Nursing


Updated SEPTEMBER 2016
A Guide to the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) requirements at PCC

Minimum application requirements

• At least 30 of the 45 credits of prerequisites must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline
  Bi 231 must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.
  Math competency course or placement test (see below) must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.
• The remaining prerequisites must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission

Grade requirements:

• Cumulative GPA of prerequisite courses must be at least a 3.0.
• Individual prerequisite courses must be taken for a letter grade and must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.

Prerequisite Courses with a 7-year expiration

Bi 231, 232 & 233 Anatomy and Physiology I, II & III, 12 Credits: Bi 231 must be completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline. Bi 232 & 233 must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission. The full sequence of human anatomy and physiology with laboratory, inclusive of all body systems is required. Chemistry or Biology may be required prior to the A&P sequence at some institutions. PCC requires Bi 112 prior to taking the Bi 231-233 sequence.

Bi 234 Microbiology, 4-5 credits: Must be completed with a C or better by the end of spring term prior to admission. Lecture and laboratory need to cover: bacterial identification, morphology, metabolism and genetics; bacterial, viral, and parasitic relationships with human health and disease; and basic immunology. PCC requires Bi 112 prior to taking Bi 234.

FN 225 Nutrition, 4 Credits: Class should cover biological functions, dietary sources of essential nutrients and the relationship of diet to health. PCC requires that Bi231, WR121 and MTH60 be complete prior to registering for FN 225.

PSY 215 Human Development, 4 Credits: Class should cover the developmental process of human life through the full life span, from birth to death.

Math 95 Intermediate Algebra, or MTH 105, or MTH 111 or higher: 3-5 credits, or placement test. Students must demonstrate math competency by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline:
• Passing MTH 95, 105, 111 or higher with a grade of "C" or better (must be completed within 7 years of application)
• Placing into MTH 105/ 111 (College Algebra) as determined by PCC equivalent placement scores for COMPASS, ASSET or ACUPLACER placement test. (Must be completed within 7 years of application-No credit awarded). Students will need to complete or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 course credits required for admission to the program. Applicants to the nursing program may use a placement test to meet admissions requirements; however, students completing an Associates of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Nursing are responsible for meeting mathematics graduation requirements (MTH 65 or higher).

Courses with no expiration date

WR 121 & WR 122 English Composition, 6-8 Credits: Remedial English such as sentence structure and punctuation will not be accepted as sufficient to meet the prerequisite. These courses are preparation for scientific or technical writing which will be required later in the nursing program. Requirement is waived with completion of previous U.S. Bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution. Students who have completed a U.S. Bachelor's degree (waived the WR 121 & 122 requirement) will need to complete or substitute additional general education electives to fulfill the 45 credits required for admission to the program. 

Prerequisite Elective Credits: Prerequisite elective credits may come from any general education subject area as listed in the PCC catalog at http://catalog.pcc.edu under the General Education heading At least 6 of the elective credits must come from the Social Science area (excluding PSY 215).

Basic Computer Competency: The nursing program does not require a computer science prerequisite course. However, success in the nursing program requires that students be computer literate, including word processing, data entry, use of spreadsheets and internet research. Students with no computer experience should discuss with an advisor how to achieve competency prior to entering the nursing program.

Nursing degree requirements that may be taken prior to acceptance

Genetics Module: Students must have documentation of having a biology course with genetic content prior to the second term of the nursing program. Successful completion of BI 102, or BI 222, or BI 212 or BI 112 at PCC will satisfy this requirement.

AAS General Education & Nursing Program electives: In addition to the 45 credits of prerequisite courses required for admission, students will need an additional 30 credits of general education electives to complete the nursing degree. There is no expiration date for these electives. Of the total electives completed, 9 credits should come from the Arts and Letters category to meet OHSU transfer requirements. Electives must be 100 level or higher approved Arts and Letters, Social Science, Natural Science or Mathematics. See PCC's Associate of Applied Science Degree worksheet for approved courses.

WR 123, 222 or 227 English Composition or Technical Writing: Students who have completed WR 121 and WR 122 at 4 credits each are not required to complete a technical writing course. Students who completed writing WR 121 and WR 122 at 3 credits each will need to complete a technical writing course. Students with a previous bachelor’s degree do not have to complete this requirement but additional elective credit may be needed for graduation.

For the Bachelor of Science:

Math 243 Statistics

Foreign Language (see www.ohsu.edu/son for more details). Language proficiency can be met by successful completion of 1) two years of high school language, 2) two terms of the same college level language, or 3) a language proficiency examination. (PCC does not offer language proficiency exams). College level (100 and above) credits in foreign languages can count as general education or elective credits.
## PCC Nursing Program Point Distribution

Program selection for PCC’s Nursing program is a three-tier process. The first tier is based on a points system worth up to 70 points as detailed below. Please see page 6 for selection process details. **Information is subject to change.** Visit [www.pcc.edu/nursing](http://www.pcc.edu/nursing) for updated program information. PCC will not consider degrees, work experience, certifications, or courses earned for points after fall term prior to application deadline.

### TIER I: OCNE POINTS (51 points possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE GPA</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GPA is calculated based on the grades earned among the 45 credits of prerequisites (GPA x 24) – 56 = Points (See FAQs for GPA calculations)</td>
<td>/ 40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### COMPLETION OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (A & P) SEQUENCE

- **5 points** - Awarded for completion of the full sequence by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline
- **3 points** - Awarded for completion of the first two quarters of the sequence by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline

#### COMPLETION OF ALL PREREQUISITE CREDITS

- **5 points** - Awarded for completion of all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline
- **3 points** - Awarded for completion of 36-44 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline

#### COMPLETION OF A PRIOR DEGREE

- **1 point** – Awarded for completion of a previous U.S. Associates Degree or higher. Degree must be earned by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.

### TIER I: PCC LOCAL CRITERIA POINTS (19 points possible)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREREQUISITE CREDITS TAKEN AT PCC</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credits are calculated based on the number of prerequisite credits completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline.</td>
<td>/ 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- **3 points** – Awarded for completion of all 45 prerequisite credits
- **2 points** – Awarded for completion of 36 – 44 credits
- **1 point** – Awarded for completion of 24 – 35 prerequisite credits

#### US MILITARY VETERAN

DD214 Member 4 Copy required documenting service and honorable discharge. See FAQs for more information.

#### MICROBIOLOGY (BI 234)

- **2 Points** – Awarded to students who have Microbiology (BI 234 or equivalent) completed by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline. BI 234 must be completed within 7 years of application to the program. **2017 is the last application cycle students will earn points for completion of microbiology.**

#### B GRADE IN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (BI 231, BI 232 & BI 233)

- **2 Points** – Awarded to students that have earned a B grade in at least one of the A & P courses. If a course is repeated, the most recent attempt will be considered.

#### HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE & CERTIFICATIONS

Students may earn up to 10 points for health care experience and/or work experience in a medical setting. A medical setting is a hospital, clinic, nursing home or other environment where licensed practitioners diagnose, treat, and prevent acute and chronic illness or injury.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants who have earned certification as one of the following: CNA, LPN, CMA, EMT, Paramedic or Military Medic AND have completed hours of post-certification, paid work experience in a medical setting.</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000+ hours = <strong>10 points</strong></td>
<td>/ 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 – 1999 hours = <strong>8 points</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>240 – 999 hours = <strong>6 points</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>0 – 239 hours = <strong>4 points</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants without one of the above designated certifications who have a minimum of 480 hours of paid work experience medical setting.</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WITH direct patient contact = <strong>3 points</strong></td>
<td>/ 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WITHOUT direct patient contact = <strong>2 points</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants who have documented volunteer experience in a medical setting.</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 hours or more = <strong>1 point</strong></td>
<td>/ 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### TIER I TOTAL POINTS / 70
**PCC Nursing Program Prerequisite Course Planning Sheet**

All prerequisite courses (45 credits) must be completed by the end of spring term prior to admission. For minimum eligibility requirements to apply, see page 2 of this Guide. Courses completed at a college other than PCC are subject to transferability.

### PREREQUISITE COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses Completed</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I, II, III: 12 credits</td>
<td>BI 231 Anatomy &amp; Physiology I (within 7 years)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BI 232 Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (within 7 years)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BI 233 Anatomy &amp; Physiology III (within 7 years)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BI 234 Microbiology (within 7 years)</td>
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Note: BI 112 is a prerequisite for BI 231 & BI 234 at PCC.

**INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA: 0–5 credits**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTH 95, MTH 105, MTH 111 or higher (within 7 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Placement test scores into MTH 111 or higher (within 7 years)</td>
<td>Placement:</td>
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</table>

The MTH 95 requirement can be waived by completing a college placement test and testing higher than Math 95. The English composition requirement is waived for students who have a previous US bachelor's degree. Students who waive the writing will need to substitute general education electives to meet the 45 credit requirement. PCC will only accept Compass, Asset and Accuplacer placement test scores for the math competency. The placement test must be completed by the end of fall term prior to application. Placement test scores may be used for admission to the nursing program, but does not meet AAS graduation requirement.

**ENGLISH COMPOSITION : 6–8 credits**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WR 121 English Composition I</td>
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<tr>
<td>WR 122 English Composition II</td>
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The English composition requirement is waived for students who have a previous US bachelor's degree. Students who waive the writing will need to substitute additional general education to meet the 45 credit requirement.

**NUTRITION: 4 credits**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>FN 225 (within 7 years)</td>
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**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: 4 credits**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 215 (within 7 years)</td>
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**PREREQUISITE GENERAL EDUCATION: HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCE OR NATURAL SCIENCE: 13 or more credits**

Additional credits may be needed to complete the 45 prerequisite credits. General education prerequisite electives must include at least 6 credits of social science. Refer to the PCC Catalog at [http://catalog.pcc.edu](http://catalog.pcc.edu) under the General Education heading for a list of approved general education courses.

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Term / Year</th>
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<td>Social Science elective</td>
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<td>Other electives: (Electives from arts, humanities, social sciences, math, natural sciences, etc. if needed to meet 45 credits.</td>
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<td>Other prerequisite GE elective, if needed to complete 45 credits</td>
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<td>Other prerequisite GE elective, if needed to complete 45 credits</td>
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A minimum of 30 of the 45 credits must be completed, including BI 231 & MTH 95 (both within 7 years), by the end of fall term prior to the application deadline. For best point consideration, students should complete all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of Fall term prior to the application deadline. Please view the Point Distribution Sheet on page 3 of this guide for more details.

**Total prerequisite credits completed:** 45

Requirements and selection criteria are subject to change on a yearly basis.
Program Overview:
Portland Community College’s Nursing Program is designed to provide students the option of completing an associate’s degree from PCC and/or a bachelor’s degree in nursing from OHSU. The course work is outlined in a four-year framework (though the pace of taking prerequisite courses can extend the student’s timeline to five years for completion of the BSN).

Year one  Prerequisites (typically takes students 4 – 6 terms to complete)
Year two  Accepted 1st year Nursing core courses and clinical at PCC
Year three  Accepted 2nd year Nursing core courses and clinical at PCC – option to complete AAS degree and complete licensing exam (NCLEX) to become a registered nurse
Year four  OHSU BSN track students complete additional upper division electives and nursing coursework to complete a BSN degree.

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Notes:
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2016-2018 PCC Nursing Program Admission Process

PRIOR TO APPLYING

- Applicants are encouraged to research the field of nursing and volunteer or work in the health care industry to gain knowledge of professional duties and responsibilities.
- Students are eligible to apply for admission to the nursing program after completion of a minimum of 30 quarter credits of courses from the prerequisite list. The 30 credits must include BI 231 and Math 95 competency (both within 7 years of application). The minimum requirements must be met by the end of fall term 2016. All prerequisites in progress at the time of application must be completed by the end of the spring term prior to program admission.
- Application to the nursing program requires a minimum prerequisite GPA of 3.0. All 45 completed prerequisite credits will be counted toward the prerequisite GPA.
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a letter grade of "C" or better. Plus and minus grades will not be factored into the GPA. Pass/no pass grades are not accepted.
- If a course has been taken more than once, the most recent grade received will be the grade used for evaluation.
- Admission is highly competitive, with up to 80 students and approximately 80 alternates chosen each year from a pool of 500 - 800 applicants. Completion of prerequisite courses does not guarantee entrance into the program. Applicants should have alternative options and apply to as many schools as possible.

HOW TO APPLY

- Open application period: November 1, 2016 – February 15, 2017 by 12:00am Eastern Standard Time (EST)
- Apply to PCC as a credit seeking student. Students can apply to Portland Community College online at www.pcc.edu/admissions
- Pay a supplemental application fee to PCC for $40.
  o Payment link can be found online during the open application period.
- Create a NursingCAS account at www.nursingcas.liaisoncas.com and submit all application materials for your CAS application.
  o Submit official transcripts, including those from PCC, proof of payment from the PCC supplemental application fee, healthcare work experience forms, supporting licensure/certification documentation, and the NursingCAS $45 application fee by February 15th, 2017 at 12:00am EST deadline.

SELECTION PROCESS

Tier I admission process: Application evaluation
Applications are evaluated on a 70-point scale (see page 3). Applicants must meet minimum eligibility requirements. Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered.

Tier II admission process: Proctored essay
After the first evaluation of nursing applications, up to 200 applicants will be invited to participate in the proctored essay. The proctored essay is by invitation only and is mandatory. Applicants will be notified of invitation to the proctored essay through the email address listed on their NursingCAS account.

Tier III admission process: Post-selection requirements
After the proctored essay, up to 80 students will be offered a seat in the Nursing Program. Selected applicants must complete all prerequisite courses (45 credits) by the end of spring term prior to starting the Nursing Program in the Fall Term. In addition, prior to beginning nursing courses, students must meet the following requirements.
- Successfully pass a criminal background check from an agency designated by PCC
- Successfully pass a ten-panel drug screen from a lab designated by PCC
- Submit proof of current immunizations
- Submit proof of current CPR for Health Care Providers certification

Applicants should NOT pursue meeting the above requirements prior to being offered a seat in the Nursing Program. Students with an admissions offer will receive specific directions from PCC’s Nursing department on how to fulfill these requirements.

TIMELINE FOR FALL 2017 ADMISSION

- Open application period: November 1, 2016-February 15, 2017 12:00am (EST)
- Late-March, 2017 (Tier I admission): 150-200 applicants are notified by PCC email of proctored essay selection.
- Mid-April, 2017: Proctored essay held on campus. Invited applicants must attend to be considered for the program.
- Mid May, 2017 (Tier II admission): Up to 80 applicants offered placement in the Nursing Program.
- Summer 2017 (Tier III admission): Students offered a seat in the program must meet post-selection requirements before final admission status is complete.
- Fall 2017: Program begins.
What is OCNE?
The PCC Nursing Program is partnered with nine other Oregon community college programs and all campuses of the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) in a unified approach to nursing education. This statewide coalition is known as the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE). OCNE schools have the same prerequisites and comparable application processes for students. The program is designed to provide students the option of completing an associate's degree in nursing (AAS) from PCC and/or a bachelor’s degree in nursing (BSN) from OHSU.

How can I earn a BSN if I start at PCC?
Acceptance to the PCC nursing program allows students non-competitive entry into Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). This agreement that enables applicants who complete PCC’s nursing program to be eligible to complete a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Nursing (BSN) at OHSU without an additional competitive application process. Students must complete the AAS before transitioning to OHSU. Those who do not continue their education immediately after the two-year PCC program can apply directly to OHSU’s RN to BSN completion program.

How many spaces does PCC’s nursing program have?
PCC’s Nursing Department will select up to 80 students to begin the program each fall. The Nursing Department reserves the right to adjust acceptance numbers and final acceptance numbers may change from year to year depending on several factors.

How can I earn health care experience points for my military medical training?
Most students will find it easiest to provide their DD214, member 4 copy. Military Medical experience will be considered as a licensed certification with supporting documentation. Please submit any & all documentation regarding military title, job duties and length of service in that role, honorable discharge papers (if applicable). Documentation may come from formal discharge papers or a commanding officer on letterhead from the respective military branch. For more information, please follow up with the Health Admission Office.

How competitive is PCC’s program?
Admission to PCC’s Nursing Program is competitive, with approximately 500-800 students applying each year for up to 80 spots. Points are awarded for several criteria and it is difficult to predict the chances of acceptance in advance. It is important to be as successful as possible in your prerequisite coursework. We strongly advise that students complete all 45 prerequisite credits by the end of fall term before application, and gain work experience in the medical field.

How do I calculate my prerequisite GPA?
To calculate your prerequisite GPA you need to divide your total grade points by your total number of credits. The grade you receive in a course is awarded grade points as follows: A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points. Multiply the credits the course is worth by your grade points in the course to get your Grade Quality Points. Sum your total Credits. Sum your total Grade Quality Points. Divide your Total Grade Quality Points by your Total Credits to get your GPA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade points</th>
<th>X</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>= Grade Quality Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>= 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI 231</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>= 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 101</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>= 9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

10 total credits ÷ 33 total quality points = 3.3 GPA

Why do applicants with a B grade in Anatomy and Physiology receive additional points?
OCNE determines the criteria for 51 of the 70 points used to select students to Tier II of the selection process. PCC has 19 discretionary points which can be awarded for criteria based on the Nursing Department preferences. Based on recent admissions data, PCC’s Nursing Department decided to provide applicants with B grades in Anatomy and Physiology more of an opportunity to compete for the proctored essay. While applicants with B grades in one or more of their Anatomy and Physiology courses receive 2 points, applicants with A grades in all of their prerequisite courses still receive more points by receiving the maximum 40 points for GPA. *The discretionary points will be under review for the 2018 application cycle*.

What skills and abilities are required of nursing students?
Nursing students must be able to grasp scientific concepts, set up and answer basic math and algebra problems, and have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Physically, students must be able to remain on their feet for extended periods, lift up to 25 pounds, hear heart and breath sounds, and read fine print. The competencies of the OCNE curriculum addresses the need for nurses to be skilled in clinical judgment and critical thinking, 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. See page 6 of this advising guide or visit http://www.pcc.edu/programs/nursing/technical-standards.html and become familiar with the Nursing Program Technical Standards.
PCC Nursing Program Technical Standards

PCC Nursing Program provides the following technical standards to inform students of the skills required in completing their chosen profession's curriculum and in the provision of health care services. These technical standards reflect the performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of clinical based health care programs.

Cognitive

- Recall, collect, analyze, synthesize, and integrate information from a variety of sources.
- Measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize data.
- Problem-solve and think critically in order to apply knowledge and skill.
- Communicate verbally, and through reading and writing, with individuals from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
- Relay information in oral and written form effectively, accurately, reliably, and intelligibly to individuals and groups, using the English language.

Physical

Motor:
- Coordinate fine and gross motor movements.
- Coordinate hand/eye movements.
- Maintain balance from any position.
- Negotiate level surfaces, ramps and stairs.
- Function with both hands free for performing psychomotor tasks.
- Maneuver in small areas.
- Attend to cognitive and psychomotor tasks for up to 7-12 hours.

Sensory:
- Acquire information from demonstrations and experiences, including but not limited to information conveyed through online coursework, lecture, small group activities, demonstrations, and application experiences.
- Collect information through observation, listening, touching, and smelling.
- Use and interpret information from diagnostic maneuvers.

Behavioral

- Demonstrate emotional stability to function effectively under stress and adapt to changing environments.
- Maintain effective, mature, and sensitive relationships with others.
- Examine and modify one's own behavior when it interferes with others or the learning environment.
- Possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, altruism, integrity, honesty, responsibility and tolerance.
- Accept responsibility for own actions and communicate in a courteous, assertive, non-aggressive, non-defensive manner with instructors, peers, staff and healthcare team members.
- Integrate feedback into own performance.

Additional Nursing Resources

Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education: www.ocne.org
Oregon Health Science University Nursing Program: www.ohsu.edu/son
Oregon State Board of Nursing: www.osbn.state.or.us
National Student Nurses Association: www.nsna.org
Oregon Center for Nursing: www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

Health Admissions Office
Portland Community College
Sylvania Campus, CC 208
ph: 971-722-4795, fax: 971-722-4837
www.pcc.edu/hao
www.pcc.edu/nursing