The Health Science Division of Snead State Community College offers students the opportunity to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree or a Short-Term Certificate. These programs prepare students for immediate employment in well-paying occupations. The special nature of Health Science programs necessitates additional admissions, progress, and program requirements beyond those for most programs.

Special Admission Requirements

• **Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) - Generic option**

The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is a five-semester program. The ADN curriculum includes content that allows students to attain knowledge and understanding of the prevention of illness; maintenance, promotion and restoration of health; safe and effective care environment; and psychological integrity of individuals across the life span. Critical thinking, nursing process, communication, safety, client education, ethical-legal issues, health-illness, growth and development, current trends in health care, and pharmacology are core themes used to develop content within the curriculum. The ADN curriculum incorporates general education courses along with the nursing courses. The nursing courses include classroom instruction, campus laboratory, and clinical experiences in varied health care facilities. Completion of the Associate Degree Nursing Program leads to the awarding of the Associate in Applied Science degree. Following graduation, the student may be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX-RN) and to apply for a state registered nurse license. Fees for the examination and the license are set by the testing and licensing authorities and are the responsibility of the student.

• **Mobility LPN to ADN Program**

The Mobility LPN to ADN program provides opportunity for the LPN to obtain an Associate in Applied Science Degree. This program allows qualified LPNs to enter the third semester of the ADN curriculum and complete the program in three semesters. Following graduation, the student may be eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX-RN) and to apply for a state registered nurse license. Fees for the examination and the license are set by the testing and licensing authorities and are the responsibility of the student. A student who seeks admission to the nursing program must satisfy certain requirements beyond those imposed on students seeking admission to other SSCC programs. These requirements differ so that students have an adequate academic background that will give the greatest opportunity for success in a complex curriculum that progresses in a sequential order. Admission to the college does not guarantee admission to the nursing program. Applicants are admitted to the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program and the Practical Nursing (PN) program annually in the fall. Applicants to the Mobility LPN to Associate Degree Nursing program are admitted in the Spring and Summer (if exempt from NUR 200). Applicants should consult with a nursing advisor well in advance of the date they plan to apply for admission to the nursing program to allow time to meet the admission requirements.

• **Minimum Standards for the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program include:**

1. Unconditional admission to the college.
2. Meet the ADN application deadline of May 15 at 4:00 p.m.
3. Applications received after deadline will not be considered.
4. A minimum of 2.50 GPA for students for the last 24 hours of college credit for students with previous college work.
5. A minimum of 2.50 high school GPA for students without prior college work (GED acceptable in lieu of high school transcript).
6. Eligibility for:
• English 101 and Math 100 determined by college policy.
• BIO 201 during the first term of nursing courses.
7. Good standing with the College.
8. Meeting the essential functions required for nursing throughout the program.
9. Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) must be taken prior to application.
Scores are valid for three years.
10. Students are selected for admission into the AND program based on academic performance and a predetermined number of slots. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Since class size is limited, students with the strongest academic record will be selected.
11. Applicants will be notified, in writing, of acceptance into the ADN program.

• Minimum Admission Standards for the Mobility LPN to Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program include:

1. Unconditional admission to Snead State Community College.
2. Meet the appropriate Mobility deadline: October 1 at 4:00 p.m. for Track I and Track II applicants.
3. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
4. A minimum of 2.50 GPA for students, based on their most recent 24 hours of college work.
5. Good standing with Snead State Community College.
6. Meeting the essential functions required for nursing throughout the program.
7. Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) must be taken prior to application.
Scores are valid for three years.
8. Have completed the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher:
   • MTH 100 or higher
   • BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
   • BIO 202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II.
   A minimum GPA of 2.5 in BIO 201, BIO 202, and MTH 100 is required. A grade of “D” in these courses will not be accepted.
   • ENG 101 English Composition
9. Completion of NUR 200 (for applicants who have been licensed as an LPN greater than two years and/or graduated from a non-ACCS LPN program)
10. Must have documentation of employment as an LPN for a minimum of 500 clock hours within the previous 12 months. August LPN graduates applying October 1st of the same year of graduation will have until May 1st to complete their 500 clock hours.
11. Possess and maintain a current, active, and unencumbered Alabama LPN license. Proof must be on file.
12. Students are selected for admission into the Mobility PN to ADN program based on academic performance and a predetermined number of slots. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Since class size is limited, students with the strongest academic record will be selected.
13. Applicants will be notified, in writing, of acceptance into the Mobility program.

ACCS Nursing Programs Essential Functions

The Alabama Community College System endorses the Americans with Disabilities Act. 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 nursing care. The applicant/student must be able to meet the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations throughout the program of learning. Admission, progression and graduation are contingent upon one’s ability to demonstrate the essential functions delineated for the nursing programs with or without reasonable accommodations. The nursing programs and/or its affiliated clinical agencies may identify additional essential functions. The nursing programs reserve the right to amend the essential functions as deemed necessary. In order to be admitted and to progress in the nursing 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 essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations. The essential functions delineated are those deemed necessary by the Alabama Community College System nursing programs. No representation regarding industrial standards is implied. Similarly, any reasonable
accommodations made will be determined and applied to the respective nursing program and may vary from reasonable accommodations made by healthcare employers. The essential functions are necessary for nursing program admission, progression and graduation and for the provision of safe and effective nursing care. The list of essential functions for nursing programs will be provided to each student who declares intent to major in one of the career/technical programs.

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 essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations. If an individual’s health changes during the program of learning, so that the essential functions cannot be met with or without reasonable accommodations, the student will be withdrawn from the nursing program. The nursing 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 essential functions.

Requests for reasonable accommodations should be directed to:
Jessamine Huffman, Director of Testing
Snead State Community College
P.O. Box 734, Boaz, AL 35957
256.840.4151

**Program Requirements**

1. Students have direct contact with patients and other health care workers in affiliated health care agencies, therefore, they are expected to have and maintain a satisfactory level of health, including freedom from chemical dependency and communicable diseases. Students must be able to fully participate in the approved program of classroom studies and campus and clinical laboratory experiences.

A completed physical, indicating that an applicant is in satisfactory mental and physical health and is free of any infectious disease, must be completed and signed by a licensed physician or certified nurse practitioner. The form must be submitted prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course.

2. Since the nursing curriculum includes direct patient care, students must meet the Essential standards with or without reasonable accommodations. These standards relate to physical, mental, and emotional capabilities of prospective students and must be signed by the student and on file in nursing office. Additional health criteria may be required by clinical agencies.

Students must notify the Director of Health Sciences of any significant changes in health, including pregnancy. The faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student’s expense in order to evaluate the student’s ability to perform the academic/clinical requirements.

3. A student who is hospitalized for any existing health problem must submit a statement from the physician/primary health care provider indicating ability to continue in the nursing program.

4. Students will be required, at their own expense, to have an annual drug and/or alcohol screen. Drug screening will be performed at a time and place determined by the Director/Faculty. In addition, a student may be required to submit to drug and/or alcohol screening for cause by a certified laboratory designated by the College. If a drug and/or alcohol screen is positive or if the Medical Review Officer documents that a student’s prescribed medication could pose a safety risk in safety sensitive positions, the student will be dismissed from the nursing program.
5. Students must show proof of background screen from a company designated by the College prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course. Students with positive background checks will be unable to continue in the nursing program.

6. Clinical agencies require students to pass drug screening and background checks. Compliance with this requirement and satisfactory findings are essential for clinical placement and progression.

7. Students must submit evidence of the following (at the student’s expense) prior to beginning the nursing program:
   - MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) - proof of immunizations or positive titers. If given prior to 1969, must be repeated.
   - Varicella (Chickenpox) - must have titer or proof of immunization.
   - Hepatitis B Vaccination - proof of three injections or a signed Refusal of Hepatitis B vaccination form.
   - Two-Step PPD (tuberculin test) required for initial TB screening. After the initial screening, a PPD test must be completed once yearly.
   - Tetanus - Proof of immunization within 5 years.
   - Influenza immunization within the first semester of the program.

8. Pay required annual premiums for nursing student liability (malpractice) insurance specified by the nursing program prior to the beginning the first clinical nursing course.

9. Purchase regulation Snead State nursing student uniforms and other equipment necessary for participation in the nursing program.


11. Possess current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at the healthcare provider level (BCLS), prior to first clinical nursing course. Community CPR is not acceptable. This certification must remain current throughout the program. American Heart Association and American Red Cross accepted.

12. In addition, the student will abide by the individual health care facility policies and procedures. Any student denied clinical access by a clinical affiliate will be subject to dismissal from the program.

13. Because neither the college nor affiliated clinical agencies provide health care for students, each student is required to show proof of health insurance prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course.

14. Not be eligible for wages or workers compensation from either college or the healthcare facility since the student is not an employee of either party.

15. All students (transfer students, mobility students, readmission students, and all new admission students) will be required to pass a dosage calculation exam prior to attending clinical. Students will be given two attempts to score an 90% or above. Failure to pass the dosage calculation exam will result in failure to meet course objectives and will result in lack of progression in the nursing program.

   - Alabama Community College System Nursing Education Program Progression Policy

   In order to continue in the nursing program, the student must:

   1. Maintain a grade of C or better in all required general education and nursing courses and maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA.
Grading scale for nursing courses
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 75-79
D = 60-74
F = 59 and below

2. Be acceptable by clinical agencies for clinical experiences.

3. Maintain current CPR at the health care provider level.

4. Unless completed previously, students must complete all required general education courses according to The Alabama Community College System Nursing Education curriculum.

5. Maintain ability to meet essential functions for nursing with or without reasonable accommodations.

6. Students must successfully complete the program:
   • Within 48 months from initial semester for ADN students; or
   • Within 24 months from initial semester for PN and Mobility students.

7. If a student withdraws from, makes a D, or F in a nursing course, the student cannot progress in the nursing course sequence until the course is repeated successfully. Course repetition will be based on space available.

8. Students whose progression through the nursing program is interrupted and who desire to be reinstated must schedule an appointment with the nursing director to discuss reinstatement. To be eligible for reinstatement, a student must:
   • Apply for readmission to the college if not currently enrolled;
   • Submit an application following normal admission guidelines. Readmission application should be received by the appropriate date based on the following deadlines: Fall – June 1 at 4 p.m.; Spring - October 1 at 4 p.m.; and Summer - February 1 at 4 p.m.
   • May be required to validate skills and knowledge;
   • Adhere to nursing curriculum or program policies and procedures effective at the point of reinstatement.

9. Nursing non-progression is defined as failure of one or more courses in a semester OR withdrawal (for any reason) from one or more courses in two separate semesters. Students returning to repeat a course due to withdrawal will be allowed to register for said course(s) on a space available basis.

10. Reinstatement to the nursing program is not guaranteed even if a student meets all requirements for reinstatement. Reinstatement may be denied due to, but not limited to, any of the following circumstances:
   • Space is unavailable in the course to which the student wishes reinstatement. (Students in regular progression have enrollment priority for clinical sites.)
   • Grade point average is less than 2.0 from courses completed at current College.
   • Refusal by clinical agencies to accept the student for clinical experiences.
   • Failure to demonstrate competency in all previous nursing courses successfully completed.
   • Over twelve months have elapsed since the student was enrolled in a nursing course.
   • Student has been dismissed from the program.
11. A total of two unsuccessful attempts (D, F, or withdrawal) in nursing courses will result in dismissal from the nursing program. Withdrawal and/or a D or F in one or more courses in a term will be considered one attempt.

12. If a student withdraws from the associate degree nursing program, the student may apply for admission to the practical nursing program. If a student withdraws from the mobility program, the student may apply for admission to the generic program.

13. A student who withdraws from a specific program (ADN/Mobility) can apply for admission as a new student to any nursing program within the Alabama Community College System, provided:
   • The student meets current entry requirements;
   • The student was not dismissed from the previous program for disciplinary reasons or for unsafe/unsatisfactory client care in the clinical area.

14. Students dismissed from the previous program for disciplinary reasons and/or unsafe/unsatisfactory client care in the clinical area will not be allowed reinstatement to the nursing program.

15. In addition to the Alabama Community College System Progression Policy, Snead State Nursing Department requires the following:
   As a method of evaluation for NUR 204 or NUR 109, all nursing students registered for these courses will have one attempt to pass the RN or PN ATI Comprehensive Predictor assessment. The student’s score must reflect at least an 90% predicted probability of passing the NCLEX, or the student will receive an “Incomplete” grade for the course. Remediation will be required to remove the incomplete and will consist of documented proof of completing the Virtual RN or PN ATI NCLEX Review course by June 30 following graduation. Failure to complete the Virtual RN or PN ATI NCLEX Review course by the deadline will result in failure of the course.

**Nursing Transfer Policy**

The transfer policy applies only to students desiring to transfer between Alabama Community College System institutions. It does not apply to students wishing to transfer to other institutions.

1. Criteria for Transfer
   • Must meet minimum admission standards for the nursing program.
   • Must possess a grade of C or better in all nursing program required courses taken at another institution and possess a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative GPA at time of transfer. (GPA is calculated only on the most recent 24 credit hours.)
   • Dean/Director of previous nursing program must provide a letter of eligibility for progression in previous nursing program by the application deadline.
   • Must comply with all program policy requirements at accepting institution.
   • Complete at least 25 percent of the nursing program required courses for degree/ certificate at the accepting institution.
   • Must meet acceptability criteria for placement at clinical agencies for clinical experience.
   • Acceptance of transfer students into nursing programs is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. Meeting minimal standards does not guarantee acceptance.
   • Student selection for transfer is based on GPA in nursing program required courses.

**Licensure Information for LPN and RN**

Upon satisfactory completion of the requirements of the nursing program, the graduate will be eligible to apply to the State Board of Nursing for licensure as a nurse. Legal requirements for licensure in Alabama
may be found in the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, Sec. 31-21-21, 34-21, 25. Applicants who have been
found guilty of any offenses listed in the Code may be denied licensure by the Alabama Board of Nursing,
State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130. For more information, visit the ABN website at
www.abn.state.al.us

The nursing student shall comply with legal, moral and legislative standards, in accordance with the Alabama
Law Regulating Practice of Registered Nursing as stated below:

“The Board shall have the power to deny, revoke, or suspend any license issued by it or to otherwise
discipline a licensee upon proof that the licensee: is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting
to procure a license; has been convicted of a felony; is guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude or of gross
immorality that would tend to bring reproach upon the nursing profession; is unfit or incompetent due to
the use of alcohol, or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs to such an extent as to render him or
her unsafe or unreliable as a licensee; has been convicted of any violation of a federal or state law relating
to controlled substances; is mentally incompetent; is guilty of unprofessional conduct of a character likely
to deceive, defraud or injure the public in matters pertaining to health or has willfully or repeatedly violated
any of the provisions of this article as defined by board rules and regulations.”