Nursing Programs

FVCC offers numerous options to complete your nursing education right here in the Flathead Valley.

Which option is right for you?

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

◆ Five-credit course
◆ CNAs provide basic patient care under direction of nursing staff. They perform duties, such as feed, bathe, dress, groom, or move patients, or change linens.
◆ The class prepares students to take the CNA test approved by the state of Montana.

Pre-Health Certificate

◆ One-semester program
◆ Includes CNA course, as well as additional courses to prepare students for further study in nursing.

Practical Nurse
(Associate of Applied Science Degree)

◆ LPNs care for ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled persons in hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes, group homes, and similar institutions. They may work under the supervision of registered nurses.
◆ Four-semester, 52-credit program (First two semesters are prerequisite courses.)

Registered Nurse
(Associate of Science Degree)

◆ Applicants must be Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) to apply for admission into the program.
◆ Two-semester, 28-credit program
◆ RNs assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. They administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. RNs may advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management.

Registered Nurse Transfer Program

The partnerships FVCC has with other college and university nursing programs prepare students to transfer to other institutions to earn bachelor or associate degrees in nursing.

All nursing programs, including the CNA course, require a background check and several immunizations prior to acceptance into the programs. See current academic catalog for details.

Job Outlook

◆ The employment of registered nurses is expected to grow 26 percent from 2010 to 2020, faster than the average of all occupations. Growth will occur primarily because of technological advancements, an increased emphasis on preventative care, and the large, aging baby-boomer population that will demand more health care services as people live longer and more active lives.

“I had been working as a PN for nine years, and it had always been in the back of my mind to return to school to get my RN degree. When I found out about the FVCC program, everything seemed to fall into place. I had to work 20 to 30 hours a week while in school; it was fast and furious, but it was worth it! I wanted to show my two daughters that if you put your mind to something, no matter how hard it is, you can succeed and get to where you want to be. Now I’m working as a full-time nurse in same-day surgery at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and I love it!”

- Angela Nyberg, RN, 2012 graduate
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

FVCC offers a Nurse’s Aide Training course that enables students to obtain a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) License in 105 hours.

Through hands-on clinical training, the intensive course teaches students the skills and applications required to address the needs of chronically-ill patients in long-term care facilities. Students also gain understanding of basic medical terminology, basic human anatomy and physiology, and the aging process.

At the end of the course, students are given the CNA test approved by the state of Montana. Students who pass the test will obtain their CNA licenses and become certified and eligible to work in long-term care facilities.

For more info:
Contact: Pam Klein, CNA Coordinator
406.756.3625, pklein@fvcc.edu

Pre-Health Certificate

The Pre-Health Certificate program is designed to provide students with a broad set of knowledge and skills, allowing them to explore different health career opportunities and prepare them for immediate entry into the Certified Nurse’s Aide field. The program is further designed to provide students with the background of courses required for entry into various health-oriented academic program career tracks. The program is flexible, allowing students to select between several course options in a way that allows each student to advance their career and/or academic goals.

For more info:
Contact: Karrie Bolivar
LRC 132
(406) 756-3880

Practical Nursing

The Practical Nursing program is a four-semester course of study leading to an Associate of Applied Science degree.

FVCC’s Practical Nursing program is four semesters in length and requires completion of 52 credits. The first two semesters are prerequisite courses. After completing the prerequisite courses, students may apply for placement into the Practical Nursing program. Once a student is accepted, the Practical Nursing courses take two additional semesters of full-time study to complete.

Graduates of this program are eligible to take the National Council of State Board of Nursing’s Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). After passing the test, the students are granted licensure through the Montana Board of Nursing to practice as licensed practical nurses in Montana.

There is an immediate need for licensed practical nurses in a variety of health care facilities. Employment opportunities include clinics, dialysis centers, and long-term care facilities.

Additional program information, admission guidelines, licensure information, and program costs can be found online at www.fvcc.edu/practicalnursing.html.

Practical Nursing Program Requirements

Fall Semester (Required prerequisite courses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 201NL*</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHMY 121NL*</td>
<td>Introduction to General Chemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 121M*</td>
<td>College Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>M 115M</td>
<td>Probability and Linear Math</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 152M</td>
<td>Precalculus Algebra</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>M 153</td>
<td>Precalculus Trigonometry</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>OR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 171M</td>
<td>Calculus I</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRIT 101W*</td>
<td>College Writing I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
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Spring Semester (Required prerequisite courses)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOH 211NL*</td>
<td>Human Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 100</td>
<td>Introduction to Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 221N*</td>
<td>Basic Human Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYX 100A</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
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Fall Semester

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<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 130*</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Nursing</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>NURS 135*</td>
<td>Nursing Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 138*</td>
<td>Gerontology for Nursing</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 144*</td>
<td>Core Concepts of Mental Health Nursing</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
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Spring Semester

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 140*</td>
<td>Core Concepts of Adult Nursing</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 142*</td>
<td>Core Concepts of Maternal Child Nursing</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 148*</td>
<td>Leadership Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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Strongly recommended course:

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<tr>
<th>Course#</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 101*</td>
<td>Nurse’s Aide Training</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates prerequisite and/or corequisite needed; check course description.

For more info:
Contact: Pam Klein, CNA Coordinator
406.756.3625, pklein@fvcc.edu

Pre-Health Certificate

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For more info:
Contact: Karrie Bolivar
LRC 132
(406) 756-3880

www.fvcc.edu/practicalnursing.html
The Registered Nursing Program is a two-semester course of study leading to an Associate of Science degree in Nursing.

FVCC offers an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Registered Nurse (RN) program consisting of two semesters and 28 credits. Applicants to the ASN RN program must be licensed practical nurses to apply.

The focus of the Associate of Science in Nursing curriculum is to educate the ASN RN to provide direct care to clients, individuals, or groups in a variety of structured settings with clear policies and procedures.

Graduates of this program are eligible to take the National Council of State Board of Nursing’s Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). After passing the test, the students are granted licensure through the Montana Board of Nursing to practice as registered nurses in Montana.

RNs continue to be in demand in all health care settings. Individuals who successfully completed the ASN program and pass the NCLEX-RN exam will find many employment opportunities available to them in Northwest Montana and beyond.

Additional program information, admission guidelines, licensure information, and program costs can be found online at [www.fvcc.edu/registerednursing.html](http://www.fvcc.edu/registerednursing.html).
Registered Nursing Transfer Degree

The FVCC curriculum will prepare students to transfer to other institutions to earn bachelor or associate degrees in nursing.

FVCC has partnerships with other college and university nursing programs and offers custom courses of study equal to the first two years of a nursing degree at the institutions listed below.

FVCC offers suggested courses of study to transfer to:

- Montana State University – Bozeman
- Montana State University- Northern
- Carroll College
- Salish-Kootenai College
- Montana Tech of The University of Montana

Additional information can be found online at [www.fvcc.edu/nursing-transfer.html](http://www.fvcc.edu/nursing-transfer.html).

Other health care programs offered at FVCC include:

- Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
- Dental Hygiene
- Emergency Management
- Health & Human Performance
- Health Information Technology: Healthcare
- Health Information Technology: IT*
- Health Care Informatics
- Health Care Office Management
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coding
- Medical Transcription*
- Nursing
- Paramedicine
- Patient Relations Specialist
- Personal Trainer
- Pharmacy
- Pharmacy Technology
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Health Professions
- Pre-Veterinary Medicine
- Radiologic Technology
- Surgical Technology

Key

- AA or AS Degree - General Studies
- AAS Degree
- Certificate of Applied Science
- Professional Certificate
- Licensure Training
- Also offered at Lincoln County Campus (Degree options may vary.)

For more info:

Contact:
Nursing Transfer Program Advisor
Dr. Sue Justis
406.756.3866
sjustis@fvcc.edu

Dr. Janice Alexander
Chemistry/Forensic Science/Mathematics Instructor
406.756.3616
jalexander@fvcc.edu

Adam Wenz
Chemistry Instructor
406.756.3616
awenz@fvcc.edu

Lori Elwell
Anatomy and Physiology Instructor
406.756.3899
lelwell@fvcc.edu

[www.fvcc.edu/nursing-transfer.html](http://www.fvcc.edu/nursing-transfer.html)

Sources:
http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Registered-nurses.htm
http://fvcc.emsicareercoach.com

FVCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, IX and Section 504 may be referred to:
FVCC - Vice President of Instruction and Student Services, Blake Hall, Room 137, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalsipell, MT 59901, 406-756-3884; or the Montana Human Rights Commission, 1236 6th Avenue, P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624, 406-444-2884 / 800-542-0807.

For occupation information, tuition and fees, and other gainful employment disclosures, visit our website at [www.fvcc.edu/gainfulemployment.html](http://www.fvcc.edu/gainfulemployment.html).

[www.fvcc.edu](http://www.fvcc.edu)