

Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Newbern

How to Apply for Practical Nursing

2017 Practical Nursing Education Information

What Types of Classes are Available?

TCAT Newbern offers two day programs and one evening/weekend program.

- **Newbern Day Program** – is located on the Newbern campus and starts in September. Class hours are 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- **Union City Day Program** – is located in Union City and starts in May. Class hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- **Newbern Evening-Weekend Program** – is located on the Newbern campus and starts every 18 months. Class hours are 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

What is the Application Process?

Admission to the FOUR RIVERS REGIONAL PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM is open to anyone 18 years old or older who have met the following criteria for enrollment:

- Pass an entrance exam or have qualifying ACT scores for those less than 20 years old by the start of the program. (See what the approved nursing entrance exams are? Listed on next page)
- Candidates making or having acceptable entrance scores will be given a nursing packet that must be completed:
 - Complete the Tennessee College of Applied Technology application form.
 - Submit an official high school transcript or G.E.D.
 - Four Rivers Regional application form
 - Three (3) Letters of Work Reference (If there is no work history, qualifying character references will be accepted)
 - Official College, University, or Technology school transcripts of previous education
 - Copy of current Immunizations
 - Complete the FAFSA for financial aid availability.
- Candidates completing above requirements will be sent a letter of invite to a mandatory orientation session. (Other paperwork will be completed at this time)
- Physical exam within three months of the start of the program if chosen. Medical clearance is required for pre-existing conditions that could hinder performance. Examples: back injury, asthma, recurrent bronchitis, etc.
- Must have the ability to communicate and relate to persons of diverse ethnic, cultural, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Must be able to exhibit positive mental attitudes during periods of increased activity in stressful situations.
- The applicant shall exhibit good emotional and physical health.
- The applicant shall possess desirable qualities, attributes, and the ability to benefit from instruction.
- All who enter the health care field require the currently recommended series of Hepatitis B vaccines or a signed declination statement. (Refer to the most current adult immunization schedule available.)
- Submit credentials for review and recommendation by the Practical Nursing Advisory Committee.
- The Practical Nursing Advisory Committee will consider all qualifying applicants and recommend eligible applicants for acceptance into the FOUR RIVERS REGIONAL PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM. Acceptance into the Practical Nursing Program is not automatic, even though the applicant may be academically qualified and recommended by the Advisory Committee.
- Report for enrollment upon notification by letter from the school.

Class size is limited by clinical and classroom space as well as faculty availability. All admission criteria must be met before an applicant will be considered for a class. A letter from the College will notify applicants whether or not they are accepted into the Nursing Program.

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What are the Approved Nursing Entrance Exams?

There are currently three acceptable qualifying exams for entrance into the nursing program. You only have to meet one to be considered for the class.

HESI – 70% in Math and 70% in Reading

COMPASS – 50 in Math (Pre-Algebra) and 80 in Reading* (The Compass test is no longer being administered. Previously passed Compass exams are valid for two years for the Practical Nursing program)

ACT – 19 in Math and 19 in Reading. The candidate must be less than age 20 by the start of the program to be able to use these scores.

When is the Approved Nursing Entrance Exam Given?

HESI exam fees are \$40 and include assessments in Math, Reading, and Critical Thinking. Scores will be issued to the student for the Math and Reading sections. A score is not issued to the student for the Critical Thinking portion of the exam. If a student makes below the 70% passing grade (Math or Reading), the student must retake the **entire** HESI exam again. There is a 30 day waiting period to retest. Please allow 2 ½ to 3 hours for the testing process.

You must come by or call TCAT-Newbern to schedule the assessment. Fees must be paid at the time of scheduling your appointment.

FEES MUST BE PAID WITH CASH, MONEY ORDER, or CREDIT/DEBIT CARD. FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE/NON-TRANSFERABLE. CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

Limited seating is available.

You may call (731)627-2511 from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday – Thursday; 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday.

How do I prepare for the approved nursing entrance exam?

Free Practice Tests:

<http://www.hesia2practicetest.com/hesi-a2-reading-comprehension-practice-test/>

<http://www.hesia2practicetest.com/hesi-a2-math-practice-test/>

<https://uniontestprep.com/hesi-exam> Union Test Prep (Free study tools for HESI)

Math Review Websites:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/pre-algebra> (Free study tools for mathematics)

<http://math.com/homeworkhelp/EverydayMath.html> (Free math review)

www.themathpage.com

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org/topics/math/>

<http://www.themathpage.com/ARITH/arithmic.htm>

Student only needs to bring a current photo ID and sales receipt on the day of test.

What if I have already taken an approved nursing entrance exam and Passed?

If you have taken an approved nursing entrance exam previously at TCAT-Newbern, you must contact TCAT-Newbern and submit updated contact information, so that we can pull your scores. If you tested at another testing center, it is your responsibility to get the official passing scores to TCAT-Newbern and complete contact information.

Are there Deadlines to submit my approved Nursing Entrance Exam Scores?

Yes. Please call the college for deadline dates regarding the application/testing process.

-More Questions? Please e-mail Regina Davis, rdavis@tcatnewbern.edu or Tacara Vaughn, tv Vaughn@tcatnewbern.edu or call 731-627-2511.