

STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY



Dear Prospective Nursing Applicant:

Thank you for inquiring about the Associate Degree in Nursing Program at Stark State College of Technology. This information represents the most current available. Please note that all information is subject to change as needed to assure a high quality program.

Only one class per year is admitted. Students begin the nursing sequence in the Fall Semester of the year that they are accepted to start the Nursing Program. The nursing sequence is published in the College Bulletin, College Catalog, and Nursing Program brochure.

Due to the increased interest and application to the nursing program, an admission (wait) list has been established. All students who meet the admission requirements and have a completed application on file are assigned to the first space available in an upcoming class. Should space become available earlier, the accepted applicant will be notified.

The following steps are strongly recommended for all students considering the Nursing Program:

1. Take the SSCT Pre-Admission Testing (Compass Test). There is no fee to take the test, however, one must make application to the College prior to or at the time one sits for the test. Having your results available during your advising appointment will allow your advisor to best advise you about how to meet the Nursing admission requirements. The test will help determine whether or not you need to take developmental or prerequisite courses BEFORE you begin to enroll in non-nursing courses in the nursing curriculum. Call (330) 966-5450 for test dates and times.
2. For all students interested in nursing who are newly admitted to the College, make an appointment with a SSCT Academic Advisor. Call **(330) 966-5450 or 1-800-79-STARK**.

For all returning pre-nursing students, check "MyStarkState" for your faculty advisor and contact them for an appointment.

3. Enroll in courses required per Compass Test results. Discuss enrollment of courses with the SSCT Academic Advisor.
4. All health sciences students in all health sciences programs should successfully complete the course, Student Success Seminar (HTH101), during the first semester at Stark State College.

Please refer to the admission requirements and process for applying to the Nursing Program on pages 2 and 3.

I look forward to your continuing interest in the nursing profession and the educational program at Stark State College. Good luck!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Kline".

Gloria Kline, MSN, RN, CNS
Department Chair/Director of Nursing

What are the Nursing Program Admission Requirements?

Applicants must:

1. Complete an application for admission to Stark State College.
2. Be a high school graduate with a GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale within the last five years; or have obtained a GED certificate within the last five years; or have a college GPA of 3.0 or better in 12 hours or more of course work. The SSCT transcript will take precedence once 12 or more credit hours have been completed at SSCT.
3. Submit an original copy of high school transcript and/or GED scores, and transcripts from any college courses taken.
4. Have completed one year of high school chemistry, and biology with a grade of "C" or better within the past five years, or show equivalency. The Introduction to Algebra course is a prerequisite to Introduction to Chemistry. Credit for the Introduction to Algebra course may be obtained in one of three ways:

- 1) previous college credit (grade of "C" or better)
- 2) testing out of course through COMPASS assessment
- 3) completing the course at Stark State College of Technology with a grade of "C" or better

If Introduction to Algebra is waived prior to taking Introduction to Chemistry or General Chemistry, the course may still be required depending on COMPASS scores.

5. Complete the COMPASS Assessment at SSCT and take any courses recommended as a result of that test. The ACT test results may be used in place of the COMPASS test as long as the ACT test was taken within the last two calendar years.
6. Score at the 60th percentile or higher on the National League for Nursing Pre-Admission Examination for Registered Nurses (PAX-RN test).
7. Effective as of January 1, 2007, if a pre-nursing student does not complete the following courses, with a grade of "C" or better by the third attempt within a seven year span, including withdrawals, the student will not be permitted to apply to the nursing program:

Prerequisite Courses:

MTH101: Introduction to Algebra or test out
BIO101: Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology
CHM101: Introduction to Chemistry

In addition, pre-nursing students must complete any non-nursing courses in the nursing curriculum with a grade of "C" or better by the third attempt within the last seven years, including withdrawals, or they will not be permitted to apply to the nursing program. The following non-nursing courses are encouraged but not required to be completed prior to submitting an application:

BIO121: Anatomy & Physiology I	ENG124: College Composition
BIO122: Anatomy & Physiology II	ENG231: College Composition II
CHM121: General, Organic and Biological Chemistry I	PSY121: General Psychology
CHM122: General, Organic & Biological Chemistry II	PSY123: Human Growth & Development
BIO221: Principles of Microbiology	SOC121: Sociology

This requirement also remains in effect once the student receives their letter of acceptance to the program.

8. **Effective January 11, 2010: In order to place an admission application the student must attend a mandatory meeting for review of admission requirements and the application process.**

What are important limitations and special rules that apply to the admission requirements of which I must be well aware?

PAX-Test

- ▶ The PAX test may be repeated once during a calendar year to achieve a qualifying score.
- ▶ PAX test scores are accepted for a period of three years.

Academic Standing

- ▶ Applicants must be in good academic standing with their college at the time of application and must maintain that status each semester during the waiting period for final enrollment into the nursing course sequence.

Felony and Misdemeanor Convictions

- ▶ According to Section 4723.28 of the *Ohio Revised Code*, nursing students are responsible for informing the department chair/director of nursing, early or during the program, of any misdemeanor or felony convictions so that students may be informed of the steps the Ohio Board of Nursing will take before considering their application to sit for the licensing examination.

According to *Ohio HB327*: anyone previously convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or had a judicial finding of guilt for an egregious felony will be precluded from initial licensure. Egregious felonies are: aggravated murder, murder, voluntary manslaughter, felonious assault, kidnapping, rape, sexual battery, gross sexual imposition, aggravated arson, aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary.

Any student who has been convicted of an egregious felony will not be admitted to the nursing program.

Any student who is convicted of an egregious felony while enrolled in the nursing program will be dismissed and will not be readmitted.

What is the process I must follow to apply for admission?

- _____ 1. Submit a Stark State College application (new SSCT students only) and take the SSCT Compass Assessment. ACT composite of 22 or greater accepted in place of SSCT COMPASS if ACT test was taken within the last two calendar years.
- _____ 2. Complete any prescribed developmental courses as determined by the COMPASS Assessment or ACT Test results.
- _____ 3. Submit to the Registration Office:
 - _____ Official copy of high school transcripts and/or GED scores.
 - _____ Official college transcripts of any college attended.
- _____ 4. All health sciences students in all health sciences programs should successfully complete the course, Student Success Seminar (HTH101), during the first semester at Stark State College.
- _____ 5. Attend a mandatory orientation meeting regarding admission requirements and application process.
- _____ 6. Have obtained a high school GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale within the last five years; or obtained a GED certificate within the last five years; or a college GPA of 3.0 or better in 12 hours or more of course work. The SSCT transcript will take precedence once 12 or more credit hours have been completed at SSCT.
- _____ 7. Complete prerequisite courses: one year of high school chemistry, and biology with a grade of "C" or better within the past five years, or show equivalency. Enroll in Introduction to Algebra or test out or transfer college credit with a grade of "C" or better.
- _____ 8. After completing steps 1-7 above, submit a rolling admission application obtained only at the mandatory orientation meeting for the Nursing Program, to the Academic Records Office (Registration Office).
- _____ 9. Register for the date you wish to take the PAX test. Obtain information for the PAX test on the nursing website or in the Health Sciences Division Office. **Registration for the PAX test can be done at any point in the application process.** However, it is strongly recommended that developmental and prerequisite courses listed in step 7 be completed before the PAX test is taken.

Once all of the admission requirements have been met and a **complete** application is received, a letter of acceptance with projected starting date will be mailed to the applicant. Letters will be mailed on a regular basis. Since a waiting period is expected, applicants are encouraged to submit an application as soon as admission requirements are completed in order to reserve a space. Any of the non-nursing courses can be completed while waiting to enter the nursing course sequence.

- _____ 10. Students accepted into the Nursing Program must remain in continuous good standing (GPA of 2.5) for final enrollment into the Nursing Program. It must be understood by all students accepted into the Nursing Program that a grade of "C" or better must be achieved in all nursing and non-nursing courses in the Nursing curriculum. Grades of "C -" or below cannot be used toward course work required for graduation.

** Applicants must score at the 60th percentile or higher on the PAX test in order to be eligible for admission. If the applicant scores below the 60th percentile, she/he will not be eligible to retake the PAX for 6 months. A student may take the PAX test only twice in a calendar year.

The College reserves the right to change, without notice, statements concerning rules, policies, fees, curricula, courses, or other matters. SSCT is committed to equal opportunity for all and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, age, disability or veteran's status. SSCT strives to enroll a diverse representation of students within the Health Technologies programs. Members of under represented groups are encouraged to apply.

CURRICULUM PLAN: SEMESTER PLAN

<i>Semester I</i>	<i>Semester II</i>	<i>Summer</i>	<i>Semester III</i>	<i>Semester IV</i>
Fundamental Concepts of Nursing I NUR 121 6 credits 3 hour class 3 hour college lab 6 hour clinical	Alterations in Health I NUR 221 6 credits 3 hour class 3 hour college lab 6 hour clinical	Care of Child Bearing Family NUR 122* 4 credits 2 hour class 1 hour college lab 5 hour clinical	Alterations in Health II NUR 222 8 credits 4 hour class 2 hour college lab 10 hour clinical	Nursing Seminar NUR 224 1 credit 1 hour class
Anatomy & Physiology I BIO 121 4 credits 3 hour class 2 hour college lab	Anatomy & Physiology II BIO 122 4 credits 3 hour class 2 hour college lab	Care of Children NUR 123* 4 credits 2 hour class 1 hour college lab 5 hour clinical	Principles of Microbiology BIO 221 4 credits 3 hour class 3 hour college lab	Alterations in Health III NUR 223 8 credits 3 hour class 2 hour college lab** 10 hour clinical***
General Psychology PSY 121 3 credits 3 hour class	General, Organic & Biological Chemistry II CHM 122 4 credits 3 hour class 2 hour college lab	Human Growth & Development PSY 123 3 credits 3 hour class	Sociology SOC121+ 3 credits 3 hour class	College Composition II ENG 231 3 credits 3 hour class
General, Organic & Biological Chemistry I CHM 121 4 credits 3 hour class 2 hour college lab	College Composition ENG 124 3 credits 3 hour class	11	15	12
17	17			

+ Effective for graduating Class of 2003

72 SEMESTER CREDITS

- * NUR122 & NUR123 - conducted in 5 weeks, actual hours is tripled of listed
- ** Lab only conducted in 1st 8 weeks of course
- *** 10 hour clinical for 1st 8 weeks; then 24 hours/week for preceptorship (last 7 weeks)

See SSCT College Catalog for all course descriptions.

STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
Health Sciences Division
ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING PROGRAM

**PROJECTED COST OF NURSING PROGRAM BASED ON SEMESTERS
FOR TWO YEARS**

COST ITEM	FIRST YEAR First Three Semesters	SECOND YEAR Two Semesters
Nursing Pre-Admission Examination	\$ 80.00	\$ N/A
Tuition & General Fees (Tuition is \$131.25/hr)	45 credits = 5,906.25	27 credits = 3,543.75
Nursing Books & Supplies <i>(does not include cost of books for sciences and general studies)</i>	1,400.00	400.00
ID Badges	Kevin Campbell Photos - 12.00 MMC- (MMC refundable)10.00	N/A N/A
Liability Insurance	15.00	15.00
Health Requirements <i>(Physical & Immunizations)</i>	300.00	75.00
CPR certification - BLS	40.00	N/A
Uniforms	250.00	N/A
Assessment Testing and NCLEX Review Course Package	297.00	198.00
Make-Up Day Fee Clinical <i>(maximum days permitted: 2/semester) (depending on clinical time missed)</i>	\$50.00-70.00/day Total potential = \$480.00	\$40.00-110.00/day Total potential = \$380.00
Health Insurance Administered through Accordia (if needed)	790.00/calendar year	790.00/calendar year
Fingerprinting, background BCII check	30.00	30.00
Graduation Expenses:		
Fingerprinting/Background Check with BCII & FBI		60.00
Graduation Application	N/A	35.00
Nursing Pin		25.00
OBN License Application		75.00
NCLEX License Application		200.00
Graduation Pinning		35.00
Graduation Pictures		60.00
TOTALS - FIRST & SECOND YEAR (approximate totals)	\$9,610.25	\$5,921.75
TOTAL		\$15,532.00

*Assurant Health-Student Select and Tri-State College-Student Sickness Insurance Plan also available at varying daily rates.

Revised: 3/95, 9/95, 4/96, 1/97, 10/97, 4/98, 4/00, 7/00, 9/00, 3/01, 7/01, 2/02, 4/02, 3/03, 10/03, 2/04, 3/04, 4/04, 4/05; 3/06; 3/07; 10/07; 7/08; 1/09

STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
Health Sciences Division
ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING PROGRAM

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

- ▶ *If, after reading this information I still have questions, who should I contact?*
Call the Admissions Office (330) 966-5450 to schedule an appointment with a SSCT Academic Advisor, for first time students to the College, or contact your assigned faculty Academic Advisor. If you still have unresolved questions, contact the Nursing Program Director.
- ▶ *Will I get a degree upon completion of the program?*
Yes. The Associate of Applied Science Degree is awarded.
- ▶ *Do I receive my Registered Nurse license upon graduation?*
Successful completion of the program meets state and national eligibility requirements to sit for the National Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses.
- ▶ *If I am past the traditional college age, am I too old to enter nursing?*
NO! "Non-Traditional" students have the qualities and capabilities to excel in the Nursing Program!
- ▶ *Is financial aid available?*
Yes. SSCT's Financial Aid Office can provide information related to available grants, loans, and scholarships. Call (330) 966-5456 to make an appointment.
- ▶ *Is experience in the health care field helpful?*
Yes. Familiarity with the health care setting and terminology is beneficial. Program eligibility requirements are the same, however, for all applicants regardless of past experiences.
- ▶ *Is nursing a field for women only?*
No. While the vast majority of nurses are women, the field is an option for men. Male nurses are afforded the same varied opportunities and creative challenges as female nurses.
- ▶ *Where are most nurses employed?*
Nurses have a variety of job opportunities in hospitals, long-term and extended health care facilities, clinics, home care, prisons, and other settings.
- ▶ *Are there any personal attributes I should consider when thinking about nursing as a career?*
Yes. Prospective students should have the ability to succeed in a science-based curriculum. They need to demonstrate a caring attitude, relate well to people on a one-to-one basis, work well as a member of a team, exercise effective critical thinking skills, and be committed to life-long professional development.
- ▶ *Do I have to be licensed to practice nursing?*
Yes. To apply for a license in any state, one must graduate from an approved program, apply for licensure in the respective state, and pass the National Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN).

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, continued

► *Is it easy to find a job once graduated?*

Yes. All graduates who have applied for nursing positions are employed in a variety of health care settings.

► *Is the program accredited?*

Stark State College's Associate Degree in Nursing Program has a full approval from the Ohio Board of Nursing and is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The address and telephone number for NLNAC is:

3343 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
Phone: 1-404-975-5000
Fax: 1-404-975-5020

► *Can credits earned in the program be transferred or applied to a baccalaureate degree?*

Yes. Graduates can easily matriculate into the various local colleges' and universities' BSN programs. The Associate Degree Nursing program has written articulation agreements with Ashland University, Malone College and Walsh University. We also work collaboratively with the University of Akron, College of Nursing.

► *What is the PAX test? When is it given? Is there a fee for this test?*

The PAX test is a standardized exam which, in combination with other indicators, is helpful in predicting the academic success of potential candidates. It tests verbal ability, mathematics and science, and takes about three hours. Tests are administered three times per year. Contact the Admissions Office for test dates and times. The current fee to take the test is published on the Program Expense Schedule.

► *Is there a way that I can prepare for the PAX-RN test?*

Details related to how to study for the PAX test are provided in the information obtained from the Admissions Department.

► *What are high school equivalency courses in which I may enroll to meet prerequisite coursework requirements?*

The BIO101: Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology; CHM101: Introduction to Chemistry; and MTH101: Introduction to Algebra meets these high school equivalency requirements at SSCT.

► *Can all eligible applicants get into the program?*

Yes. Acceptance to the program is based solely on meeting the admission requirements and submitting a complete nursing application. Applicants are not placed in competition with one another. However, because the number of eligible applicants often exceeds the number of openings for a class, admission is granted on a space available basis. Eligible applicants are guaranteed admission but may be placed on a waiting list for a succeeding class. Admission into the Nursing Program is contingent on meeting program and health requirements.

► *How soon will I know that I am accepted into the program after I apply?*

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, continued

Applications are processed on a regular basis. Eligible applicants will be notified by mail of their placement in future classes. This information cannot be given out over the telephone.

▶ *How long might I wait to begin Nursing classes after being accepted?*

If the next nursing class has been filled prior to your application to the program, your start of Nursing courses may be delayed one or more years, depending on the number of applicants who have preceded you. When you are accepted, you will be informed of your start date. If spaces open earlier, you will be notified. You are encouraged to use the waiting period to complete non-nursing courses in the Nursing curriculum.

▶ *How many students are accepted each Fall Semester?*

Sixty (60) students are accepted each fall semester for the day program. There are twenty (20) students accepted each fall into the evening/weekend program. (See separate information packet for this track)

▶ *How long is the program?*

A minimum of five semesters is required to complete the 72 credit hour program. See page 4 for total curriculum sequence.

▶ *Do most students complete the program in the 5 semesters?*

No. Most students take some or all of the required non-nursing courses before starting the nursing course sequence. This strategy is highly recommended to strengthen your academic background and lighten the load to allow for full focus on the nursing courses.

▶ *Once admitted to the Nursing Program, do the nursing courses have to be taken in a specific order?*

Each nursing course is offered only once per year and must be taken in the listed sequence seen on page 4.

▶ *What hours will I be in attendance at school while enrolling in the Nursing Program?*

The schedule varies during the year. Lecture and lab classes are generally scheduled between 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday). All students must accept assignments to both day and evening clinical sessions. Students are advised not to schedule other activities until the schedules are posted each semester.

▶ *What are the program and health requirements for the Nursing Program?*

The program and health requirements are listed in the **Handbook for Nursing Students** and in the Program and Health Requirements packet, which is distributed to students in a timely manner prior to starting Fall Semester classes. Students are given ample time to meet these requirements.

▶ **Criminal Background Checks**

Criminal background checks will be required for all nursing students before beginning nursing courses and on an annual basis. Based on the results of the BCII check, students may **NOT** be placed for clinical experiences and thus, **NOT** be able to meet the objectives of the nursing course with subsequent dismissal from the program.

▶ *Can I work while enrolled in the Nursing Program?*

It is acknowledged that students must continue to work while enrolled in the program; however, it is recommended that students be employed on a part-time basis. The actual number of work hours will vary, depending on individual student circumstances.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, continued

▶ *Can I attend part-time?*

Students who complete all or most of their non-nursing courses prior to enrolling will have reduced course loads roughly equivalent to part-time study. Students may take all non-nursing courses on a part-time basis prior to entering the Nursing Program. Students must complete the nursing courses in sequence as listed. Hours involved in the program per week will vary from 12-30 hours per week.

▶ *What expenses can I expect to incur related to my nursing education?*

Refer to the Cost of Program page.

▶ *Can out-of-state students apply and be accepted?*

Yes. The same criteria and procedures apply.

▶ *Can I transfer in credits from other colleges?*

Please refer to the SSCT Catalog regarding transfer of courses. The Admissions Department evaluates transcripts in relation to transferability of course work. Students must request, in writing, that official transcripts be evaluated by the Admissions Department. Forms are available in the Registration Office.

While courses may be transferred with a grade of “C-” or “D” from another university or college, the Nursing Department will not accept those courses transferred with a “C-” or “D” toward graduation requirements. These may also preclude students from being eligible for admission to the nursing program. All non-nursing courses in the nursing curriculum must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.

▶ *What is the process to apply as a transfer nursing student?*

At this time, we are not accepting transfer nursing students into the nursing sequence due to the lack of available seats in the Nursing Program.

▶ *What do I need to know about the application procedure for licensure?*

Effective for all students admitted to the nursing program after June 1, 2003: Candidates who wish to sit for the NCLEX-RN (Registered Nursing Licensing Examination) will be required to submit their fingerprints to the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCII) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

For more details, contact the Ohio Board of Nursing Web site at www5.state.oh.us/nur.