

## **MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

### **2011 LPN To RN OCNE Advanced Placement Application Guide**

*Member of the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE)*

#### **APPLICATION OPEN AND CLOSE DATES:**

- Open date: September 30, 2010 – applicants can begin submitting completed program applications.
- Close date: All required documentation listed on the application checklist must be received by the Admissions, Registration and Records Office no later than 5 p.m. on November 15, 2010.

#### **NOTE:**

- THIS GUIDE IS FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE LPN TO RN OCNE ADVANCED PLACEMENT NURSING APPLICATION PROCESS AND IS NOT TO BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION.
- THE 2011 LPN TO RN OCNE ADVANCED PLACEMENT NURSING APPLICATION, TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE, CAN BE FOUND AT [www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions](http://www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions)



## MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Restricted Entry, Associate of Applied Science Degree  
NURSING PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR LPNs INTERESTED IN  
ADVANCED PLACEMENT (OCTOBER 2010 APPLICATION DEADLINE)  
INTO SECOND YEAR OF NURSING PROGRAM FALL 2011

Thank you for your interest in the Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) Nursing Program! The Nursing program is approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN, 17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Portland, OR, 971-673-0685, [www.oregon.gov/OSBN](http://www.oregon.gov/OSBN)).

The Nursing program is both exciting and challenging; offering graduates the opportunities for employment in a variety of settings and for a lifelong career that is personally fulfilling. The program demands may pose unique personal as well as academic challenges. Most students have multiple responsibilities in addition to going to school (i.e., marriage, family, job). Success in the program takes a firm commitment, and the nursing faculty members are here to help you succeed. LPNs interested in the recently developed advanced placement process are asked to make an advising appointment with Janie Griffin, Dean of Nursing, by calling the department administrative assistant at 503-491-6700. Minimum criteria for eligibility by the application deadline of November 15, 2010 (for fall 2011 entry into the second year) include completion of all program prerequisites with an average GPA of  $\geq 3.0$ , completion of all program first year general education credits with a C or better, a current unencumbered Oregon LPN license and  $\geq 1000$  hours of work experience as an LPN.

The Mt Hood Nursing Program will be accepting 4 LPN's into Advanced Placement cohort (placement into the second year of the RN program) for the 2011-2012 school year. Applicant eligibility and selection process is described in this document.

### About the Program

The Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) Nursing Program has joined with seven other community college programs (Clackamas Community College, Lane Community College, Umpqua Community College, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Mt. Hood Community College, Blue Mountain Community College and Portland Community College) and all campuses of the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU, in Ashland, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Portland and Monmouth) in a unified approach to nursing education. This coalition of statewide nursing educators and programs is known as the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE). Faculty members from MHCC have been actively involved in the development of the competency-based curriculum that is used in all full partner consortium schools. MHCC began the implementation of this new nursing curriculum with the prerequisites required for students who entered the program Fall term of 2006.

The competencies of the OCNE curriculum address the need for nurses to be skilled in clinical judgment and critical thinking. The competencies also focus on skill in evidence-based practice, relationship-centered care, interdisciplinary collaboration, assisting individuals and families in self-care practices for promotion of health and management of chronic and acute illness, end-of-life care, and teaching, delegation, leadership and supervision of caregivers.

Acceptance to the program allows for co-admission to Mt. Hood Community College and Oregon Health & Science University Nursing Programs. Co-admission is an agreement that students who are affirmed by the community college nursing faculty as having met the progression standards will be eligible to enroll in the upper-division nursing courses and complete a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Nursing if they choose to do so at OHSU without an additional competitive application process. The co-admitted student may choose to matriculate and be entered into the OHSU student record system following successful completion of the nursing curriculum at MHCC. Students who successfully complete the Nursing Program at MHCC will meet the educational requirements to be eligible to take the RN-licensure examination. Additional information regarding matriculation opportunities will be provided at regular intervals throughout the program.



### **Employment Outlook and Expected Income**

Employment opportunities in nursing are available in throughout most of the state. Graduates from Mt. Hood Community College generally find employment within three to six months of graduation. According to the Oregon Employment Department, the average hourly salary was \$34.07/hour in 2010.

### **Demands of the Program**

It is important to understand the mental and physical demands of the nursing program and the career of the nurse. Applicants to the nursing program must be physically and mentally able to cope with the rigors of the curriculum and the demanding nature of the health professions. Nursing students must be able to grasp scientific concepts, set up and answer basic math and algebra problems, and communicate well verbally and in writing. Physically, students must be able to remain on their feet for extended periods, lift up to 35 pounds, hear heart and breath sounds, read fine print and identify skin tones such as pale, ashen, gray or bluish.

Established academic and clinical requirements essential to the program of instruction apply to all students and cannot be waived. Attempts will be made to accommodate and retain qualified applicants with disabilities unless results of evaluations indicate that given reasonable accommodation an individual is still unable to perform the Technical Standards required by the program. A complete list of the required technical standards can be found on our website at [www.mhcc.edu/nursing](http://www.mhcc.edu/nursing).

Established academic and clinical requirements essential to the program of instruction apply to all students and cannot be waived. Attempts will be made to accommodate and retain qualified applicants with disabilities unless results of evaluations indicate that given reasonable accommodation an individual will still be unable to perform the essential functions required by the program. A complete list of the required essential functions is available in the Office of Disability Services. Persons with questions concerning particular qualifications are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services to arrange an appointment for individual consultation and advice prior to application.

The nursing program utilizes a variety of clinical sites throughout the Gresham and Portland area. These include hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, etc. Students will be assigned to have clinical experiences in most if not all of the sites and must expect to travel to clinical sites as assigned. At times carpooling to clinical sites will not be possible and reliable transportation will be needed by students. Required clinical experiences are assigned during days, evenings, and/or night shifts during the program, and client selection and care preparation takes place typically the day before clinical, e.g. on Sundays when clinical is scheduled on Monday. During the final clinical rotation of the program (spring, second year), students are assigned to match a staff clinical teaching associate's work schedule for two or three full 8- or 12-hour shifts per week which may include nights and weekends. Nursing classes, labs, and clinicals typically involve 20-30 hours of attendance and 30-40 hours of preparation/assignments/study per week. Meeting these requirements will mean that students will need to adjust employment and family responsibilities.

### **Application Eligibility Criteria**

LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria by specified times:

- ❖ Completion of all nursing program prerequisites (minimum of 45 credits) with a minimum grade of C or better with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, and all first year nursing program general education courses before the November 15, 2010 application deadline. Program prerequisite/preparatory course information can be accessed from our program website at [www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions](http://www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions)
- ❖ The required mathematics; Anatomy and Physiology I, II, III; nutrition; and microbiology must be completed within the last seven years (during or after 2004).
- ❖ Official college transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended demonstrating a minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA for all completed prerequisite/preparatory coursework and first year general education courses to the Admissions, Registration and Records Office.
- ❖ Official college transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended demonstrating completion of Practical Nursing program.



- ❖ At the time of application, the Nursing Program Director will review the applicant's prior Practical Nursing Program transcripts to assure that course content meets the MHCC program course objectives in the first year (PN courses taken outside the MHCC Practical Nursing Program will need to submit course syllabus for review). The director will arrange with Admissions, Registration, and Records Office for awarding of 15 credits for equivalency to NRS110, NRS111 and NRS112. At least 70 required credits (prerequisites through the Nursing Program's first year) and the 15 awarded nursing credits must have been completed prior to applying to the program.
- ❖ Current unencumbered Oregon LPN license and ≥1,000 hours of LPN work experience by November 15, 2010.
- ❖ For purposes of OCNE academic policies, letter grades are used/recognized without +/- designation. Therefore, a C- would be recognized as a "C" and therefore be an accepted grade for a prerequisite course.
- ❖ Credits taken pass/no pass (if accepted by the college as meeting requirements) may be considered only if the "pass" is equivalent to a "C" or better.
- ❖ International students (individuals with a non-immigrant visa) will be required to follow Admissions, Registration and Records at [www.mhcc.edu/international](http://www.mhcc.edu/international) for admission and/or registration. If prerequisites were completed outside the United States, a course-by-course evaluation by a credential evaluation service is required. Contact Admissions, Registration, and Records Office at 503-491-7393 with questions regarding transcript evaluation. Note that the timeframe for an evaluation of courses completed outside the U.S. can be lengthy and the evaluation and document submission to Admissions, Registration and Records must be completed by the application deadline for the transcript to be considered in the application process.

### Application Process

- ❖ Admission of all students is centralized in the Admissions, Registration and Records Office at MHCC.
- ❖ The LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement Application and the LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement Timeline can be found at [www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions](http://www.mhcc.edu/lradmissions)
- ❖ Admission to MHCC does not guarantee admission to the LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement Nursing Program.
- ❖ The Admissions, Registration and Records Office has the final authority on what constitutes equivalency for all admission criteria and has the sole authority to inform students of their admission status. If you have questions regarding admission procedures please contact the Admissions, Registration and Records Office at 503-491-7341.
- ❖ Applicants will have to take the ATI LPN Step test (of LPN knowledge) on either October 20, 2010 or October 27, 2010 at the Mt. Hood Community College Bruning Center for Allied Health Campus, Room 212 at 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Applicants must contact the department secretary at 503-491-6700 to reserve a seat for the test. The cost of the test will be approximately \$25, (payment for the exam will be made directly to ATI via credit or debit card instruction for payment for the exam will be given at the time the reservation is made with Paula Wilson) Applicants are encouraged to study an NCLEX-PN review text before the test.

### Application Requirements and Selection Points

Eligible LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement applicants will be considered for the three phases of the application/selection process and available slots in the second year of the Nursing Program. Applicants will be assessed according to the following:

#### Phase L1:

1. **Prerequisite GPA:** A maximum of 40 points will be awarded. The applicant must provide transcript(s) for all prerequisites. The first 45 credits of prerequisites will be calculated in the GPA for assignment of points in the selection process.
  1. Points will be assigned using a linear equation, Points = 24 times GPA – 56.



2. **Anatomy and Physiology I Grade:** Points will be awarded to the grade point for Anatomy and Physiology I as follows:
  - ❖ A = 5 points
  - ❖ B = 3 points
  - ❖ If A&P I was repeated, the GPA will be calculated on the most recent grade for that course.
3. **Prior Degree:** Applicants who provide official transcripts as proof of a prior degree will be awarded points as follows:
  - ❖ Associate degree = 1 point
  - ❖ Bachelor's degree = 2 points
  - ❖ Master's degree or higher = 3 points.
4. **Required references:** See application forms.
5. **National Standardized Test:** Up to 20 points will be awarded for scores on the ATI LPN Step proctored exam.
6. **License and Practice as an LPN:** Current unencumbered license in Oregon as an LPN and 1,000 or more hours of work experience as an LPN are required.
7. **Discretionary Points: Up to 14 points:** The MHCC Nursing Program will award discretionary points to applicants who meet the following criteria by November 15, 2010:
  - ❖ **Residency Consideration: (2 points maximum)**
    - in district= 2 points;
    - out of district (with no Advanced Placement for LPN's program) = 2 points;
    - out of district 0 points;
    - out of state 0 points.
  - ❖ **Prerequisites science – based courses (2 points maximum)**
    - One point each for the following Nursing prerequisite science-based course completed at Mt Hood Community College, within the last seven years, with a grade of “C” or better in CH103 (or equivalent); BI112 (or equivalent); FN225; BI234.
  - ❖ **Completion of in-program second year electives with a grade of “C” or better as follows: (3 points maximum)**
    - all 15 credits = 3 points;
    - 9-12 credits = 2 points;
    - 5-8 credits = 1 point
  - ❖ **Cumulative GPA for PN Program (3 points maximum) PN courses only as follows:**
    - Cumulative gpa is  $\geq 3.5$  = 3 points
    - Cumulative gpa is 3.0-3.49 = 2 points
    - Cumulative gpa is 2.5-2.99 = 1 point
  - ❖ **LPN Work experience: (2 points maximum)**
    - 1,548 to 2,040 hours of work experience (equal to full time for 9 months to a year) = 1 point
    - 2,236 or more hours of work experience (equal to full time employment for 13 months and beyond) = 2 points

*Students must submit an LPN work Experience Form (see handout in packet) for each place of LPN employment they wish to have counted towards earning points.*

8. **Completed LPN coursework at MT Hood Community College: (2 points)**
9. **Tie Breakers:** In the event that two or more applicant scores cluster at the same cut-off point, MHCC will use tie breakers in the following order:
  - ❖ graduate of the Mt Hood LPN program
  - ❖ ATI Step exam score
  - ❖ date and time of completed application.



**Phase L2:**

**INTERVIEW AND PROCTORED ESSAY**

All application packets that are considered complete (submitted all required materials) by the application deadline will be evaluated and awarded points (Phase L1) to determine the top 15 candidates to be interviewed.

- The 15 applicants, from Phase L1, will participate in an interview and proctored essay, according to a 30-point scale. **Examples** of possible areas to be assessed at the time of the interview include: diversity, personal values, communication, motivational fitness, tolerance for stress, and transferable skills
- Points awarded in Phase L1 are not carried forward once the applicant is invited to the interview and proctored essay.
- The points awarded in the interview and proctored essay are the final determining factor for selecting the final 5 applicants.

From this selection process, the final 5 applicants are ranked and selected for enrolling in the available slots for the Clinical Pharmacology I and II courses (NRS230 & NRS231) and Pathophysiological Processes I and II courses (NRS232 & NRS233), Phase L3 of the process.

**Phase L3:**

- ❖ The final five applicants take the NRS230 and NRS232 and NRS233 courses. Selection for enrollment in the pathophysiology and pharmacology courses does not guarantee admission to the nursing program but allows applicants to progress (if both Pharmacology 1 and 2 and Pathophysiology 1 and 2 courses are successfully completed) to the summer bridge course (on a space available basis). Phase L3 advancement status combines the points earned in Phase L1 with up to 10 points for the patho/pharm grades as follows:

Pathophysiology 1	A = 5 points
	B = 3 points
Pharmacology 1	A = 5 points
	B = 3 points

Acceptance or alternate status for the MHCC Nursing Program is made after the completion of Pathophysiology I, Pathophysiology II, and Pharmacology I courses in order to allow the applicant time to plan for the bridge course (4 students will be accepted and 1 student will be an alternate). Patho/Pharm II (NRS 231 and NRS233) must also be completed with a grade of “C” or better in order to maintain the acceptance or alternate status and progress to the bridge course on a space available basis (NRS115 LPN Transition to OCNE, to be offered through Lane Community College during the summer of 2011).

The LPN bridge course, NRS115, will be offered through Lane Community College with the majority of the course didactic portion being delivered through distributed learning (online), the lab and high fidelity simulation activity will require the student to travel to Lane Community College, in Eugene, Oregon, for two or more intensive sessions of clinical and/or class face to face meetings during the summer of 2011.

Pharmacology II, NRS231, must be completed with a “C” or better by the end of summer term before starting in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the nursing program.

(Note: Starting in 2012 LPN to RN OCNE Advanced Placement applicant who was an alternate in a prior year but not admitted to the second year of the Nursing Program, have completed the Patho/Pharm 1 and 2 courses with a C or better, and who re-apply, will be assigned an additional 5 points for subsequent application processes for up to three years.)

Applicants may apply for any available LPN Advanced Placement slots in any community college OCNE partner nursing program. Contact the nursing program director for more information.



**Phase L4:**

Selected applicants and alternate are eligible to take the bridge course, offered at Lane Community College, (on a space available basis; up to 24 students from partner programs will be allowed to enroll in NRS115). Applicants must complete the course with a C or better. Four of the applicants will be accepted and admitted to the fourth term (beginning of second year) of the MHCC nursing program. Alternates must earn a C or better in the bridge course to become eligible for admission to slots that may become available by the start of fall term, or to earn preferential points for advanced placement application processes in subsequent years.

**Nursing Program Curriculum, Second Year**

See the Nursing Program Application Guide for more information about the required courses in the second year of the program or see the Nursing program page of the MHCC 2010 – 2011 College Catalog [www.mhcc.edu/catalog](http://www.mhcc.edu/catalog), page 105.

SAMPLE