

Admissions Requirements Policy

Purpose:

The following policy shall ensure Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) establishes admission requirements consistent with Tennessee Board of Regents policy 02:03:00:00 for the admission of students to DSCC degree or certificate programs and provides for the admission of non-degree seeking students.

Scope:

This policy applies to all DSCC employees and students.

Policy:

Medical or Health Information

DSCC will require all applicants for admission to provide health information that, at a minimum, establishes the applicant's compliance with Rules promulgated by the Tennessee Department of Health regarding requirements for immunization against certain diseases prior to attendance.

Residency Classification

DSCC shall, in the admission or readmission process, assign each student a residency classification using TBR Policy No. 03:05:01:00 Policy for Classifying Students In-State and Out-of-State for Paying College Fees and Tuition and for Admission Purposes. Residents of Dunklin County, Missouri; Pemiscot County, Missouri; New Madrid County, Missouri; and Mississippi County, Arkansas will consider in-state for tuition purposes.

High School Graduate from a Public School

- Submission of a completed Application for Admission
- Proof of Immunizations
- Submission of an official copy of a high school transcript verifying a Regular or Honors diploma and the date of graduation. Transcripts of applicants who graduated from Tennessee public high schools in 1983 or after must include a transcript entry stating that a passing score was made on the proficiency test battery. If applicants have not passed the required proficiency test battery, they must submit official a general high school equivalency credential or High School Equivalency (HiSET®) test results indicating an average standard score of 450 or above and a minimum score of 410 on each HiSET® sub score. For HiSET® tests taken before January 2002, an average standard score of 45 or above and a minimum score of on HiSET® sub score is required. An official copy of ACT scores may be used for placement only if the ACT scores are no older than five years.
**Official SAT scores may be accepted in lieu of ACT Scores.*

High School Graduate from a Non-Public School (including schools, home schools, and church-related schools)

- Submission of a completed Application for Admission
- Proof of Immunizations
- Submission of an official copy of a high school transcript verifying a Regular or Honors diploma and the date of graduation.
- The transcript must also include all credits earned and final grades in each course. The transcript of a home school applicant must be an official copy from an affiliated organization as defined by T.C.A. 49-50-801 or be accompanied by certification of registration with the superintendent of the local education agency which the student would otherwise attend. Applicants who cannot provide a satisfactory secondary school credential may substitute general high school equivalency credential. An official copy of ACT scores may be used for placement only if the ACT scores are no older than five years.
**Official SAT scores may be accepted in lieu of ACT Scores.*

General High School Equivalency Credential - High School Equivalency Recipient
(formerly GED and HiSET®)

- Submission of a completed Application for Admission
- Proof of Immunizations
- Submission of an official copy of test results (GED or HiSET®) indicating a passing score. For GED test taken before January 2002 through August 2015, the average standard score of 450 or above and a minimum score of 410 on each sub score. For GED tests taken before January 2002, an average standard score of 45 on each sub score are required. An official copy of ACT scores may be used for placement only if the ACT scores are no older than five years. **Official SAT scores may be accepted in lieu of ACT Scores.*

American Council on Education (ACE) External Degree Recipient

- Submission of completed Application for Admissions.
- Proof of Immunizations.
- Submission of an official copy of ACT scores may be used for placement only if the ACT scores are no older than five years. **Official SAT scores may be accepted in lieu of ACT Scores.*

Transfer Students

- Submission of a completed Application for Admission.
- Proof of Immunizations.
- Submission of an official copy of a high school transcript verifying a Regular or Honors diploma and the date of graduation or general high school equivalency credential.
- Submission of official copies of transcripts from each college or university attended. Concealment of previous college or university attendance may be cause for rejection, cancellation of admission or dismissal of the student.

- Course placement for Transfer students will be based on the following:
 - Transfer students who have completed a college-level English and Mathematics course with a grade of “D” or higher will be placed in all college-level courses.
 - An official copy of ACT scores may be used for placement only if the ACT scores are no older than five years. **Official SAT scores may be accepted in lieu of ACT Scores.*

International Students Applicants-

DSCC believes that the enrollment of international students will enrich the educational environment of all students. Therefore, DSCC is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant, alien students on “F-1” and “J-1” student visas. Applicants must file complete credentials before the date published in the DSCC Catalog and Student Handbook for the term the student wishes to be admitted.

- Complete credentials include all the documents listed below.
- Submission of a completed Application for Admission.
- Proof of Immunizations.
- Submission of certified or notarized copy of authenticated academic records translated into English. These records should describe the courses of instruction in terms of years spent in school and the type of subject matter covered, with grades earned in each subject. The educational level attained must be comparable to a high school graduate in the United States.
- Submission of an official transcript from each college or university that the international applicant has attended.
- All international applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum score of 173 on the computer-based TOEFL or 61 on the Internet-based TOEFL or 500 on the paper-based TOEFL is required. Official TOEFL scores must be submitted.
- International applicants must show evidence of financial capability. Applicants must provide a statement indicating who will provide funds for the applicant’s educational and living expenses while he/she is enrolled at Dyersburg State Community College. Because DSCC has no financial aid assistance for international students, international applicants must have at their disposal a minimum of \$17,000 may be increased without notice.
- Students attending DSCC on an F-1 visa may work only on campus if employment is available. Because of this uncertainty, international students should not assume that campus employment will be available or consider the possibility of earned wages from campus employment as part of their financial resources.
- DSCC is a community college and has no residential housing. International students must make their living arrangements and should allow sufficient time to locate housing before the beginning of the term.
- An international student who is in the United States on an F-1 visa may not claim Tennessee residence and will be charged out-of-state fees.
- Within 30 days from the first day of classes, international applicants should submit a certificate from a licensed physician or other qualified medical authority verifying freedom

from tuberculosis. Failure to furnish such a certificate shall result in denial of further enrollment or admission. In the event that the applicant either has tuberculosis or has potential tuberculosis requiring medical treatment, continued enrollment will be contingent upon the determination by a licensed physician that further enrollment does not present a risk to others and upon the applicant's compliance with any prescribed medical treatment program. All international students born after January 1957 must provide evidence of having received two doses of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. Exceptions are made for students who are pregnant or allergic to the vaccine.

- International students must become familiar with the regulations of the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) and assume responsibility for complying with those regulations.
- International students will be subject to the same policies for determining course placement as are High School Graduates or Transfer Students.
- All foreign non-immigrant students are required to have hospitalization insurance prior to completing registration. Student can either provide proof of adequate coverage or purchase coverage through the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR), as provided by a private contractor. The college will communicate information concerning the ability to purchase medical insurance to the applicant by email. The International applicant should check their MyDSCC email account for this information.

Admission to Specialized or Limited-Enrollment Programs

Health Information Management

DSCC Health Information Management programs of study are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management (CAHIIM).

Website: www.cahiim.org

Address: 233 N. Michigan Avenue, 21st Floor, Chicago, IL 60601

To be considered for admission to the Health Information Management programs of study, the following requirements must be met in addition to the requirements for admission to the College:

- A. The student must be accepted to Dyersburg State Community College as a regular admission. Student should refer to **Requirements for Regular Admission** in this catalog section.
- B. The applicant should indicate the Associate of Applied Science with the major Health Information Management (HIMC) or the Medical Coding certificate (MDTC) or the Electronic Health Records certificate (HRTC) or Medical Coding and Billing certificate (MCBC) as their desired program of study on the DSCC Application for Admission/Readmission.
- C. Admission to a Health Information Management program of study is based on previous high school and/or college achievement as described below:

- A. An applicant admitted following completion of a regular high school diploma must have a high school cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- B. Applicants having earned prior college credit hours must have an overall college cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- D. Students should complete Learning Support classes and HIMT 1301 Introduction to Health Information before acceptance into the HIM Program.
- E. A member of the Health Information Management faculty will serve as the academic advisor for students accepted to a Health Information Management program of study and will assist the student in registering for classes prior to each semester of enrollment in the Health Information Management program.
- F. The program director will monitor, advise, and evaluate the semester grades of each student admitted to a Health Information Management program. Minimum standards are:
 - A. a grade of “C” or better in each course required in the Health Information Management curriculum;
 - B. and complete prerequisite courses.
- G. Students not meeting the minimum standards will be dismissed from the Health Information Management A.A.S. program of study or the Medical Coding Technical certificate program or the Electronic Health Records Technical certificate program or Medical Coding and Billing Certificate program. Students must earn a grade of “C” or better in each course required in a HIM program of study and must have a 2.0 minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) in all college-level courses to be awarded a degree or certificate in a HIM program of study.
- H. Students enrolled in the professional experience courses will be subject to a criminal background check and a drug screen required by most clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. Based on the results of the criminal background check and drug screen, an affiliated clinical site may deny a student’s presence at their facility. This will result in the student’s inability to successfully complete the requirements of this program.
- I. Students enrolled in the professional experience courses may be required to provide proof of current immunizations as well as a negative Tuberculosis (TB) skin test or chest X-ray as determined by a physician. Healthcare facilities may have additional requirements including the Covid vaccine.
- J. BIOL 2010 and BIOL 2020 must have been completed within seven years prior to the admission date or approved by the HIM Director based on experience.
- K. Contact the HIM Program Director at 731-286-3294 about a portfolio for Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) or Credit by Departmental Examination for consideration of credit for a class.
- L. Due to the changing conditions in the external environment in the Health Information Management profession and medical settings such as annual ICD and CPT coding updates, accreditation compliance, and new and amended legislation, HIM classes taken more than 5 years previously should be repeated except for Medical Terminology. Students may request the

program director review their transcript and HIM work history (job descriptions and responsibilities) to determine if any credit may be given for older courses.

M. HIM Expenses

Additional expenses that are the responsibility of the HIM student include the cost of liability insurance for professional practice experiences, background check, drug screen, TB skin test or chest X-ray, immunization booster(s) if or when required and transportation to and from clinical facilities.

RHIT Exam fees are included in tuition cost with HIMT 2212 Seminar in Health Information Management Technology. This is a nonrefundable fee. First year student membership in AHIMA is covered in the cost of the textbook for HIMT 1301. Students will be asked to reference material from the AHIMA website for some classes and you will have to have student membership in order to access the material.

Note: The Health Information Management (HIM) AAS degree, Medical Coding Technical Certificate, Electronic Health Record Technical Certificate, Clinical Coding Certificate, and the Professional Medical Coding Certificates include many online courses. The HIM AAS degree's two professional practice experience courses do require the student to go to a healthcare facility. To be successful in an online class, the student must have basic computer skills, a computer at home or easy access to a computer, and internet access at home through dial-up, cable or DSL. The computer labs at the Dyersburg campus or the Henry County Center in Paris or the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County may be used for this purpose. Students will have to schedule computer access during open lab times or at the Learning Resource Center (LRC).

Requirements for Admission to the Traditional Nursing Track

The Dyersburg State Community College AAS degree with a major in Nursing is a program of study designed to prepare individuals to be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). The Nursing Program is a daytime program that is offered at the Dyersburg Campus and at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County. The Dyersburg State Nursing Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Website:	www.acenursing.org/
Address:	3390 Peachtree Road NE Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326

Telephone: 404-975-5000

Fax: 404-975-5020

The DSCC Nursing Program is approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

Website: www.tennessee.gov/health

Address: Tennessee Board of Nursing
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 37243

Telephone: 1-800-778-4123
615-532-5166

To be considered for admission to the Nursing Program, the following requirements must be met:

1. The applicant must be accepted to DSCC as a regular admission student. Refer to *Requirements for Regular Admission* in this catalog section.

The applicant must submit a completed Application for Nursing to the Department of Nursing by the deadline specified:

- A. September 1 for spring admission – DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County, and March 1 for fall admission- Dyersburg campus.
 - B. This application is in addition to the DSCC Application for Admission.
2. Applicants with prior college credits must have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for all courses comprising the nursing curriculum and a minimum grade of “C” in each course in the nursing curriculum.
 - A. For repeated courses, the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the nursing grade-point average.
 - B. By the application deadline for the Nursing Program, official transcripts from all previously-attended colleges and/or universities must be submitted to the Office of Records and to the Department of Nursing for evaluation. Failure to provide documentation as requested will result in the rejection of the student’s application.
 - C. At any time after a student has been admitted to the Nursing Program, if the student failed to submit all high school and/or college transcripts for review for admission, he/she will be dismissed from the Nursing Program at the point of discovery.

3. Each applicant is required to have on file his/her test results from the required preadmission examination: Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) for Registered Nurses.
 - A. Details regarding the dates, times, place and cost of the test are available from the Testing Office or at www.dsc.edu.
 - B. Test fees are non-refundable.
 - C. The test score will remain in the applicant's file for three years from the testing date; if the student reapplies after three years, he/she must retake the preadmission examination again.
 - D. TEAS can be taken as many times as needed with the highest grade being used. There is a required six-month wait period between retesting.
 - E. Students must reapply for each class to be considered; the Department of Nursing does not keep a waiting list of applicants.
4. A criminal background check and drug screen are required by clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. These will be required if accepted into the Program.
 - A. Based on the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical site may determine to not allow a student's presence at their facility. This will result in the student's inability to successfully complete the requirements of this program.
 - B. Additionally, applicants should be aware that conviction of certain crimes may make them ineligible for registered nurse licensure even though they successfully complete the Nursing Program. Detailed instructions regarding the background check will be given during nursing orientation.
 - C. The student will assume the cost of the physical examination, drug screens, and background checks. To obtain more information, please contact the Department of Nursing.
 5. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. TB skin tests and flu immunizations are required yearly. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card to the Department of Nursing.
6. Transfer requests from other colleges will be considered on an individual basis and upon availability of space. Transfer requests should be directed to the Dean of Nursing.
7. Applicants may be interviewed by the Nursing faculty as part of the admission process.
8. Admission into the Nursing Program will be based on a point system.

- A. The point system will be based upon the Preadmission Examination test score; GPA; BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, ENGL 1010 English Composition I, and MATH 1530 Introductory Statistics courses completed with a grade of “B” or above; and a current certification/licensure in a healthcare field.
 - B. In the event an applicant has taken these courses more than once, the most recent grade will be calculated in the point system.
 - C. Science courses must have been completed within five years prior to the admission date and prior to the qualifying application deadline date to be included in the admission points (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission/Dyersburg Campus, and summer term if applying for the next spring admission/DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County).
 - D. The five-year science requirement may be waived if the applicant successfully completed the science course(s) and has a current certification/licensure in the healthcare field.
9. Required Learning Support courses, if needed, must be completed prior to the qualifying application deadline date (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission/Dyersburg Campus, and summer term if applying for the next spring admission/DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County).
10. Students who have made a “D” or “F” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses at DSCC (*unless an Academic Fresh Start has been granted; refer to Academic Fresh Start in the Academic Affairs and Regulations section of this catalog*) or any other college or university will not be considered for admission, readmission or transfer to the DSCC Nursing Program.
- A. If a “D,” “F,” or withdrawal is made from two or more nursing courses in the same semester at DSCC or any other college or university, the attempt may be counted as one unsuccessful attempt.
 - B. Students who have made a “D,” “F,” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses prior to completion of Paramedic or LPN licensure may be considered on an individual basis for admission into the Traditional Nursing Track.
 - C. NURX CLEP exams given by Excelsior will not be considered an unsuccessful attempt if the student scored a “D” or “F.” Credit for courses will be given on a case-by-case basis as reviewed by the Nursing Admissions and Retention Committee.
11. Students admitted to the DSCC Nursing Program will be required to comply with the Nursing Program retention and progression policies. Details of these policies are published in the *Department of Nursing Program Student Handbook*.
12. Each semester, students will be required to pass a Math Dosage Validation Examination.
13. Students who apply but are not accepted for the class that begins in the fall semester on the Dyersburg Campus or for the spring semester class which begins in the spring semester at the

DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center must reapply if they wish to be considered for the following class. Applications will not be considered from previous semesters.

Requirements for Admission to the Advanced Standing RN Fast Track

The Dyersburg State Community College AAS degree with a major in Nursing is a program of study designed to prepare individuals to be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). The Dyersburg State Nursing Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Website:	www.acenursing.org/
Address:	3390 Peachtree Road NE Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326
Telephone:	404-975-5000
Fax:	404-975-5020

The DSCC Nursing Program is approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing

Website:	www.tennessee.gov/health
Address:	Tennessee Board of Nursing 665 Mainstream Drive Nashville, TN 37243
Telephone:	1-800-778-4123 615-532-5166

To be considered for admission to the Nursing Program, the following requirements must be met:

1. The **LPN or Paramedic** applicant must be accepted to DSCC as a regular admission student. Refer to Requirements for Regular Admission in this catalog section.
2. The applicant must submit a completed Application for the **Advanced Standing RN Fast Track** to the Department of Nursing by the deadline specified:

- A. March 15th for Fall admission at the Jimmy Naifeh Center September 15th for Spring admission at Dyersburg
 - B. This application is in addition to the DSCC Application for Admission.
 - C. The applicant must submit evidence of a current active LPN or Paramedic license.
3. Applicants with prior college credits must have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for all courses comprising the nursing curriculum and a minimum grade of “C” in each course in the nursing curriculum.
- A. For repeated courses, the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the nursing grade-point average.
 - B. By the application deadline for the Nursing Program, official transcripts from all previously-attended colleges and/or universities must be submitted to the Office of Records and to the Department of Nursing for evaluation. Failure to provide documentation as requested will result in the rejection of the student’s application.
 - C. At any time after a student has been admitted to the Nursing Program, if the student failed to submit all high school and/or college transcripts for review for admission, he/she will be dismissed from the Nursing Program at the point of discovery.
4. Each applicant is required to have on file his/her test results from the required preadmission examination: Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) for Registered Nurses. Applicants with a Paramedic licensure and LPNs who have been licensed for more than 3 years will take the TEAS as the admission exam. Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) graduates with LPN licensure who have graduated within the past 3 years and have successfully passed the TCAT specific exit exam are not required to take the TEAS. The student must submit their TCAT specific exit exam score in place of the TEAS for inclusion in the point system calculation.
- 5.
- A. Details regarding the dates, times, place and cost of the test are available from the Testing Center or at www.dsc.edu.
 - B. Test fees are non-refundable.
 - C. The test score will remain in the applicant’s file for three years from the testing date; if the student reapplies after three years, he/she must retake the preadmission examination again.
 - D. TEAS can be taken as many times as needed with the highest grade being used. There is a required six-month wait period between retesting.
 - E. Students must reapply for each class to be considered; the Department of Nursing does not keep a waiting list of applicants.

5. A criminal background check and drug screen are required by clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. These will be required if accepted into the Program.
 - A. Based on the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical site may determine to not allow a student's presence at their facility. This will result in the student's inability to successfully complete the requirements of this program.
 - B. Additionally, applicants should be aware that conviction of certain crimes may make them ineligible for registered nurse licensure even though they successfully complete the Nursing Program. Detailed instructions regarding the background check will be given during nursing orientation.
 - C. The student will assume the cost of the physical examination, drug screens, and background checks. To obtain more information, please contact the Department of Nursing.
6. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. TB skin tests and flu immunizations are required yearly. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card to the Department of Nursing.
7. Transfer requests from other colleges will be considered on an individual basis and upon availability of space. Transfer requests should be directed to the Director of Nursing.
8. Applicants may be interviewed by the Nursing faculty as part of the admission process.
 - A. Admission into the Nursing Program will be based on a point system.
 - B. The point system will be based upon the Preadmission Examination test score or TCAT specific exit exam score; GPA; and BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy & Physiology I, ENGL 1010 English Composition I, and MATH 1530 Introductory Statistics courses completed with a grade of "B" or above.
 - C. In the event an applicant has taken these courses more than once, the most recent grade will be calculated in the point system.
 - D. Science courses must have been completed within five years prior to the admission date and prior to the qualifying application deadline date to be included in the admission points.
 - E. The five-year science requirement may be waived if the applicant successfully completed the science course(s) and has a current health care license.
9. Required Learning Support courses, if needed, must be completed prior to the qualifying application deadline date (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission / Dyersburg campus, and summer semester if applying for the next spring admission / DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County). *BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy & Physiology I, ENGL 1010 English Composition I, MATH 1530 Introductory Statistics, and PSYC 1030 Introduction to*

Psychology must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” prior to the qualifying application deadline.

10. Students who have made a “D,” “F,” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses at DSCC (*unless an Academic Fresh Start has been granted; refer to Academic Fresh Start in the Academic Affairs and Regulations section of this catalog*) or any other college or university will not be considered for admission, readmission or transfer to the DSCC Nursing Program.
 - A. If a “D,” “F,” or withdrawal is made from two or more nursing courses in the same semester at DSCC or any other college or university, the attempt may be counted as one unsuccessful attempt.
 - B. Students who have made a “D,” “F,” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses prior to completion of LPN licensure may be considered on an individual basis for admission to the DSCC Advanced Standing LPN to RN Fast Track.
 - C. NURX CLEP exams given by Excelsior will not be considered an unsuccessful attempt if the student scored a “D” or “F.” Credit for courses will be given on a case-by-case basis as reviewed by the Nursing Admissions and Retention Committee.
11. Students admitted to the DSCC Nursing Program will be required to comply with the Nursing Program retention and progression policies. Details of these policies are published in the *Department of Nursing Program Student Handbook*.
12. Each semester, students will be required to pass a Math Dosage Validation Examination.
13. Students who apply but are not accepted for the Program must reapply if they wish to be considered for the following class. Applications will not be considered from previous semesters.
14. If accepted into the **Advanced Standing RN Fast Track**:
 - A. Basic nursing skills competency/validation is required prior to beginning clinical rotation in NRS 1700 and NRS 1340.
 - B. After successfully completing NRS 1700, the student will be awarded 7 credit hours for NRS 1710 on the basis of their prior LPN educational program. The student must successfully complete NRS 1700 to receive the 7 credit hours.
 - C. The applicant who does not successfully complete NRS 1700 and NRS 1340 may seek admission as a regular student (see requirements for Admission to the Nursing Program).

Requirements for Admission to the Nursing Traditional Program-Evening Track

The Dyersburg State Community College AAS degree with a major in Nursing is a program of study designed to prepare individuals to be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for the Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). This track within the Nursing Program is offered at the Dyersburg Campus every other even year and at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County every other odd year.

The Dyersburg State Nursing Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Website:	www.acenursing.org/
Address:	3390 Peachtree Road NE Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326
Telephone:	404-975-5000
Fax:	404-975-5020

The DSCC Nursing Program is approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

Website:	http://health.state.tn.us/Boards/Nursing/index.htm
Address:	Tennessee Board of Nursing 665 Mainstream Drive Nashville, TN 37243
Telephone:	1-800-778-4123 615-532-5166

To be considered for admission to the Nursing Program, the following requirements must be met:

1. The applicant must be accepted to DSCC as a regular admission student. Refer to *Requirements for Regular Admission* in this catalog section.

2. The applicant must submit a completed Application for Nursing to the Department of Nursing by the deadline specified:
 - A. May 15th for Fall Admission-Dyersburg Campus.
 - B. October 15th for Spring Admission-JNC
 - C. The evening program will be offered every other year.
 - D. This application is in addition to the DSCC Application for Admission.
3. Applicants with prior college credits must have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for all courses comprising the nursing curriculum and a minimum grade of “C” in each course in the nursing curriculum. Please see programs of instructions for a detailed list of courses.
4.
 - A. For repeated courses, the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the nursing grade-point average.
 - B. By the application deadline for the Nursing Program, official transcripts from all previously-attended colleges and/or universities must be submitted to the Office of Records and to the Department of Nursing for evaluation. Failure to provide documentation as requested will result in the rejection of the student’s application.
 - C. At any time after a student has been admitted to the Nursing Program, if the student failed to submit all high school and/or college transcripts for review for admission, he/she will be dismissed from the Nursing Program at the point of discovery.
5. Each applicant is required to have on file his/her test results from the required preadmission examination Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) for Registered Nurses.
 - A. Details regarding the dates, times, place and cost of the test are available from the Testing Center or at www.dsc.edu.
 - B. Test fees are non-refundable.
 - C. TEAS can be taken as many times as needed with the highest grade being used. There is a required six-month wait period between retesting.
 - D. The test score will remain in the applicant’s file for three years from the testing date; if the student reapplies after three years, he/she must retake the preadmission examination again.
 - E. Students must reapply for each class to be considered; the Department of Nursing does not keep a waiting list of applicants.
6. A criminal background check and drug screen are required by clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. These will be required if accepted into the Program.

- A. Based on the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical site may determine to not allow a student's presence at their facility. This will result in the student's inability to successfully complete the requirements of this Program.
 - B. Additionally, applicants should be aware that conviction of certain crimes may make them ineligible for registered nurse licensure even though they successfully complete the Nursing Program. Detailed instructions regarding the background check will be given during nursing orientation.
 - C. The student will assume the cost of the physical examination, drug screens, and background checks. To obtain more information, please contact the Department of Nursing.
7. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. TB skin tests and flu immunizations are required yearly. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card to the Department of Nursing.
7. Transfer requests from other colleges will be considered upon an individual basis and upon availability of space. Transfer requests should be directed to the Director of Nursing.
8. Applicants may be interviewed by the Nursing faculty as part of the admission process.
9. Admission into the Nursing Program will be based on a point system.
- A. The point system will be based upon the Preadmission Examination test score; GPA; BIOL 2010 Anatomy and Physiology I, ENGL 1010 English Composition I, and MATH 1530 Introductory Statistics courses taken with a grade of "B" or above; and current certification/licensure in a healthcare field.
 - B. In the event an applicant has taken these courses more than once, the most recent grade will be calculated in the point system.
 - C. Science courses must have been completed within five years prior to the admission date and prior to the qualifying application deadline date to be included in the admission points (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission/Dyersburg Campus and summer term if applying for the next spring admission/DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County).
 - D.).
 - E. The five-year science requirement may be waived if the applicant successfully completed the science course(s) and has a current certification/licensure in the healthcare field.
10. Required Learning Support courses, if needed, must be completed prior to the qualifying application deadline date (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission/Dyersburg

Campus, and summer semester if applying for the next spring admission/DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County).

11. Students who have made a “D” or “F” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses at DSCC (*unless an Academic Fresh Start has been granted; refer to Academic Fresh Start in the Academic Affairs and Regulations section of this catalog*) or any other college or university will not be considered for admission, readmission or transfer to the DSCC Nursing Program.
 - A. If a “D,” “F,” or a withdrawal is made from two or more nursing courses in the same semester at DSCC or any other college or university, the attempt may be counted as one unsuccessful attempt.
 - B. Students who have made a “D,” “F,” or have withdrawn from two nursing courses prior to completion of a Paramedic or LPN license may be considered on an individual basis for admission into the evening track.
 - C. NURX proficiency exams given by Excelsior will not be considered an unsuccessful attempt if the student scored a “D” or “F.” Credit for courses will be given on a case-by-case basis as reviewed by the Nursing Admissions and Retention Committee.
12. Students admitted to the DSCC Nursing Program will be required to comply with the Nursing Program retention and progression policies. Details of these policies are published in the Department of Nursing Program Student Handbook.
13. Each semester, students will be required to pass a Math Dosage Validation Examination.
14. Students who apply but are not accepted for the Program must reapply if they wish to be considered for the following class. Applications will not be considered from previous semesters.
15. New high school graduates will be assessed for admission using points from the Preadmission Examination test score; high school GPA; and the math, science, and reading section of the ACT test. Applicants admitted as a high school student must have a minimum high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
16. New high school graduates who have completed general education courses listed in the nursing degree plan will be considered as a student with college hours when calculating points for admission into the Nursing Program.

Emergency Medical Services Program of Study

The DSCC EMS programs of study are approved by the Tennessee Department of Health, and Division of Emergency Medical Services. Upon successful completion of each level of EMS courses, passing a State of Tennessee (EMT) or National Registry (AEMT, Paramedic) Practical Skills exam and a passing score on the National Registry of EMTs Cognitive Exam, students may apply for state licensure as an Emergency Medical Services Provider. For information, see Criteria: State of Tennessee, Division of EMS Rule (1200-12-1.04 and 1200-12-1-.13) pursuant to T.C.A. Title 68, Chapter 140.

Requirements for Admission to the DSCC Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Curriculum

Emergency Medical Technician Basic

The DSCC Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certificate Basic includes the following curriculum: EMSB 1601 EMT Medical Emergencies and EMS Operations; EMSB 1602 EMT Trauma and Medical Emergencies; EMSB 1101 EMT Medical Skills Lab; EMSB 1102 EMT Trauma and Medical Skills Lab; EMSB 1111 EMT Clinical; and EMSB 1112 EMT Field Internship.

In addition to the requirements for admission to the College, eligible applicants for the DSCC EMT Basic Certificate courses must meet the following prerequisites:

1. Provide proof to the Office of Admissions and Records that the applicant possesses a regular or academic high school diploma or a general high school equivalency credential;
2. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant pass a criminal background check and drug screen. The cost of the background check and drug screen is the responsibility of the applicant.

Student Admissions and Conduct.

As bound by the state of TN office of EMS Rules and Regulations

<https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1200/1200-12/1200-12-01.20241007.pdf>

Rule and Regulation 1200-12-01-.13 Section 5; pages 58-61

Requirements for Admission to the DSCC Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)

The DSCC Advanced Emergency Medical Technician certificate includes the Emergency Medical Technician curriculum and EMSA 1501 Advanced EMT Medical Emergencies; EMSA 1502 Advanced EMT Trauma and Medical Emergencies; EMSA 1101; EMSA 1102; EMSA 1111 Advanced EMT Clinical; and EMSA 1112 Advanced EMT Field Internship.

In addition to the requirements for admission to the College, eligible applicants for the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician certificate candidate must meet the following prerequisites:

1. Provide proof to the Office of Admissions and Records that the applicant possesses a regular or academic high school diploma or general high school equivalency credential.
2. Submission of a completed Application for Advanced EMT by June 1st to the Department of Emergency Medical Services. The application is available online at www.dsc.edu.
3. Provide proof to the Department of Emergency Medical Services of having a current State of Tennessee EMT Basic License.
4. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card to the Department of Emergency Services and pass a criminal background check and drug screen. The cost of the background check and drug screen is the responsibility of the applicant.

Student Admissions and Conduct.

As bound by the state of TN office of EMS Rules and Regulations

<https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1200/1200-12/1200-12-01.20241007.pdf>
Rule and Regulation 1200-12-01-.13 Section 5; pages 58-61

Requirements for Admission to the DSCC Paramedic Certificate Program or the DSCC Paramedic Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) Degree Program

The DSCC Paramedic Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP , www.coaemsp.org).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

Address: 1361 Park Street, Clearwater, FL 33756

Telephone: 727-210-2350

Webpage: www.caahep.org

Paramedics are licensed by the Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services.

Requirements for Admission to the DSCC Eagle Access Program for Students with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD):

Potential students to this program will:

- Complete an Eagle Access Paper Application to the College;

The following documents will be required for admission consideration:

- Complete a Release of information form;
- Completed Federal Student Aid Application (FAFSA);
- Complete Interview (conducted with Tennessee Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to determine eligibility of services);
- Submit proof of eligibility of intellectual disabilities, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or 504;
- Complete an application for scholarships (if applicable);
- Completed behavioral assessment intake survey (if applicable);
- Submit Statement of personal goals from the applicant;
- Request an official copy of high school diploma in any of four TN Diploma pathways (Regular, Special Education; Alternative, or Occupational) or general high school equivalency credential be sent to the Office of Admissions and Records;
- Submit Individual Education Plan (IEP); Fourth-grade reading level or higher is recommended (lower reading levels may be considered for conditional admission);
- Submit Health insurance (Medicare, Medicaid, private);
- Submit Copy of State issued photo identification;
- Submit Three letters of recommendation to program director from non-family community members (preferred);
- Submit Conservatorship document (if applicable).

The Eagle Access Program Director will admit students to the Program based on alignment of goals and needs as well as space availability. A waiting list may be created (if applicable). The program will serve individuals between the ages of 18-29.

Admission to the Surgical Technology Program

The Dyersburg State Community College AAS degree with a major in Surgical Technology is a program of study designed to prepare individuals to become a member of the operating team during surgical procedures. The Surgical Technology Program is offered at the DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center and accepts new applicants every Fall. To be considered for admission to the Surgical Technology Program, the following requirements must be met:

1. The applicant must be accepted to DSCC as a regular admission student. Refer to [Requirements for Regular Admission](#) in this catalog section.
2. The applicant must submit a completed Application for Surgical Technology by March 15. This application is in addition to the DSCC Application for Admission.
3. Applicants with prior college credits must have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for all courses comprising the surgical technology curriculum and a minimum grade of “C” in each course in the surgical technology curriculum.
 - For repeated courses, the most recent grade will be used in the calculation of the surgical technology grade-point average.
 - By the application deadline for the Surgical Technology, official transcripts from all previously-attended colleges and/or universities must be submitted to the Office of Records. Failure to provide documentation as requested will result in the rejection of the student’s application.
 - At any time after a student has been admitted to the Surgical Technology Program, if the student failed to submit all high school and/or college transcripts for review for admission, he/she will be dismissed from the Surgical Technology Program at the point of discovery.
4. A criminal background check and drug screen are required by clinical facilities for assurance of patient safety. These will be required if accepted into the Program.
 - Based on the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical site may determine to not allow a student’s presence at their facility. This will result in the student’s inability to successfully complete the requirements of this program.

- Additionally, applicants should be aware that conviction of certain crimes may make them ineligible for surgical technician certification even though they successfully complete the Surgical Technology Program. Detailed instructions regarding the background check will be given during surgical technology orientation.
 - The student will assume the cost of the physical examination, drug screens, and background checks. To obtain more information, please contact the Surgical Technology Department.
5. If accepted, the applicant must submit proof of satisfactory physical and mental condition, current immunizations, including Tdap and Varicella, and a negative TB skin test or a chest X-ray, as indicated. TB skin tests and flu immunizations are required yearly. COVID-19 immunizations may be required based on a clinical site requirement. Students expected to have patient contact must present proof of protection against hepatitis B before patient contact. The applicant must submit a valid Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR card to the Surgical Technology Department.
 6. Transfer requests from other colleges will be considered on an individual basis and upon availability of space. Transfer requests should be directed to the Director of Surgical Technology.
 7. Applicants may be interviewed by the Surgical Technology faculty as part of the admission process.
 8. Admission into the Surgical Technology Program will be based on a point system.
 - The point system will be based upon GPA; BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, ENGL 1010 English Composition I, and MATH 1530 Introductory Statistics courses completed with a grade of “B” or above. An additional point will be granted if applicant presents a current medical licensure or health care related certification. Only one point per applicant will be granted.
 - In the event an applicant has taken these courses more than once, the most recent grade will be calculated in the point system.
 - Science courses must have been completed within five years prior to the admission date and prior to the qualifying application deadline date to be included in the admission points (fall semester if applying for the next fall admission).
 - The five-year science requirement may be waived if the applicant successfully completed the science course(s) and has a current certification/licensure in the healthcare field.

9. Required Learning Support courses, if needed, must be completed prior to the qualifying application deadline date.
10. Students admitted to the DSCC Surgical Technology Program will be required to comply with the Surgical Technology Program retention and progression policies. Details of these policies are published in *Surgical Technology Program Student Handbook*.
11. Students who apply but are not accepted for the class must reapply if they wish to be considered for the following class. Applications will not be considered from previous semesters.
12. New high school graduates will be assessed for admission using points from the Preadmission test score; high school GPA, and the math, science, and reading portions of the ACT. Applicants admitted as a high school student must have a minimum high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
13. New high school graduates who have completed general education courses listed in the surgical technology program degree plan will be considered as a student with college hours when calculating points for admission into the Surgical Technology Program.

Compliance:

All faculty, staff and students will comply with this policy.

Definitions:

ACCUPLACER – an integrated system of computer-adaptive assessments designed to evaluate students' skills in reading, writing, and mathematics.

ACT – a standardized test for high school achievement and college admissions.

Revision History:

Approved by Admin council on 12/14/2016.

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