

1. How do I know if the PN Certificate pathway is right for me?
  - All students interested in applying to the Nursing Program should meet with the Nursing Student Navigator to discuss which program option is the best fit for them. Schedule an appointment with the Nursing Student Navigator by emailing [advising@btc.edu](mailto:advising@btc.edu).
2. How is the part-time PN Certificate option different from the full-time option?
  - In the part-time option students will complete theory courses one quarter and then the clinical course the next quarter. Students will be in class 2-3 days per week part-time instead of 4-5 days per week in the full-time option.
3. How long will it take to complete the PN Certificate?
  - It will take a student six quarters to complete the certificate and include summer quarter. For example, students starting spring quarter 2023 will complete summer quarter 2024.
4. Will I receive an associate degree once I complete the PN Certificate?
  - No. Students who complete the PN pathway will receive a certificate from BTC and will be eligible to sit for the Practical Nursing licensure exam (NCLEX-PN).
5. Can I transfer from the PN certificate program to the full-time RN program?
  - No. The transfer policy of the BTC Nursing Program does not allow students in the PN certificate to transfer to the 2-year full-time RN program.
6. Will I be able to become a Registered Nurse (RN) if I choose this pathway?
  - Yes, Practical Nursing education can be a piece of the Registered Nursing educational pathway. Students who complete the PN Certificate, get licensed and work 500 hours as an LPN, and complete the remaining prerequisite foundational courses may apply to the LPN-RN program option. Once a student who has completed the LPN-RN program option they are eligible to become an RN.
7. Is the COVID-19 vaccine required for clinical placement?
  - Yes. All health students must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by the first day of the quarter in which they start.
8. Are any COVID-19 vaccine exemptions accepted by the program?
  - No. BTC's clinical partner agencies will not accept any exemption to full COVID-19 vaccination. Medical, religious, or philosophical exemptions are not accepted by our clinical partner agencies.
9. How do I apply to the PN Certificate Program?
  - The APL-N will only accept applications during the core program admissions application window. The application window for this program opens in January and will remain open until July 31. A first sorting of seat offers will happen in February and a second sorting of seat offers will happen in July. More information is posted on the [BTC PN Program website](#).
10. Is the admissions process for the PN Certificate different from the process for the RN Program?
  - No, you will apply using the online portal on the [Practical Nursing Website](#)

11. What quarter can I start the program?
- The PN program enters cohorts of ten students twice a year in the fall and spring.
12. Is the healthcare experience requirement the same for the PN Certificate as for the RN program?
- Yes. Applicants must have healthcare experience and submit the Healthcare Experience Verification Form for approval prior to applying. If you already have approved healthcare experience on file with BTC you do not need to resubmit it for the PN Program.
13. What qualifies as Healthcare Experience?
- Nursing Assistant      ▪ Paramedic      ▪ Radiology Technologist
  - Medical Assistant      ▪ Emergency Medical Technician      ▪ Surgical Technologist
  - Home Care Aid      ▪ Emergency Medical Responder      ▪ Healthcare Specialist
  - Other healthcare experience will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
14. Does healthcare experience training expire?
- Yes. Starting in October 2021 applicants must have completed their training in an allied health field in the last five years.
15. Does my healthcare certification have to be active in Washington State?
- No. If you have held a medical related certification **in the past five years** but it is no longer active it will still qualify as medical experience for application to the nursing program as long as no action has been taken against that certification.
16. Do I need to get my Healthcare Experience Form “preapproved” before I submit my application?
- Yes. You are required to email your form and attached documents to the Nursing Program before you apply.
17. If I completed Nursing Assistant or another health program at BTC do I still need to submit the Healthcare Experience Verification form?
- No. This information is on your BTC Unofficial Transcript.
18. Can I defer my enrollment to a different quarter if I can't begin the quarter you've offered me?
- Yes, but you will go on our alternate program list. If a seat becomes available in the quarter you prefer and you are next on the alternate list, a seat will be offered.
19. Can I know where I'm at on the program waitlist?
- We are unable to disclose waitlist information to applicants.
20. What is the purpose of the ATI TEAS and do I have to take it?
- The ATI TEAS is used by nursing programs nationwide to measure entry-level skills and abilities of health science program applicants. The purpose of the TEAS is to differentiate among varying levels of overall academic preparedness necessary to support learning of nursing-related content. The primary difference between standard placement tests and the TEAS is that the TEAS speaks directly to success in nursing-related content while placement testing is not geared to provide those indicators.
  - Beginning April 12, 2023, the ATI TEAS is no longer required as part of the application process.

**Have more questions?.....Come to a [PN Certificate Info Session](#)!**