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SUMMARY OF CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Summary of curriculum requirements as recorded in the Louisiana Administrative Code 46:XLVII, Subpart 1. Practical Nurses, Chapter 9, Subchapter E. Curriculum Requirements.

The curriculum shall include a minimum of **1500** clock hours. At least **700** clock hours shall be the minimum number of theory hours and at least **800** clock hours shall be the minimum number of clinical hours and shall include instruction in the following basic arts and sciences:

Body Structure and Function – basic A&P and deviations from normal.

Introduction to Microbiology – role of microbes in health and illness, transmission, reproduction, methods of control/destruction, with a focus on concepts essential for safe nursing care and prevention of illness and/or transfer of disease to others.

Introduction to Practical Nursing – development of personal qualities and characteristics needed for safe and effective practice including problem solving and critical thinking abilities. Includes the history, trends and evolution of practical nursing, practical nursing organizations and an introduction to the laws and rules that govern practical nursing practice.

Personal, Family and Community Health – concepts of growth and development, awareness of variations in cultural, religious, spiritual, educational, and socio-economic histories and experiences and how these variations impact health and illness.

Nutrition and Diet Therapy – concepts of proper nutrition and diet modifications for therapeutic purposes.

Pharmacology – competence in skills related to all aspects of medication administration including calculations, classifications, action, intended effects, side effects, and teaching.

Principles and Practices of Nursing – concepts providing basic principles of nursing care and correlated experiences in medical-surgical nursing, geriatric nursing, obstetrical nursing, pediatric nursing and mental health nursing. Clinical experience shall include basic and advanced nursing skills, general health and physical assessment, IV therapy, patient education, health screening, promotion, restoration and maintenance, supervision and management, safety and infection control, communication and documentation, and working as a member of an interdisciplinary health care team.

Career Readiness – information relating to all aspects of gaining and maintaining a license to practice practical nursing and a review of the laws and rules that govern practical nursing practice.

There must be a grade for each component of a course: A grade for theory, a grade for laboratory practice and a grade for clinical experience. A letter grade is acceptable if the numerical equivalent is identified in a grading legend. The minimum passing grade is 80%. A grade of “Pass” is acceptable for laboratory practice and clinical experience if “Pass” is interpreted as “80%” or above and identified as such in the grading legend.