

## NURSING ACCELERATED CHALLENGE EXAMINATIONS (ACE I)

**Purpose:** The Nursing Accelerated Challenge Examinations (ACE) are designed to facilitate educational mobility by providing educators with an instrument for diagnostic evaluation of the nursing knowledge of applicants. This exam is for licensed practical nurses seeking placement in programs preparing for registered nursing practice. The results of these tests will be used, along with other criteria, to determine the applicant's readiness to being the accelerated program leading to the associate degree in nursing.

**Description:** Two tests will be given to assess the prior knowledge of the licensed practical nurse. These tests include *Foundations of Nursing* and *Nursing Care During Childbearing And Nursing Care Of The Child*.

*Foundations of Nursing* assesses fundamental skills needed to meet physiological and psychosocial needs of patients who are in stable condition. It is a 184-item, four-option, multiple-choice test that is administered in three and one-half hours.

*Nursing Care During Childbearing And Nursing Care Of The Child* assesses understanding of nursing care during the antepartal, intrapartal, postpartal, and neonatal periods. It also addresses nursing care of hospitalized children and adolescents. It is a 198-item, four-option, multiple-choice test that is administered in three and one-half hours. This Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam contains two separate parts: Nursing Care During Childbearing (100 items) and Nursing Care of the Child (98 items).

**Use of Test Results:** Upon completion of the examination, each student will be provided with information on how they performed on the exam. If the scores (on all 3 tests) are above 75%, the students will be included in the final application pool for the upcoming class. If the scores are below 75%, the applicants will NOT be considered for the up coming class. All students will be given a detailed report indicating their weaknesses and suggestions for improving their scores should they choose to apply for the next class. 18 hours credit will be granted for prior knowledge upon acceptance into the program.

**Preparation:** Since the tests are designed to validate prior knowledge, it is assumed that the practicing LPN would have adequate knowledge to score the required 75% on the exams. However, from a practical standpoint, students may want to review for these tests. Although there is no study guide provided for these tests per se, an NCLEX-PN review book would provide the most comprehensive review of the material that is to be tested.

**Administration of the test:** Both components of the NLN-ACE will be administered on the same day—one in the morning and the other after lunch. You must take both components to be considered for admission. Scores will not be accepted from other schools. The test is computer-based and will be taken in a proctored setting. The test will be administered the first Tuesday in April in the Allied Health Building on the JCJC campus. Test 1 will begin at 8:30 AM and test 2 will begin at 1:00 PM. Only students who receive a letter of eligibility from Dr. Janet McMillan and have paid the \$100.00 fee to the JCJC Business Office will be allowed to take the test. The letter, your Business Office receipt and a photo ID will be required for admission to the testing site the morning of the test.