

Registered Nursing

This Associate of Science program is offered at **Visalia** in two formats: a comprehensive, 85-unit program, and a 71-unit LVN to RN Bridge program.

Program Description

SJVC's Registered Nursing program prepares students to work in the medical field as a Registered Nurse.

Students are expected to be in good physical and mental health as determined by provisions of a completed physical examination. Current required immunizations and freedom from TB as required by clinical agencies must be provided prior to the beginning of nursing courses and maintained throughout the program.

A current CPR card for healthcare providers issued by the American Heart Association must be provided at the time of admission to the program and maintained throughout the program.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Assist individuals from diverse backgrounds to achieve optimal health utilizing the knowledge gained from biological, social, and nursing sciences
2. Formulate a comprehensive plan of care that minimizes risk and optimizes safety using the nursing process
3. Integrate the role of professional nurse into clinical practice
4. Apply psychological, social, and cultural knowledge to nursing practice
5. Use inter- and intra-professional communication and collaboration skills to deliver evidence-based, patient-centered care
6. Assume the role of advocate to improved health care delivery by communicating and acting according to the expressed needs of the individual
7. Interpret data and apply evidence to support clinical judgment
8. Develop and implement patient education based on identified need and in collaboration with the patient
9. Utilize a variety of resources, including electronic media and medical technology to provide safe, quality care of the patient and family
10. Provide leadership, manage resources, delegate and supervise members of the healthcare team
11. Demonstrate the social skills, professional appearance, attitudes and behavior that employers expect of all SJVC graduates



Admission Requirements (comprehensive program)

A minimum of 34 units in the following courses must be completed at a regionally accredited college or university with a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

- Human Anatomy with lab¹
- Microbiology with lab¹
- Human Physiology with lab¹
- General Chemistry with lab¹
- Writing & Composition²
- Intermediate Algebra or higher²
- General Psychology²
- Introduction to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology²
- Introduction to Public Speaking / Oral Communication²

¹The College will offer BIOL10, BIOL14, BIOL45 and CHE3 courses to students who meet all other program prerequisites, contingent on sufficient number of enrollments.

²These courses are offered Online

Admission Requirements (LVN-RN Bridge format)

All pre-requisite courses (34 units) and a current California LVN license (6 units of credit)

Admission Requirements (30-unit Certificate Option)

- BIOL14 Microbiology
- BIOL46 Human Physiology

Graduation Requirements

Successful completion of the courses listed below and three units within GE Breadth Area C2 (literature, philosophy, foreign language). If the student does not have units to transfer, PHIL 1C: Ethics must be taken at **SJVC**.

State Licensure

Graduates are eligible to apply to the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). This application requires a background check. When applying for licensure in the State of California to the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN), applicants are required to report any disciplinary action against a professional license and/or misdemeanor or felony convictions; certain convictions may result in denial of licensure. Each case is considered individually by the BRN.

SJVC pays fees for the background check and application, and will reimburse graduates for the expense of the NCLEX-RN examination.¹ Graduates who pass the NCLEX-RN are licensed by the BRN and authorized to use the RN credential, which is a requirement to work in this field.

¹ Payment for retakes and subsequent examinations are the responsibility of the graduate. Failure to sit for these exams does not constitute a refund or discount in tuition.

Comprehensive Program

Course descriptions are listed in **Section 8**

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Units
RN10	Fundamentals of Nursing - Theory	3.0
RN10L	Fundamentals of Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN43	Mental Health Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN43L	Mental Health Nursing – Clinical	2.0
RN12	Nursing Seminar 1: Pathophysiology	2.0
RN24	Beginning Medical/Surgical Nursing - Theory	3.0
RN24L	Beginning Medical/Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN23	Maternal Newborn Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN23L	Maternal Newborn Nursing – Clinical	2.0
RN22	Nursing Seminar 2: Pharmacology	2.0
RN35	Intermediate Medical/Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN35L	Intermediate Medical/Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN33	Pediatrics Nursing Theory	2.0
RN33L	Pediatrics Nursing Clinical	2.0
RN36	Health Appraisal	2.0
RN30	Gerontology/Community Nursing – Theory	1.0
RN30L	Gerontology/Community Nursing – Clinical	1.0
RN46	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN46L	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical	4.0
RN44 ¹	Leadership	3.0
RN50 ²	Work Study	0
RN51 ²	NCLEX Review	0
Total		84.0

(includes 34 units of General Education required for admission into the program)

(LVN-RN Bridge)

Course descriptions are listed in **Section 8**

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Units
RN28	Health Promotion	4.0
RN30	Gerontology/Community Health Nursing – Theory	1.0
RN30L	Gerontology/Community Nursing – Clinical	1.0
RN35	Intermediate Medical/Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN35L	Intermediate Medical/Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN43	Mental Health Psychiatric Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN43L	Mental Health Psychiatric Nursing – Clinical	2.0
RN34	Maternal/Child Nursing	3.0
RN34L	Maternal/Child Nursing – Clinical	2.0
RN44 ¹	Leadership	3.0
RN45	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN45L	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0

RN50 ²	Work Study	0
RN51 ²	NCLEX Review	0
TOTAL		31.0

30-Unit Certificate Option

In addition to the two Associate of Science degree options, in accordance with the Board of Registered Nursing Policy (Section 1435.5) California Licensed Vocational Nurses may apply for the non-degree program. This program is commonly referred to as the "30-Unit option" and prepares the student to take the NCLEX-RN Examination, but does not award an AS Degree. This option is not supported by the nursing community as a whole. Completion of this option may not meet the criteria to practice in other states. Non-degree applicants will be considered on a space available basis only and if program resources allow. See the Program Director for more information.

30-unit Certificate Option

Course descriptions are listed in **Section 8**

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Units
RN30	Gerontology/Community Health Nursing – Theory	1.0
RN30L	Gerontology/Community Health Nursing – Clinical	1.0
RN35	Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN35L	Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN43	Mental Health Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN43L	Mental Health Nursing – Clinical	2.0
RN44 ¹	Leadership	3.0
RN45	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Theory	3.0
RN45L	Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical	3.0
RN50 ²	Work Study	0
RN51 ²	NCLEX Review	0
TOTAL		30.0

(includes 8 units of General Education required for admission into the program)

¹Fulfills the CSS100 requirement

²Not a degree requirement

Program Standards

There are many demands in the nursing program. Most students find it difficult to carry the load of the nursing program and work more than part time. This must be considered carefully by each individual. Classroom and clinical scheduling cannot be altered due to an individual's outside employment.

When applying for licensure in the State of California to the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN), applicants are required to report any disciplinary action against a professional license and/or misdemeanor or felony convictions; certain convictions may result in denial of licensure. Each case is considered individually by the BRN.

A background check (criminal record) and drug test may be required by clinical agencies.

Nursing Program policies and guidelines may be found in the RN Application Packet and the RN Student Handbook. These documents supplement the **SJVC** catalog.

Program Graduation Requirements:

Students must earn 75% or better in all RN courses, including general education. Students must also meet the minimum requirement of the HIPAA component in order to graduate from the program.

RN Program Tuition Rates

Registered Nursing

RN Program (generic)

AY 1 = \$29,485.00

AY 2 = \$29,485.00

TOTAL = \$58,970.00

LVN to RN Bridge

AY2 = \$34,750.00

TOTAL = \$34,750.00

RN + additional courses*

\$475/per unit

*Additional degree requirements

RN Program Course Descriptions

RN 10: Fundamentals of Nursing Theory

3.0 units – 45 hours

This course is an introduction of the foundation of nursing theory and concepts to promote and maintain safe, effective health care with culturally diverse patients. Students will integrate the professional nursing roles of clinician, teacher, leader, and advocate while demonstrating critical thinking and utilizing the nursing process in the promotion of health and the foundational care of client response to physiological and psychosocial health conditions of the adult client. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 10L: Fundamentals of Nursing Clinical

3.0 units – 135 hours

This course consists of Skills Lab and Clinical hours that apply the theory concepts of RN 10. Selected psychomotor skills associated with the activities of daily living will be studied and practiced. Clinical site rotations include patient care units within skilled nursing agencies. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 12: Nursing Seminar 1: Pathophysiology

2.0 units – 30 hours

This course introduces the student to pathophysiology and disruptions in the normal body functioning. Assessment findings, diagnostic testing, and interventions for specific health problems are discussed. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 22: Nursing Seminar 2: Pharmacology

2.0 units – 30 hours

This course offers a theoretical approach to pharmacotherapeutics. The focus of major drug classifications and specific medications will be discussed in relation to pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and therapeutic uses, adverse reactions, and precautions. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 23: Maternal Newborn Nursing Theory

3.0 units – 45 hours

This course will prepare the nursing student with the knowledge of current trends and the basic theoretical foundation of antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn care and management. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN23L: Maternal Newborn Nursing Clinical

1.0 units 90 hours

This course will prepare the nursing student to apply the nursing process, collaborate with multidisciplinary teams, and provide effective communication and safe nursing care for the maternal/child health client in the clinical/skills lab setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN24: Beginning Medical Surgical Theory

3.0 units – 45 hours

This is the foundational Medical-Surgical Nursing course and builds upon the basic nursing content and theoretical concepts. Course content includes the care of patients with chronic illness in the medical-surgical setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN24L: Beginning Medical Surgical Clinical

2.0 units – 135 hours

This course consists of a Skills Lab and Clinical hours that apply the theory concepts of RN24, and build upon the basic skills. At the Advanced Beginner level, students will care for patients in the acute care setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN28: Health Promotions

4.0 units – 90 hours

A foundational Medical-Surgical Nursing course designed for the LVN to RN student. This course is designed to build upon the basic nursing content and theoretical concepts including the care of patients with chronic and acute illness in the medical-surgical setting. Students will demonstrate mastery of basic nursing competencies. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 30: Gerontology-Community Health Nursing Theory

1.0 unit – 15 hours

In this course, students are introduced to the nursing role within the community health setting. They will also discuss the geriatric nurse's role and the process of healthy aging. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN 30L: Gerontology-Community Health Nursing Clinical

1.0 unit – 45 hours

In this course, students will experience a variety of community health nursing roles. They will utilize aspects of the nursing process in a range of community settings. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN33: Pediatric Nursing Theory

1.0 units – 30 hours

This course provides an introduction to nursing care of the pediatric client and family, emphasizing wellness, illness, hospitalization and pediatric development. Students will examine nursing care of the pediatric client from birth through adolescence and their families. Concepts include disease process, medical treatments, nursing responsibilities, interventions and expected outcomes, as well as cultural, psychosocial, ethical and legal issues. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN33L: Pediatric Nursing Clinical

1.0 units – 90 hours

This course consists of Skills Lab and Clinical hours that apply concepts of RN37. Students will apply their specific skills, effective communication, the nursing process, and concepts in the care of the pediatric client/family in collaboration with other health care team members. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN34: Maternal/Child Nursing Theory

3.0 units – 45 hours

Introduction to patient-centered care of the Maternal client and Pediatric client and family, emphasizing safety, wellness, illness, hospitalization and growth and development. This course discusses the nursing care of antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum maternal client and children from birth through adolescence and their families. Concepts include, disease process, medical treatments, and nursing responsibilities, interventions, and expected outcomes, cultural, psychosocial, ethical, and legal issues. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN34L: Maternal/Child Nursing – Clinical

2.0 units – 90 hours

This course will prepare the nursing student to apply specific skills, multidisciplinary teams, effective communication, the nursing process, and concepts in care for the maternal/child health client in the clinical/skills lab setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN35: Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing Theory

3.0 units – 45 hours

This is the intermediate Medical-Surgical Nursing course. Course content includes the theoretical foundation of patients with acute illness in medical-surgical setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN35L: Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical

3.0 units – 135 hours

This course provides students with the application of theory to the clinical setting. Students will integrate concepts and practices of intermediate medical-surgical nursing, focusing on the adult through geriatric patient in the acute care medical-surgical environment. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN36: Health Appraisal**2.0 units – 30 hours**

Health appraisal integrates psychosocial and pathophysiological processes, which includes techniques of history taking and health assessment in nursing practice and knowledge of normal findings and common deviations. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN43: Mental Health Psychiatric Nursing – Theory**3.0 units – 45 hours**

In this course, students are introduced to basic mental health psychiatric concepts, including mental health disorders and diagnoses. Students gain insights to the role of the nurse in a variety of mental health psychiatric settings. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN43L: Mental Health Psychiatric Nursing – Clinical**2.0 units – 90 hours**

In this course, students will apply mental health psychiatric nursing theory to clinical situations. Students will interact with clients in acute care as well as community settings. **A grade of "C" or better is required for completion of the course.**

RN44: Leadership**3.0 units – 45 hours**

Management functions, issues and trends will be applied to varying leadership situations within a variety of health care systems. Content includes the Registered Nurse's role in planning, organizing staffing, and directing care. Current professional and social issues in leadership and management are incorporated. Emphasis is placed on the eight core competencies of professional behaviors: communication, assessment, clinical decision making, caring interventions, teaching/learning, collaboration, and managing care. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN45: Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Theory**3.0 units – 45 hours**

This is the advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing course. Course content includes the theoretical foundation of the care of patients with complex multi-system illnesses in the critical care setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN45L: Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing – Clinical**3.0 units – 135 hours**

This course provides students with application of advanced medical-surgical concepts in caring for adult patients with complex multi-system illness. Clinical site rotations include a variety of critical care settings. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN46: Advanced Medical Surgical Theory**3.0 units – 45 hours**

This is the advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing course. Course content includes the theoretical foundation of the care of patients with complex multi-system illnesses in the critical care setting. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN46L: Advanced Medical Surgical Clinical**4.0 units – 180 hours**

This course provides students with application of advanced medical-surgical concepts in caring for adult patients with complex multi-system illness. Clinical site rotations include a variety of critical care settings. **A grade of "C" or better is required to earn credit for this course.**

RN50: Work-Study**0.0 units – variable hours**

RN Work-Study provides students enrolled in the Nursing Program an opportunity to obtain structured work-study experiences, under the supervision of registered nurses, in participating health care agencies. Work-Study provides opportunities for additional practice and development of confidence and critical thinking through application of previously learned knowledge and skills. The grade earned in this course is Credit/No Credit. This course is not a graduation requirement.

RN51: NCLEX Review**0.0 units – 30 hours**

Students will study various methodologies for successfully completing the NCLEX examination. The development of a personalized plan for NCLEX exam preparation will be completed.