

**Isothermal Community College Nursing
Practical Nursing Diploma
Application to Enter Fall 2025 (Class of 2026)**

Full Name: _____

College ID# _____ **Last Four SSN#** _____

Phone# _____ **DOB:** _____ **Age:** _____

Physical Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Student Email Address: _____

Personal Email Address: _____



Deadline to Apply: March 24, 2025

(Application is submitted in person)

Thank you for your interest in the Practical Nursing Diploma program (D45660) at Isothermal Community College. Students enter the program in August and graduate the following July. Graduates of the Practical Nursing (PN) program are eligible to apply to the Board of Nursing to become a licensed practical nurse (LPN). Graduates must successfully pass the National Council Licensing Examination- Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) to earn licensure.

Class, skills lab, and simulation are held at the RLC campus in Rutherfordton. Lectures are usually held from 8:30 am to noon on Monday and Wednesday. Skills lab, simulation, and clinical are typically held *all day* on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The program utilizes web-based learning activities; therefore, students require a computer and internet connection.

Participation in clinical education is mandatory for student progression in and graduation from the PN program. Clinical involves direct patient care to the public and is typically held in agencies located in Burke, Cleveland, Henderson, McDowell, Polk, and Rutherford counties. Clinical agencies are responsible for the health and safety of patients, students, and staff. Therefore, clinical agencies mandate clinical requirements. Clinical agencies have the right to refuse to allow students to attend clinical at their facility. Students who are refused by clinical agencies will be unable to progress in the PN program.

Students should *read* and study a minimum of 3 hours per week *per credit hour* in nursing courses.

Students enrolled in NUR 101 (11 credit hours) can anticipate spending 33 hours studying and reading each week in addition to time in class and clinical. This means that *one* nursing course is *equivalent* to a *full-time* job. Although completion of the General Education courses is not required to apply, we highly recommend that applicants take these courses prior to entering the program as this significantly increases success in nursing (NUR) courses. Reading comprehension and time management are important skills that lead to success in and graduation from nursing school.

Students who have successfully passed one or more semesters of nursing courses from Isothermal or another nursing program may be eligible for the Advanced Placement (AP) entry option. Those who successfully complete the AP process become eligible for direct entry into NUR 102 or NUR 103. Please contact the Health Sciences Student Success Coordinator for more information regarding the AP application process.

Enrollment is limited and competitive. Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee admission. The ICC PN program does not use a waiting list; applications must be updated annually. Please read this application carefully as you complete it. If you have any questions about this application, please contact the Health Science Success Coordinator: Katie Edwards, BSN, RN, 828-395-4418, or kedwards@isothermal.edu

Licensed Practical Nurses are critical to the community and to the healthcare team. Completing nursing school and working as a nurse are incredibly demanding but deeply rewarding. With some hard work, graduates can earn a living wage as an LPN in only a year. The healthcare system needs dedicated, safe, high-quality nurses. We wish you much success and hope to see you soon!

Betsy B. Cuthbertson, MSN, RN

Interim Director of Nursing and Health Sciences

GENERAL COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Submit a completed ICC application for admission, available on the ICC website or through CFNC.org. To apply to the College, visit <https://www.isothermal.edu/getstarted/requirements/index.html> and complete steps one through seven: Use the major code **A1030N**- Associate General Education – Nursing (AGE-N).

Submit all official and sealed college transcript(s) from the issuing institution to the Isothermal Admissions Office for evaluation. If you are requesting any type of tuition or program funding, you must submit a High School Transcript or equivalency. Transfer credits can only be awarded to courses that reflect a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Students who do not have recent high school transcripts or test scores within the past 10 years should speak with college navigator for advising on meeting the Math and English developmental requirements.

NURSING ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (*This portion is to be completed by the Health Sciences Success Coordinator at time of application submission. Please read carefully but do not fill in any information.*)

In addition to meeting regular college admission requirements, applicants must meet specific program requirements noted below and submit the completed packet and required documentation by the deadline date: **March 24, 2025**. To apply for the nursing program, documentation of the following is required by the deadline and will be assessed at time of application submission.

- Math competency can be met by one of the following:
 - Complete MAT025 OR
 - Complete MAT 143, 152, 171 or a higher-level math course with a grade of C or higher OR
 - Meet prerequisite requirements to enroll in MAT 143, 152, or 171 without a co-requisite.

- English competency can be met by one of the following:
 - Complete ENG 045 OR
 - Complete ENG 111 with a grade of C or higher or
 - Meet prerequisite requirements to enroll in ENG 111 without a co-requisite

- GPA requirements can be met by one of the following:
 - A minimum cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.0 or higher OR if no college credits,
 - A minimum high school unweighted GPA of 2.8.
 - The cumulative GPA may be from one (ICC) or more colleges/universities based on the most recent 12 hours of semester credit.

- NA I: An active, unencumbered North Carolina NA I certification required by **August 27, 2025**. Certification must remain active throughout the duration of the nursing program.

Acceptance is contingent upon meeting the deadline. **NAI EXP date:** _____

- AHA BLS: An active **American Heart Association (AHA) Heart Code Basic Life Support (BLS)** certification (*Clinical agencies will only accept the AHA BLS*) by **August 27, 2025**. Certification must remain active throughout the duration of the nursing program.

Acceptance is contingent upon meeting this deadline. **BLS EXP date:** _____

- **ATI TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills)** which is designed to assess a student's preparedness for entering the health science fields of study. The TEAS includes four sections: Reading, Math (including Algebra) Science, and English. **A minimum TEAS composite score of 58.5 is required to be considered for the program.** TEAS scores are valid within **3 years** of the application deadline. TEAS composite score will be used to determine rank; in the event of an identical score on the TEAS composite, the GPA will be used to determine rank.

Before testing, applicants are **highly encouraged** to study for the TEAS. Additionally, students will need to keep their scheduled test date to prevent additional fees. Not keeping the scheduled test date risks not meeting the deadline date and forfeiting future opportunities to test and apply to the program.

Information on TEAS, including exam preparation is located at https://atitesting.com/teas-prep?gclid=CjwKCAjwtfqKBhBoEiwAZuesiPtH1qyMIHnU0FsviD1A6NTjT9gki6OC0hC2uHI B-3yigZWB22A9xhoCWtwQAvD_BwE. Online practice assessments are also available for purchase from the ATI website.

TEAS SCORE _____ **DATE** _____

TEAS exam dates at ICC test center

- Date: 2/26/25 Time: 3pm – 7pm
- Date: 2/28/25 Time: 9am – 1pm
- Date: 3/3/25 Time: 9am – 1pm and 3pm – 7pm
- Date: 3/5/25 Time: 9am – 1pm and 3pm – 7pm
- Date: 3/10/25 Time: 9am – 1pm and 3pm – 7pm
- Date: 3/12/25 Time: 9am – 1pm
- Date: 3/17/25 Time: 9am – 1pm and 3pm – 7pm
- Date: 3/21/25 Time: 9am – 1pm

Please use the website to schedule your ICC TEAS test. *(Test dates are available for scheduling one month prior to the test date.)* <https://outlook.office365.com/book/TEASTesting@isothermal.edu/>

Only two attempts are allowed for the TEAS at ICC test center, there is a 30 day wait period between attempts. *(Do not schedule a test sooner than the 30 days wait period after the first attempt, you will be unable to test.)* We **strongly encourage** students to seek TEAS exam preparation before taking TEAS attempts.

- Students are encouraged to take the required general education (non-nursing) courses listed below before entry into the nursing program.
 - ACA 122 College Transfer Success, or (ACA 115 Success and Study Skills)
 - BIO 168 Anatomy & Physiology I (or 165)
 - BIO 169 Anatomy & Physiology II (or 166)
 - ENG 111 Writing & Inquiry
 - PSY 150 General Psychology

#COMPLETED COURSES _____

ACCEPTANCE TO NURSING

The Director of Nursing will review applications for accuracy/completion and send acceptance letters to the **top 40 ranked applicants** (plus 10 alternates if a seat shall become available). **If you are accepted, you will be notified of your acceptance via student email by March 27, 2025.** Admission criteria are reviewed annually and are subject to change. In the event you do not get accepted please submit a new application the following year for the next program admission.

Acceptance is conditional upon the receipt of the following:

- Intent to Enroll (accept seat or decline seat) response to email by **April 11, 2025**
- Attend Mandatory New Student Nursing Orientation.
More information on the date and time will be included in the acceptance emails.
- Completed Requirements: health form (which includes a health physical, diagnostic tests, and record of vaccinations), NAI certification, and AHA BLS certification by **August 27, 2025**.
All clinical requirements must remain active and without expiration for the duration of the program.
- Criminal background check and drug screening at the student's expense **\$80.00 (Subject to change)** by the program vendor of choice and approved by all clinical sites used by the nursing program. The College does not require or receive results for background checks or drug screens. Results are sent directly from the vendor to the student and to the clinical agencies. If a clinical agency denies a student access, the student can appeal to the clinical agency. If the clinical agency denies the clinical access following the appeal, the student will not be allowed to go to a different clinical facility, moreover, will not be allowed to continue the program. ***Accepted students will receive more information at the mandatory nursing student orientation.***
- Immunization tracking fee of **\$12.00 per year (subject to change)** - students will receive instructions for this along with their acceptance letter. Clinical agencies may also require specific tracking services and fees may vary according to clinical placement. ***More information will be included at the mandatory nursing student orientation.***
- Students will be assessed a testing fee of approximately **\$883.00** (approximate/subject to change) included with the first nursing course tuition, which covers a prescriptive learning program to help prepare for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX- PN). A lab fee of **\$100** will be included in tuition for supplies used in the lab for skill practice and testing.
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA while in the nursing program. Students must earn a B in all NUR courses and must earn a C in all general education courses.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The practice of nursing involves non-academic skills and performance requirements that are essential to participation in an educational program. Therefore, the essential eligible requirements for participants in a nursing program shall be further defined according to the following standards that nursing students should possess and be able to demonstrate:

1. **Critical Thinking:** critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For example, students must be able to identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations; collect and analyze data to aid in problem solving; develop or participate in the development of nursing care plans. The student must be able to read and apply information in the clinical setting.
2. **Interpersonal Skills:** interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. For example, students shall establish rapport.
3. **Communication Skills:** communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in English verbal and English written form. Must be able to read a patient chart and apply information to the clinical setting. Must be able to spell medical terms. For example, explain treatment procedures, initiate health-teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
4. **Mobility:** physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces. Able to tolerate a busy 12-hour clinical experience. For example, frequent trips from workstation to the patient's rooms, moves around the patient's room, workspaces, and treatment areas.
5. **Motor skills:** gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care. For example, calibrate and use equipment, document care, position and move patients/clients, administer cardiopulmonary procedures, and perform skill procedures.
6. **Hearing:** auditory ability, sufficient to monitor and assess health needs, and identify a change in patient condition. For example, detect monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultate sounds, and cries for help. Students must be able to communicate, understand, and apply English language.
7. **Visual:** visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care. For example, observe patient/client responses, specimen color, distinguish between the colors, as in determining stages of healing.
8. **Tactile:** tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. For example: Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, insertions of catheters, taking pulses, and change in temperature.
9. **Olfactory:** discern various odors from patients and environment. For example, foul smelling drainages, burning materials, gases, and spoiled food.
10. **Weight-Bearing Strength and Mobility:** ability to lift and manipulate/move 45-50 pounds daily. For example, position patients/clients, move equipment.
11. **Cognitive Abilities:** ability to be oriented to time, place, and person, organize responsibilities, and make decisions. For example, students shall assess patient/client complaints, provide prioritized patient care, and implement appropriate plans. The student must be able to provide follow-up evaluative care.
12. **Temperament and Emotional Control:** Must be able to be patient, calm, and react to perform in a high stress situation. For example, cardiac events, shock, hemorrhage, and high stakes testing.
13. **Professional Behaviors:** behaviors consistent with forming a safe and effective therapeutic relationship with patients. For example, conveying a caring, respectful, sensitive, tactful, compassionate, empathetic, and tolerant attitude toward patients, family, and members for the interdisciplinary team. Handle multiple tasks concurrently. Provide nursing care in an appropriate period. Accept responsibility, accountability, and ownership of one's actions.

I have reviewed the Technical Standards for the nursing program, and I certify to the best of my knowledge that I can perform these functions. I understand that admission, progression, and graduation are contingent upon the ability to demonstrate the technical standards with or without reasonable accommodations. Requests for accommodation should be directed to the Office of Accessibility at 828-395-1436. If I am unable to meet one or more standards, I may be required to have a physical examination performed by a health care provider for verification. A change in the student's health during the program of learning so that the technical standards cannot be met with or without reasonable accommodations, may result in withdrawal from the nursing program.



Signature _____ **Date** _____

Printed Name _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

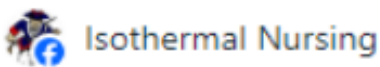
- Application Submission Deadline: **March 24, 2025**
(Application to ICC, Application to Nursing, MAT and ENG requirements, ATI TEAS, GPA, Technical Standards, submit application in person)
- Acceptance Letter Email Notification (sent to ICC student email only): **March 27, 2025**
(Download the Outlook App from your phone app store and login with your student email for notifications.)
- Intent to Enroll Response to Email: **April 11, 2025**
- NAI, AHA BLS, Health Forms due first day of NUR course: **August 27, 2025**
(Health Forms will be sent out in the Acceptance Email. All clinical requirements must remain active and without expiration for the duration of the program.)
- Mandatory Nursing Orientation: **Date, Time, and Place announced in Acceptance Letter Email**

NURSING APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- **REQUIRED:** To be accepted, requirements to apply must be completed **with application submitted in person for advising.**
- **TO:** Katie Edwards, Health Sciences Student Success Coordinator Rutherford Learning Center
- **WHERE:** Rutherford Learning Center (RLC) – 134 Maple St., Rutherfordton, NC 28139 Suite 302F (top floor of the RLC Nursing Building)
- **HOW:** Scan the QR code below or navigate to the website to schedule a time to meet with Ms. Edwards. Be sure to click the  time zone icon to select your appointment in the eastern time zone .
- **WHAT TO EXPECT:** You will meet briefly with Ms. Edwards to review your packet, requirements, eligibility, and program expectations.



<https://outlook.office.com/bookwithme/user/4ba78023abdf46d5a01f57b2c347b944@isothermal.edu?anonymous&ep=plink>



Like on Facebook for the latest events happening at Isothermal Nursing.

For Questions Contact: Nursing Success Coordinator: Katie Edwards BSN @kedwards@isothermal.edu