



Forsyth Technical Community College
2100 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-5197

Practical Nursing

Fall 2012 Deadline: March 1, 2012

Practical Nursing is a one-year diploma and selective enrollment program beginning each fall. Resources such as clinical facilities and faculty, as well as approval standards, limit the number of applicants accepted to the program which admits 80 students each year. Twenty of the 80 spaces are designated for the Stokes County evening/weekend program. One seat is reserved for a 2012 high school graduate. Currently enrolled high school applicants will only compete with other high school applicants. All applicants must meet minimum requirements to be considered for admission. **Please note however, that meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

The following steps must be completed:

- ___1. Complete the Forsyth Tech application specifying program and semester for anticipated entry.
- ___2. Have an official high school transcript or GED scores mailed to the Admission Office.
(Official transcripts must be sent directly from the school to Forsyth Tech and have the school seal or original signature).
- ___3. Complete placement testing if required by the Admissions Office.
- ___4. Have official transcripts from all colleges or schools attended since high school sent to the Admissions Office. These will be reviewed for possible placement test exemption and transfer credit.
- ___5. Participate in a mandatory Nursing Information Session. **Bring this packet with you to the session.**

THE REVIEW PROCESS CONTINUES ONCE THE ABOVE STEPS ARE COMPLETE

NOTE: The information provided in this packet is subject to change annually.

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Biology Competency

Applicants must have completed a **high school biology course**. If the course was not completed at the high school level, an applicant must complete the course at the college level with a grade of “C” or higher. There is no age limitation on the high school or college level course.

2. Placement Test Scores

Forsyth Tech will accept the following tests if completed at other schools:

<u>CPT</u>		<u>COMPASS</u>		<u>ASSET</u>	
Sentence Structure	86	Writing	70	Writing Skills	41
Reading Skills	80	Reading	81	Reading Skills	41
Arithmetic	55	Pre-Algebra	47	Numerical Skills	41
Algebra	55	Algebra	46	El. Algebra	41

The CPT, COMPASS and ASSET are valid for 3 years. Applicants not meeting these minimum scores should enroll in the appropriate developmental courses. All developmental courses **must be completed by the deadline date in order to qualify for consideration**. A college level English composition or algebra course with a grade of "C" or higher will be used to waive the tests once the transcript(s) has been received and reviewed. An SAT or ACT test taken within the past five years and meeting the required minimum score is also acceptable.

SAT Scores

Critical Reading/Verbal	480
Math	500

ACT

Minimum Composite of 21

3. “C” or Better Policy

Applicants must earn a grade of “C” or better in all program related general education courses attempted to become eligible for the program. This policy applies to courses taken at Forsyth Tech as well as equivalent courses completed at outside colleges or universities. Applicants with a grade of “D” or “F” in a related course (listed on pg. 3) as of the stated deadline will not be eligible to be considered for the Practical Nursing program. If a grade of “D” or “F” is earned after acceptance to the program, the course must be repeated with a grade of “C” or better before the student will be allowed to enroll in the program. Failure to remove the grade of “D” or “F” will result in the loss of admission to the Practical Nursing program. Please note that if a course is repeated for a better grade, **the last grade stands**.

TEAS Criteria (Test of Essential Academic Skills Version V)

Once the application process (pg.1) is complete and the minimum admission requirements have been verified, **applicants will be notified of their eligibility to schedule the TEAS**. This test assesses how well a student is academically prepared for learning nursing-related content. Forsyth Tech will accept TEAS scores (**Version V only**) if taken at another school. It is the student’s responsibility to submit a copy of the scores to the Admissions Office by the deadline date. TEAS scores are valid for 2 years. Detailed information regarding TEAS is included in this packet. **It is mandatory that you complete the TEAS by the deadline date in order to be considered for selection.**

RANKING/SELECTION PROCESS

When all minimum requirements and TEAS scores are met, qualified applicants are ranked using a point system. The components of the ranking system include the following items:

1. Related Courses

Points are awarded for specific course grades completed by the deadline. Grade points are valued as follows: A= 4 points, B= 3 points and C= 2 points. These points are then multiplied by the credit hours for each course. For example, English 111 (3 credit hours) with a grade of “B” (3 points) gives a student 9 total points for that course.

Related academic courses and approved substitutions are listed below. **Only courses completed by the deadline will be used for ranking. Courses must be completed with a “C” or higher.**

	Credit Hours
BIO 163(BIO 168 & 169, BIO 165 & 166)	5
PSY 150	3
ENG 111	3

THERE ARE NO AGE LIMITATIONS FOR BIO 163, BIO 168/169 OR BIO 166/166. PLEASE NOTE THAT BIO 165/166 MUST BE COMPLETED AT THE SAME COLLEGE TO TRANSFER. STUDENTS WHO COMPLETE BIO 168/169 ARE NOT RESTRICTED TO TAKING BOTH COURSES AT THE SAME COLLEGE. However, to qualify for ranking points and transfer, both courses must satisfy the required semester hours and must be completed at the same school if BIO 165 & 166 are taken.

2. TEAS Adjusted Individual Total Score

An applicant must test and meet the required minimum 42% or higher **Adjusted Individual Total Score**. This score will be used as part of the ranking process.

Total Points for Ranking and Selection

Adding the grade points for related courses completed and the **TEAS Adjusted Individual Total Score** produces the total ranking score used in the selection process. Applicants with the highest ranked scores will be accepted. In the event of a tie, an applicant with the higher Adjusted Individual Science Score on the TEAS will be ranked higher. An alternate list will be maintained in ranking order. Alternates will only be accepted if a space becomes available. Applicants not admitted to the program must reapply for future program consideration.

2012 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS RANKING/SELECTION PROCESS

When all minimum requirements and TEAS scores are met, all current high school seniors will be ranked and compete with other seniors using the following:

1. Overall weighted GPA (It is recommended that a transcript be submitted after completion of the first semester to reflect the most current GPA.)
2. **TEAS Adjusted Individual Total Score**
3. Weighted grades in specific high school courses of Algebra II, Anatomy /Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Health Occup/Medical Careers I if completed. Grade points are valued as follows:

Honors/AP courses A=5 points, B=4, C=3 **Standard courses** A=4 points, B=3, C=2

Adding the **cumulative weighted GPA, total weighted course points and TEAS Adjusted Individual Total Score** will equal the **total ranking score**. The senior with the highest ranked score will be accepted. In the event of a tie, the applicant with the higher **Adjusted Individual Science Score** on TEAS will be ranked higher.

CNA I and CPR requirement

Completion of a North Carolina approved Nurse Aide I Training program is required. The course must include full theory and full clinical times as set forth by the Nurse Aide I training programs. Current NA I listing on the NC Nurse Aide I Registry is also required by the date set forth by the nursing department. The program also requires current CPR certification. (American Heart Association-Health Care Provider) These certifications do not have to be completed by the deadline date, but if selected for the program, proof of certification must be provided by the date specified in the conditions of the approval letter.

For more information regarding these certifications, please contact the Forsyth Tech West Campus at 761-1002.

TEAS: A Guide to Student Success

Student success before, during and after the nursing programs at Forsyth Technical Community College is your goal as well as for the faculty and staff at our college. Success refers to academic achievement, personal and professional goal attainment and well-being. Preparation and advisement are key components on the road to success for all students.

To better ensure your success, the nursing faculty has adopted a program that has been demonstrated to assist you in meeting your goals. Part of the success program requirements is an assessment of essential academic skills. The assessment is known as TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills), a product of the Assessment Technology Institute (ATI). The TEAS test measures basic skills in the domains of Reading, Mathematics, Science, and English Language Usage.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. When am I eligible to take the TEAS?

Only after the following documentation has been received by the Admissions Office:

- An application for admission.
- Required college placement testing or proficiency in appropriate level math and English.
- Completed developmental courses if required due to placement scores.
- Official HS/GED and college transcripts from all schools attended.
- HS competencies: Biology
- Attendance at a Nursing Information Session.

2. What are the basic steps to scheduling the test?

- **You will receive notification from the TEAS coordinator** indicating that you are eligible to take the TEAS.
- Upon receipt of notification, you will follow instructions as to how to schedule a test date. The test is given on main campus. You will receive a date, time, and location for the TEAS test.
- Go to the cashier's window during operating hours located on the main campus in the Allman Center (2nd floor) and pay the test fee of \$35.00. It is highly recommended that payment is made prior to the day you come to test.
- On the TEAS test day, you **must** show the receipt of the TEAS test payment to the test proctor, along with a photo ID (driver's license or a student ID). **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TEST PROCTOR CANNOT ACCEPT ANY PAYMENT!**

3. Positioning Yourself for Success on TEAS: ACA 085

In order to help assist you in being successful on the TEAS test, the college offers ACA 085- Improving Study Skills, a 1 credit hour course. ACA 085 is offered as a web-based (on-line) course so that you

can complete the course anywhere you have internet access and at your convenience. ACA 085 provides an opportunity to review basic skills on the 4 domains of the TEAS test, allowing you to practice for the TEAS test at your own pace. If you are interested in enrolling in ACA 085, you will need to see your advisor during registration. Completion of ACA 085 does not mean that you are ready to take the TEAS test. Completion of additional criteria must be met. The **TEAS Coordinator** will notify you when you are ready to schedule TEAS testing (**See Question #1**).

Additional resources available to help prepare for TEAS:

- TEAS study books are located on reserve for review in the following locations: Main campus library (Ardmore Bldg), Stokes County Office (Danbury), Grady Swisher Center (Kernersville) and Mazie Woodruff Center (Carver Road-Winston Salem).
- Go to www.atitesting.com. Click on TEAS test for more information.
- TEAS study manual and online practice assessment with scoring is available for purchase at www.atitesting.com. The cost is \$85.00. If purchased separately, the TEAS study manual is \$42.00, and each practice assessment is \$35.00.

4. How and when do I find out my score?

At the completion of your computerized test, you will be given instructions on how to access your score from the ATI website. You will be provided a copy of your score at that time.

5. Is the test computer based?

Yes. A paper and pencil test is available only for students with documented disabilities requiring this accommodation.

6. What if I have a documented learning disability with accommodations?

When you call the TEAS coordinator to make the appointment for the TEAS, indicate that you have documented accommodations through Forsyth Technical Community College's Disability Services. Any accommodations must be confirmed by Disability Services and the TEAS coordinator notified prior to your test date. Questions regarding accommodations can be directed to Disability Services located in the Allman Center Room 148. The TEAS coordinator will provide test accommodations according to those guidelines confirmed by Disability Services.

7. Can I take the test more than once?

You will be allowed 3 attempts. After the second attempt, you must wait 8 weeks to schedule your final attempt. During this time, you are encouraged to enroll in ACA 085 or remediate on your own. If you are unsuccessful after the third attempt, you must wait one year from the date of your last attempt to be eligible to resume the TEAS testing process. The process will start over with the same policy as stated previously.

8. How long is my score valid?

Two years.

9. If I want to improve my score, can I repeat sections of the TEAS?

No, you must take the entire TEAS test each time.

10. What is the required score for admission into the nursing programs?

To be considered for the nursing program, students must meet the required minimum 42% Adjusted Individual Total Score. The score will be recorded as part of the admission rank score.

What do I do if my score was below the 42% Adjusted Individual Total or I want to increase my score in order to be more competitive for admission:

- Review your TEAS results and identify areas in which you need to improve your score.
- Enroll in ACA 085, a one-credit course designed to assist students to remediate specifically on areas of TEAS using a web-based tutorial program, PLATO. This program will allow you to review your basic skills and test in each area for competency. (See #3).
- Review the TEAS study manual located in the libraries as indicated.
- Optional: Access the website, www.atitesting.com and purchase the online TEAS practice test and check your score prior to retesting. The cost of the TEAS practice test on the ATI web site is \$35.00.

11. Will Forsyth Tech accept TEAS scores taken at another school?

Yes. A copy of the **Individual Performance Profile (TEAS V only)** sheet must be submitted to the Admissions Office. The scores will be reviewed based on the required scores for the nursing programs at Forsyth Tech. The applicant will be notified to repeat testing in the event that the scores do not meet the criteria for the programs.