific to location. Available online at https://southside.edu/nursing. Click on “Certificate in Practical Nursing”, then “Info Session/Application/Links”. Applications available only during the specified application window.</p>	



#7. FALSE!
Must apply!



*Though not required prior to acceptance, accepted students must provide proof of current CPR certification prior to beginning the clinical program. Plan to obtain this at least 2 months before the start of your clinical program. **You may not start clinical without it!** Your certification must be American Heart Association BLS Provider. Contact SVCC Workforce, local hospitals, EMS, or heart.org for upcoming classes. Electronic certification card is acceptable. See page 18.*

Immunization/Physical Exam and Other Requirements after Acceptance

Requirement	Description	Additional Information
Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR)	One of the following is required: 2 vaccinations OR positive antibody titer for all 3 components (lab report required)	If titer is negative or equivocal, you will be prompted with an additional alert to submit documentation of 2 vaccinations. The second dose of MMR should be given no sooner than 30 days following the first dose.
Varicella	One of the following is required: proof of 2 vaccinations OR positive antibody titer (lab report required)	If titer is negative or equivocal, you will be prompted to complete the 2-vaccination series or receive a booster vaccination (if previously completed 2-vaccine series).
Hepatitis B	One of the following is required: Proof of completion of 3 vaccination series OR positive antibody titer (lab report required)	If titer is negative or equivocal, you will be prompted to submit 3 vaccinations. (Can either be proof of original series OR booster series). If series is in process, you will be prompted with an additional alert to submit the additional vaccination(s).
Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis	Documentation of a Tdap booster within the past 10 years	Renewal date: 10 years Td
COVID-19	One of the following is required: 2 vaccination series with Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or 1 Johnson & Johnson.	Expect updates based on status of pandemic, CDC guidelines, and clinical facilities' requirements.
Influenza	Submit documentation of a flu shot administered during current flu season. (Due November 1 st)	Renewal date will be set at 1 year from date of previous vaccination.
TB Test	One of the following is required: 2 step PPD (administered 1-3 weeks apart), OR if positive results, a clear/negative chest x-ray.	1 step PPD annually
Physical Examination/Health Assessment	Provide a copy of the physical exam form, completed/ signed by medical professional. Physical exam must be within 3 months prior to the beginning of clinical program.	Document must specifically indicate that student has the ability to move and/or lift adult patients while performing nursing care.
Criminal Background Check & Drug Screen	Must be completed through SVCC's contracted company. More information in acceptance letter and details at mandatory orientation after acceptance. Drug Screen form/instructions accessed through criminal background website.	May be required annually if there has been any criminal activity reported to the school of nursing. Refer to the Virginia Board of Nursing website for list of barrier crimes. Drug screen may be repeated randomly by a clinical facility or at school of nursing request for unsafe behavior.

Deadline to submit requirements is specific to your program, more info at orientation meeting.

American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare Providers CPR Certification Options

There are more options, such as local EMS.

Make sure what you get is **BLS for HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS**



Alberta – SVCC – Christanna Campus – Workforce Development

Angela Rook at 434-949-1026 or angela.rook@southside.edu

Keysville – SVCC - John H. Daniel Campus – Workforce Development

Wanda Vaughan at 434-736-2004 or wanda.vaughan@southside.edu

South Boston – Sentara Halifax Regional Hospital

Susan Alexander - lsalexan@sentara.com - No phone calls please!

South Hill – Virginia Commonwealth University/ Community Memorial Hospital

Contact Education Department - 434-584-5437

South Hill and Chase City – Specific locations TBA

Bobby Lester at bobby.lester@southside.edu

Farmville – Centra Southside Hospital

Ginger Downes - 434-607-7180 – Leave message and she will return your call.

Lynchburg - Centra Health

Kellie Maberry at Kellie.Maberry@centrahealth.com

American Heart Association – www.heart.org – Click “CPR”, then “Find a Course”.

Direct link: [Basic Life Support \(BLS\) Course Options](#)

SVCC Contacts

Student Services - Contact Student Services to get started!

student.services@southside.edu

Student Services Locations

*Christanna Campus- Alberta and John H. Daniel Campus- Keysville –
434-736-2022*

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center- South Boston

Kathy Whitt kathy.whitt@southside.edu Phone: 434-572-5453

Financial Aid

<https://southside.edu/financial-aid>

Phone: 434-949-1094

SVCC Foundation

<https://southside.edu/scholarships>

Phone: 434-949-1051

Admissions

<https://southside.edu/admissions>

Phone: Alberta: 434-949-1013 Keysville: 434-736-2092

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#8. What one word describes nursing for you? Maybe you'll find your word in this word cloud. Maybe you will define nursing in a whole new way!

