

LPN Bridging Option into NEPS Frequently Asked Questions



1. I am a 2008, 2009 or 2010 graduate of the SIAST Practical Nursing program. How can I apply to the LPN bridging option into NEPS at SIAST Wascana Campus in Regina?

The admission period will be open from June 15 to August 15, 2010 **now extended to September 10, 2010**. Printable applications will be available online at this website during the admission period. Application forms will also be available in print copy from registration services.

Contact Registration Services: Toll Free (all locations): 1-866-goSIAST (467-4278)

SIAST Kelsey Campus (Saskatoon)
Phone: (306) 933-5555
Fax: (306) 933-7226
Email: RegServ.Kelsey@siastr.sk.ca

SIAST Palliser Campus (Moose Jaw)
Phone: (306) 691-8383
Fax: (306) 694-3094
Email: RegServ.Palliser@siastr.sk.ca

SIAST Wascana Campus (Regina)
Phone: (306) 798-4314
Fax: (306) 798-1377
Email: RegServ.Wascana@siastr.sk.ca

SIAST Woodland Campus (Prince Albert)
Phone: (306) 953-7010
Fax: (306) 953-7160
Email: RegServ.Woodland@siastr.sk.ca

2. What courses must be completed for my application to be considered?

The following courses are **required** pre-requisites to the LPN Bridging option:

- NEPS 118.3 Introduction to the Human Body I and NEPS 119.3 Introduction to the Human Body II**, which may be obtained through completion of one of the following options:

- NURS 117 Introduction to Human Body Completion Course (SIAST course)
- PLAR (Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition) NEPS 118.3 Introduction to the Human Body I and NEPS 119.3 Introduction to the Human Body II; PLAR information and process available on NEPS website. Contact Donna Cooke (contact information in Question #12) for further information as this process will need to be completed by July 30, 2010.
- Athabasca University – Biology 235
- Any other human Anatomy & Physiology (6 credit unit) that is accepted as transfer credit by the University of Saskatchewan. Contact Shelley Bueckert or Rachelle Smith prior to application.

In addition, **preference** will be given to applicants who have completed:

- English 3 c. u. – (must be accepted as transfer credit by the University of Saskatchewan). If you are accepted without an accepted English, it must be completed by August 15, 2011.

3. Are there additional requirements if I am accepted?

a) Students must provide proof of licensure as an LPN with a professional licensing body prior to August 31, 2010.

b) Students that are accepted into the LPN Bridging Option will be required to successfully complete a Drug Calculation Examination which will provide transfer credit for NEPS 222.3 Nursing Therapeutics I and NEPS 223.3 Nursing Therapeutics II.

Accepted students will be contacted by the Year 2 Facilitator with the examination date.

4. How will my application be reviewed?

The Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) admission process will be used to assess the LPN Bridging Option into NEPS applications.

When the application period closes, your application will be ranked in the order of qualification. The applicants who are most qualified are accepted into the program first. The only competitive entry programs are the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS), the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan Second Degree Entry Option and the LPN Bridging Option into NEPS. There are established periods for receipt of applications for these programs.

5. If accepted how will I receive information from NEPS?

Letters of acceptance will be sent out from Registration Services, SIAST by October 31, 2010. A welcome letter and timetable will follow from the NEPS at Wascana Campus.

6. I have already completed other university courses. Who do I contact to see if I can receive transfer credit?

Please contact one of the following advisors from the University of Saskatchewan for transfer credit information:

Shelley Bueckert, Academic Advisor & Admissions Officer
University of Saskatchewan, College of Nursing
Phone: 306 – 966 - 6231
Email: shelley.bueckert@usask.ca

Rachelle Smith, Academic Advisor & Admissions Officer
University of Saskatchewan, College of Nursing
Phone: 306 – 966 - 6172
Email: rachelle.smith@usask.ca

7. What are the courses I will need to complete between January and June 2011?

The following courses need to be completed prior to merging with the full-time second year NEPS nursing students.

The first week begins January 5, 2011 with NEPS 125.1 Professional Nursing Practice. This one-credit course focuses on the professional responsibilities and role change from Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to Registered Nurse (RN) or Registered Psychiatric Nurse (RPN).

January 5 – April 29, 2011

Students will be required to complete the following courses:

- NEPS 212.3 Microbiology for Health Sciences (theory only)
- NEPS 218.3 Education for Health
- Nutrition 120.3 – University of Saskatchewan course.
- NEPS 220.3 Individual Assessment I
- NEPS 211.3 Counseling in Nursing Practice
- NEPS 221.3 Individual Assessment II

May 2, 2011 – June 24, 2011

Following completion of all January to April 2011 courses, students will be eligible to enroll in NEPS 233.6 (May and June clinical practicum) with regular NEPS program students.

8. Will I be able to work in addition to attending the LPN Bridging Option from January to June 2011?

Students will be in class (theory and lab time) for 27-30 hours per week from January to April 2010. Students are expected to be in class with their cohort of students Monday to Friday on site at Wascana Campus. You also need to consider the amount of preparation and assignment work that is required for condensed courses as this creates a heavy workload.

The June 2011 clinical practicum involves full-time clinical hours with a variety of shifts (i.e. 4, 8, 10, 12 hours). Workloads are heavy during May and June as students have clinical assignments in addition to full-time clinical practice.

9. Is this program a fit for me?

If you answer yes to the following questions, then the LPN Bridging Option to NEPS is a good fit for you.

- Do I have a high energy level?
- Am I self-directed and up for a challenge?
- Can I commit to 27-30 hours per week to class and lab time?

- Is this the right time in my life to dedicate the significant amount of time required to studying, preparation, assignments, examinations in order to be successful?
- Am I able to relocate to Regina as this bridging option is only available onsite at Wascana Campus?

10. Am I eligible to fast track like other NEPS students?

Yes, that option is available following your Year 3 courses. Depending on the non-nursing courses you have received credit for, you may have the opportunity for completion of the NEPS program in September, December, or April of your final year.

11. What if I have already been accepted to the NEPS but would like to switch to this special cohort for the LPN bridging option?

Please call 1- 866-go-SIAST and ask to speak to a Registration Services representative to inquire about the process.

12. Who can I contact if I have other additional questions or require more information?

We would certainly like to help you should you still have any questions regarding the LPN Bridging Option into NEPS. Please contact:

Donna Cooke, Year 2 Facilitator
Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan
SIAST Wascana Campus
Phone: (306) 775-7627
donna.cooke@siast.sk.ca

During summer months (July 1 to August 20, 2010), please contact:

Administrative Assistant
Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan
SIAST Wascana Campus
Phone: (306) 775-7766