1. **How do I get an Associate Degree Nursing application?** You must apply online at the ADN web page: [www.alvincollege.edu/adn](http://www.alvincollege.edu/adn). There is no paper application form. An ADN application link will be available on the web page only during an application period. Please see the “Application Periods” heading on the web page for dates of the application periods. You must be admitted to Alvin Community College before the computer will allow you to do an online ADN application.

2. **When does the program begin?** Associate Degree nursing courses begin in August and January. LVN-to-ADN Transition courses begin in the middle of May.

3. **What are the requirements for admission?** Applicants must meet the minimum admission requirements to be considered for admission. The requirements are in the Alvin Community College catalog.

4. **Can I apply even though I have not completed the pre-requisite courses?** You may apply to the ADN program while “in progress” in one or more pre-requisites. However, any courses that are “in-progress” as of an application deadline cannot be used in GPA calculations for that application. The pre-requisites, BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, and ENGL 1301, must be completed before the start of the ADN program. LVN-to ADN Transition students must complete the pre-requisites, BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, BIOL 2420, ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and PSYC 2314, before the start of their program in May.

5. **Is the ACT or SAT required for admission?** Yes. The ACT or SAT test is required for all nursing applicants—no exemptions. The sum of ACT English and Reading scores must be 38 or higher, or the Critical Reading section of the SAT must be 460 or higher. Math and other scores will not be used. Scores must be from tests administered no earlier than 1996. Contact the ESC for further information about registering for the ACT (the SAT is not given at ACC).

6. **How are students selected for admission?** ADN admission is competitive. After the ADN deadline, applicants are ranked according to the number of completed courses in the ADN curriculum, the GPA of those courses, and standardized test reading scores (ACT: sum of English and Reading scores; or SAT: Critical Reading or Verbal score). Additional consideration is given to applicants who 1) complete ADN curriculum courses without repeating or withdrawing from courses in the last five years; 2) complete ADN curriculum courses at ACC; 3) earn a Bachelor’s or higher degree from an accredited college or university; 4) reside in the ACC tax district.

   In order to achieve a high ranking, students are encouraged to earn a high grade point average in as many academic (non-nursing) ADN curriculum courses as possible, and earn a high score on the ACT or SAT. Academic courses that are not part of the ADN curriculum are excluded in the GPA calculation for admission ranking. Admission is very competitive, and students accepted into the program generally have completed courses in the curriculum plan with an A-B average and have an ACT score several points above minimum.

7. **Can I take academic (non-nursing) courses before starting the ADN program?** Yes. Some or all of the academic courses may be taken before starting the ADN program, with the requirement that all pre-requisite courses must be completed before starting the ADN program. Students who complete academic courses with a high GPA will earn higher ranking in the admission process.

8. **I want to finish academic courses before starting the ADN program. What courses should I take?** Many pre-nursing students take BIOL 2401, ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, & PSYC 2314 in one semester and BIOL 2402, BIOL 2420 ENGL 1302, Humanities/Fine Arts Elective, in subsequent semester(s). There are also two nursing courses you can take ahead of time: RNSG 1108 (Dosage Calculation) and RNSG 1215 (Health Assessment).

9. **I have taken academic courses at a college other than ACC. Will these courses transfer?** Academic courses are freely transferable from regionally accredited colleges and universities when the content and credit hours are equivalent. Transferred academic courses must have a grade of "C" or better. Transferred nursing courses must have a grade of "B" or better.

10. **Will a science course (Anatomy & Physiology or Microbiology) taken more than five (5) years ago transfer?** BIOL courses that are older than 5 years old as of the application deadline must either be repeated or the student may demonstrate competency through a written examination. There is a competency exam for A&P and a competency exam for Microbiology. If you pass a competency exam, your grade(s) in the old BIOL course(s) will be used when ranking you against other applicants. Contact the Enrollment Services Center 281-756-5800 for information about the competency exam.
11. **How long does it take to complete the nursing program?**  
   **ADN:** Once enrolled in the first nursing course, the ADN program requires 21 months to complete - four (4) long semesters and one (1) summer semester. The pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to enrolling in the nursing course.  
   **LVN-ADN:** Once enrolled in the first nursing course, the LVN-ADN Transition Program is one year in length.

12. **Can I work while I am in the nursing program?** The nursing program is very demanding in terms of time and effort. Depending on the semester, classroom, lab and clinical hours will total 17-20 hours/week. In addition, students should budget at least two (2) hours of outside study time for each one (1) hours spent in class. While many students are employed during their enrollment, a full-time work schedule of 40 hours/week is difficult to maintain. Work schedules must be planned around classroom and clinical requirements and must also be flexible since lecture and clinical hours may change from semester-to-semester.

13. **What are the hours of the nursing classes?** Nursing classes are generally scheduled for four or five days per week: two to three short days and two long days. Nursing theory courses meet two-three days/week for 2-5 hours/day and are generally scheduled between the hours of 8 am and 3 pm. The clinical/lab days range from 6-12 hours in length and are held either in the campus skills lab or in a hospital or other clinical agency in the Houston/Galveston area. Hours in the clinical setting vary from semester to semester. Generally, clinical hours are scheduled between 6 am and 6 pm. Some clinical rotations will be during the evening shift and weekends.

14. **How much does the nursing program cost?** The approximate cost for tuition, fees and required textbooks for nursing courses is $6,300 if you live in-district or $8,100 if you live out of district. This includes cost of uniforms, skills lab equipment, licensure fees, and fees associated with graduation. This figure does not include costs related to required non-nursing courses or student transportation expenses. Tuition and fees are published in each ACC Class Schedule and are online at [http://www.alvincollege.edu/tuition/](http://www.alvincollege.edu/tuition/).

15. **What is the current job market for nurses?** Nursing is the largest health care occupation with more than 2 million jobs. According to government statistics, it is one of ten (10) occupations projected to have the greatest number of new jobs. With the recent economic slowdown there is a slowing of the job market for nurses.

16. **What is the salary potential for a new graduate nurse?** Earnings vary according to location and schedule worked. Starting salaries average just over $50,000/year.

17. **Is financial aid available?** Students can apply for scholarships, grants and loans through the Enrollment Services Center 281-756-5800.

18. **What are the physical requirements to enter the nursing program?** The student must be in good health and not pose a threat to the health or safety of others or to themselves. A physical examination is required prior to the start of the first semester. A departmental form is provided for this physical and is submitted to the ADN department after an applicant has been admitted to the program. Documentation of up-to-date immunizations is also required.

19. **Are there legal limitations for ADN program admission and licensure?** Yes! It is important that all students interested in the nursing program read the document "Criminal Background Checks" to determine if they must submit a Petition for Declaratory Order to the Texas Board of Nursing in order to receive a verification of eligibility for future licensure, as a condition of full acceptance into the nursing program. **Individuals with felonies are not eligible for admission to the ADN program.**

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Anyone applying to a nursing program must complete the 3-shot Hepatitis-B series before the program starts. The series can take up to 6 months and should be started immediately for consideration of admittance to a nursing program.

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If you have further questions:

You are welcome to ask questions at an ADN information meeting, or contact the ADN department: nursing@alvincollege.edu 281-756-5630. Information meetings are open to all who are interested in finding out more about the 2-year ADN program or the 1-year LVN-to-ADN Transition program. These meetings are held first Wednesday of every month May-December, 3:00-4:00 pm in room S-103 (no reservation required). There are no information meetings Jan-March.