

Licensed Practical Nursing -- PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- 1. Briefly describe the proposed new program. Please indicate if it is (a) an expansion of an existing program or a new program; (b) a cooperative effort with another institution, business, or industry; or (c) an on-campus or off-campus program. Attach any formal agreements established for cooperative efforts.**

The proposed transformation of the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at MSU-Great Falls College of Technology will continue our tradition of providing well qualified Practical Nurses to the healthcare industry in Great Falls and throughout the Golden Triangle. The program will transform itself from its current configuration as an Associate of Applied Science degree of 65 program credits, to a Certificate degree program of 50 credits. The transformation will allow students to pass through the program faster and bring the program into conformity with the common curriculum adopted by the Board of Regents.

- 2. Summarize the needs assessment conducted to justify the proposal.**

From 2002 to 2004 MSU-Great Falls graduated 32 LPNs, all of whom are currently employed in the field. The success of the program in placing 100% of its graduates over the last 3 years and the continuing demand, both locally and at the state level, for healthcare professionals indicate the need to continue the well-established program under the new Board of Regents configuration.

- 3. Explain how the program relates to Role and Scope of the institution as established by the Board of Regents.**

MSU-Great Falls is charged with responding to the workforce needs of Great Falls and the North Central Montana region. Our servicing of the healthcare industry is a large part of that mission. Conversion of the current AAS program in Practical Nursing to a Certificate program will allow the institution to continue serving the needs of the healthcare industry.

- 4. State (a) what effect, if any, the proposed program will have on the administrative structure of the institution. Also indicate (b) the potential involvement of other departments, divisions, colleges, or schools.**

As a change in culminating award for an existing program, the Certificate program will have no impact on administrative structure and no new impact on other departments. Currently the Arts and Sciences department provides general education courses to satisfy that portion of the Nursing curriculum and under the new proposal will continue to do so.

- 5. Describe the extent to which similar programs are offered in Montana, the Pacific Northwest, and states bordering Montana. How similar are these programs to the one proposed?**

There are currently five other Practical Nursing programs offered in Montana at UM-Helena, UM, COT – Missoula, MSU-Billings, Montana Tech in Butte and at Flathead Valley Community College. All of these programs will be converting to the mandated

Board of Regents program and all serve regional and state wide Licensed Practical Nursing needs.

6. Please name any accrediting agency (ies) or learned society (ies) that would be concerned with particular program herein proposed. How has this program been developed in accordance with criteria developed by said accrediting body (ies) or learned society (ies)?

The proposed changes to the Practical Nursing program, should it be approved by the Board of Regents, will be submitted for approval to the Montana Board of Nursing at its October 2006 meeting. A memo reporting a substantive program change will also be submitted to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities upon approval by the Montana Board of Regents.

7. Prepare an outline of the proposed curriculum showing course titles and credits. Please include any plans for expansion of the program during its first three years.

The LPN curriculum consists of 50 credits divided between 26 pre-requisite credits and 24 nursing credits. Students will also have the opportunity to enroll in a one credit IV therapy seminar, a specialized course requested by the local healthcare community and open to all interested persons not just those enrolled in the LPN program, as an option enhancing local employability. The course titles and credits are listed below courses will be sequenced based upon student demand, faculty resources and availability of clinical sites.

Pre-requisite courses: Many students need preliminary math, science, and English courses before enrolling in the LPN prerequisite coursework. These courses may increase the total number of program credits.

BIO 213 Anatomy & Physiology I w/lab -	4 credit hours
BIO 214 Anatomy & Physiology II w/lab -	4 credit hours
ENG 121 Composition I -	3 credit hours
CHM 111 Inorganic Chemistry w/lab -	4 credit hours
MATH 161 College Algebra -	3 credit hours
AH 221 Human Nutrition -	2 credit hours
PSY 109 Lifespan Developmental -	3 credit hours
AH/NURS 140 Pharmacology -	3 credit hours

Nursing Courses:

NURS 100 Introduction to Nursing -	1 credit hour
NURS 150 Fundamentals of Nursing -	7 credit hours

NURS 250 Gerontology -	2 credit hours
NURS 260 Adult Nursing -	7 credit hours
NURS 270 Maternal/Child Nursing -	3 credit hours
NURS 280 Mental Health Nursing -	2 credit hours
NURS 290 Nursing Leadership -	2 credit hours

Transition of Students:

One more intake of students into the AAS program in Practical Nursing will take place in August of 2006. Students entering at that time will complete the current program with the last graduating no later than December of 2007. Students may also begin the proposed Certificate program in 2006 as well. The first certificate class will graduate in August of 2008.

FACULTY AND STAFF REQUIREMENTS

1. Please indicate, by name and rank, current faculty who will be involved with the program proposed herein.

Cheryl Alt, Nursing Program Director, Level 2
 Patti Kercher, Nursing Instructor, Level 2
 Cynthia Myles, Nursing Instructor, Level 2
 Susan Cooper, Nutrition Instructor, Level 2
 Cherie Mckeever, D.V.M., Anatomy and Physiology Instructor, Level 3
 Roger Peffer, Biology Instructor, Level 2
 Adam Wentz, Chemistry Instructor, Level 1
 Heidi Pasek, Psychology Instructor, Level 3
 Rebecca Johnson, Mathematics Instructor, Level 2
 Mark Plante, Mathematics Instructor, Level 2

2. Please project the need and cost for new faculty over the first five years of the program. Include special qualifications or training. If present faculty is to conduct the new program, please explain how they will be relieved from present duties.

No new faculty positions will be needed. Instead the reduction in credits from 65 to 50 will allow for a reduction in the size of the current nursing program. Such reductions will be carried out in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement and institutional policies.

3. Please explain the need and cost for support personnel or other required personnel expenditures.

None needed.

CAPITAL OUTLAY, OPERATING EXPENSES AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES**1. Please summarize operating expenditure needs.**

Contracted Services –	3,000
Supplies -	1,000
Communications -	1,800
Rent -	100
Repairs and Mntn -	400
Misc -	300
Total -	6,600

2. Please evaluate library resources. Are they adequate for operation of the proposed program? If not, how will the library need to be strengthened during the next three years?

Library resources for the Practical Nursing program are regularly evaluated and updated by the Chief Librarian in consultation with the Nursing Faculty. Books and other materials housed in the Library are purchased from the Library's general fund.

3. Please indicate special clinical, laboratory, and/or computer equipment that will be needed. List those pieces of equipment or computer hardware presently available in the department.

The Practical Nursing program currently has primary use of R-220, a 35-seat classroom equipped with 10 computer terminals. The program also has use of a fully equipped nursing lab complete with beds, sinks, and all necessary nursing supplies and equipment.

4. Please describe facilities and space required for the proposed program. Are current facilities adequate for the program? If not, how does the institution propose to provide new facilities?

Current facilities have been and will continue to be adequate to house the program.