

Vocational Nursing

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT / ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM

About This Program

The Vocational Nursing program is designed to help students acquire a command of the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue entry-level employment as a licensed vocational nurse under the guidance of a registered nurse or a licensed physician or dentist. Graduates are able to provide care for clients experiencing common, well-defined health problems. The program, which culminates in a Certificate of Achievement or Associate of Science degree in Vocational Nursing, combines academic and clinical training to prepare students to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).*

Important information about the educational debt, earnings and completion rate of students who attended this program can be found at carrington.edu/cc/vn.

Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.

* Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program. Credential preparation varies by location.

General Education Coursework

Students in the associate degree programs complete technical coursework as well as general education course offerings focusing on:

- English composition
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social sciences
- Computer literacy

Those enrolled in the science-emphasis option also complete science-based general education course and lab work in:

- Inorganic chemistry
- Human anatomy and physiology
- Microbiology

To be eligible for entrance into the Associate of Science (non-science or science emphasis) in Vocational Nursing, applicants must have earned a Certificate in Vocational Nursing from an accredited program.

Technical Coursework

Technical coursework focuses on fundamentals, medical-surgical nursing, medication administration, pediatric nursing, community and mental-health nursing and nursing care of specialized populations. In this program, students:

- Attend a combination of classroom instruction, laboratory practice and clinical training in area health care facilities
- Learn from passionate instructors with extensive nursing experience
- Prepare for taking the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN)*

Total coursework for certificate (credit hours)	54
Total general education coursework for non-science-emphasis (credit hours)	21
Total credit hours required for non-science emphasis associate degree	75
Total coursework for certificate (credit hours)	54
Total general education coursework for science-emphasis (credit hours)	43
Total credit hours required for non-science emphasis associate degree	97
Certificate Program Length	48 weeks (not including breaks)
Non-Science-Emphasis Degree Program Length	72 weeks (not including breaks)
Science-Emphasis Degree Program Length	112 weeks (not including breaks)

Students need to meet admission requirements, including drug screening and background checks.

Carrington's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/carrington-college/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.

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Careers in Vocational Nursing*

Licensed vocational nurses† are generalists who care for patients and work in many health care areas. They provide basic bedside care, measure and record patients' vital signs, and assist with bathing, dressing and personal hygiene in nursing homes, physicians' offices or in patients' homes. In nursing care facilities, vocational nurses can help evaluate residents' needs, develop care plans and supervise the care provided by nursing aides. In doctors' offices and clinics, their range of responsibilities may include office-related duties. In the home health care setting, vocational nurses often prepare meals, assist in feeding patients and teach family members simple nursing tasks.

Carrington's Vocational Nursing program prepares students for entry-level employment under the guidance of a registered nurse or licensed physician/dentist in a variety of health care settings such as:

- Nursing and residential care facilities
- Physician offices
- State, local, and private hospitals
- Home health care services

* Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

Knowledge and Skills

Upon completion of the Vocational Nursing program, graduates will be able to:

- Implement the nursing process in providing care for patients in a variety of clinical settings
- Demonstrate academic preparedness to take the NCLEX-PN examination for licensure as a vocational nurse†
- Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking, work collaboratively, communicate clearly and act professionally

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Accreditation, Approvals and Program Availability

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC/WASC), 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204, Novato, CA 94949, 415 506 0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the US Department of Education. Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

The Vocational Nursing program at the Sacramento campus is approved and the Vocational Nursing program at the San Jose campuses have provisional approval by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833, 916 263 7800, www.bvnpt.ca.gov.

For comprehensive information on Carrington's accreditation, licenses and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation.

The Vocational Nursing program is offered to new students at:

SACRAMENTO, CA

SAN JOSE, CA