



Merritt College

12500 Campus Drive, Oakland, CA 94619

www.Merritt.edu/Nursing

Building S, Room 343

Hours: 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Barbara Lee Science & Allied Health Center

Associate Degree Nursing Program Admissions Brochure – Fall 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Merritt College Nursing Associate in Science (AS) degree, also known as the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN), is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (CA BRN) and is designed to prepare students for entry-level registered nursing positions. Upon successful completion of the ADN program, students are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) and upon passage become registered nurses.

The minimum time for completion of the nursing subjects for this program is 2 years/4 semesters done in a cohort model. Start time and progressing through the nursing courses of the program is in a set sequence known as the Total Curriculum Plan approved by the CA BRN. The course of study includes instruction in applied nursing sciences, related natural and social/behavioral sciences, and clinical nursing experience in hospitals and healthcare facilities located in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Students may apply only **once** during the academic year. Applications are accepted from **July 1, 2026** through **July 30, 2026** for the ADN class entering in Fall 2026. Completed applications **must be received by July 30, 2026 at 4:00 pm** to be eligible for review. We are proud to announce that we are now accepting online applications and electronic official transcripts **only**. Paper applications will not be considered – no exceptions.

APPLICATION INFORMATION SESSION

The Merritt College ADN Program will host a nursing application information session on three different dates (July 8, July 15, and July 22, 2026) at 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm via Zoom. During this information session, the ADN Program Specialist and/or Program Director will review the new application process, discuss admission requirements, and answer any questions prospective students may have about applying to the ADN Program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Admission requirements must be satisfactorily completed at an accredited college or university prior to submitting the application. **All applicants must apply to Merritt College before applying to the ADN Program.** Upper division coursework will not be accepted. All coursework must be documented by official transcripts and included in the application packet. Applications will not be considered if any pre-admission courses are in progress.

To confirm that courses taken outside of Peralta Community College District (PCCD) are equivalent to admission requirements, it is highly recommended that applicants meet with a college counselor prior to submitting the application packet.

Online and hybrid classes with virtual labs will no longer be accepted for the Fall 2026 application period.

The ADN Program accepts applications each spring for fall admission. Admission eligibility requires successful completion of the required prerequisite courses with a minimum letter grade of “C” prior to the time of application. The required prerequisite courses include:

- BIOL 20A – Human Anatomy and Physiology* and BIOL 20B – Human Anatomy and Physiology*
OR BIOL 2 – Human Anatomy* and BIOL 4 – Human Physiology*
- BIOL 3 – Microbiology*
- ENGL C1000 – Academic Reading and Writing OR ENGL C1000E – Academic Reading and Writing

* These science courses must have a lab component as required for licensure by the CA BRN. There is a seven-year recency requirement for all science coursework.

Additionally, all required General Education (GE) courses must be completed with a minimum letter grade of “C” prior to the time of application. Courses that are in-progress or completed on a “Pass/No Pass” basis do not satisfy admission requirements and will not be considered. The required GE courses include:

- COMM C1000 – Introduction to Public Speaking (not required for ADN Program admission but strongly recommended for students intending to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree)
OR COMM 20 – Interpersonal Communication Skills
- ENGL C1001 – Critical Thinking and Writing: If this course is used to satisfy the Critical Thinking requirement, an additional Arts or Humanities course from the Local AA/AS GE pattern must be completed to fulfill the GE requirements. OR ENGL 1B – Composition and Reading
- PSYC C1000 – Introduction to Psychology
- SOC 1 – Introduction to Sociology
- STAT C1000 – Introduction to Statistics
- Ethnic Studies (3 units): Select one approved Ethnic Studies course that satisfies the Local AA/AS GE requirement. Students planning to pursue a BSN degree are encouraged to select a course that also satisfies Cal-GETC Area 6 requirements. Students should consult with a college counselor to ensure appropriate course selection and transferability.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all English prerequisite coursework, core Biology prerequisite courses (Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology), and GE requirements coursework. Additional admission criteria are outlined in Phase 2 of the admission process.

For detailed information regarding program prerequisites and admission criteria for the Merritt College ADN Program, applicants may consult with a Merritt College counselor at Counseling.Merritt@peralta.edu or contact the nursing admissions office at ADNadmissions@peralta.edu.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

All application packets will be processed using the following procedure:

Phase 1. Admission Requirements – Applicants must first apply for admission to Merritt College before applying to the Nursing Program ([Steps to Apply and Enroll at Merritt College](#)). Once a student ID number has been issued, applicants may submit their Nursing Program application through the nursing website.

All official college transcripts must be submitted electronically directly by the issuing institution or through Parchment. **Only electronic transcripts will be accepted.** An unofficial Peralta Community College District Transcript **must be uploaded** with the online application at the time of submission. Unofficial transcripts from other colleges will not be accepted.

Official transcripts must be submitted for all colleges currently attended and previously attended, regardless of whether the coursework is related to nursing or satisfies ADN Program admission requirements. Applicants who have received Advanced Placement (AP) credit must upload official College Board AP score reports with the online application.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to request official transcripts from previously attended institutions at least one week prior to the application deadline to allow sufficient processing time.

Official electronic transcripts should be sent directly to: ADNtranscripts@peralta.edu.
Electronic transcripts must be transmitted directly by the issuing institution or by the student through [Parchment](#).

For prerequisite coursework **outside of California**, submit a copy of the catalog course description with your application. **Applications will be deemed incomplete without it.**

Foreign college transcripts must first be submitted to an international evaluation service for translation and to determine course equivalencies prior to application submission.

Submit online completed application along with requested supporting documents.

NOTE: APPLICATIONS and OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED VIA ELECTRONICALLY. Only complete applications with transcripts received by the July 30, 2026 deadline will be accepted. The ADN department is not responsible for any transcripts or documents not submitted.

Phase 2. Chancellor's Advisory Model Prerequisites for Enrollment – Merritt College Nursing AS degree program has instituted the *Chancellor's Advisory Model Prerequisites for Enrollment in Associate Degree Nursing Programs* to determine admission into the program. The model uses a formula that takes into consideration four key areas:

1. Overall cumulative GPA from all colleges attended (minimum of 2.5 required)
2. Overall cumulative GPA from all college level English courses (minimum of 2.5 required)
3. Core Biology GPA (Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology) (minimum of 2.5 required)
4. Core biology course repetitions. (Core Biology course repetitions will adversely affect your overall score. Each repetition deducts from your Chancellor's Score, and three repetitions eliminate your chance of receiving the required 80%. ALL repetitions count, regardless of the grade, A, B, C, D, F, or W ("withdraw").

Each application is assessed using the Model formula to yield a percentage score. Applicants who receive 80% or above, will be considered eligible to continue in the application process.

RECENCY REQUIREMENT: Merritt College AS degree program requires that all science program prerequisite courses be taken within 7 years of the application date.

Phase 3. Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS), current version 7 – A score of 62 or higher on the first attempt is required. Applicants who do not receive a passing score will be referred for remediation plan requiring them to take additional classes and retake the TEAS 7 Exam, and, if they then achieve a score of 62 or higher, may reapply to the Nursing AS degree Program for a future decision.

Phase 4. Lottery – Qualified applicants will be entered into a lottery to determine admission into the program. Selected applicants will receive an admission letter and an agreement form accepting their spot in the nursing program. The completed agreement must be returned within 72 hours of receipt.

Phase 5. Enrollment / Admissions Eligibility

All students selected for admission into the ADN program for Fall 2026 are required to adhere to the following requirements prior to August 19, 2026. Failure to meet the deadline or comply with additional admission requirements will result in forfeiture of your space.

1. Complete the Student Health Screening Information provided in the ADN Registration packet. The packet will include information documenting a recent physical examination. Students are responsible for any costs incurred in obtaining and completing their required medical/physicals exams in accordance with the guidelines stipulated at the ADN Student Handbook.
2. Obtain CPR certification for “BLS Healthcare Provider” from the American Heart Association. Certification is **only accepted from the American Heart Association** and must remain current throughout the length of the program. No other CPR certification will be accepted.
3. Undergo a criminal background check & drug screening.
In accordance with Regulation 480 of the Board of Registered Nursing, if you have been convicted of any offense other than a minor traffic violation, you may not qualify to be licensed as a registered nurse. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the California Board of Registered Nursing, P.O. Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100. For more information go to the California Board of Registered Nursing website – <http://www.rn.ca.gov/applicants/lic-faqs.shtml#disc>
4. Show proof of **positive titers** for the following tests: Varicella, Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B. Proof of COVID-19 and TDAP vaccinations will be required. *Waivers will not be accepted. There may be additional requirements based on clinical site mandates that are unknown at this time.*
5. Show evidence of 2-step TB test (annually) by **August 18, 2026**. If positive, show results of chest x-ray. QuantiFERON Gold TB tests are accepted.

Phase 6. Mandatory ADN Orientation – All students selected for admission must attend a mandatory program orientation on **August 19, 2026 9am-1pm**. Applicants who fail to attend or contact the nursing department will be immediately disqualified. Ten applicants selected for the waitlist to fill vacancies created by disqualifications will be notified. If no openings become available, waitlisted applicants must reapply for admission to the next year’s cohort.

For more information about deadlines and application and selection procedures, visit the nursing website at www.merritt.edu/nursing or request an *Associate Degree Nursing Program Admissions Brochure* by emailing ADNadmissions@peralta.edu.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING CURRICULUM

The following courses are to be completed after admission to the ADN program and require two years to complete. These courses must be completed with a grade of ‘C’ or better (75% or better) in lecture and satisfactory clinical performance in each section of a course. A grade of (C-) (70%-74.99%) is not acceptable.

Group B - Nursing Degree Major Requirements (46 units)

Semester 1 (12 units)

- NURS 1 Fundamentals of Nursing (7 units)
- NURS 11 Professional and Theoretical Concepts (1 unit)
- NURS 12 Dosage Calculation (1 unit)
- NURS 14 Nutrition in Nursing (2 units)
- NURS 20 Critical Thinking (1 units)

Semesters 2 (12 units)

- NURS 13 Pharmacology in Nursing (2 units)
- NURS 3A Maternity Nursing (5 units)
- NURS 3B Pediatric Nursing (5 units)

Semester 3 (12 units)

- NURS 4A Intermediate Medical-Surgical Nursing (7 units)
- NURS 4B Psychiatric Nursing (5 units)

Semester 4 (10 units)

- NURS 5 Advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing (7 units)
- NURS 10 Leadership and Transition to Practice (3 units)

PRIOR HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE, TRANSFERS, OR ADVANCE PLACEMENT

Applicants who wish to transfer from another ADN program or who have prior experience in the Health Care field, may apply to seek advanced placement **after** they have been accepted in the Merritt ADN program. Transfer or advanced placement students will be admitted only on a space-available basis. Transfer students must be in good standing to be accepted into the Merritt ADN Program. For information about this option, please send an email to the ADN Program Director at ADNadmissions@peralta.edu.

LVN to RN Pathway: 30-Unit option

Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) who maintain a current California LVN license may be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN after completing nursing courses in an approved nursing program that extend beyond the coursework equivalent to the first year of professional nursing education. The required nursing content must include interventions related to acute, preventive, remedial, supportive, rehabilitative, and teaching aspects of nursing care. Theory and clinical laboratory practice courses must include advanced content in medical-surgical, psychiatric, and geriatric nursing and may not exceed a total of 30 semester units, in accordance with California Board of Registered Nursing regulations.

The LVN to RN 30-Unit Option at Merritt College requires completion of the following basic science and nursing courses:

- ❖ BIO 20 A: Anatomy and Physiology (4 units theory, 1 unit lab)
- ❖ BIO 3: Microbiology (4 units theory)
- ❖ NURS 4A: Intermediate Medical-Surgical Nursing (3 units theory, 4 units clinical)
- ❖ NURS 5: Advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing (3 units theory, 4 units clinical)
- ❖ NURS 4B: Psychiatric Nursing (3 units theory, 2 units clinical)
- ❖ NURS 13: Pharmacology in Nursing (2 units theory)

ADN Program – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Are you still accepting paper application packets?

We are only accepting electronic application packets. The application is to be completed on the website and the official transcripts are to be sent using Parchment.com and submit the transcript via email ONLY to adntranscripts@peralta.edu.

2. What is the primary reason for being disqualified from the Selection Process?

Students are unaware of the pre-requisites, GPA requirements, or the application procedure. Our best recommendation for a well-prepared application packet is to read the brochure and follow directions carefully.

3. How do I know if I have taken or will be taking the right course(s)? Can someone prescreen my application, coursework, grades, etc. to see where I stand or if I qualify?

Any questions regarding courses a student “should take,” if they “qualify” or “transfer equivalently,” should be directed to the Counseling Department at the college you are attending OR at Merritt College at <https://www.merritt.edu/wp/counseling/>

4. I took a Human Anatomy & Physiology Course, but I did not take the lab (or there was not a lab requirement). Isn't this the same course? And one of my biology courses (anatomy, physiology, and/or microbiology) is 4 units instead of 5 units, does it still count?

All biology courses are required to be taken with a lab. If the course taken is only a lecture it will not be accepted. The number of units is based on Peralta's course units. At other schools, the number of units may vary but the course curriculum and pre-requisites are the same. If you have any doubt, please refer to question #3.

5. I took the TEAS 7.0 a while back can I retake it?

You can retake it. However, Merritt College only considers the first-time scores for applicants.

6. I took AP English in high school and took the AP Exam giving me credit for English 1A. Will this be accepted?

The credit must show on your college transcript which English course the credit is qualifying for. Additionally, applicants should attach supporting documentation from a counselor noting the college credit by examination. Be sure to list the English 1A under Group A on your application. You must provide a copy of the College Board AP transcript reflecting the course taken for credits.

7. I am curious to know if the students are well-prepared for the NCLEX exam when they complete the program here. What is the NCLEX pass rate for Merritt's ADN Program?

The California State exam for licensure is the NCLEX Exam and the pass rate for recent years is available online at <http://www.rn.ca.gov/schools/passrates.shtml>

8. I am a licensed LVN (Licensed Vocational Nurse) in the state of California. Do you have an LVN to RN Program?

LVNs (Licensed Vocational Nurse) are welcome to apply through the general application process and once admitted they can inquire about challenging for advance placement. Please refer to page #5.

9. I completed my application online; will I get a receipt?

Yes, you will receive an email confirmation after completing the nursing application online.

10. How can I check the status of my application throughout the process?

Please refer to the process dates in the application brochure.

11. Do I have to apply to Merritt College prior to applying to the ADN Program?

Yes, you have to be enrolled to Merritt College prior to apply to the ADN program. You will be required to enter a student ID number.

Now that you have reviewed the 2026 Nursing Application Brochure, you are ready to complete the online 2026 Nursing Application.

Please use the link below to apply.

Good luck and we look forward to receiving your application.

[2026 Merritt College Nursing Application](#)