

*We are pleased that you are interested in  
the Nursing Program at Desert  
Community College District*



# College of the Desert Registered Nursing Program

## Health Sciences/ECE Division

☎ (760) 773-2579 📱 [www.collegeofthedesert.edu](http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu)  
☎ (760) 568-3093

***The program is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing and is nationally  
accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).***



## WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION TO THE PROGRAM?

- Human Anatomy, with a lab, (4 semester unit minimum)
  - **Must be a lower division course**
- Human Physiology, with a lab, (4 semester unit minimum)
  - **Must be a lower division course**
- Microbiology, with a lab (4 semester unit minimum)
  - **Must be a lower division course**
- College level, transferable English course (3 semester unit minimum)
- Science GPA of 2.5 including no grade less than “C” and no more than 1 repeat of any one of the three science courses within the past 7 years.
- Overall grade point average of 2.5 for all courses taken within the past 7 years.

Lower division credits earned at another college may be granted transfer credits and be used to satisfy graduation requirements if the courses are equivalent to those offered by COD. The College Transcript Evaluator can provide information regarding equivalency status. All transfer courses from other institutions must be from an accredited institution.

Contact the general Counseling department at (760) 773-2520 for further information regarding these requirements.

## WHEN CAN I APPLY TO THE PROGRAM?

- There are two application periods each year. Applications are not available until the first day of the application period. Applications from previous periods are not allowed to be used toward submission in future application periods.
- Application are accepted during the following periods:
  - Application period #1 ..... March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> (or last weekday of the month)**
    - For the following fall semester
  - Application period #2 ..... August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> (or last weekday of the month)**
    - For the following spring semester
- Submit an application packet to the Nursing Program and provide all specified information by the closing date for application. **ALL** official transcripts must be submitted to the Division Office within the application packet by the stipulated deadline.



## HOW DO I APPLY TO THE PROGRAM?

- Download or request an application packet for Nursing 1 from the Health Sciences/ECE (HS/ECE) Division. The application for Nursing 1 is available twice yearly (March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, and August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>). Complete and return an application packet to the HS/ECE office postmarked within established deadline.
- Supply all the appropriate data listed in the application packet instructions. It is **the applicant's** responsibility to make certain that all necessary materials are submitted to the HS/ECE office by the deadline date. An incomplete application disqualifies you from consideration for that applicant selection pool. Please call the HS/ECE division if you have questions.
- Application to COD is required once student is accepted to the program.
- We encourage prospective applicants to attend nursing information sessions, which are periodically hosted by the division throughout the year, to gain a better understanding of ADN application and program processes. A calendar with the schedule of sessions is available at <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/ss/ap/healthsciences/Pages/RegisteredNurseADN.aspx>.

For all other advising needs, please contact the general counseling department at COD (760-773-2520). Services include academic advising, transcript evaluation, education planning, referrals to program and campus resources, and review of graduation requirements.

## HOW DOES THE SELECTION PROCESS WORK?

- At the close of each application period eligibility will be determined and a computerized random draw will be used to establish a list of qualified applicants. Applicants with 12 or more units at COD or Palo Verde College (taken within the past 3 years) are given preference. No wait list is maintained. Students not selected must re-apply at the next application period.
- All persons submitting an application packet will receive an email advising them of their application status.
  - It is imperative that you keep us informed of any changes to your name, mailing address, home and other contact phone numbers, or email. We will not be responsible for notices not received.
- Application criteria, program eligibility, and selection processes are subject to change. Prospective students are encouraged to check the division webpage periodically to remain updated.



## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM COURSE SEQUENCE:

<b>Course</b> (all courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better)	<b>N001</b>	<b>N002</b>	<b>N003</b>	<b>N004</b>	<b>Additional courses required for graduation</b>
<b>BI 13</b> (Anatomy & Physiology I)	Must have to enter				
<b>BI 14</b> (Anatomy & Physiology II)	Must have to enter				
<b>BI 15</b> (Microbiology)	Must have to enter				
<b>College level transferable English</b> (ENG 1A recommended)	Must have to enter				
Additional Non-Course Requirement: <b>TEAS testing</b> with a score of 67 or higher	Must have to enter				
<b>Math 40</b> (or higher)					Must have to graduate*
<b>RDG 51</b> (or equivalent or place out via assessment testing)					Must have to graduate*
<b>General Psychology</b>					Must have to graduate*
<b>Speech 1, 4, 5, or 15</b>					Must have to graduate*
<b>SOC 1, SOC 14, SOC 15, or ANTH 2</b>					Must have to graduate*
Two Units from: <b>PE, HE, RE, VSM/F or HS 70</b>					Must have to graduate*
<b>Humanity</b> from listed courses in COD catalog (under AD requirements for occupational/vocational program)					Must have to graduate*

\*Students who have been admitted to a Community College that operates a registered nursing program shall not require students who have already earned a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education to undertake any coursework other than the coursework that is unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree from that institution.



## CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students must be, with reasonable accommodation, physically and mentally capable of performing the essential functions of the program. The Health Sciences/ ECE Division faculty adopted the following core performance standards:

### Physical Demands – Must be able to:

- Be on your feet 6-12 hours at a time and perform activities that include reaching, balancing, carrying, pushing, pulling, stooping, bending and crouching;
- Lift and transfer adults and children from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed-to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers;
- Lift and adjust positions of bedridden patients, including pulling as much as 12 inches toward the head of the bed;
- Physically apply up to ten pounds of pressure to bleeding sites or to the chest in the performance of CPR using hands, wrists and arms;
- Maneuver in small spaces quickly and with ease;
- Perform fine motor skills that require hand/eye coordination in the use of small instruments, equipment and syringes;
- Feel and compress tissues to assess for size, shape texture and temperature

### Senses – Must be able to:

- Visually read calibrated scales in increments of one-hundredth of an inch in not more than a three inch space;
- Perform close and distinct visual acuities involving persons and paperwork;
- Visually discriminate depth and color perceptions;
- Identify and distinguish odors that are pungent, such as the products of infection or metabolic imbalance (e.g., ketones);
- Respond and react immediately to auditory instruction, requests, signals, and monitoring equipment;
- Perform auditory assessments requiring the distinguishing of variances in sounds (e.g., tones and pitches)

### Attitudes/Aptitudes – The student must be able to:

- learn to perform mathematical calculation for medication preparation and administration in a timely manner;
- learn to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and word usage as well as medical terminology.
- work and make competent/safe decisions in stressful environment.



## MANDATORY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

### MANDATORY PRE-ENROLLMENT TEAS TEST:

- California state legislation, SB 1309, requires all accepted applicants in a grant-funded Registered Nursing Program to take and pass a Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam (basic mathematics, English, reading, and science). This test is given to better ensure that the students entering the Registered Nursing Program have an adequate level of knowledge in the content areas of math, English, reading.
- All students accepted provisionally into the RN program must take the TEAS test. TEAS testing taken at College of the Desert will automatically have results recorded for your student file at no cost.
- Provisionally accepted students who do not score at least 67% on the TEAS will be required to complete remediation and re-test prior to full acceptance into the program.
- More information is available online at <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/ss/ap/healthsciences/Documents/TEASandyou.pdf> and <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/ss/ap/healthsciences/Documents/CODTEASinfosheet.pdf>

### MANDATORY BACKGROUND SCREENINGS:

- COD Health Sciences programs and courses that include clinical rotations at any or all of the local Coachella Valley hospitals will require criminal background checks for students who are enrolled in a course that includes clinical experience.
- Continuation in a course with a clinical component is contingent upon satisfactory (clear) background check. Please view further information regarding this requirement at <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/uploadedFiles/criminabgcheck/pdf>.
- The student is required to assume the cost for these screenings.

### MISCELLANEOUS OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- ☑ **A physical examination is required prior to the first clinical experience.** Specific titers and/or immunizations are required. A form for this information will be supplied with your letter of acceptance.
- ☑ Student uniforms are required in the clinical area. Only the COD student uniform in the designated color/style is acceptable. Information will be available at the time of program acceptance.
- ☑ Students are to provide their own transportation to and from school and clinical areas, and provide childcare as needed.



## APPROXIMATE EXPENSES:

Enrollment Fees (36 units @ \$20.25 per unit) .....	\$ 729.00
Mandatory Health Service Fee (\$14.00 per semester) .....	\$ 56.00
Mandatory Student Fee (\$1.00 per semester).....	\$ 4.00
Mandatory Nursing Malpractice Fee (\$10.00 per semester).....	\$ 40.00
Mandatory Background Screening.....	\$ 48.00
Mandatory Nursing Supply Kit: First Semester (Nursing 1) .....	\$ 61.00
Mandatory Nursing Supply Kit: Second Semester (Nursing 2).....	\$ 72.00
Mandatory Nursing Supply Kit: Third Semester (Nursing 3) .....	\$ 79.50
Mandatory Student ID Card (\$10.00 per semester).....	\$ 40.00
Mandatory Physical Exam (estimate; one time only) .....	\$ 65.00
Parking Fee (\$20.00 per semester) .....	\$ 80.00
Immunizations/Titers (estimate).....	\$ 450.00
CPR Class.....	\$ 45.00
Books (estimate).....	\$ 1,087.00
Uniforms, Supplies, Equipment (estimate) .....	\$ 250.00
<i>(most supplies can be purchased on campus at COD Bookstore)</i>	
Licensing Examination Costs (one time only).....	\$ 275.00
Interim Permit Fee (one time only).....	\$ 30.00

*Tuition fees for foreign students and out-of-state residents listed in the current class schedule.*

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT:

Advanced placement is defined as entering the program at a level beyond the first semester. Potential students include students who wish to transfer from another nursing program, LVNs wanting to continue their education to become registered nurses, and students wishing to apply equivalent health care experience toward an Associate Degree in nursing.

- LVNs seeking advanced placement in the program may pursue an LVN-RN Transition degree or non-degree (“30-Unit”) option. Information regarding this process may be obtained by viewing <http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/Students/ss/ap/healthsciences/Pages/AdvancedPlacement.aspx> or by contacting the HS/ECE office at (760) 773-2579 or (760) 568-3093. **NOTE:** *Current increased enrollment numbers in the RN program have made placement in the LVN-RN Transition Option and the 30-Unit Option very difficult. Please continue to monitor the Nursing website for updated information.*
- Students seeking transfer from another accredited nursing program will be accepted into nursing courses on a “space-available” basis after evaluation of application and all transcripts. Download or request the Transfer Application from the HS/ECE Division. Please view current policy information in the College catalog.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: RECOMMENDED COURSES

It is recommended that prospective applicants seeking acceptance to the Nursing Program take the following classes prior to entrance:

- **HS 61 (Medical Terminology).** This course introduces medical terminology as used by all health service personnel.
- **HS 64 (Nurse Assistant).** This course teaches basic nursing principles used in the care of clients in long-term nursing facilities.
- **HS 67 (Introduction to Med/Dosage Calculations).** This course provides a basic foundation for general principles of drug administration with a review of arithmetic and the calculation of math dosages.
- **HS 70 (Introduction to Health Sciences).** This course provides detailed information about Health Sciences program requirements and career objectives. This course will satisfy one unit of the physical education requirement for an associate degree from COD.
- **HS 71 (Strategies for Success in a Nursing Program).** This course is designed to prepare students for the successful completion of the nursing program by providing an overview of program requirements and expectations, information, and skills that facilitate student success once admitted into the program
- **HEC 13 (General Nutrition).** This course is a study of the chemical composition of foods and their utilization by the body. Practical problems of nutrition and relationship of adequate diet to physical and mental health are covered.
- **STDV 62 (Introduction to Scholarships).** This course introduces students to books, software and Internet sites that offer scholarships. Instruction is given on how to request, complete, submit, and set up a system of organization of scholarship materials.

## FAQS: REGISTERED NURSE LICENSURE

- A State Board of Nursing, including California, may deny applications for permanent licensure, interim permits and temporary licensures if the applicant has been found guilty of dishonesty, fraud or deceit, acts which deceive the public; felony, child abuse, sex offender crimes; acts involving narcotics, dangerous drugs or devices, assault and/or battery and other crimes. **Detailed information available at <http://www.rn.ca.gov/lic/lic-dispinfo.htm>.**
- Applicants are advised to explore other career opportunities prior to investing substantial time in a nursing program if it appears that a prior serious act or conviction may jeopardize licensure.
- Completion of the nursing program and graduation from College of the Desert is not a guarantee of RN licensure.
- Applicants who have questions regarding limitations related to licensure should contact the California Board of Registered Nursing (400 R Street, Suite 4030, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 322-3350; [www.rn.ca.gov](http://www.rn.ca.gov)).



## ACCREDITATION AGENCIES CONTACT INFORMATION:

- California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN): 1625 North Market Boulevard, Suite N217 Sacramento, CA 95834-1924; (916) 322-3350; [www.rn.ca.gov](http://www.rn.ca.gov)
- National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC): 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326; P: (404) 975-5000; F: (404) 975-5020; [www.nlnac@nlnac.org](mailto:www.nlnac@nlnac.org)

## DISCLAIMER:

There shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, veteran status, or handicap in either the selection of students for participation in the Program, or as to any aspect of the clinical training; provided, however, that with respect to handicap, the handicap must not be such as would, even with reasonable accommodation, in and of itself, preclude the student's effective participation in the Program.

### *Spanish:*

#### **Igualdad De Oportunidades Y Titulo IX**

En el "Desert Community College District" (DCCD) reconocemos que la diversidad en el ambiente académico promueve la interacción cultural, el entendimiento, el respeto, la armonía y la creatividad. Para lograr este objetivo, en este distrito nos hemos comprometido a implementar las reglas y pólizas al proveer las mismas oportunidades a todos y prohibir la discriminación basada en la raza, el sexo, el color, la religión, la edad, (más de 40), el origen nacional, la invalidez, el estado civil, la veteranía de la Guerra del Vietnam, la orientación sexual, la descendencia y prohíbe el hostigamiento. Este compromiso envuelve todas las facetas de las reglas y pólizas para el empleo, el desarrollo, la promoción y el trato de los empleados, de los estudiantes y del público en general. En este distrito creemos que para cumplir con las reglas federales y estatales, la mesa directiva, la administración, el cuerpo docente y el personal deben reconocer que la oportunidad igual de empleo es la responsabilidad de todos, y cada cual es responsable de implementarla en su correspondiente area. Con los esfuerzos de todos, el DCCD impartirá justicia e igualdad.

Continuaremos nuestros esfuerzos para asegurarnos que los procesos de enlistamiento, selección, contratos y promociones cumplan con las reglas de igualdad en las oportunidades y la diversidad del personal.

En el DCCD también nos comprometemos a no discriminar en el proceso de admisiones, el financiamiento de estudios, las actividades para estudiantes y el empleo, sin importar la raza, la religión, el género, la edad, la invalidez, o el origen nacional. La coordinadora del programa de anti-hostigamiento, igualdad de oportunidad, Titulo IX y la acta de los Estadounidenses inválidos es el vice-presidente de personal y representante de relaciones personales. Su oficina se encuentra en el edificio al sur de la librería. También se le puede llamar al (760) 773-2529. **La habilidad en inglés no será impedimento para matricularse en un programa vocacional.**