



CONTINUING NURSING STUDIES

**Post Basic Gerontology Program
for
Licensed Practical Nurses**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Updated Apr 2008

Introduction

The Post Basic Gerontology Program is an individualized program of instruction designed to enable licensed practical nurses to acquire the necessary knowledge and practice expertise to care for older people in all health and healthcare settings.

The Gerontology Program is a self-paced learning system that is delivered via distance education methods and includes five self-learning modules and a clinical component.

Management

The Post Basic Gerontology Program was developed and implemented as a distance learning program in 1999 by the Continuing Nursing Studies department of the Centre for Nursing Studies.

The Centre for Nursing Studies delivers the Gerontology Program for the province. The program has been approved by the Council for Licensed Practical Nurses. The Associate Director for Continuing Nursing Studies, Program Coordinator, and secretary administer and coordinate the daily operations of the program.

Entry and Exit Policy

Entry to this program is open to all licensed practical nurses who hold current registration with the Council for Licensed Practical Nurses. Learners from all over the province are encouraged to apply. In order to be eligible for admission, the Registration Form must be completed and submitted to the Centre along with the tuition for the program. In addition, learners must submit a current copy of their LPN registration.

The cost of the program includes all materials (modules, textbooks, and reading).

Once entry to the program has been granted, a one year maximum is allowed for completion. Learners can complete the program at their own pace and can enroll at any time throughout the year.

If you find it necessary to withdraw from the course/program, you may do so at anytime. Consulting with the program coordinator before making a final decision is encouraged.

Any learner withdrawing from a program within 30 days from the starting date will receive a 100% refund minus 10% administration fee and cost of course materials. After 30 days, no refunds are given.

Learning Activity Packages

The program is divided into two specific components. The first is theoretical and is comprised of five modules. Each of these modules is individualized. No fixed time limit is imposed other than the maximum course time of one year. Once all of the theory is successfully completed, a clinical component is then required. Learners will be accommodated in their own geographic region as much as possible.

Assessment of Learners

For the theoretical portion of the program, learners are required to obtain a mark of 70% in each examination. There are three examinations in the theory portion of the program.

Examinations are all multiple choice. Tutoring and special assistance are available for help with examinations. If learners are unsuccessful in obtaining a 70% minimum grade in the theory portion of the course, the opportunity is provided to write a supplementary examination. If unsuccessful in passing the supplementary examination, withdrawal from the program is required. If a learner is required to write a supplementary exam, the maximum grade that can be obtained for that module is 70%.

The clinical component is focused on the care of the older adult. Two clinical assignments related to health assessment and health promotion are included in the clinical component. The pass mark is 70%. For learners completing the preceptored experience, the learner must meet all of the required objectives for the long term care experience.

Out-Of-Town Invigilators

Learners who live outside the St. John's area complete the program with the assistance of a designated invigilator, whose role is to supervise the examinations. Invigilators are selected by the course facilitator based on previous experience in this role and usually are professionals in the community with a health care or education background. Invigilators administer the examinations and forward them to the course facilitator for correcting. The invigilator may contact the course facilitator by telephone at any time to address problems/concerns.

Learning Environment

Learners complete most of this program either at home or in a study environment of their own choosing. Exams are written at the Centre for Nursing Studies if learners live in the St. John's area. If outside the city, the invigilator makes arrangements for a suitable testing area, usually a school or hospital office. Any learner who wishes extra guidance can contact the program facilitator and arrangements can be made for assistance to be provided.

Learning Materials and Resources

Extensive study materials have been especially prepared by the Centre for Nursing Studies. These materials include:

- a set of study modules
- required textbooks
- information and grading schemes for assignments
- access to other learning material i.e. articles, pamphlets, and audio-visual material through the Centre's learning resource center.

The self-instructional modules provide guidance by including the following:

- specific learning objectives
- directed reading in accompanying textbooks
- learning activities related to objectives
- comprehension checks at the end of modules
- post tests to allow learner to judge his/her readiness to take the supervised tests
- answers to post-tests

Evaluation of the Program

Evaluation is ongoing throughout the theoretical and clinical component of the program. Learners are encouraged to write or verbalize their thoughts on how the program is being managed through designated evaluation forms. Learners are encouraged to provide feedback and to state the positive and negative aspects of the program. These forms are then reviewed by the program facilitator. Changes and improvements are made where possible.

Advantages

- ◆ This program allows learners to proceed at their own pace.
- ◆ This program is available to learners throughout Newfoundland and Labrador and they can study at home without having to leave the community.
- ◆ Materials and current information are readily available through the Centre for Nursing Studies.
- ◆ Invigilators work with learners on a one-to-one basis.

Prior Learning Assessment

Those learners who feel they may be able to receive credit for prior learning should contact Continuing Nursing Studies. Learners will be assessed to determine relevant prior learning and appropriate methods of assessment. A fee for credit will be determined based on the amount of the courses to be challenged.

Purpose

The purpose of the Post Basic Gerontology Program for licensed practical nurses is to expand their knowledge of the older person and to gain the clinical expertise to care for the older adult in all health care settings.

Nursing Theory Modules

The Post Basic Gerontology Program for licensed practical nurses is a self-directed modularized learning program. The program offers five modules of nursing theory. Each learner must successfully complete all five modules.

The five modules include specific content relevant to caring for and understanding the older person.

<i>Modules</i>		<i>Estimated Time for Completion of Module</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Module One	Overview of Gerontologic Nursing	9 hours	
Module Two	Health Promotion: An Influence on Health Determinants	33 hours	Exam 1
Module Three	Mental Health, Neurologic and Cognitive functions	21 hours	
Module Four	Coping with Acute and Chronic conditions	19 hours	Exam 2
Module Five	The Aging Body Systems	53 hours	Exam 3

CENTRE FOR NURSING STUDIES
CONTINUING NURSING STUDIES

LPN POST BASIC GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM

REGISTRATION FORM

SECTION I

CLPNNL LICENSE No. _____

First Name Middle Name Last Name Maiden Name

Street Address City/Town Province Postal Code

Phone (Home) Phone (Business) Phone (Cell) Fax Number

E-Mail Address (Compulsory) Emergency Contact Person Telephone

CPR certification date CPR expiry date

Desired Date to Commence Program/Course Number of years since last practicing as an LPN

SECTION II: PAYMENT

II a. Cheque [] Cash [] Credit Card [] Debit [] * Sponsor []

Amount Paid: _____

Cheque or money order should be made payable to the Centre for Nursing Studies.

Master Card / VISA Cardholder's Name: _____

Master Card/Visa # _____ Expiry Date: _____

IIb. * Sponsored students must complete the following information.

Sponsoring Agency:		Contact Person:
Address:		
Phone No.	Fax No.	E-Mail:

The CNS acknowledges and respects privacy of individuals. The personal information included on this form is collected under the authority of Sections 32 and 33 of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and will be used for processing your application and for the administration of student records. Direct any questions about this collection to: Privacy Officer, Eastern Health, Quality and Risk Management, 12th Floor, Southcott Hall, 777-8025.

SECTION III: POST SECONDARY EDUCATION (University, Technical, Vocational, Nursing, Workshops, In-Services, First Aid, CPR, Etc.)

Institution	Location	Program Of Study	Certificate / Diploma	Year/s Attended

SECTION IV: REFERENCES: Please print the name, full address, and telephone number of the individual providing your reference.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
 Address: _____

SECTION V: EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (beginning with most recent):

Current Employing Health Board: _____ Current Work Site: _____
 Immediate Supervisor/Manager: _____ Phone Number: _____

Other Employment in Nursing: _____

LEARNER CANNOT COMMENCE COURSE UNTIL COPY OF ACTIVE CLPNNL LICENSE IS SUBMITTED.

I hereby verify that the information given on this Registration Form is correct. I agree to be governed by the policies, rules, and regulations as set forth by the Centre for Nursing Studies.

Permission is granted to The Centre for Nursing Studies to: i) contact previous employers and/or educational institutions to obtain personal references, to verify educational background, and/or to provide the clinical preceptor with this information
 ii) provide verification of successful course completion to the licensing body and/or sponsoring agency.

 Date

 Signature of Learner