The Practical Nursing program is a one-year (12 month) certificate program designed to prepare students to demonstrate competency in providing nursing care in a variety of health care settings and for employment as licensed practical nurses. Students must meet all admission criteria prior to being admitted to the nursing program. Policies regulating the nursing program are available in the Student Nurse Handbook.

The PN program has been designed to facilitate articulation into the LPN to RN Advanced Standing Program. Instead of BIO150 The Human Body, students who are planning to articulate to the Advanced Standing Program may choose to take BIO231 Anatomy & Physiology I and BIO232 Anatomy & Physiology II. When the two-semester sequence of A & P is chosen, BIO231 must be taken prior to entrance into the PN clinical courses.

Application to the PN Program
- Apply to Northwest State Community College
- Apply to PN Program (separate application)
- Submit high school transcript and other college transcripts

Admission to The Practical Nursing Program
Admission criteria must be met in order to obtain a seat in the nursing program. After meeting admission criteria students are given the first available seat in the clinical program.

Admission criteria includes:
- High school graduate or GED
- GPA ≥ 2.25
- Test into college level English per ACT or COMPASS or take recommended courses
- Test out of MTH080 per ACT or COMPASS or take recommended course work
- High school Biology and Chemistry with labs with a final grade of “C”, or BIO101 or equivalent college course with “C” or better
- Computer and keyboard proficiency through coursework of testing

Courses required for admission cannot be repeated for a satisfactory grade more than one time.

Upon acceptance
The applicant must submit: Nursing Acceptance deposit fee ($100.00) to hold a seat in the assigned clinical course.

Following acceptance into the program and prior to beginning PNE120 clinical, students must meet health and immunization requirements and obtain CPR by taking either the American Heart Association CPR, Health Care Providers series or the American Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer and be a state tested nursing assistant- STNA. A BCII criminal background check and drug screen must be completed prior to beginning the program.

Program Learning Outcomes
1. Apply knowledge from the biological, physical, behavioral, and nursing sciences in providing individualized, safe, effective nursing care in structured, predictable settings within established legal and ethical guidelines.
2. Utilize effective verbal and written communication skills with patients, families, colleagues, and other members of the health care team.
3. Participate in the nursing process utilizing critical thinking skills to provide individualized nursing care to patients across the life span and health continuum.

Part-Time Evening PN Program
A part-time evening Practical Nursing program with a Fall start is also offered at Van Wert, Ohio through a unique collaboration between Northwest State Community College, Vantage Career Center, and Wright State University, (Lake Campus). Necessary remedial and all required general studies courses are offered either at the NSCC campus at 793 Fox Road or by Wright State University at Vantage Career Center. It is suggested that students complete all required general studies courses prior to starting the three semester clinical sequence. Clinical sites are in the Van Wert area. Contact the nursing division for specific details.