Dear Prospective Student

Thank you for your interest in the Trinidad State Junior College Nursing Program. Nursing is an exciting profession where students are offered a wide variety of practice opportunities. The Nursing Program at Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC) is the first step of your journey.

Nursing at TSJC includes preparation in general education with a focus on the sciences. The curriculum is designed to provide the student with a well-rounded educational experience. Admission to the professional nursing portion of the curriculum is based on a point system criterion. Students may submit an online application when they are complete with all mandatory prerequisite courses.

Trinidad State Junior College’s Nursing Program professors are experienced in a wide variety of clinical specialties. Clinical experiences are provided in area hospitals, nursing homes, schools and outpatient clinical settings.

Upon graduation, our students are prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Our students are readily employed in hospitals, nursing homes, and other settings.

This information packet contains specific information about the Nursing Program at Trinidad State Junior College. If you have further questions, please contact our student service representatives according to which campus you may be interested in.

For either campus contact: Kelly Hall  719-589-7077, Kelly.hall@trinidadstate.edu

We look forward to working with you as you begin your journey toward your professional nursing career.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lori Rae Hamilton RN, MSN,
TSJC Director of Nursing Education
Nursing Program Accreditation
Trinidad State Junior College is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, 800-621-7440. The Nursing Program is approved by the Colorado State Board of Nursing and the Colorado Community College System. In addition, the program is in the candidacy stage of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850 Atlanta, Georgia 30326, Phone: (404) 975-5000, Fax: (404) 975-5020, Email: info@acenursing.org, Web: www.acenursing.org.

NCLEX PN/RN
The Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program combines coursework in nursing and general education with clinical experiences in regional health care facilities under the supervision of college faculty members. Graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for Registered Nurses. Students have the option to receive a certificate and take the NCLEX for Practical Nurses after the first year of the professional phase of nursing which must include NUR 169—Transition into Practical Nursing. Graduates are encouraged to pursue a baccalaureate degree in nursing. Credits may be applied in whole or in part in accordance with the policies of the accepting institution.

Successful graduates of the program are awarded the Associate in Applied Science Degree and are prepared to:
- Accept responsibility for professional growth within the nursing profession
- Utilize the nursing process in caring for assigned patients
- Apply scientific and physiological principles to health care
- Function as members of health care teams, guiding other members in selected aspects of health care
- Demonstrate accountability to the nursing profession

Admission Requirements
Admission requires a high school diploma or the equivalent, satisfactory performance on the college skills placement test (Accuplacer) and completion of any required foundations courses. SAT, ACT or Accuplacer scores determine the need for foundation courses. All students must show appropriate scores or have successfully completed the minimum requirement of Reading 090 and Math 090 or Math 107. Math 107 is recommended.

All students are responsible for their education and in knowing what courses are required. Students should consult with nursing advisor to ensure they are fully prepared for entrance into the professional nursing program. TSJC Nursing Department reserves the right to decline admission to any student based upon disqualifying offenses, GPA and/or poor transcript history.

Students are eligible for admission on a point system criterion. Students are granted points for:
- 2.5 GPA on mandatory prerequisite courses and cumulative 2.0 GPA
- Additional courses completed
- Scores for Admission Assessment Examination
- Medical Experience
- Previous degree
Applicants are required to submit transcripts from all previous college course work including any previous nursing courses.

Students must be successful in all science courses. More than one grade of W, D or F in any of the prerequisite BIO courses will be viewed as poor transcript history.

All sciences must be completed within seven years of entrance to the professional nursing program.

TSJC cannot admit students who have failed or withdrawn from two NUR courses from TSJC or any other college within five years of dismissal. TSJC will not admit students who have been dismissed from TSJC or any other college for disciplinary actions.

**Mandatory Prerequisite and Recommended Courses**

Students must complete all prerequisite courses before applying to the professional nursing program. Applications will not be considered or saved if submitted before requirements are complete.

The required five pre-requisite courses for nursing are:

- ENG 121 English Composition
- PSY 235 Human Growth and Development
- BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I

- GPA for the above five courses must be a minimum 2.5 average.
- Students must be successful in all science courses. More than one grade of W, D or F in any of the prerequisite BIO courses will be viewed as poor transcript history.
- All “BIO” courses must be completed within 7 years, at the time of entrance into the professional nursing program.
- ENG 121 and PSY 235 must be completed within 10 years unless student has earned a previous degree.

Courses listed below are required for the ADN degree. It is recommended that they be complete prior to application and/or admission into the professional nursing program. Additional points for admission are granted.

- HPR 108 Nutrition (1 credit) or HWE 100 Nutrition (3 credit) (first semester nursing program course.)
- Math 103 Math for Clinical Calculations (first semester nursing program course)
- Elective—Humanities/Social Behavior Science, General Psychology is recommended however; students may select from the Guaranteed Transfer Course List, http://www.cccs.edu/edservices/gtpathways.html.
- BIO 202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II (before entering second year of nursing program)
- BIO 216 Pathophysiology (second semester course must be completed before continuing third semester.)

**Highly** recommended courses (additional points for admission).

- AAA 050 Semester Survival—teaches note taking, lecture, and testing skills to become a more successful student!
• HPR 178 Medical Terminology—helps students have a better understanding of all terms and procedures.
• NUR 101 Pharmacology Calculations (No points for admission)—One credit, online course preparatory for Math 103. This class is recommended for students who are still hesitant or uncomfortable with math skills.
• Any courses that would apply towards a BSN program of the student’s choice. Please work with the nursing advisor on these courses.

**Application Procedure**

1. **Online Application**—Students must submit an online nursing application [http://www.trinidadstate.edu/nursing/] have all prerequisite courses completed with appropriate GPA and complete and have passing scores for the HESI Admission Assessment Examination. All transfer credits must be submitted and approved.

2. **Admission Assessment Exam**—All applicants are required to achieve a passing score on the HESI Admission Assessment Exam as part of the application process. Students may take the exam twice within the time frame offered each year. All students are required to register for this exam through the Nursing Program office. Test dates and directions are posted on the website. [http://www.trinidadstate.edu/nursing/]

   Students need to create an Evolve account before testing. [https://www.hesinet.com/]. Students who do not pass the exam on first attempt will be required to reschedule another testing date within time frame offered. Minimum of 75% is required on each section: Reading Comprehension, English Language Composite, Anatomy & Physiology and Math. This is a timed exam. Students are allowed a maximum of four hours to complete the exam. Students are required to complete all sections of the exam. Students who do not take/skip sections will be required to retake the entire exam at their own expense. Study guides are available through the college bookstore. Approximate cost is $45. HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review, 3rd Edition ISBN # 978-1-4557-0333-3

3. **Background Check & Drug Screen**—Criminal Background check and a ten panel drug screening must be completed with results posted for review before students are accepted to the professional phase of the nursing program. Criminal Background check and drug screening must be purchased through CastleBranch. [http://cccs.castlebranch.com/trinidad-state-junior-college.html] Package #5, $89.

   Students will be given additional information upon application. A 48hr notice will be announced when to complete the drug screen. Deadlines will apply. Disqualifying offenses may postpone or be cause for decline into the professional nursing program. All prescription drugs must be disclosed before screening. Prescription medical marijuana is not accepted or permissible under any circumstance. Please see Disqualifying Offenses below.

4. **Physical Examination**—Students must obtain a physical examination from a licensed practitioner. Nursing students are required to meet the same health requirements mandated by the CO Department of Health and JACHO as employees of any health care facility. Thus, some requirements are in addition to those usually performed as part of a physical examination. Students are not required to obtain physical exam until full acceptance is confirmed. Forms will be provided by the college nursing department.
5. **Immunizations**—Documentation of the following mandatory immunizations is required at the time of acceptance into the program. Deadlines will apply.

- The form should be used as a reference tool ONLY to verify accurate completion and documentation of immunization requirements. Students are still required to provide separate documentation of ALL official lab results and/or official vaccination records with healthcare provider signatures to verify dates.
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) - Laboratory evidence of positive serological titers (blood draw) for Measles, Mumps and Rubella, submit actual laboratory results OR documented evidence of 2 vaccines.
- Varicella (Chickenpox) - Laboratory evidence of positive serological titer (blood draw), submit actual laboratory results OR documentation of receipt of 2 Varicella vaccinations (series of 2 vaccines at least 4-6 weeks apart). Please note: childhood record of chickenpox is not sufficient.
- Hepatitis B (HBV) – Laboratory evidence of positive serological titer, submit actual laboratory results OR documented evidence of 3 vaccines given over approximately 8 months.
- Tetanus - less than 10 years old.
- Documentation of completion is required AFTER acceptance to the Nursing Program:
  - 2 Step Tuberculosis (TB) negative skin tests (also known as TST/PPD) or chest X-Ray (if positive reactor ONLY and documentation of treatment.)
  - Influenza Vaccination - Nursing students are required to comply with facility mandates. Vaccinations are required annually.
- Physical Examination - Nursing students are required to meet the same health requirements mandated by the CO Department of Health and JACHO as employees of any health care facility. Thus, some requirements are in addition to those usually performed as part of a physical examination.
- All immunizations must be complete including a titer or vaccinations proving immunity for Varicella (chickenpox) and a current PPD. Forms will be provided by the college nursing department.

6. **CPR Certification**—CPR for Healthcare Professionals is required. The class must encompass adult, child and infant victims. Certification must be new by August prior to starting program.

**LPN to ADN**

Students requesting admission into the third and fourth semesters must:
- Supply current active licensure
- Present official transcripts from all previous colleges
- Meet all prerequisite requirements
- Students obtaining and practicing LPN past three years must complete NUR 189 Transition from LPN to ADN (Bridging Course).
- Students with active, LPN licensure past ten years are also required to take NACE or Excelsior Exam.
- The student is required to supply information necessary for clinical placement, including but not limited to: Background Check, drug screening, immunizations and CPR certification.
- Students who have failed or withdrawn from two nursing courses from TSJC or any other college are not eligible for admission.
• Students who do not have an active license or who have not practiced within three years are required to begin as a new nursing student.

Transferring Credits
Transfer credits must be submitted, reviewed and recorded before being accepted in the professional nursing program. Transcripts must be official in an official sealed envelope from previous institution. Students may need to provide a course description and syllabus for courses. Students with transfer credits may submit them to:

Both Campuses
Kelly Hall—Nursing Dept
1011 Main Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
Kelly.hall@trinidadstate.edu

Official Electronic transcripts may be sent to:
Alamosa— mathilda.westerman@trinidadstate.edu
Trinidad— kristie.holden@trinidadstate.edu

Full Acceptance and Registration
Students are eligible for full acceptance when all requirements have been met before deadlines. All students are admitted on a point system criterion. Students who have met all requirements with appropriate admission scores will receive an acceptance letter, forms and additional information of how to proceed. If there are more applicants than space available, students with higher scores will be admitted first. Students who are denied admittance may reapply the next year following the same process. Students who have been fully accepted but decline admission may reapply to the program following the same process. TSJC Nursing Department does not maintain a waitlist or allow deferments.

Professional nursing courses are open only to students with approval from the nursing department therefore, registering for NUR courses must be through the nursing department.

Each nursing course is designed to incorporate content from the support courses in the curriculum. As the courses progress, content becomes more complex and the student’s time commitment increases. Students are discouraged from working during their time in the nursing program.

Upon completion of the program, the Colorado Board of Nursing reserves the right to determine the eligibility for licensure of any student with a history of substance abuse or criminal offenses.
Disqualifying Offenses
Students may find this information at http://www.healthcareex.com/disqualifying-offenses.pdf

NURSING BACKGROUND CHECK MODIFICATION

The Colorado Community College System (“CCCS”) and the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education authorize the nursing programs to conduct a background investigation of all student applicants. The clinical sites used in the nursing programs require background checks of all potential interns. The purpose is to maintain a safe and productive educational and clinical environment. New students who refuse to comply with the background investigation will not be allowed to enter a CCCS Nursing Program.

An Applicant will be disqualified from a CCCS nursing program based on the following guidelines:

• Any violent felony convictions of homicide. (No time limit)
• Crimes of violence (assault, sexual offenses, arson, kidnapping, any crime against an at-risk adult or juvenile, etc.) as defined in section 18-1.3-406 C.R.S. in the 10 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any offense involving unlawful sexual behavior in the 10 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any crime, the underlying basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in section 18-6-800.3 C.R.S. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any crime of child abuse, as defined in section 18-6-401 C.R.S. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any crime related to the sale, possession, distribution or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any felony theft crimes in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any misdemeanor theft crimes in the 5 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Any offense of sexual assault on a client by a psychotherapist, as defined in section 18-3-405.5 C.R.S. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Crimes of moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.) in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.
• Registered Sex Offenders. (No time limit)
• Any offense in another state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any of the above offenses.
• More than one (1) D.U.I. in the 7 years immediately preceding the submittal of application.

If the investigation reveals information that could be relevant to the application, the designated individual responsible for background checks may request additional information from the applicant. The offense shall be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Students who have successfully completed the terms of a deferred adjudication agreement will not be disqualified.

If any applicant feels the criminal background check is inaccurate, they may appeal the decision and request a review with the specific community college applied at. It is the applicant’s burden to produce substantial evidence that proves the crimes charged are incorrect.
Approximate Costs for TSJC Nursing Program

All costs are approximate and are subject to change. Costs were itemized from college bookstore and business office. Costs listed do not include any taxes that may apply.

These costs apply each semester

All prices are approximate and are subject to differences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug Screen</td>
<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standardized Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malpractice Ins.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Fees</td>
<td>1.25 per credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Activity Fee</td>
<td>2.65 per credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
<td>6.15 per credit</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition per credit</th>
<th>In State w/COF</th>
<th>In State w/out COF</th>
<th>Out of State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition per credit</td>
<td>154.25</td>
<td>216.25</td>
<td>248.70</td>
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First Semester includes additional supplies.
- Stethoscope $58.00
- Blood Pressure Cuff $26.00
- Bandage Scissors $3.00
- Hemostats $5.50
- Gait Belt $9.00
- Penlight $2.50
- Sharpie Pen $0.99
- Mini Stapler $2.99
- 2 Nursing Patches $5.98
- Black Ink Pens $1.65
- 8 Digit Calculator $2.50
- Nursing Polo $20.99
- 2 Sets Scrubs $50.00
- Nursing Kit $145.00

Second Semester includes additional supplies.
- Ipod or some type of smart phone $223.00

Third Semester includes additional supplies.
- 2 Sets Scrubs $50.00

Additional costs that may apply include
- admission testing
- criminal background check
- drug screening
- medical examination
- immunizations
- liability insurance
- travel expenses
- meals