

# FACT SHEET for Licensed Practical Nurses Entering NEPS



## Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1. I am a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) interested in entering the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS). What are the NEPS entrance requirements for LPNs?

Licensed Practical Nurses currently registered or eligible for registration are deemed admissible to NEPS as described on the NEPS application form. (See [www.siastr.sk.ca/pdf/nepsapplication.pdf](http://www.siastr.sk.ca/pdf/nepsapplication.pdf) )

### 2. Will I receive any transfer of credit for courses from the Practical Nursing Program?

Yes, graduates, licensed or eligible for licensure in Saskatchewan, who completed the SIAST program **in 1997 and prior** will receive credit for:

- NEPS 114.3 Interpersonal Relationships
- NEPS 115.3 Core Concepts of Care
- NEPS 222.3 Nursing Therapeutics I (Transfer credit granted if student passes the NEPS 222.3 Medication Math quiz)
- NEPS 292.3 Health Challenges I: Clinical
- NEPS 294.3 Health Challenges II: Clinical
- Sociology 6 c.u.

Graduates from SIAST, licensed/or eligible for licensure in Saskatchewan, **from 1998 to 2007** will receive the credit listed above as well as:

- NEPS 112.3 Development of Self

Graduates from SIAST, licensed/or eligible for licensure in Saskatchewan, **from 2008 to the present** will receive credit for:

- NEPS 112.3 Development of Self
- NEPS 114.3 Interpersonal Relationships
- NEPS 115.3 Core Concepts of Care
- NEPS 116.3 Introduction to Health Concepts
- NEPS 216.3 Health Growth and Development
- NEPS 222.3 & NEPS 223.3 Nursing Therapeutics I & II (transfer credit granted if student passes the Therapeutics math quiz)
- NEPS 291.3 Health Challenges I: Theory
- NEPS 292.3 Health Challenges I: Clinical
- NEPS 293.3 Health Challenges II: Theory
- NEPS 294.3 Health Challenges II: Clinical

*Transcripts for graduates from other Practical Nursing programs will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine transfer credit. Evaluation may require the applicant providing detailed course outlines from their practical nursing program to determine transfer credit.*

For graduates of the SIAST Practical Nursing program of 2008 to the present, there may be a special 'LPN Bridging Option' available at the Wascana site. Please check with SIAST Registration at 1-866-467-4278.

### 3. Is there any credit for the Anatomy and Physiology I took in the Practical Nursing Program?

Practical Nursing graduates are eligible to take *NURS 117 Introduction to the Human Body* completion course which bridges the Anatomy and Physiology course taken in the Practical Nursing Program to the level of the NEPS course *NEPS 118.3 Introduction to the Human Body I; NEPS 119.3 Introduction to the Human Body II*. This course is available by distance from SIAST. These courses are also available as Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) at SIAST. For information call: SIAST Registration at 1-866-467-4278.

#### 4. Are any courses I need to take available by distance?

Yes, available online/distance are:

- NURS 117 Introduction to the Human Body, is a print-based course available by distance.
- NEPS 112.3 Development of Self
- NEPS 113.3 Nursing: An Evolving Profession
- NEPS 114.3 Interpersonal Relationships
- NEPS 115.3 Core Concepts of Care
- NEPS 116.3 Introduction to Health Concepts
- NEPS 216.3 Healthy Growth and Development

It may also be possible to access non-nursing courses by distance from the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, Athabasca University, or other post secondary institutions. Check with an advisor prior to enrolling in any course.

#### 5. How long is it going to take me to complete the program?

It will take you between three and four years to complete the program. You will receive transfer of credit for some courses in Year 1 and 2 of the program therefore you will not be carrying a full course load in these years.

There is an opportunity for students to choose an earlier completion option if attending NEPS at the Regina or Saskatoon site. In order to be eligible for earlier completion, students must have completed all of their non-nursing courses (that is, those not labeled NEPS) by the end of Year 3 and have maintained a specific program average.

#### 6. I need to continue working as an LPN to finance my education. Is part-time study an option?

Yes, part-time study is an option. The NEPS must be completed within 7 years of taking the first nursing course. See an academic advisor to plan your part-time study to ensure your plan takes course pre-requisites as well as scheduling into consideration.

### PROGRAM INFORMATION:

The Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) is a collaborative venture of the Nursing Division, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (Wascana & Kelsey Campuses), University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing, and the First Nations University of Canada. NEPS is a four-year degree program offered in Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert.

#### Tuition and Book Fees

- Tuition is approximately \$500 per 3 credit unit course
- Books and supplies are approximately \$1,500 per year

#### Registration Process

- Apply at your choice of program delivery site: SIAST Registration (for Saskatoon or Regina), or First Nations University of Canada Northern Campus (Prince Albert).
- Applications are accepted between **October 1 and January 15** for fall entrance
- Admission is competitive.

#### Program Overview

The curriculum is designed to educate nurses who will practice in the direct care role within the framework of primary health care. It is developed around core concepts derived from nursing, social and life sciences. There is a strong clinical component. Implementation approaches are based on humanism, critical theory, and phenomenology. Themes of health care, caring, ethics, diversity, and critical thinking run through all nursing courses.

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