DAKOTA NURSING PROGRAM
PREREQUISITES & CHECKLIST FOR ADMISSION TO THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM
ADVANCED STANDING APPLICANTS

[reviewed annually]

Admission to the Dakota Nursing Program (DNP) Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is competitive. Advanced standing applicants must meet the following prerequisites to be considered:

1. **Licensure & Experience:** Must meet one of the following:
   - **LPN Track:** Graduate of a state board-approved PN program from an accredited college and hold a current, active, unencumbered U.S. LPN license.
   - **Paramedic Track:** Graduate of a state board-approved paramedic program, hold a current, active, unencumbered U.S. paramedic license with at least 2 years of experience, AND have completed the LRSC Paramedic-to-Nurse Bridge Program.
2. **GPA Standards:** Minimum 2.75 Nursing GPA across all prerequisite and prior practical nursing courses, and a minimum 2.50 overall cumulative GPA.
3. **Two-Step Application & Narrative:** Apply and be admitted to your home college before applying to the DNP ADN program (admission to the college does not guarantee ADN admission). Applications open December 1st at www.dakotanursing.org and are due by March 5th.
   - **Narrative Statement (300–600 words):** Upload with your online DNP application summarizing your education/work experience, how it prepares you for the program, why you want to be a nurse, and why now is the right time to pursue your degree.
4. **Preadmission Exam (ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor):** Must achieve an individual composite score equal to at least a 92% predicted probability of passing the NCLEX-PN.
   - **Scheduling & Validity:** Contact your local campus nursing coordinator or testing center to schedule your exam on or before March 1st of the application year. Scores are valid for 1 year prior to March 5th.
   - **Retake Policy:** Up to 2 attempts per application cycle, spaced at least 30 days apart after completing remediation on missed topics. (Seat availability following a retake depends on acceptance of qualified current DNP PN students.)
5. **Required Courses & Grade Standards:** Must be currently enrolled (if competitive) or have completed the following courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher:
   - All required nursing courses from an approved Practical Nursing program
   - ENGL 110 Composition I
   - PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology
   - PSYC 250 Developmental Psychology
   - BIOL 220 Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab
   - BIOL 221 Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab
   - PHRM 215 Introduction to Pharmacology (must be completed within 7 years of ADN admission)
6. **English Proficiency:** Applicants born outside the U.S. or Canada, non-native English speakers, or those without 4 years of U.S. high school with a 3.0+ GPA must meet the DNP English Proficiency Policy prior to admission consideration.
7. **Applicant Evaluation:** All applicants are scored using the rubric below. (Note: Interviews may not be required at every campus.)

Advanced Standing ADN Admission Checklist

- ☐ **Home College Admission:** Apply for and gain admission to your local college (BSC, DCB, LRSC, or WSC).
- ☐ **DNP Application, License & Narrative:** Complete the electronic Dakota Nursing Program application by March 5th, including your active, unencumbered U.S. LPN/Paramedic license number and 300–600 word Narrative Statement.
- ☐ **CPR Certification:** Submit proof of current healthcare-level BLS Provider CPR certification.
  Preadmission Exam: Schedule (by March 1st) and pass the ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor (92% predicted probability benchmark).
- ☐ **Professional References:** Submit 2 professional references.
- ☐ **English Proficiency:** Submit TOEFL, Duolingo, or other approved English proficiency documentation, if required.

Checklist for the Advanced Standing ADN (LPN to RN) Applicants

Advanced Standing ADN Admission Scoring Rubric

Admission Criteria	Eligibility & Scoring	Min. Points	Max Points
ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor	Minimum 92% predicted probability required Predictor score divided by 10 (e.g., 92% = 9.2 pts)	9.2	10
Cumulative GPA	Minimum 2.50 required Exact GPA = points (e.g. 3.50 GPA = 3.5 points)	2.5	4
Nursing GPA	Minimum 2.75 required Exact GPA = points (e.g. 3.64 GPA = 3.64 points)	2.75	4
Required Course Grades	Courses: NURS 120, Comp 1, Comp 2 Public Speaking, A&P 1, A&P 2, Intro to Pharm, Intro to Psych, Intro to Developmental Psych A= 4 pts | B= 3pts | C = 2pts Not Yet Taken =0pts	0	32
LPN Experience	• Yes = 2 pts • No = 0 pts	0	2
Veteran Status	• Yes = 2 pts • No = 0 pts	0	2
2nd Qualified Application	• Yes = 1 pts • No = 0 pts	0	1
Previous Degree	• Bachelors = 2pts • Associates = 1 pt • N/A = 0 pt	0	2
Narrative Score	Scored 0-5 pts	0	5
References	Scored 0-5 pts (2 professional references required)	0	5
Total Possible Score		**8.25**	**62**

Timeline & Waiting List Policy:

- Qualified advanced standing applicants are placed on a waiting list until all internal DNP PN students have completed the ATI PN Comprehensive Predictor during the first week of July.
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- Applicants who meet all requirements may be invited to interview and will be notified of their status before July 30th.

Incomplete applications cannot be processed and will be declined.

[reviewed annually]