Nursing, AS

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## Purpose

Graduates of the Associate in Science in Nursing (ASN) Program are prepared to become licensed as an entry-level Registered Nurse (RN). The nursing curriculum incorporates classroom instruction, laboratory, simulation education, and clinical practice in the care of diverse populations. Local health facilities are utilized for clinical practice, including community agencies, acute care institutions, as well as long-term and ambulatory care facilities. Graduates of the program possess knowledge, values, skills, and compassion; all are essential for professional nursing practice in a dynamic and rapidly changing healthcare environment.

The ASN program is offered on the Charlotte, Collier, and Lee campuses. There are two schedule options available at each campus. The traditional schedule is offered during daytime hours, Monday - Friday. The evening/weekend schedule is offered evening hours Monday - Friday and any time on weekends. Both schedules consist of classroom instruction, laboratory, simulation education, and clinical practice through multiple modalities including online and in-person instruction. Both schedules require the student to fully commit to the academic schedule put forth by the Nursing department. Working full-time is not recommended due to the rigorous nature of the program.

Current occupational employment and wage data for Registered Nurses are published by the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics at [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291141.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291141.htm).

The Associate and Baccalaureate of Science in nursing degree programs at Florida SouthWestern State College are located on the Charlotte, Collier, and Lee campuses and are accredited by the:



Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Telephone: 404-975-5000 <https://acenursing.org/>

\*The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate of Science in Nursing program is Continuing Accreditation.

**Admission Requirements**

For **Fall 2023** admission, please refer to admission requirements for the 2022-23 catalog found here:

<https://catalog.fsw.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=16&poid=1565&returnto=1616>

**Spring 2024** admission requirements are as follows:

### High School Graduates:

A limited number of high school graduates will be admitted each Fall and Spring semester. High school graduate applicants must meet the following requirements prior to the ASN application deadline (Fall: June 30; Spring: September 15). Applicants who do not meet these requirements should follow the Current College Student application process.

1. Earned a standard high school diploma from a regionally accredited high school in the academic year immediately preceding the ASN application deadline.\*
2. Earned a high school GPA (unweighted) of 3.5 or higher.
3. Be accepted into Florida SouthWestern State College.
4. Demonstrate college-level readiness in English, reading and mathematics (<https://www.fsw.edu/testing/ftic>)
5. Complete and submit the ASN Application through the [ASN program page](https://www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asnursing) including payment of program Application Fee.

\*Applicants who did not graduate from high school in the United States must have the equivalent of a

U.S. high school diploma and must meet language standards established through College policy and/or procedure.

### Current College Students:

Current college student applicants must meet the following requirements prior to the ASN application deadline (Fall: May 15; Spring: September 15).

1. Be accepted by Florida SouthWestern State College.
2. **HUN 1201 - Human Nutrition** with a grade of “C” or better.
3. **ENC 1101 - Composition I** with a grade of “C” or better.
4. **DEP 2004 - Lifespan Development** with a grade of “C” or better.

5**. BSC 1085C - Anatomy and Physiology I** with a grade of “C” or better.

6. **BSC 1086C - Anatomy and Physiology II** with a grade of “C” or better.

1. Minimum GPA of 3.0, based only on completed General Education coursework required to graduate with an ASN. For ASN Admission purposes, the GPA will be calculated using the best attempt with a “C” or better.
2. If applicable, transcripts must be received and evaluated by the FSW Registrar’s Office. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure this is completed by the application deadline.
3. Complete and submit the ASN Application through the [ASN program page](https://www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asnursing) including payment of program Application Fee.

### Licensed Practical Nursing Applicants:

Florida Department of Education Gold Standard Career Pathways and Statewide Articulation Agreement guarantees the minimum award of course credits or a block of credit toward the above AS program is 10 credit hours. This agreement does not preclude the awarding of additional credits by any college through local agreements. The Licensed Practical Nurse certification, or National Licensed Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) certification represents industry acknowledgment of technical skill attainment of competencies in the Nursing (Associate Degree) R.N. program. To be eligible for articulation, the student must show evidence of their current Licensed Practical Nurse certification, or National Licensed Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) certification which must have been issued within three (3) years prior to their enrollment in the program. If space permits, Florida SouthWestern State College offers LPNs meeting the application and agreement requirements the option to accept an ASE1000 block of credits. The ASE1000 block consists of Nursing I AS Degree Nursing Core Courses (see Nursing Requirements below).

LPN applicants must meet the following requirements prior to the ASN application deadline (Fall: May 15; Spring: September 15):

1. Be accepted into Florida SouthWestern State College.
2. **HUN 1201- Human Nutrition** with a grade of “C” or better.
3. **ENC 1101 - Composition I** with a grade of “C” or better.
4. **DEP 2004 - Lifespan Development** with a grade of “C” or better.
5. **BSC 1085C or BSC 1093C - Anatomy and Physiology I** with a grade of “C” or better.
6. **BSC 1086C or BSC 1094C - Anatomy and Physiology II** with a grade of “C” or better.
7. Minimum GPA of 3.0, based only on completed General Education coursework required to graduate with an ASN. For ASN admission purposes, the GPA will be calculated using the best attempt with a “C” or better.
8. Current Licensed Practical Nurse Certification, or National Licensed Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) certification, which must have been issued within three (3) years prior to enrollment in the program. LPN’S who do not meet this requirement should follow the Current College Student application process.
9. If applicable, transcripts must be received and evaluated by the FSW Registrar’s Office. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure this is completed by the application deadline.
10. Complete and submit the ASN Application through the [ASN program page](https://www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asnursing) including payment of program Application Fee.

**Application Process**

### Step #1:

All applicants will receive a score based on their GPA and will be determined to be: **Qualified and Selected** for Step #2:

1. Highest-scoring high school applicants.
2. Highest-scoring current college students and LPN applicants combined.

**Qualified and Not Selected**: Applicant met the minimum application requirements but did not score high enough to proceed.

**Not Qualified**: Applicant did not meet the minimum application requirements.

*High School Graduate Applicants*: Based on High School GPA.

*Current College Student and LPN Applicants*: Based only on completed General Education coursework required to graduate with an ASN. For ASN admission purposes, the GPA will be calculated using the best attempt with a “C” or better.

### Step #2:

Selected applicants will take the TEAS test. The TEAS test may be taken twice in a calendar year with greater than one month between the two attempts. Only two attempts are allowed in each admission cycle. TEAS tests must be taken within two years prior to application. Instructions for testing are posted on the AS Nursing website. Each item will be scored and added to the initial GPA score. Applicants will be:

**Selected for Admission**:

1. Highest-scoring high school applicants.
2. Highest-scoring current college students and LPN applicants combined.

**Not Selected for Admission**: The applicant did not score high enough for acceptance.

### Step #3:

Applicants selected for admission will be placed based on their overall score, as well as their campus and schedule preferences. At the applicant’s expense, a college-approved criminal background records check, and drug testing must be completed. Note that applicants should consult Florida Board of Nursing if they have any criminal offenses, beyond minor traffic violations, which may limit clinical training placement and obtaining Registered Nurse (RN) licensure.

### Step #4:

Applicants who receive clearance for their background check and drug testing will be converted to ASN-admitted students and will proceed to complete the final steps prior to the first day of class. Students must have successfully completed the following by the dates indicated on the timeline they will receive in their acceptance packet:

1. Health Form, immunizations, and screening for tuberculosis (TB)
2. Certification in American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (CPR and AED)
3. Proof of personal health insurance throughout enrollment in the program, naming the student and dates of coverage.
4. ASN Orientation
5. Uniform fitting
6. Purchase books and materials
7. Complete a Change of Major Form, register for classes, and register for campus colloquium.

## Program Structure

This program is a planned sequence of instruction consisting of 72 credit hours in the following areas: 16 credit hours of General Education Requirements, 14 credit hours of Program Specific Coursework, and 42 credit hours of Nursing Requirements.

## Academic Standards

The academic standards in the AS Nursing program are very rigorous and require full commitment.

1. Students must earn a grade of “C” or better in each required General Education, Program Specific, and Nursing course.
2. Students must earn a grade of “C” or better (77%) in each required Nursing/NUR course to progress in the program. The ASN Program uses the following grading system: (90 - 100 = A, 80 - 89.99 = B, 77 - 79.99 = C, 60 - 76.99 = D, below 60 = F).
3. A grade less than “C” in a Nursing/NUR course will require a reattempt.
4. A Nursing/NUR course may be repeated or reattempted only once. If a grade of “C” or better is not achieved when the course is repeated or reattempted, dismissal from the program will result.
5. If a minimum score of 77% is not achieved according to the syllabus grading requirements in two or more Nursing/NUR courses, dismissal from the program may result. If a second withdrawal/W occurs within the ASN program, the student’s case will be reviewed by the Department of Nursing.
6. Dismissal from the AS Nursing program will occur if a student is deemed unsafe or unprofessional in clinical practice/patient care. The Academic Review Committee (ARC) will evaluate each student who is unsuccessful in a course or has an interruption in their program sequence. An alternate program plan may be suggested by the committee in collaboration with the student.
7. Attendance and punctuality are mandatory for all classroom, laboratory, and clinical activities. The third and each subsequent classroom absence and/or partial absence will result in a **5-point deduction** from the final course grade. Attendance (100%) is required for all simulation and clinical activities.

## Course Prerequisites

***Many courses require prerequisites*.** Check the description of each course in the list below for prerequisites, minimum grade requirements, and other restrictions. Students must complete all prerequisites for a course prior to registering for it.

## Graduation Requirements

1. Satisfactorily complete a minimum of 72 credit hours as outlined in the ASN Program of Study.
2. Complete all required Nursing/NUR courses with a minimum score of 77%.
3. Complete required 16 Community Volunteer Hours prior to the final semester.

Students must fulfill all requirements of their program to be eligible for graduation. Students must indicate their intention to attend commencement ceremony by completing the Commencement Form by the published deadline.

# ASN Program of Study

**General Education Requirements: 16 Credit Hours**

ENC 1101 - Composition I **3 credits**

General Education Core Humanities (writing intensive recommended) **3 credits** General Education Core Social Sciences (Students required by F.A.C. 6A-10.02413 to demonstrate Civic Literacy should take AMH 2020 or POS 2041) **3 credits**

General Education Core Mathematics (Recommended: STA 2023) **3 credits**

BSC 1085C - Anatomy and Physiology I **4 credits OR**

BSC 1093C - Anatomy and Physiology I **4 credits**

**Program Specific Coursework: 14 Credit Hours**

BSC 1086C - Anatomy and Physiology II **4 credits**

**OR**

BSC 1094C - Anatomy and Physiology II **4 credits**

MCB 2010C - Microbiology **4 credits**

HUN 1201 - Human Nutrition **3 credits**

DEP 2004 - Lifespan Development **3 credits**

# Nursing Requirements: 42 Credit Hours

NUR 1020C - Fundamentals of Nursing **6 credits\***

NUR 2211C - Adult Health Nursing I **8 credits**

NUR 2092 Introduction to Pharmacological Nursing **2 credits\***

NUR 2144 - Pharmacological Nursing **2 credits**

NUR 2213C - Adult Health Nursing II **7 credits**

NUR 2420C - Maternal Nursing **3 credits**

NUR 1511C - Mental Health Nursing **4 credits**

NUR 1068C - Health Assessment **3 credits\***

NUR 2310C - Pediatric Nursing **3 credits**

NUR 2942C - Clinical Preceptorship **4 credits**

\* Indicates Nursing courses for LPN articulation pathway, ASE1000 option **11 credits**

# Total Degree Requirements: 72 Credit Hours

**Additional information on the ASN Program is available online at:** <https://www.fsw.edu/academics/programs/asnursing>

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