



# Southwestern Michigan College

## Associate in Applied Science in Nursing

### Registered Nurses (RN)

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A registered nurse administers hands-on patient care and patient education in various settings, including hospitals, medical offices, long-term care, and other facilities. Registered nurses work with physicians and other health care team members to provide quality care to diverse populations. The national median salary is \$72,000.00

### Accreditation

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The Accreditation Commission accredits the Associate in Applied Science in Nursing program at Southwestern Michigan College for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The Michigan Board approves the RN program of Nursing.

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing  
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400,  
Atlanta, GA 30326  
404-975-5000

### RN Licensing

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The associate degree nursing program at Southwestern Michigan College meets the state education requirements for an RN nursing license in Michigan and Indiana. Southwestern Michigan College has not determined if the associate degree nursing program at Southwestern Michigan College meets the state education requirements in any other state or any U.S. Territory. Contact the state regulatory agency for nursing in any other state for which this information is needed.

### Prerequisites

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#### RN

Course ID	Course
BIOL 214	Basic Human Anatomy
CHEM 100	Fundamentals of Chemistry
ENGL 103	Freshman English II
MATH 127	College Algebra
PSYC 101	General Psychology

- Students are required to take all pre-requisite courses. No testing out of courses or course waivers will be accepted.
- Dual Enrolled students are required to follow guidelines and criteria for the year they become degree-seeking students.
- AP course or courses where the test(s) has been taken and passed may be accepted. CLEP is not accepted. Please refer to page 6 for scores and grades.
- A minimum grade of a C is required in all general education course, with the exception
- of BIOL 214.
- A student must receive a "B-" (2.67) or above in BIOL 214
- Students must have a minimum of a 2.75 in their pre-requisite GPA in order to be eligible to apply.
- A student may only attempt pre-requisite courses two times. Only the most recent attempt on pre-requisites will be considered for admission requirements, this includes attempts at other

institutions. If attempts are five years or older, the student can retake the courses and be considered for admission. An attempt includes "W" withdrawals.

- Math and science pre-requisites expire after five years and must be current before admission consideration.
- English and Psychology courses may be retaken after five years, but not required.
- If a student has attempted a higher-level pre-requisite class(es) (i.e., MATH 130, CHEM 101), that will be the class(es) that will be used to calculate the pre-requisite GPA. The pre-requisite attempt rule also applies to these courses.

## **Non-Sequential Class**

It is recommended that students take BIOL 215 (Principles of Human Physiology) before starting the nursing program. If the student cannot take the class before program admittance, the course will be part of their first-semester class load in the nursing program. If the student chooses not to take the class in the first semester of the nursing program, they will not be able to progress to their 2nd-semester courses, as this class is the pre-requisite for 2nd-semester nursing classes. Please note: This class expires after 5 years.

### **Nursing Program Admission Deadlines**

Timeline	Planned Admission for Fall	Planned Admission for Spring
Deadline for Application to the Nursing Office	June 1 <sup>st</sup> Note: Students in progress Spring and Summer Semester classes will be considered for admission	November 1 <sup>st</sup> Note: Students with in progress Fall semester classes will be considered for admission
Notification of Application Results	July 15	November 15
Student Accepts Seat in Nursing Program Via SMC Email	July 30	November 30

All students MUST meet with an academic advisor to ensure they have met the requirements to apply for the nursing program. All applications must be turned in to the Nursing and Health Services office. No incomplete applications will be accepted. Due to the competitive nature of the Nursing program, students who have completed all prerequisites courses prior to the application deadline will be given priority consideration for Nursing program admission.

40 traditional RN students are admitted each application cycle.

## **Students taking pre-requisite classes at other institutions**

- Students may be given conditional admittance into the nursing program if currently enrolled in prerequisite courses at another institution.
- The student must provide proof of enrollment in the prerequisite courses. Proof of enrollment must also include the expected course completion date.
- The student must provide an official transcript within two weeks of course completion. Failure to provide an official transcript within two weeks of course completion may result in forfeiture of the student's seat in the nursing program.

## **High School and Dual Enrolled Students**

- High school and dual-enrolled students are eligible to apply to the program as long as all of the pre-requisite and GPA requirements are met and they are 18 years of age by the start of the admission semester.

## **Transfer Students**

- Students can transfer to the nursing program from another program. However, the students

must meet the following criteria:

- The student cannot have failed out of Two (2) previous nursing programs. If this is the case, the student is not eligible for admission to the Southwestern Michigan College nursing program
- If the student has failed out of a nursing program and another medical program (i.e., Dental Hygiene, LPN program), admission is at the discretion of the Dean of Nursing
- If a student has failed out of another nursing program (or another medical program) and is eligible to apply to the SMC program as part of their nursing application packet, they must have a letter from the Dean of the previous institution that includes the following:
  - Reason for transferring from the nursing program
  - If the student is leaving in good standing and has the option of returning to the program if and when space is available
  - If any safety or disciplinary action occurred against the applicant while in the program, especially if that is a contributing factor to the transfer
- Transfer credits will not be accepted for nursing courses.
- If a student fails out of a previous nursing program, the student will start in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the nursing program.

## **Kaplan Admission Test**

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The Southwestern Michigan College Nursing program is Selective Admissions. This means that students are admitted to the program on a competitive basis, and the program does have specific entrance requirements beyond successful completion of the pre-requisite courses. Candidates must also score successfully on the Kaplan Admissions Test. While a pre-requisite GPA is used to rank applicants, the student must also pass the Kaplan Entrance exam with a score of 60% to be an eligible candidate for the program. If students do not score a 60% on their first attempt in the event, they may retake the Kaplan Entrance test; however, it must be in a different application cycle. After the second attempt, if a student does not score a 60%, they are not eligible for the program but may re-apply after two years and reattempt the Kaplan Admission Exam.

Applicants who have applied for the program will need to schedule with the Testing Center to complete the Kaplan Admission Test. This must be done before the application due date for the cycle that the student is submitting their application. There is no cost to complete the first attempt of the exam. However, there is a \$50 fee for the second attempt.

The SMC Library has reference material available to help prospective nursing students prepare for the Kaplan Admissions Exam. Visit the library's information desk for assistance in locating the reference material.

All students must take the Kaplan Admission Exam at SMC to be considered for the Nursing Program. This includes all traditional, transfer, and LPN-RN students. Kaplan exam scores are valid for one year.

## **Required Immunizations and Certifications**

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The following immunizations are required as part of the Nursing Program. More information about these immunizations can be found on the Nursing Program Application.

- Tuberculosis
- Tetanus
- Measles
- Mumps

- Rubella
- Hepatitis B
- Chicken Pox
- Covid-19 Vaccine
- CPR

## **Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen**

Upon admission to the Nursing Program, all students are subject to a comprehensive criminal background check. The Nursing Program follows the State of Michigan 's Workforce Background Check, Public Acts 26, 27, 28, and 29 of 2006, as they relate to the types of crimes and their implications to employment suitability in health/adult foster care facilities and agencies. The Nursing Program uses Viewpoint to run background checks on all those admitted into the nursing program. If you have any questions regarding the background check please reach out to the Nursing and Health Services office at [nhs@swmich.edu](mailto:nhs@swmich.edu).

The SMC Nursing Program enforces a zero-tolerance drug policy; including the use of marijuana. All students are required to pass a drug screen prior to starting the Nursing Program. If a student tests positive for any federally illegal substances, including marijuana, the student will not be allowed to continue in the Nursing Program. A medical marijuana card does not exempt students from this policy.

## **Required Material**

Additional equipment may include but is not limited to are stethoscope, sphygmomanometer, scissors, watch with second hand, and uniforms. All of these items can be purchased at the SMC bookstore.

## **How to calculate your Total GPA Points for the Nursing Program**

### **RN**

Course ID	Credits	Multiply	GPA of Course	Equals
BIOL 214	4	X		=
CHEM 100	4	X		=
ENGL 103	3	X		=
MATH 127	4	X		=
PSYC 101	3	X		=
Total Pre-Req Credits	18		Add all Points	

### **GPA-Letter Equivalencies**

Letter	GPA
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33

Letter	GPA
D	1.00
D-	0.67
F	0.00
I *Incomplete	0.00
W *Withdrawal	0.00

Pre-Req. GPA = All points possible divided by 18.

# Course Equivalencies

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## **CHEM 100:**

Alternative chemistry courses for the Nursing program:

CHEM 101, 102 equivalencies

CHEM 201 and 202 are not acceptable for pre-requisite courses

## **MATH 127:**

Alternative math courses for the Nursing program:

Math 130, 141, 142, 201, 203, 205 equivalencies

MATH 098, 101, 102, 128, 129, 150, 153, 154 are not acceptable pre-requisite courses

## **Advanced Placement Conversion**

Score Range	Grade
5	A
4	A
3	B

## **MATH 130**

Grade	Equiv in MATH 127
A	A
B	A
C	B

## **MATH 141+**

Grade	Equiv in MATH 127
A	A
B	A
C	B

# Disclaimers

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- Students with approved status and/or benefits through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) are responsible for being aware of their status and/or benefits and any changes that may affect it. Southwestern Michigan College is not liable for any problems that may occur when applying for the examination, licensing, and employment after you complete the program.
- Please note the information in this packet is subject to change without notice. Please meet with your academic advisor if you have any questions. Students are responsible for adhering to any changes made that may affect them.