

## ADN Framework - RGV College

This is just a reminder that this framework is a **work in progress**. We are working with RGV College to complete this framework.

### What is an ADN?

ADN stands for Associate Degree in Nursing and the program at RGV College will prepare the student to provide patient-centered care, to be a patient safety advocate, to be a member of the profession and the health care team for a limited number of patients in various healthcare settings.

<https://www.rgvcollege.edu/program-associatenursing.asp>

<b><u>Admissions</u></b>			
<b>What does the student need in order to apply for the ADN program?</b>			
<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce GPA requirements &amp; how it coincides with program acceptance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce certification programs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RGV College LVN-ADN track program</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RGV College track program admission requirements</li></ul>

- **Ninth Grade**
    - **What is a good GPA to maintain and how will it affect the student's academic career?**
      - GPA is also known as Grade Point Average. The GPA is a 4-point scale that will reflect the student's academic performance.
      - It is important for the student to know that they must keep their GPA high since it is one of the many factors that colleges and universities look at when it comes to determining the application decision. The main attribute universities look for is a steady improvement in the student's grades over the years.
- <https://www.crimsoneducation.org/us/blog/average-gpa-ivy-league>

- **Tenth Grade**

- **What certifications are available that are related to the nursing program?**

- There are certification exams that the student is able to take, even while in high school, that can allow them to get hands-on experience that can be useful in the nursing program/career fields.
    - While not all school districts offer every one, the certifications listed below are some examples of certification programs offered at regional school districts.

- Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
      - Phlebotomy Technician
      - Certified Electrocardiogram Technician
      - Certified Medical Assistant (CMA)
      - Dental Assistant
      - Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)
      - Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
      - Certified Pharmacy Technician
      - Ophthalmic Assistant
      - Veterinary Technician

- **Eleventh Grade**

- **What will students learn during the LVN-ADN track program at RGV College?**

- How to use clinical reasoning and knowledge based on the nursing program of study
    - How to create evidence-based practice outcomes
    - How to demonstrate skills in using patient care technologies and information systems that support safe nursing practice
    - How to adhere to standards of practice within legal, ethical, and regulatory frameworks of the professional nurse
      - <https://www.rgvcollege.edu/program-associatenursing.asp>

- **Twelfth Grade**

- **What are the requirements to get in the ADN Program?**

- Attend the mandatory information session meeting for the Associate Degree in Nursing Program

- Submit an Associate Degree in Nursing Program Application for Admission to the admissions department by the application deadline
- Have a high school diploma or transcript showing a graduation date; or possess a recognized equivalent of a high school diploma such as a home-schooled certificate by the state where the student resided during their home schooling or a General Education Diploma (GED). Texas law exempts home school students from compulsory age requirements
- Individuals who completed high school outside the United States are responsible for providing the school with an english translation of the high school transcript and certification that is equivalent to a high school diploma
- Active Unencumbered Texas Vocational Nurse License
- Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better. No academic course with a grade below “C” will be accepted for transfer credit. Academic courses include general courses such as composition and written communication, social, behavioral and biological sciences, humanities and visual arts. All science general education courses must have been completed within five years of application deadline
- Sit for the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Version V and earn an overall score of 60% (Reading 70%, Math 65%, Science 50% and English 60%)
- An Interview with the committee to determine acceptance or denial into the program
- Must meet criminal background check, drug screening, CPR, immunizations and PPD requirements

<https://www.rgvcollege.edu/files/School%20Catalog%202019-2020.pdf>

Programs and Professions in Nursing			
What exams does the student need to take for the nursing program they're interested in?			
9th	10th	11th	12th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduce Nursing Examinations               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Admission Entrance Exam</li> <li>○ NCLEX</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Admission Entrance Exam               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Test Description</li> <li>○ Test outline</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NCLEX               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Description</li> <li>○ Outline</li> <li>○ Prep course</li> <li>○ Exam registration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● NCLEX Remediation</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Locations</li> <li>○ Scores</li> </ul>	
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- **Ninth Grade**

- **Nursing Exams Introduction**

- The admission entrance exam is a test that needs to be taken *before* applying to the ADN program at RGV College. The score from this exam will determine whether the student will be considered for the program or not.

<https://www.rgvcollege.edu/files/School%20Catalog%202019-2020.pdf>

- The NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) is a licensure exam that the student must take after completing and passing the ADN program. This exam will determine if they have retained the information learned and are ready to enter the workforce setting.

<https://nursejournal.org/articles/6-things-to-know-about-the-nclex-examination/>

- **Tenth Grade**

- **Admission Entrance Exam Outline**

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- **Eleventh Grade**

- **NCLEX Outline**

- In order to become a practicing Registered Nurse (RN), the student must pass the NCLEX in order to obtain their license. The test is made up of four sections. The first section is *safe effective care environment*. This is about being able to maintain sterile hygiene and control infections. The second section is *health promotion and maintenance*. This section revolves around preventative healthcare, which is one of the fastest growing subsections of medicine today. Third, there is *psychosocial integrity*. This looks at the student's

ability to cope with the stresses of being a nurse and also focuses on being able to deliver mental health care. The final and largest element of the NCLEX exam is *physiological integrity*, the student's ability to deliver proper nursing care.

- In order to register for the NCLEX, the student must ask their State Board of Nursing for licensure. If they accept, the student will be allowed to take the NCLEX, and will receive an Authorization to Take the Test (ATT) letter. There is no letter or percentage grade for the NCLEX. It is a pass/fail test. If the student fails the NCLEX, there is a Candidate Performance Report (CPR) telling them what they need to work on. The official results for the exam will come six weeks after the exam. However, there is an option to pay a fee to see the unofficial results two days after the exam. The location for testing depends on where the student lives. One of the websites below can tell the student the closest testing location to where they live. If the student wants to prepare for the NCLEX, there are different online preparation courses that they can use like Kaplan, NRSNG, and HURST.

<https://www.ncsbn.org/nclex.htm>

<https://nursejournal.org/articles/6-things-to-know-about-the-nclex-examination/>

<https://wsr.pearsonvue.com/testtaker/registration/SelectTestCenterProximity/NCLEXTTESTING?conversationId=519306>

<https://nurse.org/articles/top-nclex-review-courses/>

- **Twelfth Grade**

- **What happens if the student fails the NCLEX? Can he/she retake the exam?**
  - The NCSBN retake policy allows candidates to retake their exam 45 days after administration of the exam. Candidates who have applied for licensure/registration with a participating nursing regulatory body (NRB) will be permitted to take the NCLEX eight times a year and there must be 45 test-free days between each examination. <https://www.ncsbn.org/1224.htm>

Below is a small chart that briefly outlines the nursing field, specifically the ADN program. The information is organized in a way that allows the educator to introduce information to the student in *small, appropriate increments*.

Programs and Professions in Nursing			
What degree can the student get in the nursing field?			
9th	10th	11th	12th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nursing Introduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types of schools to obtain certificate/degree at               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tech. school (certificate)</li> <li>Commun. College (certificate, associate's)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job Opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job responsibilities</li> <li>Job statistics               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pay</li> <li>Job growth</li> </ul> </li> <li>CE Courses</li> <li>License Renewal</li> </ul>

- Ninth Grade**

- Nursing Introduction**

- There are many different levels of professions available in the nursing field. The lowest level would be a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), then an Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN), followed by a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (BSN), a Master's of Science in Nursing (MSN), and finally, a Doctorate in Nursing (DNP). Each one of these levels takes different amounts of time to obtain, and have very different job opportunities and responsibilities.

<https://nursejournal.org/articles/types-of-nursing-degrees/>

- Tenth Grade**

- What are the types of schools can the student earn these at?**

- Technical schools

- Technical schools, also known as "vocational schools" offer targeted, shorter instruction at a lower tuition, or cost, leading to a certificate or an associate's degree. Many technical schools in Texas offer dual enrollment opportunities for high school students.

<https://scitexas.edu/technical-school/>

- Community College

- A community college is an institution that offers short term certificates or two year associate's degrees. Associate's degrees transfer and often lead to four year degrees at partnering universities. Many community colleges in Texas offer dual enrollment opportunities for high school students. They typically offer less expensive education than four year universities. Most community colleges have open enrollment, meaning there are very few requirements for admission.

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/2012/03/what-is-community-college>

- College

- A college is a four year institution that offers degrees in specific areas of study (i.e. medicine or law). These degrees can lead to graduate or professional school. Colleges may have open enrollment or may have strict admission requirements.

<https://www.trade-schools.net/articles/college-vs-university.asp#university>

- University

- A University is a four year institution that offers many different degrees through multiple "colleges" located on the same campus. Typically a university may have a "College of Education" or a "College of Health Sciences". Universities also usually offer graduate (Master's, Doctorates) and professional degrees. Typically, universities have strict admission requirements that include grades, placements tests, and admissions tests like the SAT/ACT.

<https://www.trade-schools.net/articles/college-vs-university.asp#university>

- **Eleventh Grade**

- **Where can the student work with an ADN degree?**

- Hospitals
- Physician's Offices
- Home Health Care Services

- Community Care Facilities
- Insurance Carriers
- <https://www.rasmussen.edu/degrees/nursing/blog/what-can-you-do-with-associate-degree-in-nursing/>

- **Twelfth Grade**

- **What kind of responsibility does an ADN Nurse have?**
  - Examining patients and speaking with them about their symptoms and health histories
  - Recording patient information for physician diagnosis and decision-making
  - Delivering essential information and counsel with the goal of improving health
  - Playing a key role in patient education regarding illness and injury management
  - Operating medical equipment
  - Performing diagnostic tests and analysis of results
  - Collaborating with other health care professionals to ensure a high quality of patient care
  - <https://nurse.org/education/adn-guide/>
- **How much does an ADN earn?**
  - The median pay for an ADN is about \$34.48 per hour - \$71,730 per year.
- **What is the projected job growth for an ADN?**
  - The projected job growth is 12%. The government expects to have 371,500 jobs available by 2028.
  - <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm>
- **When and how often does a registered nurse have to renew their license?**
  - In Texas, Registered Nurses have to renew their license every two years. However, the renewal time could be different depending on which state the student moves to.
  - [https://www.bon.texas.gov/education\\_continuing\\_education.asp#D](https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp#D)



- **Does a registered nurse have to take Continuing Education (CE) courses?**
  - For licensure renewal, LVNs and Registered Nurses must complete 20 contact hours of continuing nursing education (CNE) in the nurse's area of practice OR demonstrate the achievement, maintenance, or renewal of a board-approved national nursing certification in the nurse's area of practice within the licensing period and meet the applicable targeted continuing education requirements.

[https://www.bon.texas.gov/education\\_continuing\\_education.asp#D](https://www.bon.texas.gov/education_continuing_education.asp#D)

Academic Pathway			
What coursework should be taken to become a nurse?			
9th	10th	11th	12th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dual Enrollment</li> <li>● Relevant Coursework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Coursework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dual v. AP</li> <li>● Coursework Transferability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Post-Secondary programs GPA</li> </ul>

- **Ninth Grade**

- **What is dual enrollment?**

- The term dual enrollment refers to students being enrolled—concurrently—in two academic programs or institutions. The term is used in reference to high school students taking college courses while they are still enrolled in high school (i.e., a *dual-enrollment student*), or to the programs that allow high school students to take college-level courses (i.e., a *dual-enrollment program*). For this reason, the term *early college* is a common synonym for dual enrollment.

<https://www.edglossary.org/dual-enrollment/>

- The student needs to be aware that the grades they receive in any dual or concurrent enrollment courses will stay with them throughout their college career. These grades will be averaged into their overall college GPA.

- **Is high school coursework relevant to the nursing field?**
  - The student might not realize it, but preparing for a future career starts in high school (or even earlier). For example, did you know that nurses use algebra when calculating medication dosages? What the student learns in high school builds the foundation for their college education and career. If a student is considering nursing, they should take classes *now* that will prepare them for college *later*.  
<https://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/>
- **Does high school GPA matter?**
  - Most BSN programs often set the minimum GPA at 3.0. ADN programs are more likely to set the minimum somewhere in the 2.0 to 2.75 range. Grades in prerequisite courses may be considered separately. \*These are minimum requirements and ***to be competitive, the student should aim much higher***. When interest exceeds available spots, grades are often an important factor. [Getting-into-a-nursing-program.html](https://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/)
- **Tenth Grade**
  - **What are examples of courses to take in high school to best prepare for nursing school applications?**  
<https://www.ic4n.org/become-a-nurse/preparation-for-nursing-school/>
    - Biology
    - Chemistry
    - Anatomy & Physiology
    - Physics
    - Algebra
    - Geometry
    - Psychology
    - Speech
    - Foreign Language
    - Health courses
- **Eleventh Grade**
  - **What is the difference between AP and Dual Enrollment?**

- Dual enrollment courses allow students to get early access to college courses. AP courses are different because they only result in college credit if a student earns a particular score on the AP exam at the end of the course, and if the college that the student enrolls in, accepts AP scores as course credit. This means students who complete a dual enrollment program have a college transcript at the end of their high school career and can enroll directly into that college or transfer these courses if they move to another institution. AP courses on the other hand result in an AP score that can be submitted to a college. The college can then decide if the score will amount to any college credit.

<https://blog.ed.gov/2019/07/burning-questions-dual-enrollment-answered/>

- **Will Dual Enrollment coursework transfer to all colleges and universities?**

- Academic dual credit can be applied toward the core curriculum or to other specific degree program requirements of an academic associate degree or baccalaureate degree. Students who want more information about the transferability of their dual credit courses should seek guidance from an advisor at the institution offering the dual credit.

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/institutional-resources-programs/public-community-technical-state-colleges/transfer-resources/dual-credit-initiatives/>

- **Twelfth Grade**

- **What GPA does the student need in order to apply to these programs?**

- While most universities and colleges have a minimum GPA posted for acceptance, they accept students with a GPA much higher on average. This is why it is important to achieve the highest GPA possible and maintain it throughout schooling.

Want to learn more? Visit the RGV College ADN Page here:

<https://www.rgvcollege.edu/program-associatenursing.asp>