



NURSING & HEALTHCARE STUDIES PLANNING GUIDE

GREENRIVER.EDU/NHS

NOTICE

Starting April 15th 2026 all applicants to the LPN and BSN programs who have completed any prerequisite coursework outside of the Washington State Community & Technical College system must have a completed transcript evaluation on file with Green River College by their intended program's application deadline. Applicants without one may not be considered for admission. Learn more at greenriver.edu/pn and greenriver.edu/bsn.

Overview of Nursing & Healthcare Industry Roles

Assistant/Technician: A focused, skill-based role that supports patient care within a defined scope of practice. Works under supervision to assist with daily activities, collect information, and help monitor patient health. Common roles include nursing assistant, emergency room technician, and phlebotomist. Entry typically requires completion of a certificate program.

Practical Nurse (PN): Provides hands-on patient care under RN or physician supervision, working closely with patients and the care team. Licensure requires completion of an Associate of Applied Science in Practical Nursing degree.

Registered Nurse (RN): Coordinates patient care, administers medications, educates patients, and collaborates with the healthcare team. Licensure requires completion of an Associate Degree in Nursing or a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Nurse Practitioner (NP): Diagnoses and treats patients, prescribes medications, and provides advanced education, often in a specialized area. Licensure requires completion of a master's or doctoral program.

Nursing Specialty: After earning nursing licensure, nurses may specialize through on-the-job training, experience, and continued education. Examples include labor and delivery, ICU, and Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

Getting Started at Green River College

View the details of getting started at greenriver.edu/getstarted

Everyone Starts Here

1. Apply to Green River College by going to greenriver.edu/applynow
2. Follow Next Steps: After your application is processed, you will receive an email with general onboarding instructions for the College, including Online Orientation, and English/math placement.

LPN or BSN Degree Seeking Students

3. Complete all prerequisites; 9 courses for LPN. 12 courses plus LPN program completion for Green River BSN.
4. SUBMIT OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS FOR EVALUATION WITH TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION REQUEST FORM.
 - Required by application deadline only if you completed prerequisites outside of a WA State community college.
5. Apply to LPN or BSN program once prerequisites are finished. Both programs have competitive admissions.
6. If offered admission, attend required orientation.

Certificate Seeking Students

3. Go to greenriver.edu/nhs, find your certificate program and apply online.
4. Check Your Email: Once your application is processed, you will receive your next steps.
5. Complete all required steps listed in program admission email, which includes class registration.
6. Courses are open until filled each quarter, so register early!



nhs@greenriver.edu | Open House

Green River Certificate Pathways

View the details at greenriver.edu/nhs.

Green River offers four healthcare certificate programs that meet state licensure standards and develop role-specific skills, preparing graduates to enter the workforce after passing required exams and applying for licensure.

Certificate Program Requirements

In order to participate in Green River College's Nursing & Healthcare Studies certificate programs, students must meet the following requirements.

Background Check

Must pass; some convictions may prevent participation—check with NHS Program Manager. Do not run your own check.

Age Requirement

Must be 18 within 3 months of graduation; State requires individuals are 18 at the time of licensure.

Drug Screening

May be required by clinical sites; includes marijuana testing. Testing depends on student's clinical site.

Immunizations

The Nursing Assistant, and ER Technician programs require students are up to date on immunizations, which typically include an annual Tuberculosis screening, COVID-19 vaccinations, and seasonal flu when available. No exemptions for any reason.

Emergency Room & Patient Care Technician | Average Wage: \$48,859 | 7.8% Projected Growth

Common Job Duties: Take vital signs, assist with daily activities, document care, support and transport patients, aid in trauma and wound care, assist with procedures, and prioritize patient needs. Eligible for FAFSA/WASFA, and Workforce funding.

2 QUARTERS
Program Length

START PROGRAM
Any Quarter

APPLY ONLINE
greenriver.edu/nhs > ER & PCT

COST
About \$5,657

Nursing Assistant | Average Wage: \$48,092 | 3.9% Projected Growth

Common Job Duties: Helps with daily activities, records vital signs, assists with feeding, communicates with patients and the healthcare team, and documents care activities. Eligible for Workforce Funding.

1 QUARTER
Program Length

START PROGRAM
Any Quarter

APPLY ONLINE
greenriver.edu/nhs > Nursing Assistant

COST
About \$2,909

MA-Phlebotomy | Average Wage: \$47,669 | 3.4% Projected Growth

Common Job Duties: Greet and explain procedures to patients, perform venipuncture, collect blood specimens, adhere to infection control protocols, and follow guidelines for accurate test results. Eligible for Workforce Funding.

1 QUARTER
Program Length

START PROGRAM
Any Quarter

APPLY ONLINE
greenriver.edu/nhs > Phlebotomy

COST
About \$2,581

Cardiac Monitor Technician | Average Wage: Depends on licensing and certifications | .3% Projected Growth

Common Job Duties: Helps with daily activities, records vital signs, assists with feeding, communicates with patients and the healthcare team, and documents care activities. Eligible for Workforce Funding.

1 QUARTER
Program Length

START PROGRAM
Any Quarter

APPLY ONLINE
greenriver.edu/nhs > Cardiac Monitor

COST
About \$1,161

Green River Degree Pathways

View the details at greenriver.edu/nhs.

Bachelors of Science in Nursing | BSN-RN Average Wage: \$111,862 | RN 4.9% Projected Growth

Prepares LPNs for careers as Bachelor's-prepared RNs through a 90-credit curriculum with classroom, lab, and clinical work, leading to eligibility for graduates to sit for the NCLEX-RN. Eligible for FAFSA/WASFA and Workforce funding.

Pathway	Start	Length	Apply	Admission Rate	Approximate Cost	NCLEX PASS RATE
Fulltime Hybrid	Fall	8 Quarters	2.1 to 4.1	~45%	\$28,000	100%
Part Time Hybrid	Winter	12 quarters	7.15 to 9.15	TBD	\$30,000	

Program Requirements: Active practical nursing license, current immunizations (no exemptions), and completion of all prerequisites; one may be outstanding at the time of application.

AAS in Practical Nursing | PN Average Wage: \$79,253 | PN 6.1% Projected Growth

Prepares students for LPN careers through a 90-credit program (includes 45 credits of prerequisite. Graduates can sit for the NCLEX-PN. Pathway to ADN, BSN, and advanced degrees. Eligible for FAFSA/WASFA and Workforce funding.

Pathway	Start	Length	Apply	Admission Rate	Approximate Cost	NCLEX PASS RATE
Fulltime	Fall	3 Quarters	4.15 to 6.1	~30%	\$9,500	92%
Weekday Hybrid	Spring	6 quarters	12.1 to 1.15	~25%	\$10,500	
Weekend Hybrid	Winter	6 Quarters	9.15 to 11.1	19%	\$10,500	

Program Requirements: Current immunizations (no exemptions) and completion of all prerequisites with at least a 2.5 in each course and a 3.0+ cumulative prerequisite GPA; one course may be outstanding at the time of application.

Immunizations & Medical Tests

View the details at greenriver.edu/nhs > Select Program > Vaccine Requirements

All Nursing programs (except Phlebotomy) require completed immunizations and medical tests, with no exemptions. NHS Staff will assist students in meeting these requirements during orientation and the first weeks of the quarter.

1. **TDAP:** Required every 10 years.
2. **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella):** Provide proof of vaccination (2 doses) or titer for all three.
3. **Hepatitis B:** 3 injections which take approximately 6 months. Titer is required after being fully vaccinated.
4. **Varicella:** Provide proof of vaccination (2 doses) or titer. A history of chickenpox is not accepted as proof.
5. **TB Test*:** Option 1 is a 2-step TB Test. Option 2 is a QuantiFERON blood draw.
6. **COVID-19*:** Pre-September 2023 vaccine okay for certificate programs. Vaccine after September 2023 is required for LPN and BSN programs. No exemptions are offered.
7. **Flu*:** When available

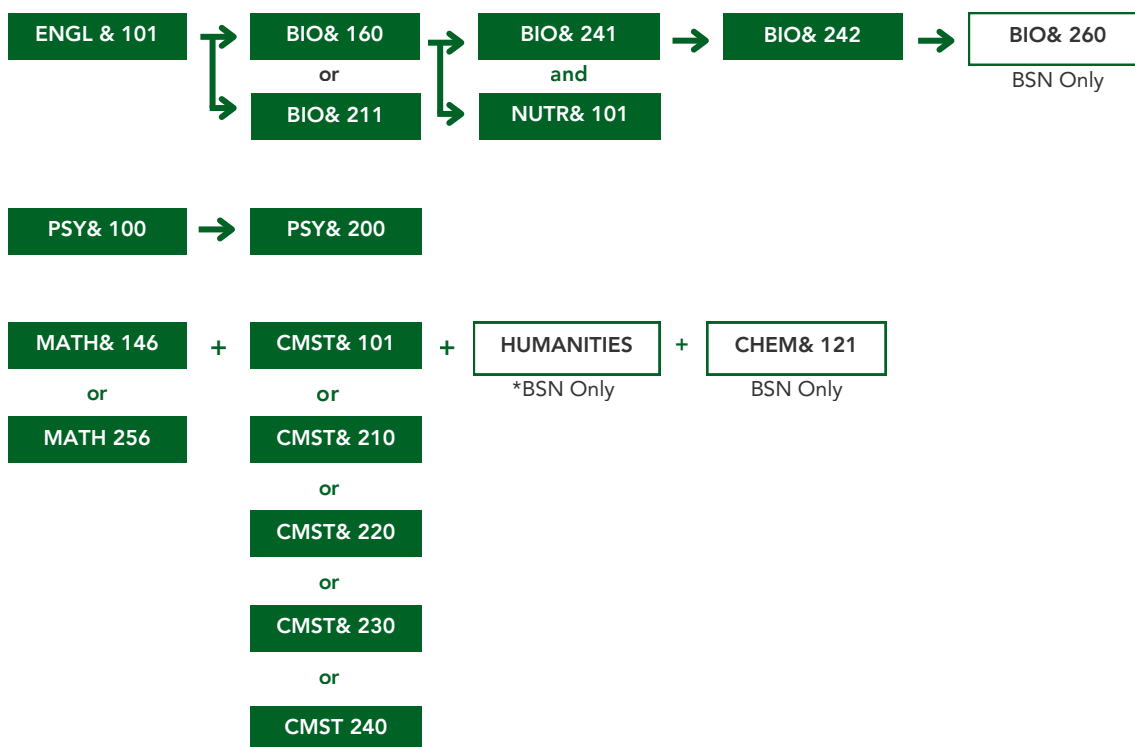
**Numbers 5-6 are the most commonly required vaccines in our certificate programs. BSN and LPN students need 1-6.*

Green River AAS and BSN Prerequisite Courses

View the details at greenriver.edu/nhs > Select Program

Completion of the courses below is required prior to entering Green River's AAS and BSN degree programs. Applicants may have one unfinished prerequisite that is in progress (student is enrolled-in) at the time of application. Please note:

- minimum prerequisite course GPA is 2.5
- minimum cumulative prerequisite GPA is 3.0+
- courses do not expire
- no course retake limit
- Your math & English placement may require additional courses.



*Humanities must be from Humanities distribution list, and cannot include Communications or a performance/skills course.

Sample LPN Prerequisite Course Plan

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6
ENGL& 101	BIO& 160	BIO& 241	BIO& 242	BIO& 260*	
MATH& 146	CMST& 220	NUTR& 101	CHEM& 121*		
PSYC& 100	PSYC& 200	HUMANITIES*			

This schedule assumes placement into ENGL& 101 / MATH& 146. Some students may need to take additional English/math courses.

*BSN program only. Students may complete these courses before or after completing their LPN program.

Intended Program(s): _____ Program Application Deadline: _____

Immunizations Required: Yes ☐ No ☐ English Placement: _____ Math Placement: _____

Your math and English placement may impact your course progression.
Determine your placement at greenriver.edu/placement.

Resources



Email questions to nhs@greenriver.edu



Funding opportunities at greenriver.edu/payforcollege



Learn more at greenriver.edu/nhs



Student support services at greenriver.edu/support