VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION
The study of nursing is the application of knowledge from the arts and sciences. The purpose of the Bakersfield College (BC) Vocational Nursing (VN) Program is to provide the foundation for students to become competent Vocational Nurses. The VN faculty respects the individuality of students and recognizes each student has unique educational, experiential, cultural, spiritual, economic, social background, and support systems. The aim of the Program is to provide a positive, innovative learning model which fosters the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills, such that the graduate vocational nurse is equipped to provide compassionate and coordinated care to a culturally diverse population in various healthcare settings.

MISSION
The mission of the BC VN Program is to prepare entry-level vocational nurses as providers of care across the health/illness continuum and as members of the profession.

APPLICATION PERIOD
All application forms and transcripts must be received in the Allied Health Office during the month of February, no later than the last business day. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED PRIOR TO, OR AFTER THE APPLICATION PERIOD WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

AN APPLICATION IS VALID ONLY FOR THE CURRENT APPLICATION PERIOD. STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED MUST COMPLETE AN UPDATED APPLICATION EACH APPLICATION PERIOD.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES
1. Read ALL instructions in their entirety before completing the application.

2. It is the applicant's responsibility to complete ALL application requirements/procedures. FAILURE TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL RESULT IN AN INCOMPLETE APPLICATION AND WILL, THEREFORE, NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION.

3. Adhere to the application period, submitting your VN Application form no later than the last business day during the month of February.
   - Access VN Application online at https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/nursing/vn/apply
   - Print and complete all sections. Must be legible.
• Submit *Vocational Nursing Program Application* AND either an *unofficial* or *official* Bakersfield College transcript to the Allied Health office in the Math Science Building, Room 178, no later than the last business day of February, showing all pre-requisite courses posted.

• Provide proof of 12th grade education by submitting one of the following:
  – Proof of graduation from high school or equivalent education in the United States (GED) or (CHSPE).
  – Foreign high school evaluated by an accepted agency in the United States.
  – Proof of completion of Associate or Baccalaureate Degree in the United States.

4. Submit a copy of a current Nurses Assistant Certificate showing *active* status.

5. **If you have taken courses from any college other than Bakersfield College:**
   – Apply for Admission to BC either in person at the Admissions and Records office, or by going on-line at http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu. Click on Admissions and Records and follow the directions under *Enrolling*.
   – *Upper division course work will not be posted on a BC transcript, therefore the student must meet with the BC Department Chair of the appropriate major and discuss the possibility of accepting that upper division course as a BC equivalent course.*

6. Have your college transcript(s) evaluated by:
   • Ordering an *official* copy of your transcripts from your previous college(s).
   • Submit the *official* copy of your transcripts along with a *Request for Evaluation* form. You can obtain this form from the Admissions and Records office, or from the Admissions and Records web-page at http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu under *Records*.
   • For courses taken at Porterville College or Cerro Coso Community College you DO NOT need to submit official copies of transcripts. Students ONLY need to submit the *Request for Evaluation* form to the BC Admissions and Records Office.
   • Once your transcripts have been evaluated and posted to your BC transcripts, either order an official copy from the Admission and Records, OR print your unofficial transcript, AND submit along with the *Application Form* to the Allied Health/Nursing Office, in the Math Science building, Room 178, during the appropriate application periods.

   **Please note – transcript evaluation can take about 20-25 weeks and must be completed prior to the end of the application period**, therefore other college transcripts should be submitted for evaluation to Admissions and Records Office no later than October 1st.
PRE-REQUISITE REQUIREMENTS
All pre-requisites must be completed at the time the application is submitted, and students must have earned a “C” grade or higher at BC, or an equivalent course at another accredited college.

- BIOL B18 (Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology) or completion of both BIOL B32 (Human Anatomy & Physiology I) and BIOL B33 (Human Anatomy & Physiology II)
- PSYC B1A (General Psychology)
- Eligibility for MATH B70 (Intermediate Algebra) as demonstrated by qualifying scores on the College assessment test or completion of MATH B60 (MATH BA) (Elementary Algebra)
- Eligibility for ENGL B1A (Expository Composition) as demonstrated by qualifying scores on the college assessment test or completion of ENGL B1 or ENGL B50
- A copy of a current Nurse Assistant Certificate showing active status.
- Proof of graduation from high school or an equivalent education in the United States (GED) or (CHSPE).

RECOMMENDED COURSES
MEDS B60 (Medical Terminology) – highly recommended.

NOTE: FOR THOSE STUDENTS INTERESTED IN CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION, AND BECOMING A REGISTERED NURSE, PLEASE REFER TO THE PREREQUISITES REQUIRED FOR THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM.

APPLICATION SELECTION PROCESS
In the event the number of qualified students for the Vocational Nursing Program exceeds space available, the following selection process will be utilized.

1. Students who are qualified for enrollment will enter in the order in which their names appear on the Program Waiting List.

2. An applicant’s position on this list will be determined by a random drawing of names by the Director, Assistant Director, and at least one Departmental Assistant.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
A physical examination completed by a Physician (MD), Nurse Practitioner (NP), or a Physicians Assistant (PA) of the student’s choice is required when entering the Program. This is to demonstrate that a student meets the following technical standards necessary to meet the Program objectives. Appropriate immunizations and/or vaccinations are also required, and are performed at the student’s expense.
ESSENTIAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS
Nursing students must meet the following essential technical standards to ensure the safety and welfare of the patients, the healthcare team, and themselves. A physical examination performed by a MD, NP, or a PA determines whether a student meets the technical standards or what accommodations may be necessary.

- Standing and/or walking most of a shift.
- Bending or crouching several times per hour.
- Lifting and carrying a minimum of 30 pounds several times an hour.
- With the assistance of 2-3 persons, lift and move 300lbs.
- Reaching overhead above the shoulder 90 degrees.
- Utilizing eyesight to observe clients and manipulate equipment under various illumination levels.
- Hear adequate to communicate with the patient and healthcare team.
- Manipulating medical equipment and accessories, including but not limited to switches, knobs, buttons, keyboards, patient lines, and tubes, utilizing fine and gross motor skills.
- Performing the assigned job responsibilities with the intellectual and emotional functions necessary to ensure patient safety and exercise independent judgment and discretion.
- Utilizing sufficient verbal and written skills to efficiently communicate in English with the patient and healthcare team.
- Utilizing the above standards/functions to respond promptly to the patient’s needs and/or emergency situations.

DRUG / ALCOHOL SCREENING
As a condition of application in any Nursing/Allied Health Program with a clinical laboratory component, students are required to submit to, and pass a designated drug and alcohol screening at the student’s expense.

BACKGROUND SCREENING
As a condition of enrollment into any Nursing/Allied Health Program with a clinical laboratory component, students are required to complete and submit a background check, at the student’s expense. Please note the following:
- A history of felony conviction(s) or any bar, exclusion or other ineligibility for federal program participation could render a student ineligible for clinical placement, as determined by the clinical agencies.
- If students are unable to attend clinic due to background restrictions, then the student’s seat will be forfeited as they will not be able to meet Program / Course Objectives.

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT
Students are required to show proof of a valid American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) – Healthcare Provider card. This BLS card must be valid at all times.
ESTIMATED PROGRAM COSTS (Gainful Employment)
Students will be required to purchase uniforms, textbooks and selected equipment, provide transportation to off-campus clinical education sites and pay current college fees. For information of the Estimated Program Cost, please visit our website at: https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/sites/bakersfieldcollege.edu/files/Projected%20Costs%202015%20VN%20rev%204-9-15.pdf

VOCATIONAL NURSE PROGRAM CURRICULUM
Students in the Vocational Nursing Program will complete 576 Theory hours and 972 Clinical hours. The course sequence is listed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID#</th>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B67</td>
<td>Principles of Pharmacology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B68</td>
<td>Basic Medical Surgical Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B69</td>
<td>Foundations for Vocational Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B69L</td>
<td>Foundations for Vocational Nursing Practice – Lab</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Semester Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID#</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B79</td>
<td>Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B79L</td>
<td>Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing – Lab</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Semester Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID#</th>
<th>Third Semester</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B83</td>
<td>Critical Thinking and Leadership for the Vocational Nurse</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B84</td>
<td>Maternal/Child Pharmacology</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B88</td>
<td>Maternal/Child Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B88L</td>
<td>Maternal/Child Nursing – Lab</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B89</td>
<td>Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VNRS B89L</td>
<td>Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Lab</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Semester Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Clinical laboratory components of nursing courses are graded on a Pass/No Pass basis only.
2. VN students are exempt from the maximum of three Pass/No Pass units that may be taken in a semester, and from the maximum of twelve Pass/No Pass units which may be applied toward the AA and AS degrees at Bakersfield College.

CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT
Students are required to meet several conditions upon enrolling in the VN Program. Students are responsible for all costs incurred in applying for the BC VN Program.
ADDITIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
For further information concerning enrollment procedures at Bakersfield College, please contact the appropriate department:
• Counseling Center (661) 395-4421
• Office of Admissions and Records (661) 395-4301.
• Assessment Center at (661) 395-4479 for Assessment tests and services,
• Financial Aid and Scholarships contact (661) 395-4427.
• BC Catalogs and Class Schedules can be found on-line at the Bakersfield College website.

STUDENTS TRANSFERRING FROM OTHER NURSING PROGRAMS
Students who desire to transfer from another nursing program into our a BC nursing program must meet with the Nursing Educational Advisor to ensure course/program alignment, and be in good standing from their previous nursing program. Good standing is defined as a student who was not on academic or clinical probation, and who is eligible for re-entry into the their previous program.

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION
The California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians accredits the BC VN Program. Bakersfield College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC). The ACCJC is one of the six regional accrediting bodies recognized by the United States Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY
Conviction of any offenses, including traffic violations (with a fine over $1000) must be reported to the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians at the time of application for licensure. For clarification contact the VN Program Director or the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, California, 95833, (916) 263-7800 or at www.bvnpt.ca.gov

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT
In accordance with the requirements of the Civil Rights Act, Bakersfield College provides services and benefits to students regardless of race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, age, religion, marital status, medical condition or disability. The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to administration and participation in vocational education programs. *(Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.)*