PATHWAY TO PROMISE

THE **FIRST 15**

THE **NEXT 30**

THE **LAST MILE**

Associate in Science
Nursing, Traditional Track
Advising Guide

VALENCIACOLLEGE

Table of Contents

Advisor Responsibilities

- My goal is to make sure you understand all you need to know about your degree requirements at Valencia College.

- I will provide a safe space for you to discuss your concerns and I will listen, be present, respectful, and genuine.

- Our resources are endless! I will always point you in the right direction if you connect with me.

- I will help you with your questions about colleges and universities you are thinking about transferring to and what it takes to get there.

- Helping you find a major and a career that is right for you is my goal. I will provide you with information and support you along the way.

- This is your journey, but you are not alone! I will help you select your courses, understand your prerequisites, create your plans and set goals.

Student Responsibilities

- I will connect with my **advisor** every semester.

- When I schedule an appointment, I will start thinking about what I want to talk about.

- I will bring my "note-taking tools" with me to my appointments (e.g., phones, tablets, or good old paper and pen).

- We will be going over important information, so I will keep all of it handy and refer to it often.

- If my advisor refers me to any resources, I will be sure to follow through and I will stay in touch.

- I will take responsibility, know the deadlines, ask questions, stay on track and be the one to know what to do.

Is Nursing for You?

Nursing is a highly respected and challenging profession within the healthcare system. Those who elect to take on this role provide critical and valuable care to a diverse population of patients with varying health concerns. Once you have completed Valencia College's rigorous Nursing, Traditional ASN program and earned your RN license, you may experience many rewarding aspects of this career.

Completing the Nursing program prerequisites requires a great deal of study which will prepare you for your in-program coursework, but how do you know if you are prepared for the physical, mental, and emotional requirements of this challenging career?

Through self-reflection, consider these questions carefully…

Am I comfortable providing basic care and skills for patients?

This includes but is not limited to…

• Performing patient charting and patient report
• Measuring and recording vital signs
• Aids bathing, perineal care, catheter care, nail care, skin care, and mouth care
• Transferring patient to bed, wheelchair, and bedside commode
• Assisting patient with feeding, hydration, and nutrition

Am I prepared to learn and utilize skills that are mentally and physically demanding?

Nursing requires you to learn several techniques and skills to be successful at your job which will keep others healthy and safe. Many of these skills require both physical and cognitive strength, stamina, attention to detail, and precise execution. As a nurse, you can expect to be implementing these techniques and skills regularly.

This includes but is not limited to…

• Multi-tasking, de-escalating, and critical thinking skills
• Asking insightful questions
• Utilizing clear and succinct oral and written communication

Am I prepared for the challenges that I can expect to encounter regularly as a nurse?

This includes but is not limited to…

• Sustaining high levels of focus for 12+ hours
• Working independently with little supervision
• Coping with patient deaths
• Mental and emotional stress
• Exposure to germs, viruses, and bodily fluids
• Effectively manage time while dealing with less-than-ideal nurse to patient ratios

Recommendations for Applicants

The Nursing, Traditional ASN is a limited-access program. This means that it is imperative for students to prepare a highly competitive application for committee review. Due to limited seats for each application cycle, it is essential that students take the time to review how to calculate admissions points on page 3 of the **program guide** as well as how to calculate their GPA on page 4 of the program guide.

Making Your Application Competitive

The competitive intensity of the application pool will vary from semester to semester. To be selected for a seat in the program students should aim for strong grades in courses to receive higher admission points, communicate with their professors when facing academic challenges, and work closely with their **Pending-Nursing Program Advisor** to establish a plan for success.

Aim for an **ATI TEAS** composite score of 80% or higher. Points are also awarded based on the ATI TEAS composite score as stated on page 3 of the **program guide**.

How to Earn Additional Admission Points

It is recommended that students complete **BSC 2094C** Human Anatomy & Physiology II before the application deadline with a C or higher. This class is not required for the application, but additional points are awarded if it is completed. If you have already completed this course at another institution but the credits did not transfer over, a **Non-Equivalent Coursework Form** may be required. Connect with your **Pending-Nursing Program Advisor** if you are unsure.

Tips for Academic Success

While completing prerequisites courses, it is important to remember that these courses will be your foundation for the program and your career.

- Students are not advised to just memorize and then forget the material to pass courses. You will need to retain the knowledge you have learned from your prerequisite courses and be able to apply this knowledge to your in-program nursing courses.

- Keep textbooks, course material, and notes from prerequisite courses until you complete the program

- **Establish a Plan**
  Prioritize the important things that need to get done first

- **Plan Ahead**
  Don't leave things for the last minute. The more you plan, the more time you have to review something you are struggling to understand.

• Trial and Error
See what study habits work for you and eliminate those that do not. Try using flash cards, reading aloud, and study groups with your peers. Find out what works for you and always plan for it.

• Take Notes
If you see or hear something that you need to reference back to, make a note of it so that you can keep your focus on what is currently being discussed in class. Consider highlighting key points in assorted colors. Create a color code or signs/symbols for certain key points to help correlate information together.

• Be Passionate About Being Successful

Helpful Resources

• **Biology Readiness Tool** located in your Atlas account

• **Distance Online Tutoring**

• **ATI TEAS Preparation**

• **ATI TEAS Review Material**

• More resources are available on your Atlas account under the Courses tab.

Your Checklist

0-12 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist

☐ Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞

☐ Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞

☐ Attend a ***Nursing Information Session*** to learn about updates and programs offered.

☐ Research the **Nursing, Traditional Track** by reviewing all information contained in the current **Program Guide** and college **catalog**. ∞

☐ Decide if you will pursue an A.A. degree in parallel to the nursing prerequisites. If unsure, contact your **Pending-Nursing Program Advisor.**

☐ Check if your **meta-major** matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞

☐ Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes each term. For assistance, contact an **advisor.** ∞

☐ If missing prerequisite coursework, register for at least one nursing program prerequisite course each semester to maintain academic progress. If unsure which courses to take, connect with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**. ∞

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Speak with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** about your transfer credits after the credits have been confirmed on your record as these credits can impact your progress towards your nursing program.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Confirm **equivalency** for prerequisite coursework taken at another college and submit a Non-Equivalent Coursework (NEC) form as needed. It is recommended that you discuss this form first with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**

☐ Register for **SLS 1122 New Student Experience course** within your first two terms at Valencia College.

☐ Learn about the resources available to you, such as the Learning Support Center, Tutoring, Counseling, Career Advising and Atlas. For more information and locations, go to the **Student Services** page on the Valencia College website.

0-12 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist (cont'd)

☐ Explore and research your career interests by visiting the **Career Center website** or connecting with a career advisor.

☐ Confirm that all previous transcripts are submitted and on file. This includes all high school, technical school, college/university, and AP/IB/CLEP score transcripts. ∞

☐ Check your overall GPA after grades post on your transcripts in Atlas. Also, utilize a **GPA calculator** to confirm your GPA for the nursing prerequisites. ∞

☐ Apply for scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞

☐ **Get Involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞

☐ Visit the **Career Center website** to learn how to create your resume and connect with a career advisor for feedback.

☐ Speak with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** each semester to ensure progress

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

12-30 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist

☐ Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞

☐ Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞

☐ Attend a ***Nursing Information Session*** to learn about updates and programs offered.

☐ Research the **Nursing, Traditional Track** by reviewing all information contained in the current **Program Guide** and college **catalog**. ∞

☐ Decide if you will pursue an A.A. degree in parallel to the nursing prerequisites. If unsure, contact your **Pending-Nursing Program Advisor.**

☐ Check if your **meta-major** matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞

☐ Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes each term. For assistance, connect with an advisor. ∞

☐ If missing prerequisite coursework, register for at least one nursing program prerequisite course each semester to maintain academic progress. If unsure which courses to take, connect with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**. ∞

☐ Complete your **ATI TEAS** exam by the application deadline. Learn about the exam through the **Assessment Center**. Remember to **confirm** your scores are in Atlas.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Speak with your pending nursing advisor about your transfer credits after the credits have been confirmed on your record as these credits can impact your progress towards your nursing program.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Confirm **equivalency** for prerequisite coursework taken at another college and submit a Non-Equivalent Coursework (NEC) form as needed. It is recommended that you discuss this form first with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**.scores are on file by the application deadline. Refer to the Admissions Checklist here.

12-30 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist (cont'd)

☐ Confirm that all previous transcripts are submitted and on file. This includes all high school, technical school, college/university, and AP/IB/CLEP score transcripts. ∞

☐ Check your overall GPA after grades post on your transcripts in Atlas. Also, utilize a **GPA calculator** to confirm your GPA for the nursing prerequisites. ∞

☐ Apply for financial aid scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞

☐ **Get Involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞

☐ Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor.

☐ Explore your major and career interests by considering volunteering, employment, **internships**, job shadowing and service learning.

☐ Ready to apply for the **Nursing, Traditional Track Program**? Ensure all required coursework, transcripts, and test scores are on file by the application deadline. Refer to the Admissions Checklist **here**.

 If accepted into the program, refer to In-Program Checklist

☐ Speak with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** each semester to ensure progress. ∞

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

30-45 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist

☐ Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞

☐ Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞

☐ Research the **Nursing, Traditional Track** by reviewing all information contained in the current **Program Guide** and college **catalog**. ∞

☐ Decide if you will pursue an A.A. degree in parallel to the nursing prerequisites. If unsure, contact with your **Pending-Nursing Program Advisor.**

☐ Check if your **meta-major** matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞

☐ Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes each term. For assistance, contact an **advisor**. ∞

☐ If missing prerequisite coursework, register for at least one nursing program prerequisite course each semester to maintain academic progress. If unsure which courses to take, connect with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**. ∞

☐ Complete your **ATI TEAS** exam by the application deadline. Learn about the exam through the **Assessment Center**. Remember to **confirm** your scores are in Atlas.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Speak with your pending nursing advisor about your transfer credits after the credits have been confirmed on your record as these credits can impact your progress towards your nursing program.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Confirm **equivalency** for prerequisite coursework taken at another college and submit a Non-Equivalent Coursework (NEC) form as needed. It is recommended that you discuss this form first with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**.

☐ Confirm that all previous transcripts are submitted and on file. This includes all high school, technical school, college/university, and AP/IB/CLEP score transcripts. ∞

☐ Check your overall GPA after grades post on your transcripts in Atlas. Also, utilize a GPA calculator to confirm your GPA for the nursing prerequisites. ∞

☐ Apply for financial aid scholarships by visiting the Financial Aid Services website. ∞

30-45 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist (cont'd)

☐ **Get Involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞

☐ Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor.

☐ Explore your major and career interests by considering volunteering, employment, **internships**, job shadowing and service learning.

☐ Ready to apply for the **Nursing, Traditional Track Program**? Ensure all required coursework, transcripts, and test scores are on file by the application deadline. Refer to the Admissions Checklist **here**.

If accepted into the program, refer to In-Program Checklist

☐ Speak with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** each semester to ensure progress. ∞

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

45-60 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist

☐ Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞

☐ Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞

☐ Attend a Nursing Information Session to learn more about recent updates and programs offered by visiting the **Health Sciences Information Sessions** page.

☐ Research the **Nursing, Traditional Track** by reviewing all information contained in the current **Program Guide** and college **catalog**. ∞

☐ Research and confirm if you will pursue an AA degree in parallel to the nursing prerequisites for your unique nursing career goals. If unsure, contact your Pending-Nursing Program Advisor.

☐ Check if your **meta-major** matches your career of interest and change it if necessary. ∞

☐ Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to help you choose the right classes each term. For assistance, contact an **advisor.** ∞

☐ If missing prerequisite coursework, register for at least one nursing program prerequisite course each semester to maintain academic progress. If unsure which courses to take, connect with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**. ∞

☐ Complete your **ATI TEAS** exam by the application deadline. Learn about the exam through the **Assessment Center**. Remember to **confirm** your scores are in Atlas.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Speak with your pending nursing advisor about your transfer credits after the credits have been confirmed on your record as these credits can impact your progress towards your nursing program.

☐ TRANSFER STUDENTS: Confirm **equivalency** for prerequisite coursework taken outside of Valencia College and work to submit a Non-Equivalent Coursework (NEC) form as needed. It is highly recommended that you discuss this form first with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor**.

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

45-60 A.A./Pending Nursing Credit Hour Checklist (cont'd)

☐ Confirm that all previous transcripts are submitted and on file. This includes all high school transcripts, technical school transcripts, college/university transcripts, and AP/IB/CLEP score transcripts. ∞

☐ Check your overall GPA after grades post on your transcripts in Atlas. Also, utilize a **GPA calculator** to confirm your GPA for the nursing prerequisites. ∞

☐ Apply for financial aid scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. ∞

☐ **Get Involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞

☐ Keep your resume current by reviewing it every semester and consider scheduling a mock interview. For assistance, visit the **Career Center website** or connect with a career advisor.

☐ Explore your major and career interests by considering volunteering, employment, **internships**, job shadowing and service learning.

☐ Ready to apply for graduation? Submit your **Graduation Application** for your A.A. by the **deadline**. It is not advisable to apply for graduation if you did not earn a C or higher for the nursing prerequisites. **Grade Forgiveness** for D or F grades should be completed before earning a degree. Connect with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** prior to applying.

☐ Ready to apply for the **Nursing, Traditional Track Program**? Ensure all required coursework, transcripts, and test scores are on file by the application deadline. Refer to the Admissions Checklist **here**.

If accepted into the program, refer to In-Program Checklist

☐ Speak with your **Pending-Nursing Advisor** each semester to ensure progress. ∞

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

In-Program Checklist

* This checklist applies to the students who have been accepted into Valencia College's **Nursing, Traditional Track Program**.

☐ Check your **Atlas** email daily. ∞

☐ Check Important Dates & Deadlines by visiting the **Academic Calendar** on the Valencia College website. ∞

☐ Speak with the In-Program ASN Advisor when you have any advising or registration questions to ensure academic progress toward your nursing goals. ∞

☐ Run your **degree audit** and use your **catalog** to confirm you are on track for ASN program completion. For assistance, contact your In-Program ASN **Advisor.**

☐ Before registering for classes, refer to the registration information provided by the **School of Nursing** each semester for registration times and course details. ∞

☐ Apply for financial aid and scholarships by visiting the **Financial Aid Services** website. Valencia/UCF students receiving aid must submit a UCF transcript at the end of each semester. ∞

☐ **Get Involved** on campus by joining student clubs and organizations, attending **campus events** and participating in health and wellness activities. ∞

☐ After registering for your final classes, submit your **graduation application** by the deadline. Graduating with an ASN is required before students can take the NCLEX-RN needed for the RN license. Test prep can be found **here**.

☐ Confirm all transcripts are submitted and on file. This includes all high school transcripts, technical school transcripts, college/university transcripts, and AP/IB/CLEP score transcripts. Valencia/UCF concurrent students must submit final UCF transcript at the end of their graduating semester.

☐ Valencia/UCF Concurrent students should discuss next steps with UCF.

☐ Review the Valencia College **RN-BSN** program as this is a valuable degree option for students completing their ASN. If desired, please apply for the BSN program after applying for ASN graduation. Discuss next steps with the Valencia BSN Advisor. This program can be completed in as little as one to two years.

∞ This symbol represents actions that you should take at every credit hour benchmark.

The Valencia College
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

The **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** degree at Valencia College provides an opportunity for individuals who hold an A.S. degree in Nursing from an accredited institution to further their education and increase their potential for career advancement. The program is designed for working professionals, and it can be completed online.

What do I need to apply to the RN-BSN completion program?

To be eligible to apply, you must meet the following criteria:

• Hold an Associate in Science degree in Nursing

• Hold a current Florida RN license, or be eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN

• Have a minimum overall college GPA of 2.0

• Have an address in the state of Florida

To apply, complete the bachelor's degree & ATC **application for admission** to Valencia College and select B.S. Nursing as planned course of study.

Paying for Classes & Financial Assistance

Financial Aid

Apply for financial aid by submitting a free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Learn about the programs available and information on how to apply by vising the **Financial Aid Services** website.

• Pending Nursing students who have not yet earned an A.A. or bachelor's degree and have an A.A. degree listed as their primary program, until accepted into a nursing program may qualify for Financial Aid.

• Nursing prerequisite courses that can be used in an area required for the AA degree are financial aid eligible. For example, HUN 2202 ESSENTIALS OF NUTRITION WITH DIET THERAPY (3 credit hours) may count towards an A.A. degree elective credit if the student has not already earned the required 24 credits of electives needed for the degree. Please consult a **Financial Aid Specialist** to determine your eligibility.

Preparatory Coursework Loan

Pending Nursing students who have already completed an AA or bachelor's degree and are taking the required prerequisite courses to apply to the Traditional Nursing program may be eligible for a Preparatory Coursework Loan.

Steps to Apply for a Federal Preparatory Coursework Loan:

• Meet with academic advisor to discuss and if student qualifies review the Financial Aid Preparatory Coursework SAP (SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS) Appeal Form

• Complete appeal process with explanation

• Appeals are reviewed by committee with a processing time of two to four weeks for an eligible award offer

Tuition Installment Plan (TIP)

A **Tuition Installment Plan (TIP)** is available for students requiring assistance with paying for tuition and book expenses over a period of time which extends past the term payment deadline.

Nursing Scholarships

Click here to view Nursing Scholarship opportunities.

Valencia College Resources

Need more information? Check these out!

VALENCIACOLLEGE
Internship and Workforce Services

**Find an internship and
be ready for the job**

ENGAGE

**Engage in about over
150 clubs and organizations**

VALENCIA VOLUNTEERS

**Learn more about over 150 clubs
and organizations**

VALENCIACOLLEGE
Learning Support

Get help with your studies

Let's Talk

**Build academic and
emotional fitness**

VALENCIACOLLEGE
Veterans Affairs

**Essential resources
and support for veterans**

U FIT @VALENCIA

**Free fitness and
recreational sports**

BayCare

Get help with behavioral health
and more by calling **800-878-5470**
Student Support Resources

VALENCIACOLLEGE
Career Center

**Explore careers and prepare
for what's next**

VALENCIACOLLEGE
Math Help 24/7

**Get help from math professors using
online videos with Math Help 24/7**

Questions to Ask Your Advisor

- What's the difference between dropping a class and withdrawing from a class, and how does this impact me?

- What are some things I should consider before withdrawing from a class?

- What are some important academic policies that I should be aware of?(e.g., grade forgiveness, academic probation)

- What are some resources that I should be using at Valencia College if I'm struggling in my classes?

- What are some resources that will help me explore different majors and careers?

- How can I raise my GPA?

- What are some things I should consider when creating my class schedule?

- What are the prerequisites for my major?

- What are the admission requirements for my program at my transfer college/ university of interest?

- How do I choose my electives?

- Is my major limited or restricted access? If so, what does that mean?

- How do I know that I'm on track for graduation?

- How do I know that I've met all my graduation requirements for my major?

- How do I apply for graduation?

- How do I apply to my college/university of interest?

- How do I request/submit my college transcripts?

How Do I Run My Degree Audit?

The degree audit is a great tool to help you plan out your courses. It is a summary or audit of your degree. It will show you the classes that you have completed and the ones you have yet to complete. Here are the steps on running a degree audit. We encourage you to consult with your advisor.

A.A. / In-Program Students

1. Log in to **Atlas**.
2. Click on Students on the left hand side.
3. Look for the Path to Graduation box and click on My Academic Progress (Degree Audit).
4. Click on Generate New Degree Audit.
5. Select the term you are currently in, click submit.
6. Click on the button next to the name of your degree.
7. Click on Generate Request.

Pending Nursing Students

Follow the above steps to also run your "Nursing Admissions Check" **degree audit via "What-If analysis"** to confirm your nursing prerequisite coursework completion. ∞

The path

to promise

takes you

from

"what is"

to

"what can be."

WHAT'S NEXT?