Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN) Advanced Placement and Thirty Unit Option

1. Licensed vocational nurses who wish to apply for advanced placement in the School of Nursing must be admitted to the University, apply to the School, and complete the course work for the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. Once the course work is complete they will become eligible to take the NCLEX Examination for Registered Nurse Licensure in California. To apply for advanced placement, the student must:

1.1 Meet the criteria for admission to the University.
1.2 Complete the required prerequisite social and biological science courses with a 2.5 GPA. Courses include: Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, Organic and Biochemistry (or a 5 unit integrated Chemistry course with a lab).
   1.2.1 Students may take courses elsewhere for transfer credit or credit by examination. Prerequisite courses, if taken at a community college, must be equivalent and transferable to the University to receive credit.
   1.2.2 All students have equal access for admission into the N200 level regardless of where prerequisite course work was completed.
   1.2.3 This policy holds true for all applicants including the LVN applicant.
1.3 Take and pass the TEAS test at the minimum standard level as specified in the School of Nursing’ admission criteria.
1.4 Hold a current LVN license in the State of California.
1.5 Once the above are completed, the student must submit an application and official transcripts to the LVN Program Advisor for evaluation of admission criteria.
1.6 Once the criteria have been met, the Advisor will place them on a wait list until an opening becomes available.
   1.6.1 LVN students have the option to compete for admission with the generic nursing pool when more than two LVNs are ready for admission at the same time.
   1.6.2 If an opening becomes available, they are instructed to apply to the University for admission.
1.7 Two admission spaces in the undergraduate program are designated for eligible LVN students each semester. They will be notified when their required student interview will take place. They must pass the written and oral portions of the interview in order to be admitted to the program.
1.8 Upon admission to the program, the student will receive credit for Nursing 200 Introduction to Nursing Health Care which is the first theory and clinical nursing course in the first semester of the baccalaureate curriculum.
1.9 They are counseled to enroll in the following first semester courses: Nursing 202 Health Care Communication, Nursing 302 Pharmacology, Nursing 304 Pathophysiology, and Nutrition 339 Metabolic Functions of Nutrients.
   1.9.1 As an alternative, they may either take an equivalent course elsewhere or take a challenge exam.
   1.9.2 Introduction to Sociology and Introduction to Psychology must be completed before the N331/341 semester.
1.10 It should be noted that once the LVN student is accepted and enters the first semester of
the curriculum, they advance through the remainder of the nursing program the same as
all other undergraduates. There is no differentiation.

2. Thirty Unit Option Board of Registered Nursing Guidelines

2.1 Licensed vocational nurses who do not wish to complete the course work for a Bachelor
of Science Degree in Nursing but wish to take the Examination for Registered Nurse
Licensure in California must follow the guidelines set forth by the Board of Registered
Nursing, Effective 1997: Section 1429

2.2 Preparation Required for Licensed Vocational Nurses
“A licensed vocational nurse shall be eligible to apply for examination for licensure as a
registered nurse under this chapter provided she has successfully completed the
approved curriculum in a school accredited by the board and meets all other
requirements as set forth in section 1429”.

2.3 Additional educational required of licensed vocational nurse applicants shall not exceed
a maximum of thirty (30) semester nursing course units.

2.4 These nursing courses shall be taken in an accredited school and shall be beyond courses
equivalent to the first year of professional nursing courses.

2.5 These nursing courses shall include:
  2.5.1 Nursing intervention in acute, preventive, remedial, supportive, rehabilitative and
teaching aspects of nursing.
  2.5.2 Theory and courses with concurrent clinical practice shall include advanced
medical-surgical, mental health, psychiatric nursing and geriatric nursing.
  2.5.3 Successful completion or challenge of courses in physiology and microbiology.

2.6 Each applicant shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board of Nursing that they have
“satisfactorily completed the above requirements as determined by the community
college or university attended by the applicant.”

3. Policy for the Thirty Unit Licensed Vocational Nurse:

.1 The burden of responsibility to qualify to take the examination for registered nurse
licensure rests with the licensed vocational nurse.

.2 These students are to apply for admission to the University as “No Objective”
candidates; they will not enter as nursing majors.

.3 Students qualifying for admission to designated nursing courses will be considered along
with all other qualified applicants on a space available basis as the program is impacted.

.4 Completion of the courses designated by the School of Nursing will not lead to a degree.
They will be eligible to sit for their RN license as a non-graduate.

  3.4.1 A non-graduate license in the State of California has no restrictions; however
there may be reciprocity difficulties in other states.

  3.4.2 Students will be required to sign a statement in acknowledgment of this
agreement. This statement is to be placed in the student’s permanent file in the
department.

.5 Once the courses designated are complete, the School of Nursing’s Admission
Coordinator will complete the California Board of Registered Nurses’ “Individual
Candidate Roster” form, the “Candidate Worksheet” showing any course waivers of equivalency, and their request for transcripts.

6 Students desirous of enrolling to take the courses designated by the School of Nursing are required to meet all prerequisite requirements. In compliance with Public Law 1435.5, a maximum of thirty units obtained by successful completion of the following nursing courses are required and include:

- NRSG 250 and 250L - Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing
- NRSG 305 - Pathophysiology for Nurses
- NRSG 312 and 312L - Health Assessment
- NRSG 331 and 331L – Advanced Acute Care Nursing
- NRSG 341 and 341L – Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing
- NRSG 456 – Health Care Delivery Systems
- NRSG 458 - NCLEX-RN Preparatory Course
- GERN 4001 - Perspectives on Gerontology

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BK