



**Hartnell College**  
**Vocational Nursing Certificate Program**



*Vocational Nursing Program*

**AREA:** Mathematics and Science                      **DEAN:** Dr. Kathleen Schrader  
**DIRECTOR:** Donna Duell                              **OFFICE LOCATION:** Natividad Hospital, Hartnell- Bldg.400 3rd Floor;  
**PHONE:** (831) 770-6146                              **COUNSELORS:** Dr. Ignacio Pando, LaVerne Cook 831-755-6820  
**MAILING ADDRESS:** Hartnell College ATTN: Nursing, 156 Homestead Ave. Salinas CA 93901

Vocational Nurses perform essential nursing services under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician. They have work opportunities in home health agencies, doctor’s offices, public or private hospitals, long-term care hospitals, clinics, or for private individuals.

The Hartnell College Vocational Nursing (VN) Program is a three-semester program designed to prepare qualified men and women to practice vocational nursing. The program at Hartnell College is a theory, lab, and clinical experience in cooperation with Natividad Medical Center, Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, Watsonville Community Hospital, Mee Memorial Hospital (King City) and various community agencies. The college grants a certificate in Vocational Nursing after successful completion of the program, and the student is then eligible to take the NCLEX-PN examination for California licensure. After successfully passing the NCLEX-PN, the student is a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN).

***All Required prerequisites must be completed before (prior) applying to the LVN program:***

- Current (not in-progress) Certified Nursing Assistant License<sup>1</sup>
- Current CPR card for Healthcare Providers<sup>2</sup>
- High School Diploma, GED, or other documented high school completion equivalency

<sup>1</sup> CNA certificate from Hartnell’s HES-130A Certified Nursing Assistant course or other recognized institutions or adult schools.

<sup>2</sup> Certification from Hartnell’s HES-120 Foundations of Health Care course, or Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider CPR card from American heart Association, or Basic Life Support (CPR/AED) for the Professional Rescuer certification from American Red Cross (must include skills of CPR for victims of all ages—infant to adult, and teach use of an automated external defibrillator (AED)).

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE NAME	UNITS
ENG-1A	College Composition and Reading	3.0
MAT-121, or Higher skill level math course	Elementary Algebra	3.0-5.0
FCS 22 or 23*	Essentials of Nutrition	3.0
BIO-11*	Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology	4.0
PSY-1A*	General Psychology	3.0
<b>Total Prerequisite Coursework Units</b>		<b>16.0-18.0</b>

***Required courses:*** (Because of the rigorous coursework and time commitment, students are advised to complete NVN-130 and NVN-131 before entering the Vocational Nursing Program.)

	UNITS
<b>Semester One:</b>	
NVN-120 Vocational Nursing I: Fundamentals	10.0
NVN-130* Basic Pharmacology (or previously offered course NRN-30*)	3.0
NVN-131* Growth and Development Across the Life Span (or previously offered course NRN-31*)	2.0
<b>Semester Two:</b>	
NVN-121 Vocational Nursing II: Care of the Childbearing Family	12.0
<b>Semester Three:</b>	
NVN-122 Vocational Nursing III: Care of the Adult, Geriatric and Mental Health Patient	12.0

**\*Recency:** Courses marked with an asterisk must be completed **within five (5) years** of entering the Vocational Nursing Program in order to receive credit for the hours required by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians of the State Of California (California Code of Regulations, Title 16: Professional and Vocational Regulations, Division 25: Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians of the State of California).

### **Important Information for All Applicants:**

After completion of all prerequisite coursework, students can apply to the Vocational Nursing Program. According to the California Vocational Nursing Practice Act, all prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better, and a “C” grade in all required major courses is required for continuation in the program. The Vocational Program generally receives more applications than spaces available; therefore, a point system is used based on GPA, health-related volunteer or work experience, and letters of recommendations.

Application Packets are available the second week of September of each year in the Nursing Secretary’s office (Natividad Hospital, Hartnell-Bldg 400 Third Floor, 308). The Vocational Nursing program is an 18 month program (3 semesters), beginning spring of each year.

It is the responsibility of all students applying to the Hartnell College Vocational Nursing certificate program to follow the required timelines and requirements set forth in the Application Process. Therefore, it is the student’s responsibility to seek out individual answers to questions from available sources—Nursing Department, Nursing Counselors, and/or International Student Advisor early enough to meet established timelines. Please make a note of the deadlines listed on the Vocational Nursing Program Admission Application.

*Late applications are not accepted.*

After satisfactorily completing the prescribed course of study, students receive the Certificate of Completion and will be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). Upon successful passing of the examination, the vocational nurse may use the title, Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), and may practice in that capacity.

### **Required Transcripts and Evaluations for Application to the Vocational Nursing Program:**

- *Hartnell College transcripts*

Students who have completed coursework and/or are completing courses in progress at Hartnell College must have an official transcript sent from Admissions & Records Office to the Nursing Department. It is the student’s responsibility to make the request for an official transcript prior to the application deadline.

- *Other college transcripts*

Students who have completed prerequisites and/or other required coursework at other colleges must have their official transcripts reviewed by a Nursing Counselor and have a *Course Equivalency Form* signed for the student to submit to the Records Evaluator in Admissions and Records. The signed *Course Equivalency Form* and official transcripts must also be included with the application packet submitted to the Hartnell College Nursing Department. It is the student’s responsibility to request the two required official transcripts from other colleges early enough in the application process to allow transcripts to arrive in the Nursing Department and Admissions and Records prior to the application deadline.

- *Foreign transcripts*

Transcripts from other countries of high school and/or college course work must be *comprehensively* evaluated, including: subjects, units, grade listing, diploma received, and showing equivalency to United States education, by an outside credentials evaluations service. A listing of the approved Evaluation Services and applicable fees is available from the Admission and Records Office, or the International Student Advisor. Evaluation of Foreign transcripts must be completed before applying to the VN Program. The amount of time for this type of evaluation varies. It is *the student’s* responsibility to request transcripts and have them evaluated prior to the application deadline.

### **For students considering advanced placement (LVN-RN):**

For Licensed Vocational Nurses interested in Advanced Placement into the Registered Nursing program, academic planning and additional coursework is required. Please confer with a Hartnell counselor to develop an educational plan with these goals in mind.

**NOTE:** Because of the rigorous coursework and time commitment, students should NOT plan to work more than 16 hours a week during the program. Evening and possibly weekend shifts and rotations may be a required as part of this program. *Please check with the Hartnell College Scholarship office for scholarships available for nursing students.*