Associate of Science (A.S.) Nursing Application Packet

The information in this packet is for application to the 2020-2021 A.S. Nursing program which begins with nursing coursework in the fall of 2020. We will accept applications from June 15, 2019 through February 15, 2020. Applications received after February 15, 2020 will not be considered for the fall 2020 start date. **Successful completion of prerequisites is required prior to beginning the nursing program.**

This packet includes:

1. A.S. Nursing Program application checklist.
2. Nursing Education Program Technical Standards.
3. A.S. Nursing Program Application.
5. A.S. Nursing Program Sheet.

A.S. Nursing Program Application Checklist

The following are required by the **February 15 deadline.**

____ Application for Admission to the College and submit a one-time non-refundable $20 application fee.

[www.mnwest.edu/admissions/apply](http://www.mnwest.edu/admissions/apply). If you have previously applied to Minnesota West and paid the application fee you are not required to do so again. However, you do need to submit the Nursing Program Application.

____ Submit official high school and college transcripts or copy of GED certificate.

____ Complete Nursing Program Application using the enclosed mail-in application or the online application.

[https://inoweform.campus.mnsu.edu/imagenowforms/webform/9b49a6de-7928-4036-b0c9-a4f2d346a79f](https://inoweform.campus.mnsu.edu/imagenowforms/webform/9b49a6de-7928-4036-b0c9-a4f2d346a79f) / (The Online form utilizes Java, which is a free download. The form only works with these browsers: Internet Explorer 9+, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari. Java is not available for mobile devices, so this form cannot be submitted using a mobile device. Clear your web browser history before submitting the form.)

____ Registration for NLN NACE I Foundation of Nursing Exam

____ Complete NLN NACE I Foundation of Nursing Exam testing. Testing for the NLN NACE I Foundation Entrance Exam is limited to twice in an application period (June 15 through February 15), one month apart. The entrance exam scores are valid for two years.

Send completed application to:

Nursing Admissions
Minnesota West – Pipestone Campus
1314 North Hiawatha Ave
Pipestone, MN 56164

For questions, contact: jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu or 507-825-6806
Selection Process

*Admission to the nursing program is competitive.* Applicants who have met the minimum admission requirements by February 15 will be reviewed for fall admission to the program.

Admission to the nursing program is determined by a screening committee based on the following criteria:

- Nursing test scores (PSB test for Practical Nursing and NLN test for Nursing, A.S.)
- College GPA
- Coursework related to the degree requirements for the nursing program. Minnesota West will evaluate the college transcripts and post transfer credits to your Minnesota West transcript in accordance with Minnesota State policy 3.21. You are encouraged to complete non-nursing courses prior to beginning nursing courses.

**Applicants who do not meet the minimum admission requirements or fail to complete the nursing program admission process by the February 15 deadline will be denied admission to the nursing program.** Minnesota West will notify all applicants in writing of their admission status in the nursing program within six weeks of the application deadline. Please do not call to check on your admission status before April 1.

Program Costs

Tuition and fees are posted on our website at [www.mnwest.edu](http://www.mnwest.edu) and are subject to change. Additional costs include:

- Supplies, books, transportation, and miscellaneous expenses
- Licensure preparation testing (ATI) at the end of program (included in tuition)
- Nursing Pin upon graduation

Transcripts

Official high school and college transcripts must be submitted to the Nursing Department at Minnesota West by the February 15 deadline. Final official transcripts must be forwarded after you complete courses that are in progress. *Some general courses required for nursing programs have a time limit of five (5) years (i.e., Biology, Anatomy, Physiology, and Developmental Psychology).*

Requirements after Acceptance to the Nursing Program

1. Completion of all prerequisite coursework and courses within the nursing program with a grade of C or higher. C minus (-) grades are not accepted.
2. Current personal health insurance is required. Students are responsible for incurred medical costs during the nursing program.
3. *CastleBranch* database registration is required for all nursing students. Students are required to upload clinical documents to *CastleBranch* by August 1 where your health record will be stored while you are in the nursing program. Students are responsible for registering and paying the *CastleBranch* fee. Documents that must be uploaded to the *CastleBranch* database include:
   a) Minnesota West Nursing Health History and Physical form.
b) Written documentation from a health care provider or agency of immunizations/vaccinations/tests which include the following:
- Hepatitis B series – documentation of three (3) vaccinations or evidence of a positive Hepatitis B titer.
- MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) – documentation of two vaccinations or documentation of a positive MMR titer.
- Tdap (Tetanus, Diptheria and acellular Pertussis) – within the last ten (10) years.
- Varicella (Chicken Pox) – two vaccinations or documentation of a positive varicella titer.
- 2 step- Tuberculosis Skin Test or evidence of recent chest X-ray (within one year).

4. Current CPR Certification from one of the following:
- American Heart Association (AHA) BLS for the Healthcare Provider OR
- American Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Health Care Providers.
- Certification must include ‘hands-on’ demonstration of CPR skills for all age groups and include AED training.
- Online CPR renewals will not be accepted.

5. **Background Checks:** Nursing students are required to complete two (2) background checks at beginning of nursing program. Clinical facilities may also require their own background check – in addition to the following background checks:
- MN Department of Human Services (DHS) background check pursuant to MN Statute 245C requires that students who have contact with individuals in licensed health care institutions complete an annual background study with the MN Department of Health and Human Services.
- Criminal Background Check: students will complete a criminal background check through CastleBranch database, in addition to the MN Department of Human Services background check. If discrepancies occur on background checks, the student will be contacted by the nursing program director. Disqualifying offenses may be found at: [https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=245C.15](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=245C.15). Criminal background discrepancies may be reviewed by clinical facilities. Clinical facilities have the final decision on if students with a discrepancy may attend clinical experiences at their location.

6. **For A.S nursing program only:** Students must have an active and unencumbered LPN license throughout the entire AS nursing program.

7. Students are responsible for cost of nursing clinical experiences, health examinations, malpractice insurance, CPR certification, CastleBranch registration fee, etc.

8. ATI examinations are required periodically in the program as well as a national standardized, end-of-program ATI exam near the completion of your final semester to assist in preparation for the licensure exam after graduation. The cost of this preparation tool and examinations by ATI are included in your tuition.

9. ATI review course: Students must complete either a land-based ATI review courses or an online webinar after graduation and prior to receiving authorization to test for the NCLEX-RN exam. **Note:** Records with any personal medical information are considered confidential documents and are secured in the student CastleBranch database.
## Nursing Education Program Technical Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capability</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTELLECTUAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive Perception</td>
<td>The ability to perceive events realistically, to think clearly and rationally, and to function appropriately in routine and stressful situations. Students must be able to independently and accurately assess or contribute to the assessment of a client.</td>
<td>Identify changes in client health status. Prioritize multiple nursing activities in a variety of situations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Critical thinking skills demanded of nurses require the ability to learn and reason, to integrate, analyze and synthesize data concurrently. Students must be able to solve problems rapidly, consider alternatives and make a decision for managing or intervening in the care of a client.</td>
<td>Able to make effective decisions in the classroom and in the clinical sites. Develop/contribute to nursing care plans that accurately reflect client concerns. Able to make decisions reflective of classroom learning in the clinical sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Skills</td>
<td>Ambulatory capability sufficient to maintain a center of gravity when met with an opposing force as in lifting, supporting, and/or transferring a client.</td>
<td>Position clients. Reach, manipulate, and operate equipment, instruments and supplies, e.g. syringes, sterile equipment, and monitors. Perform/use electronic documentation. Lift, carry, push and pull. Perform CPR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility</td>
<td>Ambulatory capability sufficient to maintain a center of gravity when met with an opposing force as in lifting, supporting, and/or transferring a client.</td>
<td>Propel wheelchairs, stretchers, etc., alone or with assistance as available. Transport supplies to client room. Work around bedside with other personnel. Lift a child. Move and lift clients in and out of bed, wheelchair or cart. Assist with transfer and walking of patients who may require substantial support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Tolerance</td>
<td>Ability to tolerate lengthy periods of physical activity.</td>
<td>Move quickly and/or continuously. Tolerate long periods of standing and/or sitting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Communications

**Capability** | **Standard** | **Examples**
--- | --- | ---
Communication | Communicate in English with others in oral and written form. Able to communicate with clients and members of the health care team in order to plan and deliver safe care. | Utilize oral and written communication skills sufficiently for teaching/learning and for interaction with others. Read, understand, write, and speak English. Explain treatment procedures. Initiate and/or reinforce health teaching. Document client responses. Clarify communications received.

**Interpersonal Relationships** | Interact with clients, families, staff, peers, instructors, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. | Establish rapport with clients, families, and colleagues. Respond in a professional/therapeutic manner to a variety of client expressions and behaviors.

## Senses

**Capability** | **Standard** | **Examples**
--- | --- | ---
**Hearing** | Auditory ability sufficient to hear normal conversation and/or assess health needs. | Ability to monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, e.g. B/P, heart, lung, and bowel sounds, cries for help, and telephone interactions/dictation. Communicates with clients, families and colleagues.


**Tactile** | Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment, inclusive of size, shape, temperature and texture. | Performs palpation, e.g. pulse. Performs functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g. insertion of a catheter.

## Psychosocial

**Capability** | **Standard** | **Examples**
--- | --- | ---
**Psychosocial Behaviors** | Possess the emotional health required for full use of intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, and the prompt and safe completion of all responsibilities. | Demonstrate professional abilities of trust-worthiness, empathy, integrity, and confidentiality. Be able to change and display flexibility. Learn to function in the face of uncertainties and stressful situations.

## Environmental

**Capability** | **Standard** | **Examples**
--- | --- | ---
**Environmental Adaptability** | Ability to tolerate environmental stressors. | Work with chemicals and detergents. Tolerate exposure to odors. Work in close proximity to others. Work in areas of potential physical violence. Work with infectious agents and blood-borne pathogens. Work in environments that may have allergens, such as latex.
A.S. NURSING PROGRAM
APPLICATION

DEADLINE
The application deadline for the 2020-2021 A.S. Nursing Program is February 15, 2020. All supporting documentation MUST be received in the Nursing Department by February 15, 2020. Late applications, transcripts, and/or supporting documentation will NOT be considered.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Please answer all the questions on this application. If you do not, your admission to Minnesota West will be delayed. Items in this section will be used for identification and to determine admission. Items will also be used for advising and counseling, course placement, financial aid decisions, and institutional research.

PERSONAL DATA

__________________________________________
Social Security Number (Providing your social security number is voluntary. If you do not provide this number, your application will still be processed. Many colleges/universities use Social Security numbers for student identification purposes on internal student records. The number may be used for purposes of administration, program evaluation, consumer and alumni data, and also may be used to create summary information about system programs through data matches with other state agencies. Without the information, there may be a delay in your ability to receive financial aid or to register for classes. (International students and non-immigrants must complete the international application form and be admitted as international students before they can be accepted into the nursing program)

Name (Last, First, Middle)

______________________________
Name used on high school records or other education records and transcripts if different from above

Current Mailing Address
City
State
Zip Code
Country

Permanent Address, if different from above
City
State
Zip Code
Country

Home Phone
Work/Business/Day Time Phone
Cell Phone
Email Address

ADMISSION DATA

Please refer to the nursing program descriptions at www.mnwest.edu/admissions/nursing before making your selection below. Indicate the location you are applying to by checking the appropriate box. Our nursing programs begin in the fall of each year. We recommend that you complete the general education coursework before acceptance into the nursing program.

☐ A.S. Nursing (select ONLY one)

Fall Semester, 2020

Please be aware that labs and clinical courses require travel to a nursing lab or clinical site. The selections below relate to theory coursework only.

NOTE: A.S. Nursing is an entrance point for mobility students who have graduated from a nursing program and who are Licensed Practical Nurses.

☐ Granite Falls Campus – Lecture delivered via ITV to Granite Falls Campus in Granite Falls, MN
☐ Pipestone Campus – Lecture delivered via ITV to Pipestone Campus in Pipestone, MN
☐ Worthington Campus – Face-to-Face on Worthington Campus in Worthington, MN
☐ Online theory coursework
By signing below, I agree to the following:

1. This application is valid only for the semester for which I have applied. If necessary, it will be my responsibility to reapply.
2. I have reviewed and understand that I must successfully complete the prerequisites prior to the fall 2020 semester.
3. I have reviewed and understand that I must successfully complete the admission requirements.
4. I understand that if information is missing from my file, I will NOT be admitted to the A.S. Nursing Program.

Signature (required by all applicants)

All of the information included is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that misrepresentation of application information is sufficient grounds for canceling admission. I have read and understand the general nursing information, the application process and the admissions criteria as outlined at www.mnwest.edu/admissions/nursing.

- All applicants will be notified in writing of admission status within six weeks of deadline
- INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please initial here ____________

________________________________________________________________

Signature Date

Send completed application to:
Nursing Admissions
Minnesota West – Pipestone Campus
1314 North Hiawatha Ave
Pipestone, MN 56164

For questions, contact: jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu or 507-825-6806
The NLN NACE I Foundation of Nursing Exam is required for LPNs who have graduated from practical nursing programs other than Minnesota West and those who graduated from Minnesota West more than one year prior to commencing the AS program. The proctored test is computer-based and can be administered in three and one-half hours. You will be required to present a valid photo ID at the time of testing.

Testing for the NLN NACE I Foundation entrance exam is limited to twice in an application period, one month apart. The entrance exam scores are valid for two years.

Tests are ordered one week prior to the test date, therefore registration and payment must be received one week prior to the examination date.

Granite Falls Campus, 1593 11th Avenue, Granite Falls, MN 56241
- Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 1pm – Room 113
- Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 1pm – Room 113

Worthington Campus, 1450 Collegeway, Worthington, MN 56187
- Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 1 pm – Room 606
- Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 1 pm – Room 606
- Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9 am – Room 606
- Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 1 pm – Room 606

Cost: $78.00

TEST PREPARATION RESOURCE:
Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) I PN-RN: Foundations of Nursing Secrets Study Guide Your Key to Exam Success
Product ID: NurseACEIFN copyright 2019 by Mometrix Media LLC available for checkout at the LARC, Minnesota West Worthington, Granite Falls and Pipestone campus or you may purchase it through your own means (Amazon, Chegg, etc. ISBN 9781614036159).

This is a proctored computer test that starts PROMPTLY at the time indicated. Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. For driving directions go to www.mnwest.edu/campuses and click on the campus where you will test.

Please complete and return the lower portion of this form with your check or money order. Registration is due 1 week prior to testing date. Registration is not complete unless accompanied by your $78 test fee – DO NOT SEND CASH. A valid email address is required for confirmation notification of your registration.

Make check or money order payable to: Minnesota West
COMPLETE, DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR $78 TEST FEE TO:
Minnesota West Pipestone Campus  •  Attn: Jodi Christensen  •  PO Box 250  •  Pipestone, MN  56164

Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________
(House/Apartment Number, Street, PO Box/Rural Route) City State Zip Code County
Day Time Phone Number (______) _____________________________________________________
E-mail address required for confirmation of registration ________________________________
I plan to take the NLN test on _____________________________ at the ___________________________ campus

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer

Test Dates: 6/19/2019
Nursing, A.S. (Registered Nurse)

Nursing A.S. is designed for Licensed Practical Nurses who wish to obtain the Associate of Science Nursing Degree. It is an entrance point for mobility students who have graduated from another nursing program or have completed Minnesota West's Practical Nursing Program. After successful completion of the Nursing A.S. Program, students are awarded the Associate of Science (AS) Nursing Degree and are then eligible to take the NCLEX-RN examination. Students are also eligible to articulate to BSN/BAN programs in the Minnesota State system.

2019 – 2020 Admission Requirements:
(Minnesota West reserves the right to modify admission requirements and/or curriculum for the 2020-2021 AS Nursing program)

For Minnesota West Practical Nursing students applying to progress to the AS Nursing program:

1. Licensed as an LPN by August 1.
2. Cumulative prerequisite GPA of 3.0 in BIOL 2201 (Anatomy), BIOL 2202 (Physiology), ENGL 1101 (Composition I), and PSYC 1150 (Developmental Psychology)
3. No grade lower than a “C” is accepted in any course required for the AS Nursing program (including prerequisites).

For licensed LPN’s applying to enter the AS Nursing program:

1. Licensed as an LPN by August 1.
2. Cumulative prerequisite GPA of 3.0 in BIOL 2201 (Anatomy), BIOL 2202 (Physiology), ENGL 1101 (Composition I), and PSYC 1150 (Developmental Psychology).
3. No grade lower than a “C” is accepted in any course required for the AS Nursing program (including prerequisites).
4. Minimum decision score of 80 on the National League for Nursing (NLN) NACE I Foundations Entrance Exam. Applicants may only take entrance exam twice in an application period, one month apart. Entrance exam scores are valid for a two-year period of time.

NURS 2000, Transition into Professional Nursing Education (1 credit), is required prior to entrance into Fall Semester nursing classes for students who have graduated from another nursing program or are returning to Minnesota West’s Nursing Program.

The following course sequence is required for completion of this program. Only students who have been accepted into the Nursing program are allowed to take the nursing courses. The prerequisite courses shown must be completed before beginning the program.
**Prerequisites**
(The following prerequisite courses shown must be completed before beginning the program.)

Practical Nursing Diploma OR completion of Practical Nursing program (Advanced Standing)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2201</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2202</td>
<td>Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 1150</td>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1101</td>
<td>Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Co-requisite courses**
(The following General Education courses may be taken prior to beginning or during AS Program. Must be completed prior to graduation.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPCH 1101</td>
<td>Introduction to Speech</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPCH 1103</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sociology Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 2101</td>
<td>Ethics Theory and Practices (medical focus)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electives (Composition II and College Math recommended)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Fall Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2125</td>
<td>Patient Centered Care I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2130</td>
<td>Pharmacology: A Pathophysiologic Approach</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2145</td>
<td>Professional Nursing I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2150</td>
<td>Skills Lab</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2190</td>
<td>Acute Care Clinical I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Spring Semester**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2225</td>
<td>Patient Centered Care II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2245</td>
<td>Professional Nursing II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2260</td>
<td>Patient &amp; Family Centered Care for Special Populations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2290</td>
<td>Acute Care Clinical II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2390</td>
<td>Clinical in Alternate Settings</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** A nursing preceptorship NURS 2275 (1-2 credits) is optional upon completion of all nursing coursework.

**Recommended electives include:** ENGL 1102, humanities, social sciences (HIST 1101, HIST 1102, geography, political science or economics), chemistry, BIOL 1115, PSYC 1101, college math or statistics.

**Humanities:** choose from the areas of art, literature, theatre, HIST 1111, HIST 1112, music, or any course with HUM designator.

AS nursing students are required to participate in the ATI Integrated Testing Program. Required end of program assessment will include:

- Completion of a ATI Integrated predictor exam prior to graduation
- Completion of a ATI Review course prior to authorization to test for NCLEX-PN exam

*Clinical experiences are a part of the program and are completed in area healthcare facilities located in southwest Minnesota. On-campus and distance learning students need to be prepared to travel to local clinical sites as a program requirement.*

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**Minnesota West Community & Technical College Associate of Science Nursing Program is accredited by:**
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing  
3343 Peachtree Road NE. Suite 850  
Atlanta, GA 30326  
404-975-5000

Continued accreditation granted through spring of 2023.