Nursing Information Session
So you want to….

protect, promote, and optimize of health and abilities, prevent illness and injury, alleviate suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocate in the care of individuals, families, communities, and populations; then......

....Become a Nurse

(adaptation from the definition of Nursing from the American Nursing Association, 2010)
ALL ACCEPTANCE/DENIAL LETTERS WILL BE SENT to ELECTRONICALLY (via email) to your My.LoneStar account

Make sure when you apply you have put a valid email address THAT you check on the application. If you have a “my.lonestar.edu email, that is preferred.
LSC – Tomball Nursing Programs

• **Associate Degree (ADN) Specialization**
  Integrated Curriculum (commonly called the “Generic” or “Basic” Track) = to become a Registered Nurse**

• **Transition Program** = for a LVN/Paramedic to become a RN**

• **VN Certification** = to become a Licensed Vocational Nurse**

• **CNA** (Certified Nursing Assistant) is available after successful completion of the first semester in the ADN & VN programs. Students may apply to “challenge” the exam with DADS (Division of Aging and Disability Services).
  **Regular CNA courses are only offered thru Continuing Education**

**Licensure is with the authority of the Texas Board of Nursing. Nursing programs cannot guarantee licensure: graduation is just one step in the process toward becoming a RN or LVN.**

2/2011   LSC-Tomball
Registered Nurse (RN)

- Requires substantial specialized judgment and skill that is based on knowledge and application of scientific principles
- Includes the ability to observe, assess, intervene, evaluate, rehabilitate and teach individuals who are ill, injured, or infirmed.
- Requires independent thinking within ethical & legal parameters and standards of practice.
Professional Information

• By 2020 it is a goal that 80% of all RNs in the USA will have earned a BSN (bachelor of science degree in NURSING).

• Even though there is a Nursing Shortage, new graduates do not typically walk into an “ideal” work schedule: MOST new grads start with a “day time orientation” lasting several weeks but then are regularly scheduled on nights. Nurses work weekends and holidays. Schedule requirements vary with different agencies.
Employment Trends for RNs

- There continues to be a shortage of nurses in the USA. However, many urban hospitals are seeking Magnet status that requires the majority of staff to hold a BSN. There are still many jobs rurally or in other non-acute care settings, so students may need to consider relocation or seeking employment in agencies other than hospitals after graduation.

- LSCS is also committed to assisting students for easy transition to the BSN by formally articulating with universities. We are working on expanding the number. We currently have formal agreements with the following universities:
  - University of Texas at Tyler
  - University of Texas at El Paso
  - Lamar University
  - Texas Woman’s University
  - Chamberlain University
  - University of Houston
  - Western Governors University
  - University of Phoenix (online program)
  - Texas Tech
  - Kaplan University
  - University of Texas Arlington
  - University of Texas Health Science Center
  - Grand Canyon University
  - Texas Tech
Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)

- Assists in the determination of predictable healthcare needs

- Participates in focused data collection, planning and delivery of nursing care, working under the supervision of a RN/MD

- Implements appropriate interventions based upon training and scope of practice set by the Texas State Board of Nursing
Entrance Exams

- Applicants must test on the following sections of the HESI A2/Entrance Exam.
  a. English Language, including: Reading comprehension; grammar; and vocabulary/general knowledge. The English Language Composite Score will be used for admission scoring.
  b. Math
  c. Anatomy & Physiology
- Must have minimum passing score of 75 for ADN and Transition & 70 for VN on EACH section of the HESI-A2 test in order to apply.
- Math score and A & P score will be used as tiebreakers for admission to the nursing program.
- HESI scores will be valid for only 1 year. Students may retake the HESI test once every 60 days based on the date of the first exam. (If a student takes the HESI A2 a second time observing the 60 day window, the most recent score will be used for computing admission scores. Should any student take it twice within 60 days, only the first score will be used.)
- If HESI A2 exam was taken other than within the LSC System, official scores have to be sent directly to Nursing Department by Elsevier/HESI. See Nursing Departments for details.
HESI—Current Information

- Scores are good for one year.
- HESI may be taken every 60 days or greater and is now available year round with exception of 2 weeks prior to each semester (check with Assessment Center for dates). You must complete it ONE WEEK prior to the Admission deadline. Testing is by reservation only on Tomball campus.
- The Most RECENT score set will be used for selection, NOT the highest. If taken less than 60 days apart, only the first score will be used.
- Five (5) hour time limit (unless you have documented ADA accommodations)

Updated 2/2015    LSC-Tomball
HESI TEST DATE CAUTION

• Make your appointment EARLY!
• The testing appointments are FILLED the last 3 weeks prior to deadlines for application submission!
• DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE APPLICATION DEADLINE!!!!
• The assessment centers schedule and give the admission HESI, the nursing department has nothing to do with administering it. Call Assessment if you have questions.
Preparing for HESI A-2: The Entrance Examination

- The Library on the Main Campus has prep books.
- Websites that may help include:
  - [www.purplemath.com/modules](http://www.purplemath.com/modules)
  - [www.studygs.net/tsttak1.htm](http://www.studygs.net/tsttak1.htm)
  - [http://www.studygs.net/tstprp8.htm](http://www.studygs.net/tstprp8.htm)
If you have taken HESI elsewhere

- Contact Evolve at 1-800-950-2728, ext. 6918 or 6947
- Have them send a transcript directly to the nursing department via email.
ADN/Transition Programs: Pharmacology & Math Requirement

- **ADN and Transition Programs**
- RNSG 1301 (Pharmacology) must be less than 5 years old at the time of the application deadline.
- ADN and Transition applicants must complete *MATH 0309 or 0310* with a minimum grade of "C" or achieve placement into a college level math through an assessment test (THEA, Compass, ASSET, or equivalent) or complete a college level math course with a grade of "C" or higher.
Steps to Admission in Nursing

Academic Checklist

- Apply to the College
- See an Advisor
- Declare Major
- Complete Prerequisite Courses with “C” grades or better
- Start Hepatitis Immunization Series if not already had.
Steps to Admission in Nursing

- Take Entrance HESI-A2 Exam (must be current within one year). Get Testing Ticket at: http://www.lonestar.edu/16500.htm (choose the campus you wish to take the test at)

- Complete Application Online and Print. Then file PAPER copy in Advising Area Desk C100 on the main campus for Tomball

- Meet Deadlines and Testing Periods
All nursing applications at the Tomball site are to be turned in at the MAIN CAMPUS, 30555 Tomball Parkway (Hwy 249) C-100 in the Commons at the Advising DESK

DO NOT TURN THEM IN WITHOUT HAVING YOUR FERPA NOTARIZED
Additional Requirements for Clinical Rotations

- Applicants must have a valid Social Security Number or VALID STUDENT f-1 VISA
- Our clinical sites require drug screening and you may be tested for cause as well.
- Criminal background checks must be done through the Texas Board of Nursing: only they can clear you to go to health care agencies. If you have a hit on your record, a history of substance abuse, or mental health issues, you must file a DECLATORY ORDER even if you have “served your time or paid your fine”.

2/2015 LSC-Tomball
Foreign Students on Visas: clinical site requirements also include:

- Copy of passport, photo & expiration page only
- Copy of US F-1 Student visa (no others work for clinical)
- Copy of I-94 record (either small white card or download of I-94)
- If in F-1 status, need:
  - Copy of I-20 form and authorization letter
  - EAD (Employment Authorization document, if applicable
  - FNIF (Foreign National Information Form)
  - FNC (Foreign National Certificate)
High School Graduates from Foreign Countries (non-English speaking countries)

- Test of English as a foreign language (TOEFL) with score of 560 or higher on a paper exam, 220 or higher on a computer exam and 83 or higher on an Internet based exam.

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Test with an overall score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in all of the four modules for the Academic Test.

- Provide documentation of graduation from high school from an English speaking country such as Canada (other than Quebec), Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Ireland.

- If graduated from English speaking high school in a country not listed above in #3, provide official transcripts and a notarized letter from the headmaster/principal of the high school stating that English was the primary language of all the courses taught.

- Provide documentation of graduation from a college or university in the United States, or other English speaking countries such as Canada (other than Quebec), Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Ireland.

- **SCORES MUST BE RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM TOEFL/IELTS AND by the posted deadlines! NO EXCEPTIONS.**

  Both the National Council for the State Board of Nursing and the Texas Board of Nursing recommends inclusion of English proficiency as criteria for applicants to insure the applicant's ability to use and comprehend spoken and written English at a sufficient level for entry into practice. Based on this, proficiency in English is required for LSCS nursing programs for both patient safety and student success.

Updated 2/2015    LSC-Tomball
Once Accepted for Admission

- Negative Criminal Background, Drug Dependency & Mental Illness Check
- Proof of Immunity (titers) and CPR Compliant
- Submission of TOEFL Scores if graduated from High School in Non-English speaking country
- Completion of Courses
- Graduation
Clinical Sites
Texas Board of Nursing

- Requires all applicants to answer questions related to their fitness to practice nursing due to mental or physical health, intemperate use of alcohol or drugs, and criminal activity.

- It includes:
  - Criminal Activity
  - Intemperate use of alcohol or drugs.
  - Mental or physical health issues

- Initial Background check will trigger notifications of any infringements during course of study and if remains clear, will not have to be repeated at graduation.

- If any Discrepancies in Background check, you must file a DECLARATORY ORDER (once the Board Requests it) and receive clearance from the Texas BON in order to START the nursing program.

  No Exceptions.
Declaratory Orders (DO): Criminal Background Questions

- IT WILL TAKE 90+ DAYS TO GET AN ANSWER FROM THE BOARD OF NURSING!!!
- If you answer yes to any of the following, You will Have to FILE A Declaratory Order (DO)
- DO IT when the BON requests it-don’t delay

1. been convicted of a misdemeanor?
2. been convicted of a felony?
3. pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
4. received deferred adjudication?
5. been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
6. been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
7. been granted pre-trial diversion?
8. been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
9. been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
10. been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?
Texas Board of Nursing will also Require a DO if you answer “yes” to any of the following questions regarding fitness to practice:

1. *Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?

2. Has any licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?

3. *Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?

4. *Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorder, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure: Pursuant to Tex. Gov’t Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on this form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to Gov’t Code chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character and fitness.

*Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code §301.207, information, including diagnosis and treatment, regarding an individual’s physical or mental condition, intemperate use of drugs or alcohol, or chemical dependency and information regarding an individual’s criminal history is confidential to the same extent that information collected as part of an investigation is confidential under the Texas Occupations Code §301.466. If you are licensed as an LVN in the State of Texas and are currently participating in the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses you may answer “NO” to questions #4 and #5.
If you know you have to file a Declaratory Order:

• Write a letter of explanation, and start gathering the required documents (certified court records, medical records, and the actual petition for DO form) Have it all ready to mail.

• Get your fingerprints early.

• DO NOT SUBMIT anything until you receive a request from the BON.

• Sending before can create LONG delays.
Estimated Cost of Nursing*

- The costs of nursing is subject to change. Some costs will vary with each semester.

- The Additional Program costs include books, immunizations, uniforms, insurance costs, testing costs, and license application fees. It does not include transportation fees which may vary greatly.

- For current fees, please refer to the system website at: http://lonestar.edu/nursing-program-costs.htm
Letters of Acceptance or Declination are sent via Email to your My.LoneStar.edu account. (it will not forward to D2L)

Letter of Intent must be returned by deadline date (bring, fax or email scanned copy with signature)

CPR Certification: MUST be American Heart Association (AHA) Health Care Provider

Completed TB/PPD, Hepatitis Immunization/titer proving immunity and Titers for MMR & Varicella with numerical values only.

Satisfactory Medical Examination, SSN Verification and Background Check or Cleared Declaratory order (DO).
Admissions Process All Programs (continued)

- Submission of TOEFL or IELTS scores if required directly to the Nursing Office (High school graduates from Non-English countries-see college website for details)

- Completion of Required Orientation

- Upload all required documentation to Certified Background Immunization Tracker and have completed by deadlines
Immunization Requirements at LSC Tomball

Clinical sites are rotated, so all students must meet the highest requirement.

- Titers (blood samples tested for immunity) are required for:
  - Rubeola (measles)
  - Rubella
  - Varicella
  - Mumps
  - Hepatitis if your series was more than 7 years ago

- TB skin test is an ANNUAL requirement (get it close to the first day of class so it is good ALL year).

2/2015 LSC-Tomball
Immunizations-- continued

• If you ever had a positive TB skin Test, you will be required to submit proof of that reaction along with ANNUAL chest x-rays specifically to rule out Tuberculosis. If you no longer have the report, you will be required to have another PPD prior to the chest x-ray.
Show Stoppers

- Background Check positive and/or Declaratory Order was not filed at Texas Board of Nursing
- Lack of Complete Immunization series (hepatitis B) or Titers for measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox. **Note:** Hepatitis B series takes 6 months to complete!
- PPD/TB skin test not complete (it takes 72 hours).
- Missing RNSG 1301 Pharmacology course deadline. It MUST be completed by the end of Nursing I in the fall. (You can take pharmacology prior to starting the program.)
- TOEFL/IELTS SCORE NOT AVAILABLE AT START of Program
Academic Criteria: ADN Basic

- 21 General Education Credits
- BIOL 2401, 2402, 2420
- RNSG 1301
- PSYC 2301
- Humanities (Fine Arts)
- ENGL 1301

- BIOL's Must be Current Within 5 Years
- RNSG 1301 Complete Prior to End of 1st Nursing Semester (must be within 5 yrs)
- See Current Catalog for Acceptable Classes

All Courses Must Be Completed with a “C” or Better
# Admission Score Basic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA average of:</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2401 (or BIOL 2402 highest used)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1301</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entrance Exam Scores</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Total Available           | 8                |

## Entrance Exam Scores

(must be current within 1 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary</td>
<td>75 min score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Comprehension</td>
<td>75 min score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar</td>
<td>75 min score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</td>
<td>75 min score</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>75 min score</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add all sub-scores and divided by 25 = #points
Basic Track ADN

- 39 Credit Hours in Nursing over 4 Regular semesters (Fall/Spring, Fall/Spring)
- First Year each semester consists of:
  - Theory Course, Lab Skills Course and Clinical Course
- Second Year, each semester consists of:
  - Theory Courses and Clinical Course
Typical Schedule for ADN Student

**Monday**  **Tuesday**  **Wednesday**  **Thursday**  **Friday**  **Saturday**

**AM**
- Theory Course (AM or PM)
- Lab Course (AM or PM)

**PM**
- Theory Course
- Lab Course

Clinical Course
Only **One** Day/Week
(Typically a 10-12 hour day.
Can be any day of the week—
Mon-Sat)
Academic Criteria: Transition

- Three Semesters of Nursing Courses
- BIOL 2401*, 2402, 2420
- ENGL 1301*
- PSYC 2301
- RNSG 1301*
- Humanities (Fine Arts)

*Pre-requisite courses

Must be Current Within 5 Years

All Courses Must Be Completed with a “C” or Better

Complete Prior To Applying (must be current within 5 years)

See Current Catalog for Acceptable Classes

2/2015 LSC-Tomball
Transition Program

- Classes Start in Summer Session
- 10 Students Accepted per Year (more if space allows)
- Join in With Classes with Basic Track Students in Fall
- Summer/Fall/Spring

- All other Admission Aspects Apply to Transition Students (Background Check, Entrance Exam, etc.)
## Admission Score Rating Transition—Through 2015 Summer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA:</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, PSYC 2314, and RNSG 1301 (Must be 2.5 or better)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entrance Exam Scores</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Credits Completed*</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Total Available | 12 |

### Entrance Exam Scores (must be current within 1 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Composite Score</td>
<td>75 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(vocabulary, reading and grammar)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</td>
<td>75 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>75 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English Composite Score divided by 25 = points

### * Total Credits Completed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours Range</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30-34 credit hours</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-29 credit hours</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-23 credit hours</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vocational Nursing (VN)

- 12 Month/3 Semesters/46 Credit Hours
- January Start Date
- Theory Courses, Lab Courses & Clinical Courses
- Successful Completion of HESI Exit Exam
VN Application Process

- Admission to Lone Star College
- Be Advised Academically at the Campus Where You Desire Admission
- High School Transcript or GED score report must be on file with college
### VN Admission Score Rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIOL 2404  OR BIOL 2401 and 2402 Minimum “C” grade or higher, and within 5 years.</th>
<th>Maximum 4 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entrance Exam Scores (HESI)</td>
<td>Maximum 4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Entrance Exam Scores

- **English Composite Score** (vocabulary, grammar & reading): Minimum score 70%
- **Anatomy & Physiology**: Minimum Score 70%
- **Math Total**: Minimum Score 70%
- **English Composite + Math Score and Divide by 50**
Academic Criteria for VN

- BIOL 2404 OR
- BIOL 2401 and 2402

- Completion of application packet, available during application period

- Complete Entrance HESI Exam
  - Print Test Ticket off Website, Pay at Bursar’s Office & Be Aware of Assessment Center Hours of Operation
Typical Schedule for VN Student

Monday
- AM: Theory/Lab Course
- PM: Specialty Course

Tuesday
- AM: Speciality Course
- PM: Specialty Course

Wednesday
- AM: Clinical
- PM: Clinical

Thursday
- AM: Clinical
- PM: Clinical

Friday
Lone Star College - Tomball

- Nursing can be a rewarding career at any level
- It takes more than caring to become a nurse
- You must have academic strengths in math, sciences and communication (written & oral)
- Although the admission process is competitive, it is not impossible
- Check the website for FAQ’s and deadlines

www.lonestar.edu/nursing-dept.htm