



Licensed Vocational Nursing Program (LVN)

Information Session
March 25, 2021

1

Agenda

- Welcome & introductions
- What is an LVN?
- Do you have what it takes to be a nurse?
- Cuesta College LVN Program
- Prerequisite requirements & application process
- Selection criteria
- Final admission criteria
- Estimated cost & financial aid tips
- Common barriers to success
- How to begin
- Q & A

2

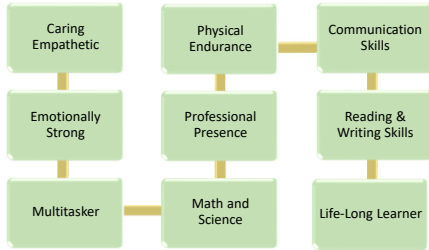
What is a LVN?

Licensed Vocational Nurses (CA & TX) are called Practical Nurses in the other 48 states (PN)

- LVNs and PNs are entry-level nurses that care for patients and administer medications under the direction of an RN or MD within their scope of practice
- Must be at least 17 years old, a high school graduate or equivalent, and have successfully completed an CA approved LVN program of study in addition to having successfully passed the NCLEX-PN (National Council Licensure Examination)
- Differences between RN & LVN/PN

3

Do you have what it takes to be a nurse?



4

Why the Cuesta College LVN Program?

- Strong reputation & community support
- Faculty & staff with experience and who care
- High pass rates on National Licensure Exam (NCLEX-PN)
- Local employment opportunities
- State-of-the-art technology:
 - ✓ Simulation lab
 - ✓ Equipment for skills practice
 - ✓ Nursing apps

5

About the Cuesta College LVN Program

- Program started in 2006 and was a 12-month program through 2020
- Prepares LVN students to take the NCLEX-PN (National Council Licensure Exam)
- LVN licensure comes after completing the program, applying to BVNPT to take licensure exam, receiving eligibility to test, and passing NCLEX-PN test
 - Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT)
- The 14th class completed in November 2020 (Covid delay from August 2020)
- Students already admitted that were to start Fall 2020 were postponed one year due to Covid. These students will start in Fall 2021 and complete in Fall 2022
- The next LVN admissions process will be for students who start in Spring 2023 and complete in Spring 2024

6

LVN Program Changes

- Effective 2021 is now an 18-month, 3-semester program with summer off
- Admissions are now for a rotating Fall-Spring-Fall or Spring-Fall-Spring, 18-month cycle
- Full-time program with the exception of summer
- Tuesday through Saturday
 - Lecture on Tuesday and Wednesday
 - Skills lab on Thursday
 - Clinical on Friday & Saturday
 - Templeton, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo & Arroyo Grande locations
- Clinical focus is long term care/geriatrics

7

Certificate Program with Associate Degree Option

- All students receive a Certificate of Achievement upon completion
- Associate Degree Option has additional requirements:
 - English 201A or higher level course - Fine Arts/Humanities
 - American Institutions - Social Institutions
 - Cultural Diversity - Health Education
 - Completion of 60 credits with grade 'C' or higher in all courses
- Licensed Vocational Nursing, Associate in Science Degree, may be earned at any time and is not required to be accomplished before or during the LVN program
Refer to the Cuesta College Catalog or schedule appt with Academic Counseling

8

Snapshot of LVN School Schedule

- **Lecture:** 14 hours each week (Tuesday & Wednesday)
- **Skills Lab:** 7.5 hours each week (Thursday)
- **Clinical:** 18 hours each week (Friday & Saturday)
- **Independent Clinical Preparation:** 4+ hours each week (Thursday after class)
- **Individual Study Time:** 28 hours (2 hours of study for every 1 hour of lecture per week)
- **Study Groups:** minimum 4 hours per week
- **Sleep:** 8 hours per night x 7 days = 56 hours per week
*The above totals 131.5+ hours in a week; there are only 168 hours in a week!
This leaves you less than 40 hours for commuting, self care, family, work & personal time!*

9

LVN Prerequisite Requirements

Bio 212 & 212L
Human Biology
with Lab
or
completion of a higher
level course

Math 127 (5 units)
Intermediate Algebra
or **Math 128** (6 units)
Applied Algebra
or
higher level math
course - STATS

English 156
College Reading &
Writing (4 units)
or
completion of a higher
level course

**Current
California CNA
Certificate**

- **Medical terminology is strongly encouraged**
- **Prerequisite coursework should be current** - content has changed over the years and LVN curriculum builds on this knowledge
- **RN program prerequisites are not the same** – see the program website or a nursing counselor
- **An equivalency evaluation for all prerequisite courses completed outside Cuesta is strongly recommended** – see next slide

10

Prerequisite equivalency evaluation of courses NOT taken at Cuesta is recommended

- Submit your transcripts to the Cuesta College Records (Enrollment Services) Department
- Then request evaluation of these transcripts
- If you have questions make an appointment with a counselor online on counseling webpage, or by calling **805-546-3138** (SLO) or **805-591-6225** (NCC)

11

Application & Program Timeline

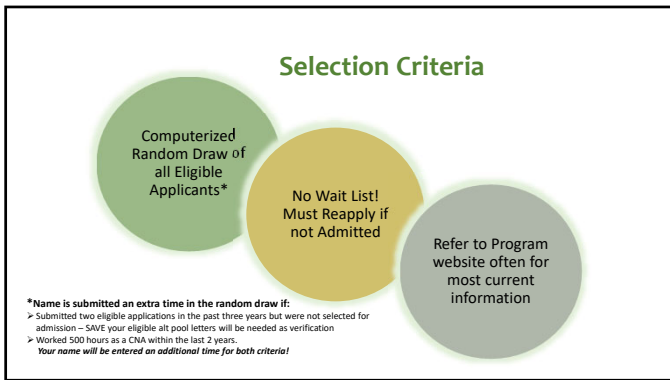
For Admission into the Program starting Spring (January) 2023

- **Next online application will be accepted January 1-31, 2022**
- Future application cycle will be announced on the program website
- No paper applications accepted
- **Notification of admission status will be emailed in March 2022**
- **All notifications will be sent to your my.cuesta.edu student email address**
- It is the applicant's responsibility to check their my.cuesta.edu email for time-sensitive notifications
- **Final admission criteria (for admitted students only) will be required after notification of admission status**

12



13



14

Final Admission Criteria

For admitted students ONLY

Instructions & forms will be distributed to admitted students and invited alternates at an Incoming Student Orientation:

- Physical Examination
 - ✓ Lift, see, hear, verbal, and written communication
- Proof of Immunity
 - ✓ Lab titers and/or documentation of MMR x 2, Varicella x 2, Hep B, Tdap, TB screening
 - ✓ Influenza vaccination required during Fall semester
- Background check & drug screen
- AHA Healthcare Provider CPR Card

15

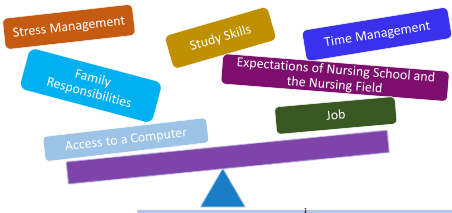
Estimated Costs & Financial Aid Tips

- Cost estimated at \$5000-\$6000
 - ✓ Includes tuition, books & supplies, parking permits, uniform, etc.
 - ✓ Estimated costs per semester can be found on the program website.
- Financial Aid is available!
 - ✓ Contact the Financial Aid office. Apply for Cuesta College Scholarships!
- Helpful tips
 - ✓ Apply for Financial Aid EARLY! Before you find out if you have been accepted into the program
 - ✓ Reliable transportation to both the Paso Robles campus and clinical sites is necessary

16

Plan ahead to avoid these common barriers

Visit the Student Success Center for resources, courses and workshops available to help you achieve success.



17

How to begin...

- **Make an appointment with the Counseling Department by calling 805-546-3138 (SLO) or 805-591-6225 (NCC)**
- Create an academic plan
 - ✓ Evaluate coursework taken so far
 - ✓ Determine remaining pre-program requirements
 - ✓ Plan when to take remaining requirements
- Phone appointments are available
- College transcripts & course descriptions will be requested to be sent ahead of the appointment

18

Thank you for being with us today!



Do you have Nursing in your future?
