



South Campus  
13735 Beamer Rd.  
Science/Allied Health Bldg.  
Room S-1.251o  
Houston, Texas 77089  
281-998-6150 ext. 3592  
[vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu](mailto:vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu)

## SAN JACINTO COLLEGE SOUTH VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Vocational Nursing (VN) program at San Jacinto College is a one-year training program, leading to a Certificate of Technology in Vocational Nursing. The Vocational Nursing curriculum includes a combination of class lectures, nursing skills training, and clinical experience in a variety of healthcare settings throughout the Houston metropolitan area. The program includes 480 classroom and 864 laboratory/clinical hours.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Board of Nursing approves the Vocational Nursing program. Upon successful completion of the VN program, graduates may apply to the Texas Board of Nursing to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) to qualify as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. You may contact the Texas Board of Nursing at their website [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us), or you can call them at (512) 305-7400.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The following information assists you in completing the steps to apply for admission to SJC & the Vocational Nursing Program. It is your responsibility to make sure that the steps are followed accordingly and that Admissions and the Nursing office receives the appropriate paperwork.

#### San Jacinto College Requirements

☐ **Submit a completed San Jacinto College application.**

This can be done online at [www.sjcd.edu](http://www.sjcd.edu) or [www.sanjac.edu](http://www.sanjac.edu). All prospective students must be accepted for admission to San Jacinto College before they are eligible to apply for the Vocational Nursing Program.

*Note: Admission to San Jacinto College does not mean admission to the Vocational Nursing Program.*

☐ **Submit official transcripts to Admissions.**

☐ **High school - students must show High School graduation or successful completion of all sections of the GED. A copy of the high school transcript or equivalent is required by the VN department as a Texas Board of Nursing requirement.**

☐ **College Transcripts ...students must submit all previous and current official/copies of official college transcripts to the Enrollment Services office and have them evaluated. You may at that time request a copy of the official transcript that you are submitting. Unofficial transcripts or online print outs will not be accepted. The nursing department needs a separate copy submitted in your packet.**

☐ **Foreign Transcripts...** Students that have attended school outside the US must submit an evaluation of their High School and/or College instruction from their homeland. The evaluation must be evaluated by a San Jacinto College District approved evaluation site. You may obtain a list of approved evaluation sites from the Enrollment Services office.

☐ **Attend the mandatory San Jacinto College new student orientation.**

First Time College Students only: Refer to college website for more information.

## **Vocational Nursing Program Requirements**

Pursuant to the Texas Administrative Code Rule 213.27: Good professional character is the integrated pattern of personal, academic and occupational behaviors which, in the judgment of the Board, indicates that an individual is able to consistently conform his or her conduct to the requirements of the Nursing Practice Act.” Students and prospective students must be able to demonstrate good professional characteristics to be eligible for entry and licensure with the Texas Board of Nursing.

**\*\*Note:** Effective January 1, 1996, a person who has been convicted of a felony ... may be disqualified from obtaining licensure as a Licensed Vocational Nurse. If you have any questions regarding past incidents, please call the Texas Board of Nursing at (512) 305-7400. Since August 2004, a criminal background check and/or drug screen has been conducted by a designated investigative agency at the expense of the student. Effective January 2008 this background check must be completed **before** registering for classes and only those applicants with a clear background will be eligible to register.

### **□ Attend a Vocational Nursing Information Session**

All applicants are strongly encouraged to attend an information session for each application period applying. Registration is required. However, seating and entry is based on a first come first serve basis. In preparation for the information sessions, please bring a pen and paper for note taking. Be on time, as late entry will not be granted.

Information sessions are tied to the specific semester in which applications are open. Nursing is a technical program, so please be sure to attend the latest session as requirements may change.

If an applicant has questions, please email [vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu](mailto:vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu) or call the South Campus VN Department at (281) 998-6150 & allow 48 hours for a reply.

### **□ Contact an Advisor in the Career and Professional Planning Center**

All applicants must speak to an Advisor regarding any admission/placement testing that may be needed. If you have already completed your college placement test you may have an Advisor review your test scores in order to verify skill levels.

Skill levels ... must be a minimum of “7” in reading, “8” in **math** and “7” in writing. Remediation is recommended for any area, (reading, writing and math), if skill levels are below required levels. You may contact an Advisor for details in the Counseling Center on each prospective campus.

- **Must have minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25, on all college course work.** GPA will be validated with a college transcript during the application process. Applicants are required to submit Official/copies of official transcripts during the application process. Official transcripts must be sent to the Enrollment Services Office to be evaluated. There are no exceptions for the GPA requirement.

- **Must have prerequisite courses of BIOL 2301/2101& BIOL 2302/2102 Anatomy & Physiology** completed with a grade of A, B, or C & must be taken within 5 years. **Courses in progress will not be accepted.** It is also strongly recommended to take HECO 1322 Nutrition prior to the VN program.

❑ **Immunizations/Titers**

All immunizations must be completed before time of application and must not expire during the program. (Applicants are required to submit copies of **positive** titers with their application.)

- ❑ Tetanus (td/tdap) [**within the past 10 years**]
- ❑ MMR (Measles, Mumps, & Rubella) titer that shows immunity
- ❑ Varicella titer that shows immunity
- ❑ HEP B titer that shows immunity

**Six weeks before the start of clinical the following shots need to be completed and reviewed by Castle Branch**

- ❑ TB (PPD) skin test, Chest X-ray, or Quantiferon test [**within the past year**]
- ❑ Seasonal flu shot (within the last year) or proof of allergy to the flu shot

**Important Notice Regarding Hepatitis B Requirement**

All students who are applying into the nursing program must document that they have a Hepatitis B serum titer drawn to confirm complete immunity to Hepatitis B.

The series itself takes approximately six (6) months to complete with an additional one (1) month wait period needed before a titer can be drawn. Applicants are encouraged to begin the series well ahead of the desired semester of admission. Students may also consult with their doctor about the Hepatitis B Fast Track Series.

❑ **CPR Certification**

***BLS Provider or BLS Healthcare Provider*** through American Heart Association [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) or call [1-800-242-8721](tel:1-800-242-8721)

- ❑ Front and back copy of CPR card from American Heart Association (must not expire during the program)

❑ **HESI A2 Exam**

Applicants are required to take an entrance exam, which will be administered throughout the year. The HESI exam will not be given for use outside of San Jacinto College. To schedule an exam with South Campus Testing, please use the following link: <https://www.registerblast.com/sjcsouth/Exam/List>

**Content tested:** Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary & General Knowledge, Math & Critical Thinking. You must score 70% or higher in each of the tested sections to be eligible for admission. Critical thinking has no minimum score. The cost is \$51 (price subject to change). **Testing fees are NON-REFUNDABLE.** The scores are only good for three years. Previous HESI exams within three years will be accepted from other schools.

You will be allowed one retake for any failed section(s). The entire exam must be purchased again at full price. If the retake score is higher than the failing score, the higher score will be used.

## **HESI Preparation Guide – by David Payton:**

### **1. Get A HESI A2 Study Guide**

- Any HESI A2 Study Guide will work to help you. You do not have to buy a brand new book. These are available used online at Amazon, used book stores and are even available for use at the campus library.

### **2. Make Use Of Practice Tests**

- Practice test books are available and many online practice tests are free on the internet. Many sites may be found with a simple web search. Two example sites include:

<https://evolve.elsevier.com/studentlife/hesi.html>

<http://www.test-guide.com/free-hesi-a2-practice-tests.html>

There are many more sites available. Please time yourself when doing practice.

### **3. Rank The Categories**

- After reviewing a study guide and doing some practice tests, rank the categories that you will be tested over. Rank them from what is hardest for you personally to what is easiest for you personally. When you take the exam, you get to choose the order you do the sections. Start with the section that is hardest for you personally, saving the very easiest for last. This way you are dealing with the most challenging content first and as you get tired (4-hour long exam), you will be dealing with easier and easier content. The test will ease up on you as you take it. You will also find yourself accelerating in pace through the exam.

### **4. Manage Your Anxiety**

- Anxiety will cause you to be unable to recall material that you know. The truth is that all you are doing for the HESI is going into a room and answering questions for things you already know. Be confident in yourself. Approach the HESI by keeping yourself calm and focused on each question. If you start to feel anxious, take a deep slow breath, regroup and continue. Repeat to yourself “I can do this”.

### **5. Stay Positive**

- Nursing school is not something that is rushed into. You need to build a solid foundation to ensure your success in the program. Be aware that not everyone that applies is accepted and that is okay. If you are unsuccessful on the HESI, identify the problem areas and work on them. This is not a race; it is a rich learning journey that will open up a career where you can help others. Nursing is a calling, not just classes.

### □ **Background Information**

Applicants must have a clear criminal background to be eligible for licensure with the Texas Board of Nursing. Applicants with a criminal background must resolve the issue with the Texas Board of Nursing by submitting a Petition for Declaratory Order prior to enrollment. This process may take up to 1-year to complete so applicants with criminal backgrounds are encouraged to start the process early. Additional information may be found at [www.bon.texas.gov](http://www.bon.texas.gov). Applicants will not be admitted without clearance the Texas Board of Nursing.

### □ **Application Period**

Applications will be accepted in the Vocational Nursing office located in room S-1.251o on South Campus. Dates and times for application submission will be listed on our website at [www.sanjac.edu/vn](http://www.sanjac.edu/vn). If you cannot make it during the days/times listed then please email [vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu](mailto:vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu) to schedule an appointment. Please allow 48 hours advance notice when emailing to confirm scheduling an appointment. All required documents MUST be submitted as a complete packet to the VN program office in the specified application period. You must submit copies. The VN department **will not** make copies or print applications for you. The application is posted online at [www.sanjac.edu/vn](http://www.sanjac.edu/vn). If you have any problems downloading, please email [vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu](mailto:vocational.nursing@sjcd.edu) and we will email one to you.

**INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

### □ **Selection Process**

You must meet eligibility requirements; complete all appropriate paperwork and testing in order to be considered (Please review admissions rubric for further details.)

Offer of Admission to the program is based on highest-ranking applicants, and clinical site availability. Applicants who are not selected for admission will be notified, via email and must reapply for consideration in subsequent terms. Students who are accepted, but fail to enroll into the program must also

## **Requirements after Acceptance**

### □ **Acceptance**

Applicants will be notified, via email, of acceptance into the program. Accepted students will attend a mandatory acceptance meeting to formally accept our offer and get the necessary paperwork.

### □ **Physical Examination**

Accepted students must pass a physical examination, which will be uploaded to CastleBranch. The Texas Board of Nursing must be notified regarding certain mental health and drug/alcohol dependency. Please review the Texas Board of Nursing website for further information.

### □ **Pass Drug Screen**

Accepted students must pass a drug screen prior to enrollment; students will be required to purchase a special package from CastleBranch to schedule & process the drug screen. The drug screen results will automatically be uploaded to the department.

□ **CastleBranch**

San Jacinto College has collaborated with CastleBranch to complete the drug screens and track immunizations.

Students accepted into the program will be responsible to submit immunizations to CastleBranch prior to orientation.

Students will be given information regarding CastleBranch in the Acceptance Packet.

The requirements for the LVN application period are subject to change each semester; please make sure that you have the most current information packet for the semester you want to apply.

□ **Attend Orientation Boot Camp**

Orientation Boot Camp is a Mandatory one-day event that will prepare students for nursing school.

## Core Performance Standards for Successful Program Progression

Applicants admitted into the SJC-South Vocational Nursing Program are expected to perform the minimum, but not limited to, common nursing technical standards and essential functions. Students must be able to apply the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a variety of classroom, lab and/or clinical situations while providing the essential competencies of the VN program.

Please review the technical standards and essential functions below required for program admission and progression.

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>EXAMPLES (not inclusive)</b>
<b>Critical Thinking</b>	Critical thinking sufficient for clinical reasoning and judgment.	Independent decision- making which results in competent client assessment, accurate data analysis and problem identification, appropriate treatment plans and interventions, evaluation of client outcomes.
<b>Interpersonal Abilities</b>	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	Therapeutic interactions with clients and their families stressed by illness, death, life situations, and cultural differences.
<b>Communication</b>	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Accurate interpretation of verbal and/or written instructions, communication of patient responses, documentation of therapeutic procedures, health education, professional consultation with other health care providers.
<b>Mobility</b>	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, walk in hallways, maneuver in small spaces, and lift patients as needed.	Ability to ambulate to and from departments and patient rooms, to care for all assigned clients, to assist in patient transport, to administer CPR.
<b>Motor Skills</b>	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Performance of vital signs and psychomotor nursing skills, calibration and use equipment, physical assessment.

<b>Hearing</b>	<b>Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.</b>	<b>Auscultation of BP, breath sounds, heart sounds, bowel sounds, ability to hear alarms, emergency signals, call bells, phones, cries for help; ability to converse with patients, family, and staff</b>
<b>Visual</b>	<b>Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.</b>	<b>Reading patient charts/flow sheet/monitors, preparation and administration of medications, assessment of patient skin color, reading thermometers.</b>
<b>Tactile</b>	<b>Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment and to provide nursing intervention.</b>	<b>Performance of palpation, administration of injections, initiation of IVs and other therapeutic interventions</b>
<b>Strength/Stamina</b>	<b>Sufficient stamina to provide care and related responsibilities for extended periods of time (8-12 hours)</b>	<b>Ability to perform shift work, lift 25 pounds from standing position, ability to bend, position, and lift</b>

Successful applicants possess qualities such as:

- Interest and aptitude for math and science
- Strong motivation to learn
- Well-developed study skills
- Good problem-solving and decision-making skills
- Ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds

You must be able to meet the minimum technical standards and essential functions for program duration.



## Vocational Nursing Student Verification of Background Questionnaire

G#: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following questions being truthful in your answers. This form is for your personal reference only.

- 1) ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** Have you been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrest (excluding minor traffic violations)? This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUI's, DWI's, PI's must be reported and are not considered minor traffic violations. **(One time minor in possession [MIP] or minor in consumption [MIC] do not need to be disclosed, therefore, you may answer "No". If you have two or more MIP's or MIC's, you must answer "Yes".)**
- 2) ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** Do you have any criminal charges pending, including unresolved arrests?
- 3) ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** Has any licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a professional license or certificate held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?
- 4) ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?
- 5) ☐ **No** ☐ **Yes** Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder? If "YES" indicated the condition: ☐ schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, ☐ bipolar disorder, ☐ paranoid personality disorder, ☐ antisocial personality disorder, ☐ borderline personality disorder.

**If you answered "YES" to any of the questions listed above, refer to the eligibility instructions section on the Texas Board of Nursing application.**

The Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) - <https://www.bon.texas.gov/>  
Phone: (512) 305-7400 – Fax: (512) 305-7401 – Email: [webmaster@bon.texas.gov](mailto:webmaster@bon.texas.gov)

# CERTIFICATE OF TECHNOLOGY

## Prerequisite

BIOL 2301/2101 – Human Anatomy and Physiology I. Must be taken within 5 years and earned a “C” or better completed at the time of application.

Rubric	Course	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Contact Hours
BIOL	2101 / 2301	Anatomy & Physiology I	48	48		4	96
BIOL	2102 / 2302	Anatomy & Physiology	48	48		4	96
<b>Totals</b>			<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>96</b>

## First Semester Level I

The prerequisite for enrolling in the first semester is acceptance into the program & completion of BIOL 2301/2101 Anatomy & Physiology I.

Rubric	Course	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Contact Hours
VNSG	1327	Essentials of Medication Administration	32	32		3	64
VNSG	1423	Basic Nursing Skills	48	64		4	112
VNSG	2431	Advanced Nursing Skills	32	96		4	128
VNSG	1260	Clinical I			128	2	128
<b>Totals</b>			<b>160</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>528</b>

## Second Semester Level II\*\*

\*\*The prerequisite for enrolling in the second and third semesters is successful completion of each preceding term with a minimum grade of C in each course.

Rubric	Course	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Contact Hours
VNSG	1509	Nursing Health/Illness II	64	64		5	128
VNSG	1261	Clinical II: Med-Surg			128	2	128
VNSG	1331	Pharmacology	32	32		3	64
<b>Totals</b>			<b>96</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>320</b>

## Third Semester Level III\*\*

Rubric	Course	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Credit Hours	Contact Hours
VNSG	1301	Mental Health/Illness	48			3	48
VNSG	1330	Maternal – Neonatal Nursing	48			3	48
VNSG	1334	Pediatrics	48			3	48
VNSG	2161	Clinical IV Pedi/OB Nursing			96		96
VNSG	1119	Leadership and Professional Development		32		1	32
<b>Totals</b>			<b>144</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>272</b>

**\*Rotating Courses (These courses are taken in Level II during the spring semesters and Level III during the fall semester)**

<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Lecture Hours</b>	<b>Lab Hours</b>	<b>Clinical Hours</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	<b>Contact Hours</b>
VNSG	1162	Clinical III			96	1	96
VNSG	1226	Gerontology	32			2	32
<b>Total</b>			<b>32</b>		<b>96</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>480</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1344</b>

The following figures are ESTIMATES and subject to change.....

<b>Entrance Fees:</b>	<b>In District</b>	<b>Out of District</b>	<b>Out of State</b>
Drug Screen/Immunization Tracker	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
HESI A2 Testing	\$49.00	\$49.00	\$49.00
TBON Background Check	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Misc. Fees (immunizations & physical may vary)	Varies	Varies	Varies

**First Semester:**

Tuition (effective Fall 2019 for 17 credit hrs)	\$1,326.00	\$2,295.00	\$3,570.00
HESI Testing Fees (Bookstore Package)	\$398.65	\$398.65	\$398.65
Textbooks	\$970.00	\$970.00	\$970.00
Supplies	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Uniforms	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Nurse Pack	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
<b>First Semester Total:</b>	<b>\$3,344.65</b>	<b>\$4,313.65</b>	<b>\$5,588.65</b>

**Second Semester:**

Tuition (effective Fall 2019 for 13 credit hours)	\$1,014.00	\$1,755.00	\$2,730.00
Certifications & Immunizations	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Supplies	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Textbooks	\$475.00	\$475.00	\$475.00
<b>Second Semester Total:</b>	<b>\$1,689.00</b>	<b>\$2,430.00</b>	<b>\$3,405.00</b>

**Third Semester:**

Tuition (effective Fall 2019 for 11 credit hours)	\$858.00	\$1,485.00	\$2,310.00
Certifications & Immunizations	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Textbooks	\$290.00	\$290.00	\$290.00
Pearson-Vue NCLEX Fee	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
TBON NCLEX Application Fee	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Jurisprudence	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Graduation Pinning Ceremony & Supplies	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
<b>Third Semester Total:</b>	<b>\$1,738.00</b>	<b>\$2,365.00</b>	<b>\$3,190.00</b>

<b>Grand Total for All Semesters:</b>	<b>\$6,771.65</b>	<b>\$9,108.65</b>	<b>\$12,183.65</b>
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