

# INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE

Associate Degree Nursing

## IRSC OVERVIEW

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE (IRSC) is a public, comprehensive college with a statewide and national reputation for excellence. Located in Florida's Treasure Coast region, each of the College's five campuses provide unparalleled educational environments.

IRSC serves approximately 30,000 students annually and offers more than 100 programs leading to Bachelor's degrees, Associate degrees, technical certificates and applied technology diplomas. Continuing a 60-year tradition of responsiveness to community needs, IRSC is committed to advancing educational, cultural, career training, workforce and economic development in its service area.

## ACCREDITATION

The Associate Degree Nursing program at Indian River State College at the Massey Campus, Fort Pierce, Florida, is accredited by the:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)  
3390 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 1400  
Atlanta, Georgia, 30326  
(404) 975-5000

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

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at <http://www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm>

## THE REGISTERED NURSE

Registered Nurses provide hands-on daily care. With a distinct knowledge, nurses diagnose, monitor, educate, manage and supervise. They coordinate health care teams, provide or facilitate care, develop policy, conduct research and exercise expert clinical decision-making skills. They are a critical partner with physicians and a variety of other health care practitioners in the wellness arena.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome Letter .....	1
Introduction to the Application Process .....	2
Licensure Requirements .....	3
Starting the Application Process .....	4
ADN Program Student Checklist .....	5
Guidelines of Admission .....	6
Calculation of Admission Points .....	7
Acceptance into Program .....	8
Information Sessions .....	8
Advanced Placement/Bridge Option.....	9
Pre-Admission Testing .....	9
Student Drug Screen, Background Check, and Medical Records.....	9
Health/Medical Record .....	11
Health Insurance .....	11
Complaint Guidelines .....	11
Non-Acceptance into Program.....	11
Program Expenses .....	12
Financial Aid/Scholarships .....	12
Class Schedules .....	12
Performance Standards .....	13
Acknowledgement .....	14





STATE COLLEGE INDIAN RIVER  
of Health Sciences University

Dear Nursing Pioneers,

Congratulations and welcome to the School of Nursing at Indian River State College! We are excited, as we hope you are! Your new chapter starts NOW!

IRSC's School of Nursing aspires to be a model of excellence by transforming students through nursing education. We are committed to meeting the educational needs of future and current professional and vocational nurses within an ever-changing healthcare system. Enclosed you will find useful information that will help you in your success. It is important to read the entire handbook, and familiarize yourself with its content.

You are about to embark on a life-altering experience, one you will never forget. While you are here, make time to get to know your Instructors, and your classmates; they are the best group of partners you will find anywhere. You are now part of an elite group of people who will become your professional peers. Consider volunteering with the National Student Nurses' Association, where students practice self-governance, advocate for student rights and the rights of patients, and take collective, responsible action on vital social and political issues.

I invite you to read more about our Mission and beliefs in the new few pages, and look forward to meeting you all.

Best wishes to all of you on the year ahead,

Patricia Gagliano, Ph.D., R.N.  
Dean of the School of Nursing

## Introduction to the Application Process for the Associate Degree Nursing Program

### Vision Statement:

- x IRSC School of Nursing (SON) aspires to be a model of excellence by transforming students through nursing education

### Purpose Statement:

The School of Nursing at IRSC is committed to meeting the educational needs of future and current professional and vocational nurses within an ever-changing healthcare system. Faculty facilitates student achievement utilizing various teaching modalities. In our effort to serve the global community and its diverse cultures, we commit to:

- x Develop excellence in nursing education and practice
- x Provide quality, student-centered learning to promote student success
- x Create multi-dimensional learning experiences
- x Foster partnerships within the community that promote cultural enrichment and opportunities to strengthen involvement in local, national, and global health issues
- x Support lifelong learning and ethical practice

The Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN) may be completed **five** semester with one semester of pre-requisites and four semesters of nursing courses. Applicants who are eligible for Advanced Placement/Bridgeway complete the program in four semesters with one semester of pre-requisites and three semesters of Nursing Courses. Attainment of the Associate Degree in Nursing includes 42 credits in nursing courses and 30 credits in general education courses.

The Associate Degree Nursing Program offers two tracks.

**Track One:** Regular admission tract. Students complete four semesters of nursing course along with required general education courses. The program length is a total of five semesters.

**Track Two:** Advanced Placement/Bridge Placement Option is for Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Respiratory Therapists and Licensed Paramedics. The program length is a total of three semesters of nursing courses along with one semester of pre-requisites of general education courses for a four-semester program; as some students are eligible to test out of the first semester of nursing courses. See Advanced Placement for more information. (Page 8)

Applicants should carefully review the application procedures outlined in the Application Booklet and online. Admissions to the Associate Degree Nursing program is on a selective admission basis. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application process is completed.

**Note:** If at any time during the application process you have a change in personal information (name change, address, phone number, or emails), submit the changes to Student Records and to the School of Nursing.

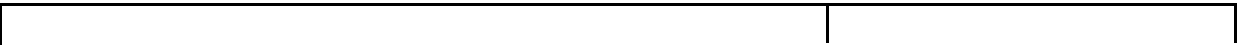












## ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

The School of Nursing will notify applicants via email regarding the status of their application six to eight weeks after the application closes. An initial email will be sent to those who have been provisionally accepted or provided an alternate status. Alternate status expires at the beginning of the cohort semester. Acceptance into the program will be sent to their IRSC RiverMail account or personal email if RiverMail account is not yet active.

Final acceptance into the program is contingent upon satisfactory results from a

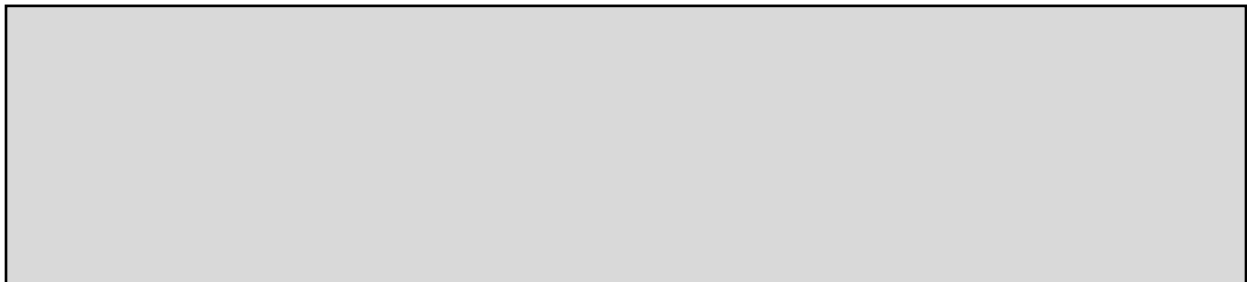
- x Physical examination with immunization,
- x Drug screen,
- x CPR certification and
- x Federal Bureau of Investigations National Background Check (FBI/NBC).
- x Attendance to mandatory orientation sessions (see website for dates.)

Additional information regarding physical examination, immunizations, drug screen, background check, CPR and Performance Standards for Admission and Progression is available in the [Associate in Science Degree in Nursing Application Booklet](#).

Specific deadline dates will be required for submission of these documents. Information for obtaining these tests/reports will be provided in a mandatory meeting—date to be specified in the provisional acceptance letter from the School of Nursing. Students who receive provisional or alternate acceptance status may give up their seat and be moved to the bottom of the alternate list if absent from mandatory meets and/or fail to complete and submit required documents on time.

These reports should not be submitted with initial application materials.

## INFORMATION SESSIONS











NON-ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

## PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION\*

Nursing involves the provision of direct care for individuals and is characterized by the application of knowledge in the skillful performance of nursing functions. Therefore, in order to be considered for admission or be retained in the program after admission, all students must be able to demonstrate the following abilities without accommodations. Successful completion of nursing courses require students to attend a didactic lecture, laboratory, and inpatient clinical:

Issue	Standard	Examples of Necessary Activities (not all- inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations; develop nursing care plans.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. Ability to cope with stress. High degree of flexibility.	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form. Ability to cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner.	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and to maneuver in small spaces. High degree of flexibility.	Move around in patient rooms, work spaces and treatment areas; administer cardiopulmonary procedures.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.	Observe patient/client responses. Accurately prepare and administer medication.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g. sense temperature change, assess peripheral pulses, insert a catheter.
Strength/Stamina	Sufficient stamina to provide patient care in the clinical setting and related responsibilities for extended periods of time (8-12 hrs). Ability to lift/manipulate/ move at least 50 lbs. Transfer clients to chairs/stretchers, tables/move and manipulate equipment.	Adapt to shift work. Lift without restrictions, from standing position. Students with weight restrictions cannot be accepted into clinical courses.
Occupational Exposure	Ability to protect self and others by implementing appropriate precautions due to possible exposure to communicable disease and/or body fluids, toxic substances.	May be required to perform procedures and/or come in contact with patients/clients with communicable diseases. Provide total care using standard precautions.
Personal Behavior	Emotional health sufficient for full utilization of intellectual abilities, effective functioning during stressful situations, ability to adhere to professional boundaries, Code of Ethics for Nursing American Nurses Association.	Demonstrate honesty, integrity and accountability, perform multiple responsibilities concurrently; handle strong emotion. Adapt to changing patient/client care situations, respect patient/client rights and avoid criminal behaviors such as chemical dependency and abuse. Maintain professional boundaries.

I have read and understand the contents thereof. I hereby agree to abide by its regulations.

I agree to have my education, health and background records released to professional/health care agencies requesting the information, and other agencies as designated by IRSC who have a legitimate interest in my student records.

I agree to have my social security number released to the Florida Board of Nursing for application for licensure, as well as clinical facilities understand I must have a valid driver license and social security number for clinical placement.

I understand that I may not be permitted to enroll and complete any nursing course with a clinical component until I have all of my records on file in the nursing department (health, CPR, immunizations,

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