

VN Frequently Asked Questions

HOW LONG IS THE WAITING TIME?

There is no waitlist. Applicants not accepted for whatever reason are recommended to save application information and resubmit during the next application period.

HOW MANY VN STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED EACH YEAR?

Napa Valley College invites 30 VN candidates to start the program every other Spring (January, odd years).

IS THERE A RECENCY REQUIREMENT FOR PREREQUISITE COURSES?

Yes. See VN program information sheet.

CAN I CHALLENGE THE CNA REQUIREMENT?

At this time we are requiring the actual CNA certificate as it demonstrates introduction to basic nursing skills and clinical practice/application. Our curriculum will not be spending time on teaching this content except to evaluate these skills to be sure everyone knows our programs expectations/requirements. If you feel you meet these basic criteria, the CNA exam can be challenged so you can obtain the CNA without taking the entire course. The information and form for CNA is found at www.cdph.ca.gov. This site can also refer you to schools in the area that teach classes and offer clinical requirements for CNA certification.

IF I AM AN MA, EMT, PARAMEDIC, PT, OR OTHER HEALTH RELATED PROFESSION, DO I STILL NEED A CNA?

Yes. We are looking for consistency as stated above. You can use your current education and experience to apply for the CNA without taking additional course work.

IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE A LEARNING DISABILITY, WHEN & HOW SHOULD YOU GET HELP?

Diagnostic testing for eligibility for Identification of Students with Learning Disabilities in California Community Colleges is available through the Diagnostic Learning Services Department. Students must be enrolled in 3 academic units to be assessed. The office is located in Room 1766. You may call for an appointment 707-256-7442. The earlier one uses these services, the more likely they are to benefit. Please do not wait until you start the nursing program to seek this assessment.

WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF MY TIME WHILE I WAIT TO ENTER THE VN PROGRAM?

The students who are most likely to succeed in the VN program are those who use the time before they enter to build the academic foundation needed for the rigorous program. A NVC counselor can help you select courses to build this foundation. Computer skills are strongly recommended.

IS THERE AN ADVANTAGE TO WORKING IN A HEALTH-CARE SETTING BEFORE I START THE PROGRAM?

Yes, if you are employed in the health-care field before you begin the program you will probably feel more comfortable in the lab & clinical settings, become more familiar with medical terminology and develop the communication skills needed to be an effective nurse. Some health facilities provide scholarship assistance to their employees who are pursuing a career in nursing.

WHAT IS A FOREIGN TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION?

If your High School or College transcripts are from **other countries** they must be evaluated by an International Evaluation Service prior to submission of your application, or you must provide Napa Valley College with a certificate from the International Evaluator. Forms are available on the Admissions & Records webpage.

Definitions

Prerequisites: A course **requirement** that must be completed **prior** to enrolling in another course.

Co-requisite: A course that is **required** to be taken **at the same time or before** another course.

Advisory: A course or other preparation which is **recommended** in order to increase a student's probability of success in the program.