

NURSING CAREERS

DO YOU . . .

- ❖ Enjoy caring for people?
- ❖ Have a compassionate personality?
- ❖ Enjoy developing relationships with people?

Then a career in Nursing might be for you!

DEGREE OPTIONS:

The Certified Nursing Assistant (84 hours): Prepares students to take the state certification exam.

Diploma (50 Credits): Many PN students complete classes to earn an A.A. Degree and go on to complete the Associate Degree nursing program at LSC.

A.S. Degree (Associate in Science): This program consists of 64 total credits. A solid foundation of general education credits round out the experience.

A.A.S. Degree (Associate of Applied Science): This is a program for interested Nursing Assistants that are interested in becoming a RN without having to go through the PN program initially.

CAREER OUTLOOK:

Both in Minnesota and nationally, the need for nursing assistants is expected to grow faster than average between 2002-2012*.

"Employment of Practical Nurses is expected to grow at an average rate through the year 2021"

Both in Minnesota and nationally, the need for registered nurses is expected to grow faster than average between 2002-2012.

-- *Data taken from <http://www.iseek.org> website.
-- From the online version of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor *Occupational Handbook, 2005-05 edition*

As the Baby Boom generation ages, the need for qualified and caring nurses expands. It is widely publicized in the media and in the medical field that the United States is facing a nursing shortage. As Americans grow older, two things happen. First, nurses retire. Second, more and more people need care, especially in nursing homes and assisted living centers. Studies predict that nearly 1,000,000 nurses will be needed by the year 2010!

OPPORTUNITIES AT LAKE SUPERIOR COLLEGE

Our Nursing programs start with the basics. Students work in a lab setting on campus prior to working in a clinical environment such as local hospitals or long term care facilities.

The Nursing Assistant program prepares students to take the state certification test which places them on the MN Nursing Assistant Registry. Being a NA is a rewarding career in itself, or a solid stepping stone toward a career in Nursing. This program consists of 84 hours of class and on site training in local nursing homes. This program also combines training necessary to become a Home Health Aid. Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to take the state certification exam that consists of written and hands-on components.

Salary Range*: In Minnesota, the median wage for nursing assistants is \$13.15 per hour or \$2,104 per month for a full-time worker.

The Practical Nursing program (PN) is intense and demanding, with both theory and hands-on components. The program graduates well qualified, confident nurses that have the knowledge and know how to successfully care for patients. The quality of LSC nurses is reflected in the high placement rate of the program. This is a 50 credit program that consists of class and clinical time. Upon completion of this program students are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN (National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses). LSC passing rate has consistently been above 95% on this exam. After completing additional pre-requisites, students are also eligible to apply for admission into the PN Mobility Associate Degree Nursing Program.

Salary Range: For LSC Graduates Class of 2008, the median wage for licensed practical nurses is \$16.00 per hour.

The PN Mobility Associate Degree Nursing program is designed for Licensed Practical Nurses who wish to further their education and become a Registered Nurse. The PN Mobility Associate Degree Nursing Program can be completed in two semesters. Upon completion of this program at Lake Superior College students will be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN (National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses). Graduates may also transfer to another college or University to pursue a Bachelors Degree in Nursing. This is a 64 credit program that consists of class and clinical time.

Salary Range: For LSC Graduates Class of 2008, the median wage for registered nurses is \$25.97 per hour.

The Nursing AAS program –This 69 credit program allows students to progress directly to becoming a Registered Nurse. Upon completion of this program students are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN (National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses). Graduates may also transfer to another college or University to pursue a Bachelors Degree in Nursing.

After LSC:

Students who graduated with a Practical Nursing Diploma from LSC have **100% placement** in their field. Student who graduated with an A.S. Degree in Nursing from Lake Superior College have **100% placement** in their field.

-- Placement numbers based on an un-audited study conducted by the LSC Placement Services office for the class of 2008.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

You may begin by contacting Lake Superior College's Student Services department to find out specific admissions information. Nursing assistants must have physical examination forms completed in order to register for the class. There are both day and evening courses offered multiple times per semester. Payment for the class is due up-front.

Acceptance into the progressive nursing programs require that students test at a certain level in reading, writing and math when taking the LSC placement test and successfully complete pre-technical classes. Please see the individual program websites for detailed information regarding pre-requisites and application deadlines.

Due to high demand, nursing programs at LSC fill up quickly and may develop waiting lists. Please apply right away. For more details, look in the Lake Superior College catalog or on the LSC website, www.lsc.edu.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact: Student Services at (218)733-7601 or (800) 432-2884 ext. 7601 or look on the Internet at www.lsc.edu. For specific course or program questions you may contact Lorrie Fox, Program Director, at (218) 733-5919. * Wages as reported by students (not all students report wages)