

Health Studies Division

**Summer Admission Nursing Program Information/Application Packet**

*(Please Read Entire Packet Carefully)*

August 1, 2023

Dear Prospective Student,

Thank you for your interest in the **Nursing Program** at Northwest-Shoals Community College. For summer admission, we admit to the ADN class on the Phil Campbell Campus, and we admit to the PN class on the Muscle Shoals Campus. The application **deadline** is **December 15, 2023**.

The following information details the admission criteria:

1. Complete and submit college admissions application to the Admissions Office and receive a NW-SCC student number prior to application deadline.
  - a. The college application may be assessed by going to: [www.nwsc.edu](http://www.nwsc.edu)
    - i. Click on “Apply Now” at the top of the screen.
2. Complete and submit application for the Nursing Program to the Nursing Department Office (separate from college application) with unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended attached.
  - a. Applications may be picked up in the Admissions Office on either campus or
  - b. accessed online at: <https://nwsc.edu/explore-programs/health-studies/nursing/registered-nursing/>
3. Have an unconditional admission to the college.
4. Be in good standing with the college.
5. Submit official high school transcripts showing graduation **OR** official GED report to the Admissions Office. A final transcript with proof of graduation must be received by January 4<sup>th</sup>.
6. Submit official transcripts from ALL other colleges attended to the Admissions Office prior to application deadline. If you are attending another college, the final official transcript must be received by the Admissions Office by January 4<sup>th</sup>.
7. Must have a minimum 2.50 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale based on the required academic core courses for nursing, and
  - a. Current or previous NW-SCC students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA or higher at NW-SCC.
  - b. Transfer students must enter NW-SCC on clear academic status (cumulative 2.0 GPA)
8. Students without prior college courses must have a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA on all high school work attempted.
9. Have a minimum of 18 ACT composite score National or Residual. The writing component is not required. The official results must be sent to the NW-SCC Admissions Office. An unofficial copy of the ACT scores must be attached to the nursing application. There is no expiration date on the ACT score for the nursing application. The ACT must be taken by the application deadline. The nursing program does not accept a Super Score ACT. (There will be no ACT residual exams administered by NW-SCC in October.)
10. Be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of C or higher (Placement test and completion of developmental courses may be required).
11. Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 (Intermediate College Algebra) or higher level or have completed MTH 100 or higher level with a grade of C or higher (Placement test and completion of developmental courses may be required).
12. Meet the eligibility criteria required for nursing.

Admission to the Nursing Program is competitive; the number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. **Meeting minimum admission criteria does not guarantee admission into the Nursing Program**. After meeting all minimum criteria, applicants are ranked using a point system.

### Notification of Status

Every applicant, regardless of the outcome, is notified **by e-mail** of the decision regarding their application. **Official communication will go to your NW-SCC e-mail.**

### Frequently Asked Questions:

- **“Do I have to have all my academics finished to apply for the program?”** No, but it greatly improves your chances for successful admission and progression.
- **“I previously attended nursing school at \_\_\_\_\_ and did not finish. Will that be a problem for me being admitted to NW-SCC’s Nursing Program?”** No, as long as you have the nursing program director at your previous college provide a letter of Good Standing on your behalf. It is your responsibility to contact your prior college nursing program director and request the letter of good standing. **This letter must be sent directly from the program director to the NW-SCC Nursing Program Office.**
- **“Do I have to submit both official and unofficial College transcripts?”** Yes, official college transcripts from all colleges attended are sent to the Admissions Office and the unofficial copies of all college transcripts are attached to the nursing application.
- **“What is the nursing admission exam?”** A minimum of 18 ACT composite score National or Residual is required. The writing component is not required. For further information about the ACT, please visit [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
- **“I already have a degree in \_\_\_\_\_. “Do I still have to take the ACT? Or I am transferring from \_\_\_\_\_ and Admissions told me I don’t have to take the ACT?”** For admission to the college-no. For admission into nursing-yes. This is required of every nursing applicant, regardless of educational background. Without the ACT score being sent to Admissions, your application to nursing cannot be considered. It is extremely important for you to verify that your ACT score has made it to the NW-SCC Admissions Office.
- **“I’m in name of class now and won’t have a final grade until after the deadline date. Can I bring a letter from my instructor showing what my grade is now?** Only final grades from official transcripts can be considered; since the December 15<sup>st</sup> deadline falls during fall semester, those courses will be included to establish eligibility. If you are attending another college, the final official transcript must be received by January 4th. It is extremely important to call the NW-SCC Admissions Office prior to the January 4th deadline to ensure your transcript has arrived.
- **“How do I get on the waiting list?”** Contrary to popular myth, there is no waiting list. If you are not admitted during this cycle, you have to re-apply for the next admission period.
- **“Will letters of recommendation help?”** We will be happy to put such letters in your file if you request, but in interest of fairness, points are awarded based solely on the ranking criteria.
- **“Can I take nursing online?”** NUR113 has a distance education component for some skills laboratory hours. The theory portion of NUR115 and NUR221 are taught in a hybrid format. There is a hybrid option offered for fall admission into the ADN Program on the Phil Campbell Campus. Most lecture will be online. Labs and clinicals will be face-to-face.
- **“Can I take nursing in the evening?”** Nursing classes are taught primarily in the day. Some labs or clinicals may be in the late afternoon or in the evening. The hybrid option offered in the fall has evening theory/labs and evening and/or weekend clinicals.

- **“After I have been accepted to the nursing program, how many days per week will I be in class, lab, or clinical?”** On average, students in the first three semesters of the program will be in class, lab, or clinical up to four (4) days per week. After the third semester, the average is 2-3 days per week, exclusive of academic work. If you must take a general education course along with nursing courses, you may be in class more often. For the hybrid option, students will be in theory, lab, or clinical 2-3 evenings per week and selected Saturdays.
- **Do I have to take a CNA course to apply?** No, but proof of successful completion of a CNA course will be used for ranking. Points for other health care certification(s) may be awarded at the discretion of the Director of Nursing Education. Proof must be provided with the application. [There are certifications that will not be considered for ranking (example: CPR), so if you have questions about your certification, please contact the Director of Nursing Education.]
- **“Will MTH 116 (Mathematical Applications) satisfy the math requirement?”** No. While MTH 116 is higher in number than MTH 100, the content in MTH 116 does not meet the requirements for being higher than MTH 100.
- **“What is the difference in the PN and ADN program?”**
  - Ranking is different in regards to All Required Core Courses for Nursing Completed.
    - There are 6 Core Courses for PN (BIO 201, BIO 202, ENG 101, MTH 100 or higher, PSY 210, and SPH 107).
    - There are 8 Core Courses for ADN (BIO 201, BIO 202, BIO 220, ENG 101, MTH 100 or higher, PSY 210, SPH 107, and a Humanities elective).
  - The first three semesters of the ADN program and the PN program are the same. These semesters will be Summer 2024, Fall 2024, and Spring 2025.
  - Each student who successfully completes the first three semesters (regardless of campus or program) receives a PN Certificate, which makes the student eligible to sit for licensure to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN).
  - After successful completion of the first three semesters of the nursing program:
    - Those who are enrolled in the ADN program on the Phil Campbell campus continue on into the fourth semester (which will be Fall 2025).
    - Those who are enrolled in the PN program on the Muscle Shoals campus may apply for transfer to the ADN program on the Phil Campbell campus into the fourth semester (which will be Fall 2025).
      - Please view the online College Catalog for further details.
  - After successful completion of all five semesters of the nursing program, the student is awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing, which makes the student eligible to sit for licensure to become a Registered Nurse (RN).

Along with the Nursing Application, attached you will find a copy of the Nursing Application Checklist for your reference. If you have any other questions or concerns about the program, please contact me at [bhumphres@nwscc.edu](mailto:bhumphres@nwscc.edu) or 256-331-6207.

Sincerely,

*Brittney Humphres, MSN, RN*

Brittney Humphres, MSN, RN  
 Executive Director of the Phil Campbell Campus and Nursing Education  
 Attachments: Nursing Application Checklist (*keep for your reference*)  
 Nursing Application Form (complete and return)

### Application Checklist for Summer Admission into the Nursing Program (ADN or PN)

For Summer 2023-24 admission, the student must meet the following minimum criteria by the application deadline (**December 15, 2023**) in order to be eligible for consideration for admission into the Nursing Program at Northwest-Shoals Community College:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete and submit college admissions application to the admissions office and receive a NW-SCC student number.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Complete and submit application to the nursing program to the Nursing office (separate from college application) with all unofficial college transcripts from all colleges attended attached (including NW-SCC unofficial transcript).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Have an unconditional admission to the college.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Be in good standing with the college.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official high school transcripts showing graduation **OR** official GED report to the Admissions Office. (NOTE: final transcript with proof of graduation must be received by January 4<sup>th</sup>).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit official transcripts from ALL other colleges attended to the Admissions Office. Those students enrolled for fall term at another college must have a final official transcript received in the admissions office by January 4<sup>th</sup>. **(It is highly suggested that students call the Admissions Office at NW-SCC before the January 4<sup>th</sup> deadline to ensure that ALL college transcripts have arrived.)**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Have a minimum of 2.50 cumulative grade point average (GPA) calculated on the required academic core courses for Nursing, and:
  1. Current or previous NW-SCC students must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher at NW-SCC
  2. Transfer students must enter NW-SCC on clear academic status (cumulative 2.0 GPA)
  3. Students without prior college courses must have a minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA on all high school work attempted.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Have taken the National or Residual ACT by December 15<sup>th</sup>, have a minimum composite score of 18, and have official scores submitted to the NW-SCC Admissions Office. An unofficial copy of ACT scores must be submitted with the nursing application. (No ACT Residual exams will be administered by NW-SCC during the month of October. The nursing program does not accept a SuperScore ACT.)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of C or higher (Placement test and completion of developmental courses may be required).
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 (Intermediate College Algebra) or higher level **or** have completed MTH 100 or higher level with a grade of C or higher (Placement test and completion of developmental courses may be required).
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Meet the eligibility criteria required for nursing.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ If you have successfully completed a CNA course, one of the following must be provided as proof (optional) and attached to the Nursing Application. (CNA course completion is not required for applying but is used in ranking.)
  - a. College or High School Transcript showing completion of course.
  - b. Letter from long-term care facility on letterhead and signed by the Director of Nursing stating date course was completed.
  - c. Printed document from the Alabama Nurse Aid Registry confirming certification.Proof of other health care certification may also be used in ranking at the discretion of the Director of Nursing Education.

If you have previously attended another nursing program prior to applying to our program, the nursing program director at your prior college must provide a letter of Good Standing on your behalf. It is your responsibility to contact your prior college nursing program director and request the letter of Good Standing. **This letter must be sent directly to the NW-SCC Nursing Program Director from the nursing program director at your prior college.**

**Please note: A complete application packet includes:**

1. Nursing Application
2. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended
3. Unofficial copy of ACT Results

Nursing Application Packets must be **mailed or hand delivered** to the Nursing Office located in Building 302, Room 224, on the Phil Campbell Campus, by the application deadline. **No faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted.**

**Meeting minimum admission criteria does not guarantee admission into the nursing program**

After meeting all minimum criteria, applicants are ranked using a point system.

**Student Signature is Required on the Next Page**

***(Continued on the Back)***

**NURSING PROGRAM APPLICATION**  
 Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Option (Phil Campbell Campus)  
 Practical Nursing (PN) Option (Muscle Shoals Campus)

<b>MAIL TO:</b> Nursing Department Northwest-Shoals Community College 2080 College Road Phil Campbell, AL 35581 Telephone: 256.331.6279 or 1-800-645-8967 ext 6279	 <b>Northwest Shoals</b> COMMUNITY COLLEGE	<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>  <b>DATE RECEIVED:</b>  <b>RECEIVED BY:</b>  <b>KEYED BY:</b>
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**PLEASE PRINT**

**New Applicant:  Academic Year: Summer 23-24**

**Applying for:**  ADN  
 PN  
 Both

**Deadline: December 15, 2023**

Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Name:	Maiden/Previous Name(s):
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Social Security Number:	NW-SCC Student Number:
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Home Phone:	Cell/Alternate Phone:	E-mail Address:	NW-SCC Student E-mail Address (Required):
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Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip Code:	County:
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Have you taken the ACT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, Date _____ Composite Score _____; If no, you must take the ACT by the nursing application deadline, and submit official scores to the NW-SCC Admissions Office and unofficial scores to the nursing office. A minimum of 18 ACT composite score National or Residual is required.	<b>Optional (Used in Ranking)</b> Have you completed a CNA Course or received another Health Care Certification? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, type of Certification: _____ Ranking points for other health care certification(s) may be awarded at the discretion of the Director of Nursing Education. Proof must be attached to this application. (There are certifications that will not be considered for ranking, so if you have questions about your certification, please contact the Director of Nursing Education.)
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Have you previously been admitted to either NW-SCC Nursing Program?  YES  NO;  ADN  PN;  
 If yes, enrollment: from \_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_; Reason for Withdrawal \_\_\_\_\_  
    Semester/Year     Semester/Year

Have you ever been enrolled in another Nursing Program at another college?  YES  NO  
 If yes, what college did you attend and what was the reason for withdrawal? \_\_\_\_\_

A letter of good standing from the Nursing Program Dean/Director from the school listed above must be submitted to the NW-SCC Nursing Department by the application deadline.

Have you attended any other colleges? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, please list name of all accredited colleges and universities attended	<b>Last Term Enrolled</b> <b>(Indicate if Currently Enrolled &amp; Term)</b>
Name of College(s) Attended	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Official transcripts of all accredited colleges and universities attended must be on file in the Admissions Office and unofficial copies must be attached to the nursing application by the application deadline.

**FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY**

*(For compliance with State and Federal Reports/Regulations)*

The Nursing Program adheres to the policy of Northwest-Shoals Community College related to Non-Discrimination, Disabilities Policy, and the Family Education and Privacy Act of 1974.

<b>Gender:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<b>Racial/Ethnic:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> White, Non-Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Native American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> African American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Date of Birth:</b> Month, Day, Year
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<b>High School Diploma or GED</b> (Please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> High School Diploma <input type="checkbox"/> GED	<b>Highest Degree Earned (Please check one)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No Degree <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's <input type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify; _____
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**THE ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM (ACCS) HEALTH STUDIES PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The ACCS endorses the Americans' with Disabilities Act (ADA). In accordance with College policy, when requested, reasonable accommodations may be provided for individuals with disabilities. Physical, cognitive, psychomotor, affective and social abilities are required in unique combinations to provide safe and effective care. The applicant/student must be able to meet the eligibility criteria with or without reasonable accommodations throughout the program of learning. Admission, progression and graduation are contingent upon one's ability to demonstrate the eligibility criteria delineated for the program with or without reasonable accommodations. The program and/or affiliated clinical agencies may identify additional eligibility criteria. The program reserves the right to amend the eligibility criteria as deemed necessary. In order to be admitted and to progress in the program one must possess a functional level of ability to perform the duties required of a nurse. Admission or progression may be denied if a student is unable to demonstrate the eligibility criteria with or without reasonable accommodations. The eligibility criteria delineated are those deemed necessary the ACCS health studies programs. No representation regarding industrial standards is implied. Similarly, any reasonable accommodations made will be determined and applied to the nursing program and may vary from reasonable accommodations made by healthcare employers. The eligibility criteria delineated below are necessary for program admission, progression and graduation and for the provision of safe and effective care. The eligibility criteria include, but are not limited to, the ability to:

- 1) Sensory Perception
  - a) Visual
    - i) Observe and discern subtle changes in physical conditions and the environment
    - ii) Visualize different color spectrums and color changes
    - iii) Read fine print in varying levels of light
    - iv) Read for prolonged periods of time
    - v) Read cursive writing
    - vi) Read at varying distances
    - vii) Read data/information displayed on monitors/equipment
  - b) Auditory
    - i) Interpret monitoring devices
    - ii) Distinguish muffled sounds heard through a stethoscope
    - iii) Hear and discriminate high and low frequency sounds produced by the body and the environment
    - iv) Effectively hear to communicate with others
  - c) Tactile
    - i) Discern tremors, vibrations, pulses, textures, temperature, shapes, size, location and other physical characteristics
  - d) Olfactory
    - i) Detect body odors and odors in the environment
- 2) Communication/ Interpersonal Relationships
  - a) Verbally and in writing, engage in a two-way communication and interact effectively with others, from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds
  - b) Work effectively in groups
  - c) Work effectively independently
  - d) Discern and interpret nonverbal communication
  - e) Express one's ideas and feelings clearly
  - f) Communicate with others accurately in a timely manner
  - g) Obtain communications from a computer
- 3) Cognitive/Critical Thinking
  - a) Effectively read, write and comprehend the English language
  - b) Consistently and dependably engage in the process of critical thinking in order to formulate and implement safe and ethical decisions in a variety of health care settings
  - c) Demonstrate satisfactory performance on written examinations including mathematical computations without a calculator
  - d) Satisfactorily achieve the program objectives
- 4) Motor Function
  - a) Handle small delicate equipment/objects without extraneous movement, contamination or destruction
  - b) Move, position, turn, transfer, assist with lifting or lift and carry clients without injury to clients, self or others
  - c) Maintain balance from any position
  - d) Stand on both legs
  - e) Coordinate hand/eye movements
  - f) Push/pull heavy objects without injury to client, self or others
  - g) Stand, bend, walk and/or sit for 6-12 hours in a clinical setting performing physical activities requiring energy without jeopardizing the safety of the client, self or others
  - h) Walk without a cane, walker or crutches
  - i) Function with hands free for care and transporting items
  - j) Transport self and client without the use of electrical devices

- k) Flex, abduct and rotate all joints freely
- l) Respond rapidly to emergency situations
- m) Maneuver in small areas
- n) Perform daily care functions for the client
- o) Coordinate fine and gross motor hand movements to provide safe effective care
- p) Calibrate/use equipment
- q) Execute movement required to provide care in all health care settings
- r) Perform CPR and physical assessment
- s) Operate a computer
- 5) Professional Behavior
  - a) Convey caring, respect, sensitivity, tact, compassion, empathy, tolerance and a healthy attitude toward others
  - b) Demonstrate a mentally healthy attitude that is age appropriate in relationship to the client
  - c) Handle multiple tasks concurrently
  - d) Perform safe, effective care for clients in a caring context
  - e) Understand and follow the policies and procedures of the College and clinical agencies
  - f) Understand the consequences of violating the student code of conduct
  - g) Understand that posing a direct threat to others is unacceptable and subjects one to discipline
  - h) Meet qualifications for licensure/certification by examination as stipulated by the respective program
  - i) Not to pose a threat to self or others
  - j) Function effectively in situations of uncertainty and stress inherent in providing care
  - k) Adapt to changing environments and situations
  - l) Remain free of chemical dependency
  - m) Report promptly to clinicals and remain for 6-12 hours on the clinical unit
  - n) Provide care in an appropriate time frame
  - o) Accept responsibility, accountability, and ownership of one's actions
  - p) Seek supervision/consultation in a timely manner
  - q) Examine and modify one's own behavior when it interferes with care or learning

Upon admission, an individual who discloses a disability can request reasonable accommodations. Individuals will be asked to provide documentation of the disability in order to assist with the provision of appropriate reasonable accommodations. The respective College will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to substantially alter the requirements or nature of the program or provide accommodations that inflict an undue burden on the respective College. In order to be admitted, one must be able to perform all of the eligibility criteria with or without reasonable accommodations. If an individual's health changes during the program of learning, so that the eligibility criteria cannot be met with or without reasonable accommodations, the student will be withdrawn from the program. The faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense in order to assist with the evaluation of the student's ability to perform the eligibility criteria.

**STUDENT STATEMENT**

*Please initial by only one statement below*

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed the Eligibility Criteria for the nursing program, and I certify that my mental and physical health is sufficient to perform the Eligibility Criteria of the program in the classroom and clinical settings. I understand that a further evaluation of my ability may be required by the faculty if deemed necessary to evaluate my ability prior to admission to the program and for retention and progression through the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the Eligibility Criteria for the nursing program and to the best of my knowledge I currently **unable** to fully meet the items indicated without accommodations. I am requesting the following reasonable accommodations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(use additional sheet if needed)

Requests for reasonable accommodations should be directed to:  
ADA Coordinator's Office at 256-331-5262.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Signature	Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student PRINTED Name	