



Certificate of Achievement / Associate Degree Program

VOCATIONAL NURSING

ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

The Vocational Nursing program is designed to help students acquire a command of the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue entry-level employment as a licensed vocational nurse under the guidance of a registered nurse or a licensed physician or dentist. Graduates are able to provide care for clients experiencing common, well-defined health problems. The program, which culminates in a Certificate of Achievement or Associate of Science degree in Vocational Nursing, combines academic and clinical training to prepare students to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).*

For comprehensive consumer information, visit carrington.edu/student-consumer-info.

Information about graduation rates, median debt of students who completed the program and other important data can be found at carrington.edu/sci/vn-ct (certificate program) and carrington.edu/sci/vn-dg (associate degree program).

Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSEWORK

Students in the associate degree programs complete technical coursework as well as general education course offerings focusing on:

- English composition
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social sciences
- Computer literacy

Those enrolled in the science-emphasis option[†] also complete science-based general education course- and labwork in:

- Inorganic chemistry
- Human anatomy and physiology
- Microbiology

* Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program. Credential preparation varies by location.

[†] Offered at the Sacramento and San Jose campuses only. In order to enroll in the Vocational Nursing Associate of Science (science emphasis) degree option, students must have graduated from the Vocational Nursing Certificate of Achievement program. This curriculum fulfills course prerequisites for application to Carrington College's Registered Nursing LVN to RN program.

TECHNICAL COURSEWORK

Technical coursework focuses on fundamentals, medical-surgical nursing, medication administration, pediatric nursing, community and mental-health nursing and nursing care of specialized populations. In this program, students:

- Attend a combination of classroom instruction, laboratory practice and clinical training in area healthcare facilities
- Learn from passionate instructors with extensive nursing experience
- Prepare for taking the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN)*.

Total coursework for certificate (credit hours)	54
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Total general education coursework for non-science-emphasis (credit hours)	21
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Total credit hours required for non-science emphasis associate degree	75
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Total coursework for certificate (credit hours)	54
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Total general education coursework for science-emphasis (credit hours)	43
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Total credit hours required for science emphasis associate degree [†]	97
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Certificate Program Length: 48 weeks (not including breaks)

Non-science Emphasis Degree Program Length: 72 weeks (not including breaks)

Science-emphasis Degree Program Length: 112 weeks (not including breaks)

Students also need to meet admission requirements, including drug screening and background checks.

Carrington's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/carrington-college/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission, progression and graduation requirements.



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CAREERS IN VOCATIONAL NURSING*

Licensed vocational nurses[†] are generalists who care for patients and work in many health care areas. They provide basic bedside care, measure and record patients' vital signs, and assist with bathing, dressing and personal hygiene in nursing homes, physicians' offices or in patients' homes. In nursing care facilities vocational nurses can help evaluate residents' needs, develop care plans and supervise the care provided by nursing aides. In doctors' offices and clinics, their range of responsibilities may include office-related duties. In the home health care setting vocational nurses often prepare meals, assist in feeding patients and teach family members simple nursing tasks.

Carrington's Vocational Nursing program prepares students for entry-level employment under the guidance of a registered nurse or licensed physician/dentist in a variety of health care settings such as:

- Nursing and residential care facilities
- State, local, and private hospitals
- Physician offices
- Home healthcare services

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Upon completion of the Vocational Nursing program, graduates will be able to:

- Implement the nursing process in providing care for patients in a variety of clinical settings.
- Demonstrate academic preparedness to take the NCLEX-PN examination for licensure as a vocational nurse.[†]
- Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking information management, personal and professional development, communication skills, respect and responsibility.

* Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

[†] Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program. Credential preparation varies by location.

¹ In order to enroll in the Vocational Nursing Associate of Science (science emphasis) degree option, students must have graduated from the Vocational Nursing Certificate of Achievement program.

² At this time there are no approved start dates at this campus for the Certificate of Achievement program or the Associate of Science (non-science emphasis) degree option.

ACCREDITATION, APPROVALS AND PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC/WASC), 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204, Novato, CA 94949, 415 506 0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the US Department of Education. Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

The Vocational Nursing program at the Pleasant Hill, Sacramento and San Jose campuses is approved by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 205, Sacramento, CA 95833, 916 263 7800, bvnpt.ca.gov. The Vocational Nursing program at the Pomona campus has initial approval.

For comprehensive information on Carrington's accreditation, licenses and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation.

The Vocational Nursing program is offered at the following campuses:

PLEASANT HILL, CA	SACRAMENTO, CA ¹
POMONA, CA	SAN JOSE, CA ^{1,2}