

met. Vocational Nursing students may qualify for specific scholarships. Scholarship applications must be submitted by the announced deadline date to be considered for the award.

Child Care Services may be available through the Cerro Coso Child Development Center. For more information call (760) 384-6362. The community of Ridgecrest also offers a variety of child care services.

Criminal Convictions

If any prospective student has any criminal record, this student should contact the Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians at (916) 263-7800 **prior** to applying to the CCCC Vocational Nursing Program.

About the College

CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE was established in 1973. Of the college's four instructional sites, the Vocational Nursing Program is located on the Indian Wells Valley campus in the upper Mojave Desert. Ridgecrest has a diverse population of about 28,000. Ridgecrest is located 130 miles northeast of Los Angeles and 120 miles east of Bakersfield.

College website www.cerrocoso.edu

Health Career Website

<http://academic.cerrocoso.edu/health-careers/>



CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

3000 College Heights Blvd.
Ridgecrest CA 93555-9571
(760) 384-6100

Revised: March 3, 2006

Kern Community College District Cerro Coso Community College Health Careers



Vocational Nursing Program

General Information

Healthcare is a challenging and exciting profession. Employment opportunities for Licensed Vocational Nurses are open in multiple areas of the healthcare fields. Many LVNs work in long-term care facilities with the elderly which include rehabilitative care, long-term geriatric care, and caring for acutely ill clients who are recovering from major physical challenges. Employment opportunities also are present in ambulatory care clinics, home health agencies, and acute care facilities. Nursing has consistently been a profession of responsibility, integrity, and personal growth.

The Vocational Nursing Program at Cerro Coso Community College provides the comprehensive theory knowledge and hands-on clinical experiences necessary to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse. The CCCC Vocational Nursing Program is approved by the Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians. Upon completion of the program, the student must successfully pass a comprehensive, mandated exam (NCLEX-PN) to receive the title of Licensed Vocational Nurse.

Licensed Vocational Nurses often continue their health career education to become Registered Nurses. The field of nursing at both the LVN and RN levels offers a wide variety of employment opportunities. If you are interested in continuing your career in nursing, please consult with a member of the counseling staff in the Counseling Center (760 384-6219) to insure that you take the appropriate prerequisite courses.

The Vocational Nursing Program is a full-time, intensive, three semester program that includes classroom and clinical hours plus Skills Lab hours per semester. Students are enrolled in nursing courses an average of 27 hours per week, plus skills lab hours. Classes generally take place Monday through Thursday. Class hours may vary from semester to semester. Skills Lab hours vary according to classroom availability. Generally, there are no theory or clinical classes held on Fridays. Changes in scheduling may be necessary during the semester to accommodate a variety of learning experiences.

Students may also choose to complete the college's educational requirements for an Associate's Degree. Cerro Coso Community College does not offer a part-time program for student vocational nurses.

If you are interested, what do you do?

1. Read this brochure thoroughly.
2. Make an appointment with a member of the counseling staff in the Counseling Center at (760) 384-6219. Your name will be placed in the *File for Persons Interested in the Vocational Nursing Program*.
3. Complete the application form.
4. Complete the required prerequisites with a grade of C or better.
5. Submit all necessary paperwork to the Counseling Center prior to the deadline. The paper work includes three references, copies of transcripts, copies of completed work at CCCC. (See below for additional information.)

Admission Requirements

- 1) **Qualifications** for the Student Vocational Nursing Program
 - a) You must be at least 17 years of age.
 - b) You must have a high school diploma or equivalent.
 - c) You must be physically and mentally capable of meeting the theory and clinical objectives of the program.
- 2) **Advisories/Prerequisites* - All Prerequisites must be completed with a "C" or above prior to entering the Vocational Nursing Program.**
 - a) Reading level 1, Writing level 2, Math level 2
 - b) Certified Nurses Aide or equivalent
 - c) BIOL C121 or equivalent
 - d) PSYC C101 or equivalent

***Medical Terminology for the Health Professional (HCRS C150) is highly recommended.**

- 3) **Application Packet**

Please bring all materials to the Counseling Center. Before your application will be processed, you must have the following in your application packet. Check with the Counseling Center for the **DEADLINE DATE**.

 - a) Completed CCCC Vocational Nursing Program Application
 - b) Copy of high school diploma or equivalent and/or high school transcripts sent to CCCC**
 - d) College transcripts and/or copy of college degree, if applicable, sent to CCCC**
 - e) Copy of CNA Certificate **
 - f) Three (3) letters of reference (Form provided by the Counseling Center)

**Official vs. copies of diplomas, degrees, or transcripts may be required. Check for individual needs with the Counseling Center staff.

- 4) **Admissions Process**
 - a) Each student's application packet is

reviewed for completeness. Incomplete

packets will not be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to obtain all information and complete his/her packet in a timely manner.

- b) Mandatory attendance at a group information meeting.
- c) Pretesting on specified dates in the Counseling Center in the areas of reading comprehension, math abilities, and language ability
- d) Completion of short essay-type questions on the day of the personal orientation
- e) Personal/group orientation may be requested

Credit for Previous Experience and Advanced Placement

Credit for previous coursework or employment experiences may be granted as permitted by the BVNPT. A detailed consultation with the Director of the Program is required. The student may be required to demonstrate comprehension of any challenged theory or clinical objectives via written testing and/or skills demonstration.

If space is available, qualified students may enter the program in Semester 2 or Semester 3 after successfully demonstrating that he/she has met the program's objectives for work being challenged. Written and/or skills testing may be required. Advanced placement into the program is determined after detailed consultation with the Program Director.

Selection Process

A maximum of 15 students are admitted to the Vocational Nursing Program. Initial acceptance of one or more alternate Student Vocational Nurses may be chosen from the pool of applicants. If space becomes available during the Fundamental's section only (i.e. one of the 15 accepted students drops from the program), the alternate may officially enroll in the program. For detailed information on alternates, please consult

with the Director of the Program.

When a candidate receives notification (e.g., by letter) that she/he has been admitted into the Vocational Nursing Program, the student will receive information (e.g. dates, locations, procedures) about the items listed below. Final acceptance into the Program is contingent upon satisfactory completion of the following:

- Physical Exam (Form provided by CCCC)
- Tuberculosis skin test or chest x-ray
- MMR and/or other immunizations
- Drug and alcohol screen
- Background check
- Finalized transcripts

As a condition of admission to an Allied Health Program with a clinical component, in the Kern Community College District, all students are required to submit to and pass a designated drug and alcohol screen. (Refer to: Policy 4G - KCCD) The initial drug screen, physical exam, TB testing, background checks, and finalized transcripts are at the student's expense. Additional drug screens may be requested at the discretion of an instructor. The funds for additional, requested drug screens will be provided by the college.

Additional regulations and requirements for active student vocational nurses are available on request.

Summary of Program Format

(Effective January 2005)

Semester 1

HCRS C101 – Theory 8 units

- Fundamentals
Basic Skills and Nursing Concepts
- Level I Medical-Surgical Nursing
Geriatrics
Nutrition
Pharmacology

HCRS C111 – Clinical 5 units

- Clinical locations
Long-term care facility
Acute care facility

HCRS C141 – Skills Lab 1 unit

Semester 2

HCRS C102 – Theory 8 units

- Level II Medical Surgical Nursing
Cardiovascular
Lymphatic
Respiratory
Genitourinary
Maternity Nursing
Growth and Development
Pediatrics

HCRS C112 - Clinical 5 units

- Clinical locations
Acute care facility
Child development facility
Ambulatory care facility

HCRS C141 – Skills Lab 1 unit

Semester 3

HCRS C201 - Theory 8 units

- Level III Medical-Surgical Nursing
Supervision - Leadership
Gastrointestinal
Endocrine
Musculoskeletal
Integumentary
Special Senses
Nervous

HCRS C211 – Clinical 5 units

- Clinical Locations
Acute care facility
Home health facility
Long-term care facility
Supervision/Leadership
Ambulatory care facility

HCRS C141 – Skills Lab 1 unit

PROGRAM COMPLETION

Each semester has separate but integrated classes of theory and clinical experiences. A student who does not successfully complete the Fundamentals section of Semester 1 will not be allowed to continue in the Program. A student who does not successfully complete either a theory or clinical segment in any semester will be dropped from the Program. Theory and clinical courses are interrelated in each of the semester's curricula. A grade of C or better in each theory segment and a grade of clinical pass in each clinical component are required to continue in the Vocational Nursing Program.

Approximate Costs

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|------------------|---|
| Registration | \$26 per unit for CA residents (Subject to increase) |
| Background Check | \$50 - \$150 |
| Books | \$800 (3 semesters) |
| Uniforms | \$100 |
| Watch | \$25 |
| Stethoscope | \$25 |

❖ Transportation costs: It is *essential* that each student have reliable transportation to the campus and to each of the clinical facilities visited throughout the program.

The following are required fees payable at the successful completion to the program. For a detailed explanation of these fees, please consult with the Director of the Program.

- BVNPT fees \$250 (approx)
- NCLEX-PN fees \$200 (approx)

Support Services

Financial Aid is available for those who qualify. Students should inquire at the Counseling Center. All Cerro Coso students may apply for available **scholarships** if criteria for the scholarships are