

FAQ – What is the LPN to ASN Program?

The LPN to ASN Program is a bridge program for Licensed Practical Nurses who want to bridge over to RN (Registered Nurse). This program will provide graduates with an ASN Degree (Associates of Science in Nursing), which will allow students to then sit for their NCLEX RN exam for state licensure.

FAQ – Do I have to be an LPN to apply?

Applicants must have already completed a Practical Nursing program or be currently enrolled in an one through a technical or community college. Students will need to be on-pace to complete their LPN program before starting the LPN to ASN program.

FAQ – Do I have to be licensed before I can apply?

Applicants are not required to be licensed to apply, however, they must be licensed before attending clinicals in the 2nd semester of the program.

FAQ – Do I need to have a Kentucky LPN license to apply?

Applicants are not required to have a Kentucky LPN license to apply; however, they must have a “multistate” license from a compact state (or state that participates in the Nursing Licensure Compact /NLC).

FAQ – If I do not currently have a multistate license, does that mean I cannot apply?

Applicants who do not currently hold a multistate license must obtain one before clinicals start. Therefore, we recommend starting that process before applying to avoid wasting time or money on our program if you cannot successfully complete it due to the licensing issue.

FAQ – How long is the LPN to ASN Program?

Our program is a 3-semester program. If students are able to go straight through with no failures or issues, then they can complete the full program in 1 year. (We offer full course loads during the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.)

FAQ - Is this program 100% online?

Our program is actually a hybrid program that **requires students to be on campus here in Bowling Green, KY** for the in-person requirements. The program was designed for students who live in Kentucky or Tennessee or live within a 2-3 hour drive of Bowling Green, KY due to all of the on-campus/in-person requirements. Unfortunately, the in-person requirements - skills check-off dates, clinical days, and practicum hours – **must be completed close to our campus in Bowling Green, Kentucky** and **cannot be done in any other state/location**.

Students are required to be **on campus here in Bowling Green, KY** in the 1st semester for skills check-offs, in the 2nd semester for clinical days, and in the 3rd semester for practicum hours.

- Students are required to come to the Bowling Green, KY campus 4 times in the 1st semester for individual skills check-off dates. Must be done in Bowling Green, KY. **Cannot be done in any other state/location.**
- Students are required to come to campus about 10 times in the 2nd semester for **weekly** clinical days. Must be done at approved clinical facilities in Bowling Green, Kentucky and in the Nashville, Tennessee area. **Cannot be done in any other state/location.**

- Students are required to work 120 hours of practicum over a 6-week period (20-25 hours a week for 6 weeks) at a hospital near our campus in the 3rd semester. (This usually works out to be two 12-hour shifts every week, or three 8-hour shifts every week.) Must be done close to Bowling Green, KY. Can be done at a healthcare facility that is within 3 hours of our Bowling Green KY campus.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR Out of State COMMUTERS: The on-campus/in-person requirements are MANDATORY. Any missed on-campus/in-person dates are UNEXCUSED regardless of reason – missed/cancelled flights, blocked roads, work changes, etc. More than one unexcused absence will result in the immediate failure of the course. And since students are only allowed one (1) course failure in the program, upon the 2nd course failure, students are dismissed from the program and must sit out for 2 years before reapplying and starting over. No exceptions to these policies will be made for commuting students and/or out of state students.

Students who reside outside of KY and TN are allowed to apply & attend the program, **but may not want to** due to the on-campus/in-person requirements in each of the three semesters. Travel nurses may be able to find an assignment near our campus in order to be able to attend our program. If you are willing/able to commute/relocate, let me know and I can send out additional information about our program and the HESI Entrance Exam requirements.

FAQ – Is there an entrance exam that is required to apply?

We require the HESI Admission Assessment (also called the HESI A2). This exam is used in the admissions process, so applicants must take the exam by the application deadline date for the admission period for which they are applying. **NOTE: A new policy has been put in place that all HESI scores must be within 1 year of the application deadline date for the semester for which you are applying.**

FAQ – Can I take the TEAS Exam or the NAS Exam instead of the HESI exam?

We use the exam score to rank applicants against each other for admission. Therefore, we require all applicants to take the same exam.

FAQ – Where do I take the required entrance exam?

Applicants can take the HESI wherever HESI exams are offered, but its best to take it with WKU. This allows us to ensure you are taking the correct version of the exam and that we can access the results. If you register for the HESI exam through WKU, we allow you the option to take the HESI at home using an online proctor.

FAQ – Is there a minimum score required for the HESI exam?

There is no minimum score required for our program – we will accept any score you obtain. However, **this score will be used to rank you against the other applicants for admission**, so the higher you score, the more likely you are to be selected for admission. Therefore, we recommend scoring an **87% or better on the HESI** Admission Assessment to be competitive against the other applicants.

FAQ – How many times can I attempt the HESI A2 exam?

Students can only attempt the HESI **once per admission period**. Therefore, we recommend studying for several weeks before attempting the exam. If students are not selected for admission at that time, students can reapply for the next application period and will get an opportunity to retake the HESI to attempt a higher score.

FAQ – Is there a study guide for the HESI exam?

Yes, there are study guides available. We recommend the **Evolve Reach Testing and Remediation Admission Assessment Exam Review, 4th or 5th Edition - ISBN: 9780323353786**. You can purchase this new or used online at www.amazon.com.

FAQ – Will I be charged out-of-state tuition if I don't live in Kentucky?

WKU charges one tuition rate for all online courses – \$510.00/credit hour – regardless of where the student resides. This means students who live out of state do not have to pay the out-of-state tuition rate, they would pay the online tuition rate.

FAQ – When is the next application period.

Our program admits three (3) times every year – in Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.

The deadline to apply for **Fall** admission is **June 1st**. (Students will take a prerequisite nursing course (NUR 150 – LPN to RN Transitions) starting in early-July and the core nursing courses would start in mid-August that year.)

The deadline for **Spring** admission is **Sept 1st**. (Students will take a prerequisite nursing course (NUR 150 – LPN to RN Transitions) starting in October and the core nursing courses would start in mid-January the following year.)

The deadline for **Summer** admission is **Feb 1st**. (Students will take a prerequisite nursing course (NUR 150 – LPN to RN Transitions) starting in April and the core nursing courses would start in mid-May that year.)

FAQ – What are the prerequisite courses that are required to apply?

We require **three (3) prerequisite courses** that must be completed **before you are eligible to start** –

- BIOL 131 – Anatomy & Physiology
- PSY 220 - Developmental Psychology
- We also have four Gen Ed courses that are required for our Degree program – and we **strongly recommend** students to complete these courses before starting as well. Those are:
 - Microbiology
 - English Comp I
 - College-level Math – you choose which math – General College Math, **or** College Algebra, **or** Statistics.
 - Arts & Humanities elective – you choose which AH course - (think Art Appreciation or Music Appreciation. Other courses are accepted, please reach out for a list of approved AH courses.)

FAQ – I took A&P I at my school, will I need to take A&P II for this program?

WKU requires all transfer students to take two (2) semesters of A&P to receive equivalent credit to BIOL 131 here at WKU. This means students will need to take both A&P I and A&P II at their school.

FAQ – I took an “Intro to Psychology” course or a “General Psychology” course at my school, is that the same as Developmental Psych?

Intro to Psych and General Psych are not equivalent to the course we require. We specifically require *Developmental Psychology*, a course that covers the entire lifespan of development – from conception to death. The course is sometimes called Lifespan Psych or Human Growth & Development.

FAQ – I took some of the Gen Eds, but I have not completed all of them. Can I still apply.

Yes, you can apply to our program if you have not completed all of the required Gen Eds. We just recommend completing them before starting because students are more successful in our program if they have most or all of the Gen Eds completed before they start. We recommend completing additional Gen Eds during the application process.

FAQ – Can I test out of any nursing courses?

Yes, students admitted into the LPN to ASN Program will have the opportunity to test out of certain Nursing courses – those being:

- NUR 157 – Skills Demonstration (in-person Skills demonstration) This particular option is limited to first 12 students to sign up once registration opens
- NUR 165 – Mental Health Nursing (HESI Specialty Nursing Departmental Credit Exam) Once admitted, all students are given the opportunity to attempt to test out of this course if they choose.
- NUR 215 – Maternal Newborn Nursing (HESI Specialty Nursing Departmental Credit Exam) Once admitted, all students are given the opportunity to attempt to test out of this course if they choose.

FAQ – What are the steps to apply for the LPN to ASN Program

- The first step is to **email** copies of your **College Transcripts showing your completed prerequisites/Gen Eds**. These can be **unofficial or official transcripts**. They can be sent directly to the ASN Nursing office at asnursing@wku.edu. We must have these before the application deadline so we can determine eligibility.
- You will also need to submit a **Nursing Program Application** (This is separate from the application to WKU, the university). This can be found on our website. We must have the application by the application deadline date.
- You will need to send us a copy of your **LPN Program transcript** showing all completed PN course work and your graduation/completion date. This can be unofficial or official. We must have this by the application deadline date.
- **You will need to schedule and take the HESI Admission Assessment** (also called the HESI A2) and email us a copy of your score report by the application deadline date.