



**RCC Nursing Programs**  
**Guaranteed Admission**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q. What is Guaranteed Admission?**

**A.** Guaranteed Admission is an entry option to either the Practical Nursing (PN) program or the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program at Rappahannock Community College (RCC) (see: [Pre-Nursing Career Studies Certificate](#)) for students who complete the Pre-Nursing Career Studies Certificate (CSC) in its entirety with all requirements met and who also meet the general eligibility requirements for either program.

**Q. Who can qualify for Guaranteed Admission to the nursing programs at RCC?**

**A.** Any current RCC student or High School Dual Enrolled student may qualify for Guaranteed Admission if they meet specific criteria listed in the Pre-Nursing CSC.

**Q. I am an LPN or a student in a PN program and I want Guaranteed Admission to the ADN program. Can I qualify?**

**A.** No, LPNs or PN students must apply for a seat in the ADN program through the usual competitive admission processes as described on the ADN website pages (see: <https://www.rappahannock.edu/catalog/degree-programs/associate-of-applied-science-degree-nursing>)

**Q. I was previously unsuccessful in a nursing program. Am I eligible for Guaranteed Admission?**

**A.** No, previous unsuccessful attempts in nursing school do not support appropriate preparation for Guaranteed Admission. You may apply via the competitive entry route available to everyone. You should meet with a nursing faculty advisor to discuss your options.

**Q. What do I need to do first to qualify for Guaranteed Admission?**

**A.** The first step is to make an appointment with a College advisor to discuss your educational path options and to enroll as a student at RCC if you are not already enrolled.

**Q. What will the counselors do for me when I meet with them?**

**A.** College advisors will review your academic progress to date, discuss your future career plans and then suggest the appropriate program for you to enter. Students who want Guaranteed Admission must be program placed into the Pre-Nursing Career Studies Certificate.

**Q. I am a dual enrolled student. Am I able to be program placed in the Pre-Nursing CSC?**

**A.** Yes. You must meet with Mr. Hutt Williams ([hwilliams@rappahannock.edu](mailto:hwilliams@rappahannock.edu)) and declare your intent to pursue the Pre-Nursing CSC. He will make arrangements with Admissions and Records to have you program placed.

**Q. Do I have to take all of the courses listed in the Pre-Nursing CSC?**

**A.** Yes, you must take all of the courses listed in the Pre-Nursing CSC, but not necessarily in the sequence described. Some courses may be taken out of sequence.

**Q. What if I have taken some of these courses from other schools?**

**A.** If you have taken courses at another school, you should have your official transcripts forwarded to RCC to be evaluated by the Registrar. Comparable courses can be transferred in to satisfy the Pre-Nursing CSC requirements.

**Q. I have a license to practice as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) in Virginia. Do I have to take the nurse aide courses?**

**A.** It depends. If your license is in good standing with the Virginia Board of Nursing, you can get advanced standing for these courses. Take your CNA license to Admissions and Records and request waiver of the NUR 27 and NUR 29 courses by advanced standing. If you took Nurse Aide courses anywhere other than a Virginia Community College System college, your transcripts will need to be evaluated. You are not guaranteed admission if your nurse aide program does not meet RCC standards. If you completed a nurse aide course outside of the VCCS, but you did not take or pass the national examination, you are not eligible for advanced standing.

**Q. I am a dual enrolled student, but my high school does not offer all of these courses. What do I do?**

**A.** Students may opt to take classes at RCC with high school administrative approval, but will have to pay full tuition, fees and book costs.

**Q. I took a year of biology in high school. Do I need to repeat biology in college?**

**A.** No, if you earned a "C" or better grade in high school biology, you should take BIO 141 and BIO 142. This satisfies the requirement of two college level four-credit science courses for completion of the Pre-Nursing CSC.

**Q. I did not take biology in high school. What do I do?**

**A.** You should take BIO 101 at RCC followed by BIO 141 to satisfy the requirement of two college-level four-credit science courses for completion of the Pre-Nursing CSC.

**Q. The ADN program requires one unit of high school chemistry with a grade of "C" or better, but I have not had chemistry. Can I substitute chemistry for the biology courses in the Pre-Nursing CSC?**

**A.** No, you must take a college level four-credit chemistry course (CHM 101 or CHM 111) in order to satisfy that requirement for admission to the ADN program. The only substitutions allowed in the Pre-Nursing CSC for Guaranteed Admission status are listed in the footnotes on the program page.

**Q. I previously failed out of a nursing program. Will I be able to get guaranteed admission to either programs at RCC?**

**A.** It depends. Students with previous nursing program failures must meet with the Program Head for the nursing programs to determine eligibility.

**Q. If I apply to the nursing program for Guaranteed Admission, do I have to take the TEAS entrance test?**

**A.** Yes, all applicants to the nursing programs must take the TEAS entrance test. The TEAS test is used for advisement purposes for students interested in Guaranteed Admission, as well as for statistics tracking. You are advised to do as well as you can. You will be admitted to the appropriate program based on the TEAS examination. The decision of the admission committee is final.

**Q. How do I know if I can apply through Guaranteed Admission?**

**A.** After you meet with the college counselors and are program placed in the Pre-Nursing CSC, you must make an appointment with your nursing program advisor (assigned to you after you are program placed) to help you make the best decisions for your situation. Applications to the nursing program are accepted yearly during specific designated times. When those times are announced on the website, you should meet with your nursing

program advisor again to make sure your courses are in order. She will then direct you to sign up on the Guaranteed Admission list with Ms. Carr, Health Sciences Division Administrative Assistant on the Glenns campus ([jcarr@rappahannock.edu](mailto:jcarr@rappahannock.edu)). If you are not on that list at the deadline stated in the application materials, you will be denied Guaranteed Admission, but may apply for competitive admission to the nursing program of your choice.

**Q. What happens if I earn a “D” or lower in a course or the GPA in the Pre-Nursing CSC falls below a 3.0?**

**A.** If either of these conditions occur, you will no longer be eligible to apply for guaranteed admission to the nursing programs.

**Q. I took one or more of the courses listed and failed, but passed on a second attempt. Does that count?**

**A.** No, you must have earned a “C” or better on the first attempt in each of the courses listed in the Pre-Nursing CSC. Any unsuccessful attempt that earns a grade other than “W” automatically makes you ineligible for guaranteed admission to either nursing program.

**Q. Can I apply to the nursing programs without completing the Pre-Nursing CSC?**

**A.** Yes. If you meet all of the admission eligibility requirements you may apply to either nursing program and compete for a seat with the rest of the competitive admission applicants. Under these circumstances, you are not guaranteed a seat in either nursing program.