

Thinking About Applying to RVCC's Generic Clinical Nursing Program?

Here's What You Need to Know!

Are You Ready to Apply? Let's Break It Down.

Before you can apply to the Nursing Program, there are a few steps to check off:

- **Talk with a Health Science Advisor.**
They will walk you through the pathway, prerequisites, and anything you're unsure about.
- **Earn at least 6 credits at RVCC**
These must be completed before you apply.
- **Go to a Nursing Information Session**
This is where you'll get the application and the most up-to-date program details. Sessions run monthly. See back for QR code.
- **Be at least 18 years old by July 15** in the year you apply.
- **Finish your developmental English or ESL classes**
- **Complete math through Elementary Algebra.**
- **Complete Anatomy & Physiology I and II** courses within the last **5 years**.
- **Complete Medical Terminology** course within the last **5 years**.
- **Maintain at least a 2.75 RVCC GPA.**
- **Take the ATI TEAS Nursing exam** (off-campus through atitesting.com).
You'll need a minimum score of:
 - **60%+ total score**
 - **58.7%+ in Reading & English**
 - TEAS Version **6 or 7** accepted and can be taken every **3 months**.
- You'll also need a **clear criminal background check**—instructions come with the application.
- And just to be clear: **being admitted to RVCC doesn't guarantee acceptance into the Nursing Program.**
- If you *do* get accepted, you'll take a **Pharmacology Clinical Calculations** placement exam.

So... How Much Does the Program Cost?

Plan for the **first semester to be the most expensive**—often **\$5,500+**.

Costs may include:

- Background check and drug screening
- Clinical clearance expenses
- Uniforms
- BLS certification
- Malpractice Insurance
- Books and class resources

Curious about tuition? Use RVCC's Tuition Calculator under **"Paying for College"** on the RVCC website.

What Is “Clinical Clearance,” Really?

Think of this as your ticket to enter the clinical sites where you’ll get hands-on training.

- Clinical clearance happens **after you’re accepted** into the program.
- The requirements come from the **clinical facilities**, not RVCC—and they can change at any time.

Clearance may include:

- Immunizations
- Health screenings
- Physical and eye exams
- Background checks
- FIT testing
- FBI fingerprinting
- Annual or random drug screenings

Facilities can deny access if something isn’t complete. And since clinical work is part of the curriculum, lack of clearance can prevent you from finishing the program.

All costs for clinical clearance are the student’s responsibility.

Do I Need Background Checks and Drug Screening Every Year?

Yes.

Every year you’ll need:

- A **criminal background check** (may include fingerprinting and sanction registry checks)
- An **annual drug screen**

If results aren’t satisfactory or up-to-date, students cannot continue in the program.

A positive drug screen means you’re not eligible to continue.

Does RVCC Offer an LPN Program?

RVCC **does not** offer an LPN-only program.

But if you’re already licensed as an LPN in New Jersey, you can apply to the **PNAD (LPN-RN) Transition Program**.

Have Questions? Here’s Who to Contact:

- **Admissions:** admissions@raritanval.edu
- **Advising & Counseling:** ats@raritanval.edu
- **Nursing Program Questions:** clinicalnursing@raritanval.edu
- **Financial Aid:** finaid@raritanval.edu
- **Registrar:** registrar@raritanval.edu

If you are interested in learning more about the RVCC Nursing Program, please scan the QR code and sign up for a Clinical Nursing Pre-Application Information Session in the Program Admissions Information Section



A Note for Fall 2027 Applicants

RVCC gives **priority** to applicants who **live or work (part-time or full-time) in Somerset or Hunterdon counties**. Out-of-county applicants are considered only if seats remain.

Program details and requirements can change at any time based on clinical site updates.