

Alvin Community College

Med Aide - Vocational Nursing Bridge Program



Program Information and Application Instructions

Application Period February 7 - March 23, 2025
Classes begin approximately June 2, 2025

(Last modified 1/31/25)

Medication Aide – Vocational Nursing (VN) Bridge Program

The Med Aide – VN Bridge program is an opportunity for entry into the ACC Vocational Nursing program for students who have a current Medication Aide Certification through the Texas Health & Human Services Commission. To be eligible, applicants must also have a current Nurse Aide Certification (CNA) through Texas Health & Human Services and have a minimum of six months of full-time work experience in a long-term care facility as a CNA.

Applicants also must meet all requirements for the traditional Vocational Nursing program by the application period deadline. Those requirements are detailed in the Vocational Nursing information packet and briefly outlined on the included checklist.

Applicants for the Med Aide – VN program must submit the Med Aide - VN Bridge application during the application period at <https://www.alvincollege.edu/vocational-nursing/application.html>. Proof of current Med Aide and CNA certification through Texas Health & Human Services should be submitted with the application. Documentation of a minimum of six months full-time work experience at a long-term care facility as a CNA will also be required.

Approximately ten students will be admitted to the Med Aide – VN Bridge program. Applicants will be notified around the end of March by email of their application status. Final acceptance steps (see the checklist on the following page and in the traditional VN application instructions packet, including clearance from the Texas Board of Nursing to take the NCLEX-PN exam) must be completed prior to beginning summer semester classes. Additional information to complete full acceptance to the program will be provided to the student after offers of admission are extended. These requirements are briefly outlined on the "checklist page" in this packet.

The first semester of the Bridge program will be taught through Continuing Education Workforce Development at Alvin Community College during the summer semester. Course topics will include nursing focused assessment, the nursing process, sterile procedures, higher level nursing skills, dosage calculation, and medication administration not included in certified medication aide training.

The Med Aide - VN Bridge program course will be taught in a hybrid model using Blackboard. Lectures will take place on-line with skills assessments and exams taking place in-person. In-person meetings will be scheduled as determined by the instructor. Students will be given as much advance notice as possible regarding in-person requirements. Students must have access to a reliable laptop or computer and a reliable Internet connection for on-line lectures and exams. Mobile devices, such as cell phones and tablets, are **not** compatible with some systems utilized through Blackboard. Minimum system requirements for use of Honorlock for VN course exams are on the next page.

Upon successful completion of the summer semester, credit for first semester VN courses (VNSG 1122, VNSG 1160, VNSG 1227, and VNSG 1423) will be given through the Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) process. Details on the PLA process are on the [ACC Pathways](#) web page. Students will attend the fall and spring semesters of the traditional VN program.

In addition to the summer Bridge program course, students must take Anatomy and Physiology for Allied Health (VNSG 1420) during the summer semester. BIOL 2401 & BIOL 2402 (A&P 1&2) may be substituted for the VNSG A&P course if both BIOL 2401 and 2402 are less than 5 years old as of the VN application deadline and both course grades are C or higher.

The cost of the Med Aide – VN Bridge program is approximately \$2,000 (estimate as of 8/2/23) for in-district tuition or \$2,035 (estimate as of 8/2/23) for out-of-district tuition. The cost for Anatomy and Physiology for Allied Health VNSG 1420 is approximately \$465 in-district tuition or \$669 out-of-district tuition. Additional expenses and the cost for the second and third semesters of the VN program are detailed in the separate Vocational Nursing application instructions packet.

Minimum computer system requirements

Operating system: Windows 10 or MacOSX 10.14 and higher or Chrome OS

Browser: Google Chrome (minimum version 93)

Internet speed: 1.5 Mbps download, 750 Kbps upload

Please also read the traditional VN application instructions and program information packet as it has details about HESI exam testing, Vocational Nursing program requirements, and answers to frequently asked questions about the program.

Bridge program students attend the Fall and Spring semesters (second and third semesters) of the traditional Vocational Nursing program. Bridge program students must meet all of the application requirements of the traditional VN program.



ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRADITIONAL VOCATIONAL NURSING APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Please note: the following checklist contains abbreviated information for your convenience.

Gain Admission to Alvin Community College

- U.S. CITIZENS start here: <http://www.alvincollege.edu/StepstoGettingStarted>

(Note: International students on F1 Visas requiring I20 forms are not eligible for the LVN program at ACC.)

Apply to Vocational Nursing

- Apply at: <https://www.alvincollege.edu/vocational-nursing/application.html> during the application period. See the VN website and the cover of this packet for application period dates.
- Submit any applicable original college transcripts to the college registrar. If you are submitting a GED certificate, original High School diploma, or official High School transcript, submit those documents directly to the ACC VN department. For further important information on previous education admission requirements see “Provide Proof of Previous Education” in this packet.
Any foreign high school or college transcripts must be accompanied by an official evaluation from an approved agency. For a list of ACC approved transcript evaluation services, see the “Evaluation of Credit from Foreign Institutions” section of the ACC College Catalog or go to www.alvincollege.edu/international-students/foreign-transcripts-evaluation-agencies.html .
- Meet Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standards by the end of the application period, including completion of developmental coursework. See the information about TSI testing at the end of this packet.
- Attend a mandatory Applicant Meeting (meeting schedule is in this packet and on the VN web page). The link to attend virtual meetings is on the LVN web page <https://www.alvincollege.edu/vocational-nursing/application.html>.
- Hepatitis-B: By the application deadline, submit a record of at least the first Hepatitis-B immunization, or record of a Hepatitis-B surface antibody titer report which states you are immune to Hepatitis B.
- Take HESI-A2 exam. The test date must be within 5 years of the VN application deadline. Minimum scores: 70 on reading comprehension section, and 65 for cumulative score. See additional information in the information packet regarding HESI testing.

What's Next?

- Around the end of March, we will email and inform you of whether you are conditionally accepted, on the alternate list, or neither of these.

If Accepted

The initial VN program admission is *conditional*. Final acceptance is based on completing the following:

- Attend the class orientation meeting. It occurs approximately two weeks prior to the start of classes
- Pass a drug screen
- Pass two background checks: one done for the Texas Board of Nursing and another done by a private background screening company (Viewpoint)
- Submit copy of Social Security card if Viewpoint is unable to verify your social security number
- Submit copy of Physical Examination report
- Submit copies of Tests, Titers, Immunization series: Tuberculosis test, Varicella, Hepatitis-B, MMR, adult Tdap, COVID, and seasonal Influenza
- Submit copy of Driver's License or other official picture ID
- Submit copy of current CPR card (AHA BLS for providers)

Texas Board of Nursing Licensure Eligibility Questions

A Petition for DO should only be submitted after receiving an outcome letter requesting it, or if you received a Blue Card, BUT have to disclose a non-CBC related eligibility issue (i.e. answering “yes” to any questions other than Question 4). If you previously did fingerprints, you will only do them again if the BON requests you to do so. Your CBC will be updated from your prior fingerprints.

You should submit the DO & \$150 if:

- You submitted fingerprints as part of the New/Accepted Student Roster process & you received an outcome letter from the Board requesting the submission of the DO & \$150.

You should submit the DO ONLY if:

- You submitted fingerprints as part of the New/Accepted Student Roster process & received a Blue Card, **BUT** have to disclose a non-CBC related eligibility issue (i.e. answering “yes” to any question other than Question 4 on the following license eligibility questions).

You will need to contact the Board for specific instructions on submitting the DO without the \$150 payment. Please send an email with your name, DOB, and last 4 of your SSN to webmaster@bon.texas.gov. The subject line should be DO – Payment Bypass.

The Petition for DO must be submitted electronically via the Nurse Portal (<https://www.bon.texas.gov/texasnurseportal/>).

If you submit a Petition, the BON will investigate your case and then send you a letter stating whether you are eligible to sit for the NCLEX licensure exam. If the BON letter says you are eligible to sit for the licensure exam, you must submit the letter to the nursing department no later than 30 days before first day of class. If you do not have the BON letter by 30 days before first day of class, you will not be eligible to enroll in the nursing program, and you will have to re-apply to the next nursing program after you do receive the BON letter.

You are eligible for admission into an ACC nursing program only after you: (1) Submit the Petition for Declaratory Order form to the BON; (2) Receive the BON outcome letter verifying your eligibility for future licensure; (3) Submit the BON outcome letter to the nursing department no later than 30 days before first day of class; and (4) meet the minimum standards set by clinical affiliates.

If you know you have an issue that will require disclosure, you may begin gathering necessary documentation and writing a letter of explanation. However, you should wait for the outcome letter requesting the Petition for DO, or a Blue Card, IF you have to disclose a non-CBC related eligibility issue (i.e. answering “yes” to any question other than Question 4 on the following license eligibility questions).

1. Have you ever had any disciplinary action on a nursing license or a privilege to practice in any state, country, or province?
2. Do you have an investigation or complaint pending on a nursing license or a privilege to practice in any state, country, or province?
3. Have you, in the last 5 years*, been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?
4. For any criminal offense*, including those pending appeal, have you:
(*You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations or offenses previously disclosed to the Texas Board of Nursing on an initial or renewal application.*)
 - A. been arrested and have a pending criminal charge?
 - B. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
 - C. been convicted of a felony?
 - D. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
 - E. received deferred adjudication?
 - F. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
 - G. been sentenced to serve jail, prison time, or court-ordered confinement?
 - H. been granted pre-trial diversion?
 - I. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
 - J. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses: While expunged or sealed offense, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to our office with your application. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character. (See 22 TAC §213.27)

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure: Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to Gov't Code chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character and fitness.

5. Have you ever had any licensing (other than a nursing license) or regulatory authority in any state, jurisdiction, country, or province revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew or otherwise discipline any other professional or occupational license, certificate, nurse aide registration or multistate privilege to practice that you held?

6. Are you currently suffering from any condition for which you are not being appropriately treated that impairs your judgment or that would otherwise adversely affect your ability to practice nursing in a competent, ethical, and professional manner?

7. *Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?

8. *Are you currently a participant in an alternative to discipline, diversion, or a peer assistance program? (This includes all confidential programs)

NOTE: Any positive response will remain confidential and not subject to public disclosure unless required by law.

9. Have you ever been granted the authority to practice nursing in any country, state, province, or territory?

NOTE: This does not apply to any nursing license(s) issued by another US state or territory, excluding Puerto Rico. If you were licensed in Puerto Rico, you should be answering yes.

*Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code §301.207, information, including diagnosis and treatment, regarding an individual's physical or mental condition, intemperate use of drugs or alcohol, or chemical dependency and information regarding an individual's criminal history is confidential to the same extent that information collected as part of an investigation is confidential under the Texas Occupations Code §301.466.

Satisfactory criminal background check findings are determined by the licensure eligibility criteria established by the BON and standards mandated by clinical affiliates and VN program policy. Additionally, statutory law (Texas Occupations Code Chapter 53) requires Alvin Community College nursing programs to notify prospective applicants and future nurses that once licensed, criminal behavior may result in loss of licensure.

Note: Persons convicted of a felony offense, those who have received deferred adjudication for a felony offense, and those appealing a felony conviction, are not eligible for admission to the ACC VN Program. The ACC VN program defines the term "conviction" as BON rule 213.1.12 does. This policy is applicable even when a prospective student has filed a "petition for Declaratory Order" with the BON and received BON consent to sit for the NCLEX-PN after graduation from an approved VN program. The VN program reserves the right to dismiss, at any time, any student. The reasons for dismissal include, but are not limited to, the infractions listed in BON rule #214.8. The NV program adheres to ACC Academic Dishonesty & Integrity policies and procedures.

Traditional VN Program Costs

See the chart below for the costs of the second and third semesters after completion of the summer semester Bridge course.

ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE APPROXIMATE COST for 1-YEAR VN PROGRAM

Semester	VN Credit Hours	ACC Tuition			ACC Fees	Course Fees	Required Texts	Additional Expenses <i>see below</i>	TOTALS		
		In-district	Out-of-district	Out-of-state					In-district	Out-of-district	Out-of-state
FIRST	12	612	1224	1860	341	544	464	654	2,615	3,227	3,863
SECOND	15	765	1530	2325	371	524	259		1,919	2,684	3,479
THIRD	17	867	1734	2635	391	544	284	460	2,546	3,413	4,314
TOTAL	44	\$2,244	\$4,488	\$6,820	\$1,103	\$1,612	\$1,007	\$1,114	\$7,080	\$9,324	\$11,656

APPROXIMATE ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

First Semester	Cost
Uniform+shoes (varies by size and gender) (Adaptive)	175
Nursing Lab Supplies (MEA)	170
Criminal Background Check & Drug Screen Plus Health Portal (Viewpoint)	95
Criminal Background Check - BON DPS/FBI	40
CPR certification (ACC)	100
HESI-A2 test fee (Elsevier)	74
Physical exam, TB test, immunizations (1)	varies
Health Insurance (recommended) (2)	varies
Subtotal	\$654

Last Semester	Cost
Licensure Application fee	100
NCLEX-PN Registration	200
NCLEX-PN Review Course (recommended but optional)	68
Vocational Nursing Pin	40
Lamp of Learning	15
Graduation Cap and Gown	37
Subtotal	\$460

- Check with your health care provider regarding costs of physical exam, TB test & immunizations
- Some clinical sites may require students to have health insurance; cost depends on provider and extent of coverage
- Transportation costs and parking fees at clinical sites are not included in the calculations above and will vary depending on the clinical sites attended
- ***Alvin Community College may change tuition rates and other fees without notice or when so directed by the Board of Regents.***

HESI A2 EXAM AT A GLANCE



<u>Required for:</u>	<u>Subjects Tested (you can select order):</u>	<u>Number of Questions</u>	<u>Time</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ ADN ★ LVN ★ LVN-ADN Transition ★ Diagnostic Cardiovascular Sonography ★ Respiratory Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Reading Comprehension ★ Grammar ★ Vocabulary ★ Math (<i>has on screen calculator</i>) ★ Anatomy & Physiology 	55 55 55 55 30	4 ½ HOURS TOTAL (self-paced)

QUALIFYING SCORES (NOTE: scores will NOT be rounded up)

<u>ADN MINIMUM SCORES:</u>	<u>LVN MINIMUM SCORES:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reading Comprehension: 78 ➤ Cumulative (Average): 78 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reading Comprehension: 70 ➤ Cumulative (Average): 65 ➤ BONUS: a MATH score of 85 will increase your ranking

FUTURE PLANNING

<u>CURRENT RETAKE POLICY</u>	<u>CLASSES THAT HELP PREPARE FOR HESI</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2 test submissions per 12 mos ◆ 90+ day wait in between tests ◆ Scores valid for 5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ENGL 1301 ◆ MATH Courses ◆ BIOL 2401 & 2402 (Anatomy & Physiology)

EVOLVE (www.evolve.elsevier.com)

Sign In --> Create Account --> Student

After registering, you will be assigned a username. Remember this username to test.

TAKING THE TEST

<u>HOW TO REGISTER:</u>	<u>COST:</u>	<u>WHAT TO BRING TO TEST:</u>
ACC Website --> Marketplace --> Testing <i>(availability is only posted for 1 month at a time)</i> ACC Testing Center is located in Building A-152	\$74 <i>price subject to change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Photo ID ✓ Know your assigned Evolve username & password

OPTION: You can take the Evolve HESI A2 at **Prometric** Test locations also, but it costs more. (www.prometric.com)
 Need to email ACC Director of Assessment: wtrevino@alvincollege.edu to arrange this test at Prometric.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

<u>ACC College of Nursing Recommends:</u>	<u>Additional Suggestions:</u>
HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review, 5th Edition (or most recent edition available) ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS? Email: nursing@alvincollege.edu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ iTunes apps like pocketprep ▪ 3 Evolve Reach HESI A2 Practice Tests by Kathy Zahler ▪ CliffsNotes Anatomy & Physiology Quick Review by Steven Bassett ▪ Quizlet.com ▪ There are MANY more online resources by googling HESI A2

ACC STUDENT RESOURCES

The Learning Lab:

- Free tutoring in Health, Science, Math, and Writing online and face to face
- Located in Building A, 2nd Floor
- M-TH 8 am – 9 pm Fri. 8 am – 5 pm Walk-ins Welcome
- Visit: <https://www.alvincollege.edu/learning-lab/>
- Access through the POD>Campus Services>Student Support>Tutoring

TutorMe:

- Free tutoring service available online 24/7
- Find link within your course on Blackboard or the POD

Academic Support Specialist:

- If you are struggling with a course or have other issues affecting your academic progress, you can schedule an appointment with an Academic Support Specialist who can help you devise a strategy plan and connect you to campus resources. Email: LearningLab@alvincollege.edu

Academic Coach

- If you are taking a Developmental Math or English course, Academic Coaching is required. Schedule an appointment with a coach to help you set and reach academic goals. Email: LearningLab@alvincollege.edu

Texas Success Initiative Testing

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a legislatively mandated program designed to guide Texas public institutions of higher education in helping determine whether entering, non-exempt students are ready for entry-level college coursework in the areas of English Language Arts Reading (ELAR) and mathematics.

Students are exempt from this program if they meet college readiness benchmarks on the SAT, ACT, STAAR English III or Algebra II EOCs, or successfully complete the high school College Preparatory Course. If you hold an Associate Degree or higher and submit an official college transcript showing the degree, you will be TSI exempt. Official college transcripts stating you have met TSI requirements generally satisfy the requirement when submitted to the ACC Registrar's Office. Please contact the Admissions office with TSI questions.

Entering students who do not meet a TSI exemption will need to take the TSI assessment. Students who do not meet one or more of the established benchmarks of the TSI assessment are required to receive developmental education academic support as determined by the institution.

The ACC Testing center is pleased to offer **online TSI Testing (ALL sections)** via Examity.

Examity Live proctoring service allows students flexible testing times including nights and weekends.

Notice: As of March 1st 2024, students testing TSIA2 online via Examity will be responsible for the Examity Proctor Fee. The Examity Proctor fee is 25 dollars plus tax.

NOTE: Students will need a laptop or desktop computer with a webcam and mic. Limited on-campus (main ACC campus) test sessions are available for those that do not have computer access. Please contact us at assessment@alvincollege.edu if you need on-campus TSI arrangements. Follow the registration link below.

[Register for your test here.](#)

TSIA2

The new version of the TSIA Assessment (TSIA2) will become effective on **January 11, 2021** and will replace the current version of the TSIA. The scores for either version of the TSIA will be valid for 5 years from the test date. The current TSIA and TSIA2 test results cannot be combined for the same subject area.

The **ACC Testing Center** also provides the following testing services.

TSI Assessment (Texas Success Initiative) is the only state-approved test to assess reading, writing, and math skills for college level placement. [Click here for more information and test preparation resources.](#) [To go directly to the TSI registration and payment page, click here.](#)

TSI (Texas Success Initiative)

The State of Texas requires that all college students determine if they are college-ready before registering for classes at a college or university in Texas. Unless exempt, students enrolling in Alvin Community College are required to take the state-mandated placement test, otherwise known as the TSI Assessment.

The State of Texas also requires that a Pre-Assessment Activity (PAA) be completed prior to taking TSI for the first time. [Click here to take the PAA \(please be sure to select Alvin Community College from the drop-down\).](#)

Additional information regarding the test is available below:

- [Mometrix TSI Test Preparation Videos](#)
Mometrix Academy video tutorials (no charge) will assist you in reviewing for the TSI test.
- [TSIA2 Student Informative Brochure](#)
- [TSIA2 Sample Questions Math](#)
- [TSIA2 Sample questions ELAR](#)
- [TSIA2 Sample WritePlacer essay](#)
- [TSIA2 Interpreting your Score](#)
- [TSIA2 Study App](#)
- [Su24 TSI Prep Flyer](#)
- [LL Marketplace](#)

[Click here to register for the TSI Assessment.](#)

[Click here for a TSI Score Retrieval Permission Form.](#) This form should be used for students who have taken their TSI test(s) at previous institutions and desire to transfer the scores to Alvin Community College.