

Bridgerland Technical College



*PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM*

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

**SUMMER 2025**

## WELCOME

Welcome to Bridgerland Technical College and the Practical Nursing (PN) program. Training to become a healthcare provider is very rewarding and demanding. We congratulate you on your decision to pursue occupational training in this noble profession.

The PN Student Handbook is provided to introduce students to the program's philosophy, conceptual framework, educational goals, and policies. The information in this booklet has been prepared to answer questions you may have about the program. Within it you will find information regarding tuition costs, courses, grading standards, and expectations for students. This handbook is an addendum to the Bridgerland Policy/Procedure Manual located on the website at <https://btech.edu/about-us/policies-2/>.

No policies are infallible and if these are found to be inoperable, the faculty would welcome constructive suggestions for change. All policies are subject to change as needed. Should it become necessary to change a policy during the program, students will receive both written and verbal notification.

Bridgerland Technical College is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education (COE), 7840 Roswell Road, Building 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, Georgia, 30350, (800) 917-2081 or (770) 396-3898, [www.council.org](http://www.council.org). Additionally, the Bridgerland Practical Nursing program has full State Board of Nursing approval from 2007 forward and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, Georgia 30326, (404) 975-5000, <http://www.acenursing.com/accreditedprograms/programsearch.htm>



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## SECTION I: GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CURRICULUM

### BRIDGERLAND MISSION STATEMENT AND PHILOSOPHY

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Bridgerland Technical College is to deliver competency-based, employer-guided career and technical education to both secondary and post-secondary students through traditional and technology-enhanced methodologies. This hands-on technical education provides occupational education, skills training, and workforce development to support the educational and economic development of the Bear River Region.

#### PHILOSOPHY

Employment through Training

#### PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

As nursing faculty within Bridgerland, we uphold the mission and philosophy of this institution. We therefore serve the technical educational needs of nursing students in Cache, Box Elder, and Rich Counties without discrimination based on race, religion, gender, ethnic background, age, or disability status so far as it is safe for the student and the client. In fact, the faculty welcomes and encourages students of all racial, religious, gender, ethnic, age, or disability status to apply for and attend the Practical Nursing (PN) program.

The nursing faculty believes in meeting the health needs of the community insofar as it is possible. We believe the PN program fills a basic need in the three-county area by supplying persons prepared to fill entry-level nursing positions needed for the well-being, health, and safety of the citizens of the community.

The philosophy of the PN program revolves around eight key concepts: the individual, society, health, nursing, educational process, practical nursing education, life-span learning, and environment. These concepts give structure and direction to the hands-on, technical education of the PN program.

- **Individual.** The faculty of the College's PN program believe every individual is a unique being who is driven by physical, psychosocial, spiritual, and cultural factors. Basic human needs are impacted as individuals move through their life cycle, and adapt in order to achieve fulfillment of their needs as well as optimal levels of health and wellness. These needs include safety, hygiene, nutrition, elimination, oxygenation, mobility, psychological, and social-cultural dimensions.
- **Society.** Society consists of subgroups made up of the individual, the family, and the community. Society is a group of diverse, multicultural people who have in common basic human needs, and who interact and work together towards achieving health, well-being, and a sense of belonging.
- **Health.** Health is a dynamic state in the life cycle of the individual. Health is a sense of well-being that can be described in physical, psychological, intellectual, social, and spiritual

terms. Health is influenced by heredity, culture, perceptions of physical and psychosocial environment, and lifestyle.

- **Nursing.** Nursing is an art and a science. The art and science of nursing are embedded in human caring. The concept of caring embodies trust, hope, and advocacy. The science of nursing requires specialized knowledge, critical thinking abilities, and technical skills to develop an evidence-based nursing practice. Nursing is practiced according to the nursing process which identifies needs/problems, establishes goals, implements nursing interventions, and evaluates the effectiveness of the interventions provided. Care provided is directed toward the prevention of illness, maintenance of health, and restoration to an optimal level of functioning.
- **Educational Process.** The faculty at Bridgerland is committed to the development of motivated students as active adult learners and members of Utah’s workforce. The educational process is a reciprocal process based on caring and mutual respect. The role of the teacher is to facilitate the learning process and to serve as a role model and resource person. The philosophy of BTECH is “Employment through Training.” The training provided by the College is driven by local industry. Advisory Committees contribute to curriculum development that enhances student placement after programs are completed. Students bring to the learning environment a variety of past personal experiences that are taken into consideration by instructors. Active adult learners are held accountable for academic performance and technical competencies.
- **Practical Nursing Education.** Practical nursing education is a unique body of knowledge that is based on scientific principles and the humanistic arts. Mastery of nursing’s specialized knowledge is accomplished through continuous, sequential instruction that progresses from simple to complex concepts and theories. Theory and skills are taught concurrently and utilized immediately, first in a simulated lab setting, then in healthcare facilities under the supervision of supportive clinical faculty.
- **Life-Span Learning.** Education is a life-long developmental process. The faculty believes that post-graduation continuing education is essential for keeping abreast of a constantly changing body of knowledge and for the administering of safe and effective nursing care. Continuing education allows for the opportunity to improve skills and seek upward mobility and specialization. This is facilitated at BTECH by maintaining a contractual agreement with a local university to allow graduates an opportunity to continue their education in a Registered Nursing program as desired.
- **Environment.** Nursing as a discipline must be aware of and responsive to changes in the environment. Healthcare is a dynamic entity. Trends that impact nursing curricula include: an aging population, community-based healthcare, advances in technology, multidisciplinary/interprofessional team approach, and a need for civility, cultural diversity, equity and inclusion. New environmental trends constantly arise and must be considered in development and revision of an effective nursing curriculum.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Practical Nursing is a comprehensive accredited, two semester certificate program. Practical Nursing provides hands-on, competency-based technical education through classroom instruction, laboratory simulation, and experiential clinical practice. This engaging curriculum is

provided in a variety of healthcare settings to afford the knowledge and skills needed in the care of the human lifespan—from infancy to the aged.

Practical Nursing prepares undergraduate students to be eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensing exam and practice as entry-level Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs). The program offers seamless, continued education from an LPN to a Registered Nurse (RN) through the Weber State University (WSU) PN-to-RN program located at the BTECH Logan Campus. For questions about essential functional requirements for the program, please meet with the PN director.

### **END OF PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES\***

A graduate nurse will demonstrate the following entry-level competencies:

1. Assess basic physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and psychosocial needs of the healthcare client.
2. Contribute to the development and implementation of nursing care plans for clients with common, well-defined health problems by using critical thinking and nursing judgment.
3. Provide safe, ethical, and effective nursing care according to accepted standards of practice within the scope of practice, and prioritize client needs with respect to individual and family rights of dignity and privacy.
4. Utilize effective written and oral communication to establish and maintain caring, therapeutic relationships with clients, their families, and the healthcare team.

*\*Based on National Standards of Practice from the National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc. (NAPNES)*

### **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

Program outcomes are developed as performance indicators, which give evidence the PN program is meeting the mission and goals established by the College and program faculty. Program outcomes are evidenced by NCLEX-PN pass rates, graduation rates, training outcome forms (noting job placement rates), alumni surveys, and facility satisfaction evaluations. The PN program utilizes ACEN Standards and Criteria. In addition, there is consistency noted between the program outcomes and the mission and philosophy of BTECH, and the PN program. The program outcomes include the following:

**Outcome #1:** A minimum of 90 percent of Practical Nursing graduates will pass the NCLEX-PN licensing exam on the first attempt by 12 months' post-graduation. This benchmark will be assessed annually.

**Outcome #2:** A minimum of 80 percent of admitted students will graduate within the defined program length of two semesters. Graduates will be entry-level nurses prepared to be employed in a variety of healthcare settings and function within the scope of a Licensed Practical Nurse as defined by the Utah Nurse Practice Act.

**Outcome #3:** A minimum of 60 percent of Practical Nursing graduates seeking employment will be employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse within one year of graduation.



**Outcome #4:** A minimum of 80 percent of graduates desiring to continue their nursing education will be enrolled with an institution of higher education within one year of graduation.

**Outcome #5:** A minimum of 80 percent of Practical Nursing graduates will rate their overall satisfaction level with the PN program as “Satisfied” or “Very Satisfied” one year after graduation from the program.

**Outcome #6:** Healthcare agencies will communicate their satisfaction with the students’ nursing care and performance.

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

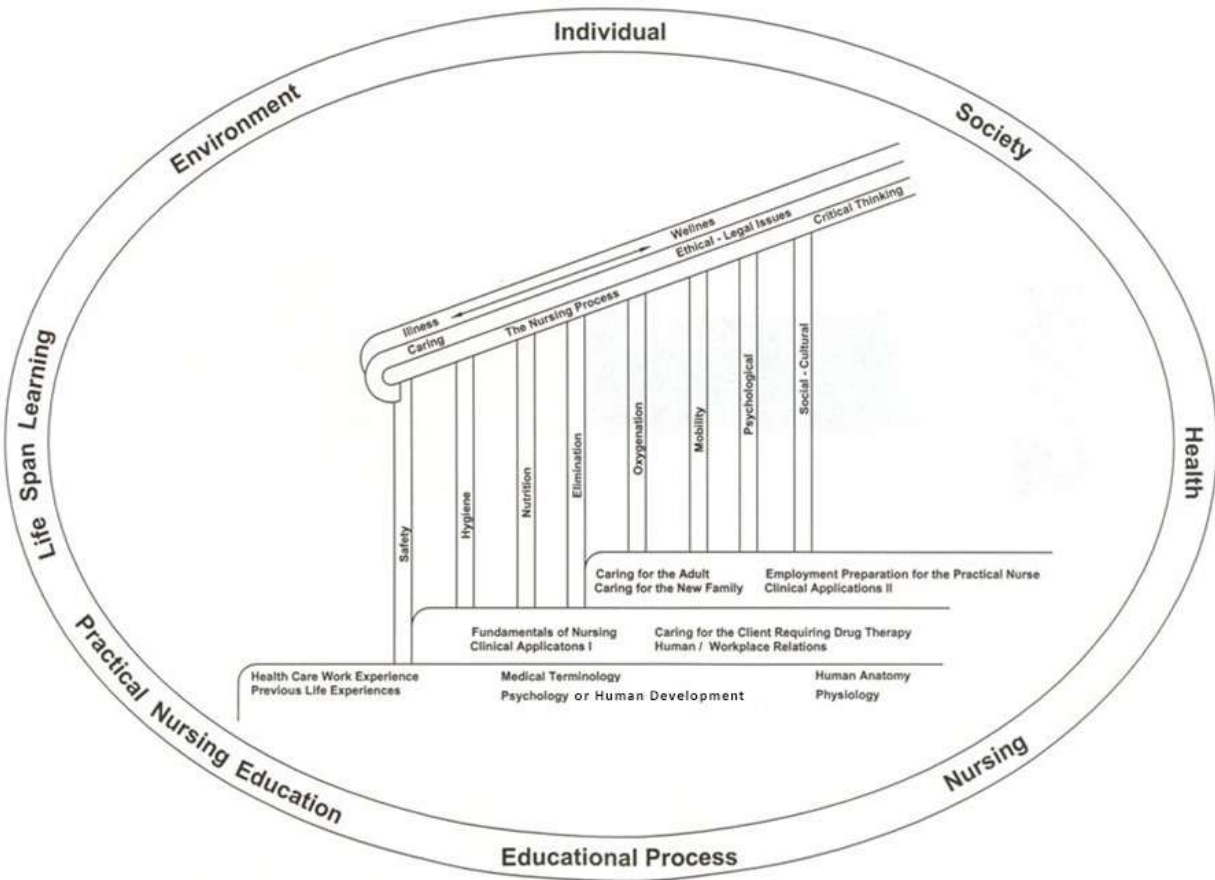
The PN program Conceptual Framework (See Diagram) provides a graphic representation of how the philosophy gives structure to the PN program and its curriculum and outcomes. The framework consists of three levels of experiences.

- The first level is a broad-based platform. This level represents the experiences a student brings with them when they enter the program. Experiences include the knowledge gained in prerequisite courses and through previous life challenges and employment opportunities.
- The second level represents fundamental nursing concepts and skills to which the Practical Nursing student is introduced and continues to build upon throughout the program.
- The third level or platform represents the advancement of skills and knowledge as a student progresses towards graduation.

These platforms create a stairway each student ascends throughout the program. The nursing process, caring as a concept of practice, critical thinking, legal and ethical issues, and the illness/wellness continuum guide the student through each successive step in their nursing education. This is represented as the “banister,” which provides safe and effective transitions, directing the student from one level to the next. The banister is supported by basic human needs that shape the PN curriculum. Surrounding the stairway is a circle containing the eight key concepts of the program philosophy, which impacts the student’s educational experience from entry into the program to exit into the world of healthcare employment. Once the student reaches the top step, they become eligible to take the NCLEX-PN exam, which opens the door and places the graduate at the threshold of nursing practice. From this vantage point, a student has a variety of career and educational paths from which to choose.

# BRIDGERLAND TECHNICAL COLLEGE PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK MODEL



## PROGRAM COURSE OUTLINE

BRIDGERLAND PREADMISSION COURSE	
Course	Credit
Medical Terminology	1

PREREQUISITE COURSES*	
Course	Credit
Human Physiology	3 or 4
Human Anatomy	3 or 4
Psychology/Human Development	3

\*Must be taken from a regionally accredited college or university.

PRACTICAL NURSING CORE COURSE OUTLINE		
Course	Hours	Credit Equivalent
<b>Semester 1</b>		
Fundamentals of Nursing	210	7
Caring for the Client Requiring Drug Therapy	60	2
Human / Workplace Relations	30	1
Clinical Applications I	150	3
<b>Semester 2</b>		
Pharmacology II	30	1
Caring for the Adult	120	4
Caring for the New Family	90	3
Employment Preparation for the Practical Nurse	30	1
Clinical Applications II	180	4
<b>Length</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>26</b>

\*Total length with Prerequisite and Preadmission = 1200 hours/36 credits

### SUGGESTED PN TO RN PREREQUISITES TO COMPLETE PRIOR TO GRADUATION

English 1010  
Math QL (1030, 1040, 1050, etc.)  
Chemistry 1130 with a Lab

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND COMPETENCIES

### **NRSG 1011: FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING**

**210 CLOCK HOURS/ 7 CREDITS**

This didactic course provides practical nursing students an introduction to basic nursing skills in the classroom and practice laboratory. Students learn to assess the basic human needs of patients including safety, hygiene, mobility, nutrition, elimination, and oxygenation. They learn to recognize and address the physical, psychosocial, spiritual, and cultural needs of individuals. Students are introduced to the nursing-care process and learn how to manage care for patients with uncomplicated/basic medical-surgical conditions, in extended-care and acute care settings. Developmental concepts as well as the special needs of the geriatric population are stressed. This course also includes content regarding professionalism, the theoretical basis for nursing practice, current nursing issues and trends, ethics, the healthcare team, and the health-illness continuum.

#### *Course Competencies:*

- Students will understand the role of the LPN within the healthcare team.
- Students will be able to perform fundamental nursing skills in the practice laboratory setting.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of selected basic medical/surgical problems.
- Students will be prepared to provide safe, competent, and individualized care to geriatric and adult patients in a variety of clinical settings.

### **NRSG 1021: CARING FOR THE CLIENT REQUIRING DRUG THERAPY**     **60 CLOCK HOURS/ 2 CREDITS**

This didactic course focuses on the safe administration of medications including legal and ethical issues surrounding drug administration. Information is included on methods of drug administration, desired effects, drug interactions, adverse reactions, and how age affects response to medications. Pharmacological concepts and content are introduced using a body systems approach.

#### *Course Competencies:*

- Students will have an understanding of drug action and how medications can affect cellular physiology.
- Students will have the knowledge to safely administer various types of medications.
- Students will demonstrate accuracy in drug dosage calculations.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the appropriate nursing care of patients receiving selected medications.

### **NRSG 1031: HUMAN/WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**30 CLOCK HOURS/1 CREDIT**

This didactic course assists students to adapt to the changing roles, situations, and settings they will experience as a practical nursing student. The course includes a general orientation to mental health principles, and an introduction to the nursing care of patients with a variety of mental health problems. The recognition and management of deviations from normal mental health

functioning are addressed. The cultural and spiritual needs of individuals and communities are explored. The application of therapeutic communication skills is emphasized.

*Course Competencies:*

- Students will recognize how change and life transitions can create conflict and how to adapt positively to change.
- Students will understand principles of therapeutic communication.
- Students will recognize that individuals are unique with distinct physiological, emotional, social, cultural, and spiritual needs.
- Students will recognize appropriate nursing care of patients with common mental health disorders.

**NRSG 1041: CLINICAL APPLICATIONS I**

**150 CLOCK HOURS/ 3 CREDITS**

This course is designed to enable students to demonstrate application of knowledge and skills from Fundamentals of Nursing, Caring for the Client Requiring Drug Therapy, and Human/Workplace Relations. This course provides 150 hours of clinical experience.

*Course Competencies:*

- Students will be able to perform fundamental nursing skills in the clinical setting.
- Students will safely administer medications in the clinical setting.
- Students will utilize therapeutic communication skills to establish rapport with patients.
- Students will utilize the nursing process to identify the needs of their patients in the clinical setting and provide appropriate care.

**NRSG 2041: PHARMACOLOGY II**

**30 CLOCK HOURS/ 1 CREDIT**

This course builds upon current knowledge to enhance the understanding of pharmacological interventions and treatment complexities. It will include specific knowledge to determine adverse effects, proper safety, and patient education. The course will discuss the effects of drugs on body systems, including mechanisms of action and use across the lifespan. Evidence-based criteria will be used to determine best practices in medication administration.

*Course Competencies:*

- Demonstrate an understanding of the major drug classifications in terms of indications, efficacy, safety, and risks in chronic and acute care settings.
- Describe strategies for monitoring expected outcomes and potential adverse effects of medications.
- Design appropriate pharmacologic interventions for the treatment of select health conditions or diseases, considering the impact of race, ethnic group, age, and special populations.
- Develop relevant patient education strategies to facilitate treatment and maximize therapeutic response.

- Evaluate current and relevant research findings to establish proper pharmacological interventions.

### **NRSG 2051: CARING FOR THE ADULT**

**120 CLOCK HOURS/ 4 CREDITS**

This didactic course builds upon the knowledge and skills developed in Fundamentals of Nursing and Caring for the Client Requiring Drug Therapy. This class is designed to help the practical nursing student gain the knowledge necessary to appropriately care for adult patients with a variety of medical and surgical conditions. Content is presented using a body systems approach; scientific facts about the human body's response to health and illness are emphasized.

#### *Course Competencies:*

- Students will review the anatomy and physiology of all body systems.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the etiology, clinical manifestations, and therapeutic management of selected medical/surgical conditions.
- Students will explore the impact of ethnicity and aging on adult health and illness.
- Students will have the knowledge to provide safe, competent, and individualized nursing care to adult patients in a variety of settings.

### **NRSG 2061: CARING FOR THE NEW FAMILY**

**90 CLOCK HOURS/ 3 CREDITS**

This didactic course is an introduction to perinatal and pediatric nursing. Perinatal nursing is the care of women, infants, and families during the childbearing process. Content includes a review of reproductive anatomy and physiology, the physiology of conception and fetal development, nursing care during pregnancy, complications associated with pregnancy, the childbirth experience, care of the postpartum woman, and care of the healthy and ill newborn. Pediatric nursing includes the assessment and care of children at various developmental stages and levels of health. Pediatric disorders are presented using a body systems approach.

#### *Course Competencies:*

- Students will be able to assess the physical and psychosocial needs of women, infants, and children.
- Students will have the knowledge to provide safe, competent, and individualized perinatal nursing care.
- Students will have an understanding of human growth and development from birth through adolescence.
- Students will have the knowledge to provide safe, competent, and individualized nursing care to pediatric patients in a variety of settings.

### **NRSG 2071: EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION FOR THE PRACTICAL NURSE 30 CLOCK HOURS/ 1 CREDIT**

This didactic course is designed to assist students in their transition from practical nursing student to employed healthcare professional. Content includes information on leadership, ethics, legal issues, delegation, management, scope of practice, continuing education, and employment-

seeking skills. The knowledge gained and the assignments completed will assist the student in obtaining employment after successfully passing the NCLEX-PN licensure examination.

*Course Competencies:*

- Students will explore the legal and ethical issues encountered in practical nursing.
- Students will develop an understanding of ‘Scope of Practice’ as defined by the Utah Nurse Practice Act.
- Students will identify when it is appropriate and inappropriate to delegate a task to unlicensed assistive personnel.
- Students will have the necessary job-seeking skills to gain employment as a practical nurse.

**NRSNG 2083: CLINICAL APPLICATIONS II**

**180 CLOCK HOURS/ 4 CREDITS**

This is the clinical course where students demonstrate application of knowledge and skills from Caring for the Adult, Caring for the New Family, and Employment Preparation for the Practical Nurse. This course provides 180 hours of clinical experience in a variety of healthcare settings.

*Course Competencies:*

- Students will utilize the nursing process to provide safe, competent, and individualized nursing care to adult patients with a variety of medical-surgical conditions.
- Students will accurately assess the physical and psychosocial needs of women, newborns children, and families.
- Students will utilize the nursing process to provide safe, competent, and individualized perinatal nursing care.
- Students will utilize the nursing process to provide safe, competent, and individualized nursing care to pediatric patients in a variety of settings.



## **SECTION II: PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **TUITION, BOOKS, AND PAYMENTS**

All costs associated with the PN program are the responsibility of each individual student and includes the following: tuition, books, supplies, uniforms, educational trips, immunizations, transportation, CPR certification, testing, graduation, and lab costs. If an agency, such as Department of Workforce Services (DWS), is funding a student, the student is responsible for obtaining the necessary forms from the funding agency and submitting them to the Bridgerland Student Services Office in adequate time to ensure payment. A student will not be allowed to attend class if tuition and costs have not been paid.

The following equipment and supplies are required:

- Stethoscope with or without optional blood pressure cuff
- Watch with capability to monitor in seconds (phone not acceptable)
- Drug handbook (may be electronic version)
- Laboratory nurse pack supplies (bandage scissors and goggles are included)
- Pen light
- Shoes/socks appropriate for clinical
- Clinical uniforms (must be BTECH scrubs)
- Pen (black or blue ink)

### **TUITION REFUND POLICY**

Should a student withdraw or be suspended from the PN program, 100 percent of the tuition will be refunded up to ten business days after the first scheduled class and none thereafter. Note: Refund checks may take two or three weeks for processing.

### **FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Financial aid may be available to Bridgerland students and is awarded on the basis of need, merit, and availability. The student may obtain information about this resource through the financial aid officer at Bridgerland. Application for financial aid must be made well in advance of the scheduled course. As defined by federal administrative requirements, students receiving Federal Student Aid (FSA) must meet academic progress standards outlined in Financial Aid policies. Bridgerland does not offer in-house student loans.

### **PROGRAM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

Access to personal electronic tools such as a desktop computer, laptop, or tablet are essential to student success in the Practical Nursing program and as such are required. A functioning webcam and microphone will be needed on these devices. Additionally, students will need access to reliable internet service to view, participate in and complete assignments and certain exams. Google Chrome is the preferred browser when accessing school materials and students are expected to regularly access Canvas and B-Tech emails.

### **ESTIMATED GRADUATION PROGRESS (EGP)**

The college has established an estimated length in months in which a student is expected to finish a program. Students must maintain adequate progress, in both credits and time, toward graduation. A monthly progression rate that will allow the student to graduate within 100 percent of the published program length is expected. Students whose progress exceed 1.5 times (time and a half) the program length are subject to academic sanctions. Program competence is evaluated through test scores, projects, demonstrations, etc. All courses are assigned a final grade (A-F) and will be reported in the student information system. Each program defines program competency levels that must be met for certificate eligibility. Repeating courses, or taking longer than allocated for a course, may affect a student's ability to maintain EGP.

### **EXTERNAL WORK EXPECTATIONS**

1. Due to the extensive amount of time required by the PN program (i.e., class, lab, testing, clinical, and study time), it is strongly recommended that students not commit to external work of more than 16-20 hours per week.
2. Absences and tardiness due to employment are not acceptable or excused.
3. Students should not work a shift immediately preceding a scheduled clinical shift.

### **STUDENT RECORDS**

A cumulative record is kept for each student, beginning with application to the program. Records of attendance, grades, personal references, and other pertinent information, such as clinical evaluations, will be added to the file. This information is confidential and will be released only on written permission of the student. The record is kept on file after graduation (Appendix D).

### **CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Class representatives will be elected by the students during the first semester. Class representatives are invited to participate in faculty meetings to offer student input and suggestions; they will also relay information back to the class as needed. Representatives plan and coordinate group activities such as class parties, and help with graduation preparations in coordination with the administrative assistant. Being a class representative is a privilege and should not be abused.

### **GRADING POLICIES**

Each nursing course must be passed with a grade of B- or better. If a student is not passing any nursing course, the student will be placed on probationary contract and consequences could include dismissal from the program. A cumulative grade of B- (80%) is required to receive credit for any nursing course.

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>
95-100	A
90-94	A-

87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-
Below 80	Fail

### **UNIT EXAMS AND QUIZZES**

In an effort to help students prepare for NCLEX-PN, the PN program has increased the length of exams and has made testing comprehensive within courses. Most unit exams are 75-100 questions in length. If a question on an exam or quiz is deemed inadequate by faculty, then the overall points of the assessment will not be reduced and the point(s) for that question may be allocated.

Students must maintain a unit exam and/or quiz grade of 80 percent or higher in each course. Assessment of this criterion will begin four weeks into the course. Students must maintain 80 percent throughout the remainder of the semester. Should a student fall below 80 percent, they will be placed on academic probation to raise their score to the passing standard. Failure to do so will result in remediation. At the conclusion of a course, all students must have a unit exam and/or quiz grade at or above 80 percent to pass the course. When it becomes statistically impossible for a student to reach the 80 percent benchmark by the end of the semester, the student will no longer be allowed to take the course unit exams in an effort to avoid an unfair advantage during a repeat of the course. The student may choose to withdraw or work with the instructor to be given sample test bank exams or alternative assignments during the testing time. These alternatives will not elevate the students' grade to the passing standard.

If a test must be taken at a time other than the scheduled time, prior arrangements must be made with the instructor. If it is necessary to delay a test due to illness or emergency, the student is responsible for notifying the instructor and making arrangements to take the test. Unit exams/quizzes may be taken early without penalty if arranged with the course instructor. If taken late, there will be a five percent penalty per working school day regardless of illness. Please work with your instructor and nursing administration if you have concerns.

### **MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS**

Midterms and final exams are comprehensive and 150-200 questions in length. These exams must be taken at the date, time, and place scheduled. Exceptions will be made for hospitalization and other extreme emergencies at the discretion of the instructor.

### **LIBRARY USE AND STUDENT COMPUTER ACCESS**

The Bridgerland Academic Learning Center is available to students providing them access to the following: computer workstations with internet access; non-print online library resources (databases, encyclopedias, periodical indexes, etc.); and individual study areas.

In addition to the computers available in the Bridgerland Academic Learning Center, the PN program has laptop computers in classrooms for testing purposes. Before use of any Bridgerland computers, students are required to read and agree by signature to uphold the Acceptable Computer Use Policy (Appendix F).

### EVALUATIONS

Students' progress and employment skills are continually evaluated throughout the program. As a part of the emphasis on future employment, the College has established the following ten criteria of Employment & Workplace Ethics on which students are evaluated:

- Communication with Instructors & Peers
- Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving
- Demonstrates Confidence
- Dress, Hygiene, and Appearance
- Ethical Behavior
- Positive Attitude
- Professionalism
- Quality of Work
- Uses Time Productively
- Works Cooperatively

Local industry determined these to be important skills to be developed by people they employ. Additionally, the PN Advisory Committee has determined that these skills are vital for employee success. Employment skills are evaluated at the end of each semester.

A formal exit interview will be held at the end of each semester with an employment skills evaluation. Students are also evaluated daily at clinical. These evaluations will be kept in the students' permanent files.

With the end of each semester, the students have the opportunity to complete evaluation forms on the instructors, clinical facilities, and Bridgerland services, classrooms, and laboratories. Once these forms are compiled and trended, the results are given individually to each of the persons or facilities evaluated.

### COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Course assignments should be completed and handed in on time. If an assignment's original due date falls on a recognized Bridgerland holiday, it will be due prior to class on the next academic day. All papers are to be neatly written, printed, or typed. **All assigned work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified by instructor.** Grading of papers may include spelling, grammar, punctuation, legibility, and sentence structure. Assignments and quizzes that are graded in class will not be accepted for credit after the date they are due. There is no value in completing workbooks and quizzes after the answers have been discussed in class.

Resources used for assignments should include reliable resources such as the textbook and quality references or studies. In today's era of Artificial Intelligence (AI), the use of AI

resources, such as ChatGPT, Midjourney AI, DALL-E, etc. must be **approved by individual instructors** and verified by the student for accuracy. Properly citing use of AI in the creation of assignments submitted for grades is essential. Lack of verifying information or citing references may be ground for dismissal (see Student Honor Code).

### **LATE WORK**

Late work will be assessed a ten percent penalty if submitted within five consecutive days of the original due date. If the fifth consecutive day falls on a weekend or holiday, the assignment is due on the first academic day following. Student work submitted more than five consecutive days late will not be accepted. For information regarding late exams, see Unit Exams.

### **DEPARTMENTAL PHONES AND COPY MACHINES**

Use of the Practical Nursing departmental phones is not permitted. Students should make any copies needed at the Academic Learning Center or Copy Center. Copy costs are minimal and must be paid at the time of service. Students may not use the copy machine in the teacher workroom. At no time should copies be made at clinical sites.

### **WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION POLICY**

If you wish to withdraw from the program or feel that it is necessary to do so, please request an interview with the PN Director to discuss the problem. Students who choose to withdraw or who are suspended before completion of semester one may re-apply to the program at any time. However, they will have to repeat the entire first semester.

Students who successfully complete semester one, who choose to withdraw or who are suspended between semesters or during semester two, may choose to re-enter the program at the beginning of semester two (advanced placement). Because of the integrated nature of nursing knowledge, failure in one course requires repeating all didactic and clinical courses in that semester. However, re-entry is at administration discretion and dependent on space availability. The Practical Nursing program course work must be completed within four consecutive semesters from the initial admission date. A student who is suspended or withdraws from the program may repeat each semester only once to meet competency. After two withdrawals/suspensions the student will not be considered for readmission. Suspension for Academic Integrity requires a minimum two-semester suspension with the possibility of permanent suspension.

## STUDENT HONOR CODE

The Honor Code is established to promote professional conduct and personal integrity on the part of all nursing students. The PN program has a zero-tolerance policy for academic integrity violations of any kind. A student found to be in violation of any of the following may be immediately dismissed from the program:

1. Copying from another student's paper.
2. Using materials during a test not authorized by the person administering the test.
3. Collaborating with any other person during a quiz/test or assignment.
4. Brain dumping/re-creation of exams/quizzes is not allowed.
5. Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, selling, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of any test or assignment. This includes taking pictures of tests, quizzes, or assignments.
6. "Plagiarism," meaning the appropriation of any other person's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own work offered for credit. This includes purchased or borrowed papers.
7. "Collusion," meaning the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.
8. Using a tool or other aid not explicitly approved by instructor, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), to complete course work, assignments, or exams.
9. Furnishing false information to faculty with the intent to deceive.
10. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of Bridgerland documents or records.
11. Theft or malicious destruction, damage or misuse of Bridgerland property or the private property of another, whether occurring on or off campus.
12. Possession, use, or distribution on campus or at clinical of any alcohol, narcotic, dangerous or unlawful drug, or controlled substance as defined by the laws of the United States or the State of Utah except as expressly permitted by law.

Students who believe that their peers have cheated on any course work have the ethical responsibility to themselves, fellow students, and the nursing profession to immediately notify the faculty member of that course. When conducting academic integrity inquiries, the reporting student's anonymity will be maintained by faculty.

## STUDENT STANDARDS AND CONDUCT

Bridgerland is concerned with the appearance of students/clients for whom they seek employment. Many agencies and organizations outside the College are interested in student behavior and appearance. Future employers speaking through advisory committees have made this position clear. In the classroom, shop, or laboratory, dress should conform to industry standards for safety and appearance.

Bridgerland students are considered adults and are charged accordingly with the responsibility of regulating their own conduct and of respecting the rights and privileges of others. Faculty encourages direct conflict resolution whenever conflicts arise. Rules, policies, and regulations of the faculty and administration are to be respected. Failure to show respect for order, morality,

honesty, and classroom conduct as expected of college students is cause for suspension or dismissal.

### BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Students enrolled at the College accept the obligation to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner acceptable at an institution of higher learning. The College has established procedures that provide standards and fair treatment for its students. Students must comply with appropriate conduct conditions throughout their enrollment as outlined in college policy. Students not complying with such conditions may be dismissed at any time. It is the responsibility of both students and faculty to facilitate and maintain an appropriate learning environment in the classroom setting. It is the responsibility of the faculty to place reasonable limits on student behaviors to ensure that classroom interactions facilitate learning and are not disruptive to fellow students. The following behaviors are considered disruptive to the educational process:

1. **Persistent speaking**—students who carry on private conversations amongst themselves.
2. **Grandstanding**—students whose behavior or comments distract the class from the subject matter. Students who continually make irrelevant comments or attempt to capture the attention of their peers that may be annoying to other students in the class.
3. **Excessive tardiness**—students who disrupt the learning environment by repeatedly coming in late to class or leaving early.
4. **Disruptions**—including cell phone, passing notes, or disruptive exits from the classroom.
5. **Disrespect toward faculty/staff/peers**—students who devalue the faculty's/staff's/peer's authority, judgment, or expertise. Students who refuse to comply with faculty/staff/peer directions. Students who make personal insults or derogatory statements directed toward faculty/staff/peers.
6. **Bullying/sexual misconduct including harassment**—students failing to maintain a learning environment free from intimidation, aggressive behavior, harm or coercion.
7. **Hostile behavior**—students who are confrontational, openly hostile, or argumentative with faculty/staff or classmates.
8. **Verbal or physical threats**—students who verbally or physically threaten a classmate or faculty/staff member. Police will be notified.

If a student behaves in any of the above-mentioned manners, the faculty member may respond in one of the following ways: 1) verbal warning; 2) probationary contract; 3) dismissal from the program. If a student disagrees with the actions taken by the faculty/staff member, they may follow the guidelines stated in the Bridgerland grievance procedures.

### STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION

Students and faculty must be respectful in their communications (verbal, email, text, etc.). Faculty may be contacted Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Faculty members are not required to respond outside of these hours, over the weekend, or on holidays. We encourage students to seek out instructor input during posted office hours. It would be helpful if students arranged appointments during these posted hours to ensure that the faculty members are not engaged in assisting other students. The Clinical Coordinator may be contacted on clinical days before or during early a.m. shifts, but not prior to 4:30 a.m. It is not appropriate to contact

faculty for assistance during the weekend. If students have an emergent issue (hospitalization, death of family member, etc.) during weekends, holidays, or breaks, please contact the PN Director.

Faculty and administration will follow the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines, which restrict them from discussing student issues with parents, friends, fellow students, etc. without permission. The student can grant FERPA permission with specific restrictions.

### **NON-ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students, who wish to request a deviation or change from a policy, procedure, schedule or course syllabus requirement, should complete a “Request for a non-ADA Accommodation” form. The forms must be submitted seven days prior to the requested change, in order to be considered by faculty and/or administration (except in cases of emergency). All requests will be considered. However, submission of the form is not a guarantee of approval.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Social media has become an integral part of how people communicate and share experiences. However, most of what you do as a student nurse cannot be shared due to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and other privacy and security laws and regulations. Please be aware of the following:

- Bridgerland students are not authorized to create or manage a social media site, page, network, etc., that claims to belong or be affiliated with Bridgerland Technical College or the Practical Nursing program, either explicitly or otherwise.
- No health information of any kind can be shared through social networking by Bridgerland students including patient identifiers, diagnoses, treatment options, or medical advice.
- Students will be held accountable for their comments, posts, etc.
- The Practical Nursing program discourages the use of cameras in clinical settings. Pictures taken at clinical sites cannot include clients, family members, or staff.

Violation of the Social Media Policy may be grounds for immediate dismissal. In addition, please be aware that the PN faculty has been asked to maintain professional boundaries with students. We respectfully request that students not attempt to make personal contact with instructors through social media until after completion of the program. Should an instructor choose to utilize social media as a tool to disseminate information about a PN course, a course page or user group will be created and students will be informed how to gain access.



## **STUDENT HEALTH**

As a student nurse, you are a healthcare provider and as such we encourage you to exert every effort to maintain optimal health. Your example will influence others far more than any other teaching you can do. Illness may cause absence that will affect your grade.

We encourage you to be open and honest about any health problems which may exist. Problems that exist when you enter the program, such as diabetes, epilepsy, heart conditions, drug-related problems, emotional problems, or any other problems which might require attention or special considerations, should be documented. Failure to disclose a known serious health problem could result in a health crisis, with the program being unaware and unable to make accommodation. This request is made out of concern for your health and safety.

## **PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS**

If a student violates policies and procedures, is unsafe in lab or clinical, or falls below passing standard (80 percent), he or she will be placed on a probationary contract. A contract includes a specified period of observation and review of conduct during which the student must demonstrate compliance with the College's and PN program policies and procedures. Any further violations or the continuation of such conduct or actions will result in further disciplinary actions up to dismissal. Counseling or participation in specific courses or workshops may be suggested. Terms of probation and the probationary period will be determined at the time the contract is initiated. Appropriate Bridgerland administration will be notified as needed.

## **PENALTY WAIVERS**

Attendance, late work, exams, lab and clinical penalties may be waived for special circumstances including military duty, court subpoenas, hospitalizations, etc. on a case-by-case basis. Adequate documentation must be provided to the PN Director prior to absences when possible. Waivers are provided at the discretion of the program.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

To receive a certificate of completion for the Bridgerland Technical College Practical Nursing program, the student must meet the following criteria:

1. All classroom, laboratory, and clinical experience must be completed satisfactorily. Satisfactory is defined as a B- grade or higher (>80 percent).
2. Tuition and costs must be paid in full (or a payment plan created), including a graduation cost of approximately \$100.
3. Adhere to attendance requirements of the program and institution, including completing immunization requirements.
4. Complete a mandatory proficiency examination with a score indicating NCLEX-PN success. (The Assessment Technologies Institute or ATI Comprehensive PN-Predictor exam score indicating a 90 percent or greater predicted probability of passing the NCLEX-PN exam.) Each student is responsible for the expense of this examination, which is included in student costs. The purpose of this examination is to provide the student with a

predicted aptitude score for passing the national nursing board examination. In addition, the ATI examination provides the student with an area-specific learning tool in preparing for the NCLEX-PN. It also provides the faculty with a resource in developing stronger curriculum. Failure to pass the predictor exam will result in an incomplete (I) grade in Employment Preparation, and required remediation with the opportunity to take a second proctored examination, which must be passed at 90 percent or greater predicted probability of passing the NCLEX-PN exam. Inability to pass the ATI on a second attempt will result in one-on-one counseling for the student on how to remediate in order to pass the NCLEX-PN, removal of the incomplete grade in Employment Preparation, and release of the transcript. If a student is required to retake the ATI exam, the cost of each retake (approximately \$70-75) will be the student's responsibility.

5. Exit interview with assigned student advisor must be completed and documented with appropriate signatures. Clinical badges must be returned at the exit interview.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION / TRANSFER OF CREDIT**

A contractual articulation agreement exists between Bridgerland and Weber State University (WSU). Bridgerland students desiring to continue their nursing education at the associate degree level must apply for placement in the associate degree PN to RN program through WSU. Graduates may be eligible for admittance into other associate degree nursing programs and students are welcome to explore those options as well.

Note: Under the articulation agreement between WSU and Bridgerland, WSU grants credit for completion of the Bridgerland Practical Nursing program. However, Bridgerland grades are not calculated into the overall GPA on the WSU transcript. Contact WSU for more information.

### **NATIONAL BOARD LICENSURE**

Successful completion of the Practical Nursing program prepares the student as a candidate to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). NCLEX-PN is taken on a computer at one of many Pearson Vue Testing Centers across the United States and its territories. Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) for the nurse licensure examination is the result of a decision made in August 1991 by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

The NCLEX is designed to test knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level. NCLEX results are an important component used by boards of nursing to make decisions about licensure. Only boards of nursing can release NCLEX results to candidates. The NCLEX is administered in the United States, Canada, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The use of the same examination by all jurisdictions facilitates licensure by endorsement from one board of nursing to another. You will be given further instruction on the application process as the end of the nursing program approaches. Testing must be completed within three years of graduation; however, the faculty recommends testing within two to three months of program completion.

**\*\*Note:** In order to be a licensed nurse in the State of Utah, the applicant must meet standards set forth within the Utah Nurse Practice Act. Applicants, who have been convicted of a felony, treated for mental illness or substance abuse, have been involved as the abuser in any incident of verbal, physical, mental, or sexual abuse, or may pose a threat to themselves, patients, clients, or to the public health, safety, or welfare because of any circumstances or conditions may not be eligible for licensure.

Acceptance and completion of the Bridgerland Practical Nursing program does not ensure eligibility to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Utah State Board of Nursing makes final decisions on issues of license to practice in the State of Utah.

### **GRIEVANCE POLICY**

Students should attempt to resolve any problems with peers and/or PN faculty directly with the person(s) involved. If the student is unable to resolve the conflict, they should make an appointment with their student advisor and/or the PN Director to discuss concerns. If the PN Director is unable to satisfactorily resolve the issue, students may contact Student Services to schedule an appointment to discuss the issue with the appropriate Associate Vice President as outlined in the Bridgerland Student Grievance policy. Student class representatives should not be utilized to resolve grievance issues.

### **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Bridgerland Technical College may not discriminate in the recruitment, admission, educational process, or treatment of students with disabilities. Under the guidelines of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Bridgerland Technical College is obligated to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities, to enable them to fully participate in all college programs. Each student requesting a modification with the College ADA Coordinator is required to submit documentation that must clearly state the nature of the disability and the limitations presented by the condition. This information is used in determining which services and ‘reasonable and effective’ modifications should be provided to the student. Modifications are determined on an individual basis and may vary, depending on the nature and purpose of the course.

Students with special needs (physically, cognitively, emotionally challenged or learning-disabled) may be eligible for accommodations through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and ADA provide comprehensive civil rights and protections for persons with disabilities. “No otherwise qualified person with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely on the basis of disability, be denied access to, or the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity provided by any institution receiving federal financial assistance.” A “qualified student” is defined as a student “who meets the academic and technical standards required for admission or participation in the education

program or activity.”<sup>1</sup> Such students should request to meet with the ADA Coordinator at the College to disclose their disability (self-identify) and request reasonable accommodation. Documentation concerning the student’s disability may be requested. The request will be reviewed by the ADA Coordinator, in consultation with the respective Associate VP and State Risk Management, as necessary, who will document all requests for reasonable modification and maintain confidential records on each contact. If denying the request is being considered, State Risk Management will be consulted. The student and, as needed, the department will be informed of the ADA Coordinator’s decision regarding reasonable and effective modifications without disclosing the reason. We do not have the ability to ensure a latex-free environment. Latex products may be used in lab, simulation, classroom, and clinical. Whenever possible, exposure to latex will be limited to the degree within faculty control.

### **STUDENT SERVICES**

Student Services including the registrar, academic records, financial aid, and testing can be accessed by calling (435) 753-6780.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT:** If you are having technical difficulties with a Canvas course, the best way to request help is to click the “Help” link on any page within your Canvas course, then choose “Report a Problem”. Please explain the issue you are having with as much detail as possible to help the support team troubleshoot the problem more effectively.

**BOOKSTORE:** Bridgerland has a full-service campus bookstore located at the north end of the building in the main hallway. Textbooks, school and office supplies, class materials, candy and snacks, greeting cards, gift selections, backpacks, and clothing are all available at the bookstore. Due to the use of online purchasing, the bookstore does not carry enough textbooks for all students. Used textbooks can be sold back to the bookstore at the discretion of the bookstore.

**FOOD SERVICES:** The cafeteria is located at the north end of the main campus building. A variety of freshly made sandwiches, burgers, snacks, and beverages are available. A different entree is available every day, made by the students in the Culinary Arts program. Cafeteria hours vary and it is primarily open for breakfast and lunch. Vending machines are available throughout the building.

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<sup>1</sup> Rehabilitation Act of 1973 – Section 504

## SECTION III: DIDACTIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### ATTENDANCE: THEORY CLASS

Just as showing up for work every day is important to an employer, Bridgerland expects regular attendance and punctuality as part of the students “hands on” training process. Practical Nursing course material will be covered over two semesters. If you are not in class, you cannot learn and may miss needed information. Attendance will be tracked and students receiving grants and/or scholarships will need to meet attendance criteria. If an absence is unavoidable, as a courtesy the student should notify the instructor prior to the absence so arrangements may be made to turn in any assignments or take quizzes that may be missed. This is at the discretion of individual instructors. An absence is defined as more than 15 minutes of missed class time regardless of whether missed time occurs at the start, middle, or end of a scheduled class.

Children are disruptive to the learning environment; therefore, children are not to be brought to class, lab practice, lab pass-offs, examinations, or any clinical experience. This is a Bridgerland policy and will be adhered to in this program. Pets of any kind are not allowed in the nursing laboratory or classrooms, with the exception of certified assistance animals as defined by the ADA.

Breaks will be given during the class periods. These breaks are for the purpose of taking care of personal needs. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be kept on silent mode during class time. **Please do not disrupt the class by receiving calls, or leaving inappropriately.** In-class use of a personal computer/tablet is at the discretion of the instructor. Faculty does allow voice recordings of their lectures. However, we respectfully request that lectures/slides are not video recorded or photographed.

### PUNCTUALITY: THEORY CLASS

Arriving late, leaving early, or leaving class multiple times in class is disruptive for the instructor and fellow classmates. In an effort to mimic the workplace, tardiness will be tracked. A tardy is defined as missing less than 15 minutes of class time once class has begun. If you have a health issue that requires additional break time, please visit with individual faculty members and request an accommodation.

### TESTING HONOR CODE

Computerized testing is utilized in the PN program.

1. When taking any quizzes or exams, nothing except the computer or exam, and program-issued whiteboard/marker and calculator should be on the table/desktop.
2. Once an exam is started, it should be completed. Do not leave or discuss anything with anyone during the exam.
3. Students who arrive late to a scheduled exam (within 15 minutes) will be issued a tardy. If a student is more than 15 minutes late to a scheduled exam, they will be unable to take the exam at the scheduled time and the late penalty will apply.
4. No part of any exam should be discussed with anyone who has not yet taken the exam.
5. No children, spouses, friends, or others should be present during hours of testing.

6. Computerized exams are scored promptly. Students should review exams at this time. Hard copies of exams (for review purposes) will not be provided. Faculty strongly suggests all students review exam items they miss or do not clearly understand because exam questions and concepts will be revisited, as course exams/quizzes are comprehensive.
7. It is inappropriate to ask fellow students about their exam scores. High scores and average scores may be given to everyone once testing is complete.
8. Cell phones and watches are prohibited during test times. Please leave on the instructors' desk at the front of the room.
9. If testing in the testing center, students may be assigned seating to ensure they are sitting by different peers. Sit forward in your chair as close as possible to the computer.

During testing, personal items, such as purses, watches, backpacks, cell phones (turned off), pagers, notebooks, laptops, drink or beverages and briefcases will be left at a designated area in the classroom or at the front of the testing room. The instructor reserves the right to ask students to remove all hats/caps, jackets or articles of clothing that are bulky and could be suspicious of covering written material during the exam.

## **SECTION IV: CLINICAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Clinical experiences include both facility shifts and simulation. Each student must be covered by malpractice insurance throughout the year. Bridgerland has a blanket policy covering each student. The premium for this insurance is paid from part of student costs. However, each student may purchase and maintain his/her own malpractice insurance policy. If you have a question on how to obtain malpractice insurance, please see your faculty advisor.

Bridgerland does not accept responsibility for injury or illness that occurs while students are enrolled in the PN program. Students are strongly encouraged to carry health insurance.

Students must be in good physical health to attend clinical experiences. Students will not be allowed to attend clinical with communicable diseases (please see [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) for information regarding communicable or infectious diseases). In addition, students cannot have open wounds that are not dressed, continuous or intermittent intravenous infusions, or other medical conditions or treatments that put patients' or the student's own health at risk when participating in clinical experiences. The Clinical Coordinator may attempt to reschedule clinical experiences that are missed due to significant illness, medical treatments, hospitalizations or medical emergencies when possible.

It is required that students have a minimum of 6 hours off-duty time prior to attending a clinical. For the safety of the patients, students arriving at the clinical site impaired in any way (fatigue, illness, drugs, alcohol, etc.) will be asked to leave the clinical setting and given an absence. Additionally, when it becomes statistically impossible for a student to reach the 80 percent unit exam benchmark in didactic coursework by the end of the semester, the student will no longer be allowed to attend clinical experiences due to a patient safety concern.

A federal background investigation and random drug screen must be completed prior to entering any clinical setting. Admission and successful progression through the PN program is contingent upon submission of a satisfactory background investigation and drug screen. Convicted criminal actions may affect your status in the program and could lead to suspension/expulsion. Please see Appendix B, C, and D for background check policy, drug screen policy, and confidentiality agreement.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS**

Bridgerland does not require immunizations. However, PN students will be required to adhere to federally recommended standard precautions to protect themselves and to prevent the spread of disease in clinical areas. Vaccinations are required to participate in clinical facilities. It is the responsibility of each student to provide proof (either by public health vaccination record or by signature of health care provider administering vaccinations or titers) to the PN program before entering any clinical facility in a student capacity. Please provide copies of proof of immunizations on the first day of class. This documentation will be placed in your permanent student file. Bear River Health Department offers vaccinations for a nominal fee.

Required immunizations include the following:

1. **Tdap:** current immunization for Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) must be received and documentation submitted.
2. **Tuberculosis Screening:** a 2-step TB process, OR one (1) QuantiFERON Gold blood test, OR one (1) T-SPOT blood test, with a negative result, is needed and must be completed prior to the first clinical shift.
3. **Hepatitis B:** complete the three-vaccine series. Once the series is complete, students will need to submit proof of a reactive quantitative Hepatitis B Antibody (Ab) titer. If a student is in the process of completing their initial series, have the titer drawn 30-45 days after the last immunization. Gray-zone or non-reactive titer results indicate a need for the student to repeat the hepatitis series.
4. **Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, Rubella:** two immunizations administered on or after the first birthday and at least 30 days apart.
5. **Varicella (Chicken Pox):** documentation of two immunizations administered on or after the first birthday and at least 30 days apart; or lab report of positive immune serum antibody titer.
6. **Influenza:** annual influenza immunization is required. Documentation of influenza vaccination must be submitted.
7. **COVID-19 Vaccination:** the COVID-19 vaccination and booster are not required. Some clinical sites require reporting on students' vaccination and booster status. If you have received any doses, you will be asked to provide the dates of vaccination and proof of administration.

Additional vaccinations: The Practical Nursing program supports recommendations from the Utah Department of Health & Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and encourages that all students receive the following immunizations: HPV, Meningococcal, Hepatitis A, and/or Polio. Please consult your personal physician to make an informed decision.

### CPR CERTIFICATION

All students are required to be Basic Life Support (American Heart Association) CPR certified and must maintain annual and current certification throughout the program year. Every student must be certified before participating in any clinical experiences. If your current CPR certification expires prior to your anticipated graduation date, you will be required to attend another CPR course prior to your first clinical experience. A copy of the certification must be provided for your student records. The student assumes all costs for becoming certified.

### STUDENT ID BADGES

A Bridgerland student ID badge will be issued to you upon entrance to the program. This badge is required to be worn at all clinical facilities. Replacement badges can be obtained through Student Services for \$3. Some clinical facilities may also issue mandatory ID badges, which must be returned at the end of each semester.



## **DRUG DOSAGES AND CALCULATIONS EXAM**

All students are required to successfully pass a drug dosage and calculations exam prior to passing medication in a clinical setting. This examination will be administered in the Caring for the Client Requiring Drug Therapy Course. Passing is defined as an earned score of 80 percent or better. A student who fails to successfully pass the exam on first attempt will be issued a written warning and receive a second opportunity to test. Failure to pass the second examination results in immediate dismissal due to patient safety concerns. You may be required to take a math competency exam whenever you are hired in a new nursing position.

## **DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS**

Use of tablet devices (iPads, Kindle, Nexus, etc.) must be limited to conference areas only, and for access to textbooks or reference materials. Personal use of smart phones by students at clinical is limited. Please consult with the clinical instructor for appropriate phone use.

## **CLINICAL, LAB, AND SIMULATION DRESS CODE**

Personal appearance, grooming and attire must reflect business and professional standards. Dress and appearance must not be distracting or present a health or safety hazard. The following guidelines will be enforced:

1. Uniform: Clean Bridgerland-approved uniform. Clean, well-fitting closed-toe shoes. Your name badge(s) must be worn visibly above the waste. Refer to clinical syllabus for additional details.
2. Appropriate grooming and daily personal hygiene, including deodorant, are essential because of the close proximity to clients and others.
3. Since odors of any kind may be offensive to clients, products with strong odors should be avoided (i.e., tobacco, perfumes, colognes, aftershave, etc.).
4. Hair must be clean, contained, and worn off the face to provide protection for the client. Hairstyle must conform to business and professional standards.
5. Facial hair must be clean, trimmed, and worn in such a manner that will not affect nursing activities, including the wearing of N-95 masks.
6. Simple make-up and clean short nails are expected. Naked nails are required (no polish). Artificial nails, nail wraps, shellac, gel, or nail jewelry, etc. are prohibited.
7. For the safety of others and student, jewelry (with the exception of a wedding ring and/or wristwatch) is not to be worn. During sterile procedures, no hand or wrist jewelry may be worn. Body piercings may not be offensive or impair the ability to perform nursing care. Additionally, piercings must not dangle from the body (for the safety of the student).
8. Tattoos and other body art are permitted but you may be asked to cover them if deemed offensive by instructors, clinical site staff, or clients.
9. Additional criteria may be defined by the Practical Nursing instructors in specified areas. Failure to meet any of the above criteria may result in the student being excused.
10. If a higher standard exists between the PN program and clinical site policies, the PN program will conform to the clinical sites higher standard.

### **MANDATORY ATTENDANCE: CLINICAL**

The clinical experience allows students the opportunity to practice theory in a clinical or simulated setting under the direction of a clinical instructor; therefore, **attendance is mandatory** for clinical/simulation experiences. Less than 100 percent attendance at clinical, may result in the inability to reach the passing standard and suspension may result. Refer to Canvas Clinical Applications course overview for grading details.

Clinical orientations are required for all facilities and are considered clinical hours. If students are late, a point reduction may result and students are required to stay and complete the orientation.

Transportation to clinical facilities is the responsibility of the student. Students must be present for attendance at the designated time or it will be counted as an unexcused absence. If an absence is necessary, the clinical coordinator must be notified prior to the absence. Please refer to individual Clinical Applications course overview for specific allowable absence reporting guidelines.

### **PUNCTUALITY: CLINICAL**

Arriving late, leaving early, or coming unprepared to clinical is unprofessional conduct and will not be tolerated. Students who arrive after the clinical shift has begun or leave before the shift ends will receive an absence.

### **SAFETY AND REPORTING**

In the event that a clinical error or incident occurs, please contact your clinical instructor immediately. The clinical instructor, in conjunction with the facility staff, will assist you to complete all necessary paperwork and processes. Additionally, with the guidance of the clinical instructor, you need to complete the Bridgerland Technical College Incident Report. The purpose of this report is to identify best practices for patient safety and to prevent future occurrences. Reports are reviewed for trends and curriculum strengthened if necessary.

### **PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

(Adopted from the Utah State Board of Nursing Rules and Regulations Governing Conduct of Nurses) Pre-licensure nursing students will be held to the standards of the Utah Nurse Practice Act.

Professional conduct is nursing behavior including acts, knowledge, and practices, which through professional experience, has become established by practicing nurses as conduct, which is reasonably necessary for the protection of public interest.

## UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Nursing behavior (acts, knowledge, and practices) which fails to conform to the accepted standards of the nursing profession and which could jeopardize the health and welfare of the people shall constitute unprofessional conduct and shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. Failing to report mistakes made in a clinical setting is a serious violation of the nurses' code of conduct. This is a violation of a client's safety and therefore may result in immediate dismissal from the program. The integrity of a nurse is of utmost importance.
2. Failing to utilize appropriate judgment or exercise technical competence in administering safe nursing practice based upon the level of nursing for which the individual is prepared.
3. Failing to follow policies or procedures defined in the practice situation to safeguard client care.
4. Failing to safeguard the client's dignity and right to privacy.
5. Violating the confidentiality of information (including Protected Health Information - PHI) or knowledge concerning the client.
6. Verbally, physically, mentally, financially, or sexually abusing or exploiting clients.
7. Performing new nursing techniques or procedures without proper education and preparation or beyond the scope of competency, ability, or education.
8. Being unfit to perform because of physical or psychological impairment. (Students may be sent home from class or clinical for sleep deprivation if an instructor feels their judgment may be impaired.)
9. Using intoxicants, drugs, alcohol, narcotics, or similar chemicals to the point that there is interference with job performance that might reasonably be considered to impair the ability of the nurse to safely engage in the profession. (Bridgerland Practical Nursing program reserves the right to dismiss any student from a specific learning experience and/or the Practical Nursing program for the use of alcohol and/or drugs prior to or during a learning experience. The faculty or PN administration has the right to request an alcohol/drug screen for suspicious behavior at the student's expense.)
10. Manipulating drug supplies, narcotics, or client's records.
11. Falsifying client's records or intentionally charting incorrectly.
12. Appropriating medications, supplies, or personal items of the client or agency.
13. Violating state and federal laws relative to drugs.
14. Intentionally committing any act that adversely affects the physical or psychosocial welfare of the client.
15. Delegating nursing care, function, tasks, and/or responsibilities to others contrary to the Utah laws governing nursing and/or to the detriment of the client's safety.
16. Leaving a nursing assignment without properly notifying appropriate personnel.
17. Resorting to fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit in reference to the licensing examination or in obtaining a license.
18. Aiding, abetting, or assisting an individual to violate or circumvent any law or duly promulgated rule or regulation intended to guide the conduct of a nurse or any other health care provider.
19. Failing to report through the proper channels facts known to the individual regarding the incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice of any health care provider.
20. Violating any provision included in the Nurse Practice Act.

## **TRAVEL**

Students are required to provide their own transportation to campus, clinical areas, professional conferences, etc. These experiences are an integral part of the PN program; therefore, they are mandatory. The student assumes the cost of this travel.



# APPENDICES

## Practical Nursing Program

### ESTIMATED EXPENSES

Spring 2025 through Summer 2025

Bridgerland Tuition.....	\$2,470
1 <sup>st</sup> semester (13 cr x \$95).....	approximately \$1,235
2 <sup>nd</sup> semester (13 cr x \$95).....	approximately \$1,235
 Bridgerland Consumable Supplies (itemized below) .....	 \$1,065
➤ These include:	
Lab Supplies	
MyClinical Exchange (required for clinical)	
SimChart	
ATI Testing – 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	
Graduation Expenses – 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	
 <b>TUITION AND SUPPLIES SUBTOTAL.....</b>	 <b>\$3,535</b>
 Books .....	 \$750
Nursing Supplies (stethoscope, BP cuff, penlight, pen, watch, etc.) .....	\$150
Uniforms and Shoes .....	\$250
Verified Credentials .....	\$128
Immunizations/Titers .....	variable/approx. \$400
 <b>Book and Supplies Subtotal .....</b>	 <b>\$1,678</b>
 <b>Total Approximate Cost.....</b>	 <b>\$5,213</b>

Note: Expenses are not incurred all at once. Please remember that we cannot predict changes that may occur in prices. These are estimates only.

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Post-program Testing and Licensure costs (paid by the student to the testing agency and state)  
NCLEX-PN Exam and State of Utah Application (DOPL).....\$300

**BACKGROUND SCREENING**  
**Student Information**

Students who wish to pursue education in programs or courses with experiences involving direct patient care and/or controlled substance interaction are required to submit to federal background screening as established by Bridgerland Technical College Policy, Educational Affiliation Agreements, and Utah Codes, §58-31b-302, §R26-21-203, §58-17b-307, and §26-8a-310. Students participating in sanctioned internship, externship, or clinical experience will be considered a “volunteer worker.”

Prior to registration and/or admission to such program(s), a student must utilize the College’s designated third-party background screening services and pay a nonrefundable fee.

Students frequently ask what findings on their federal background screen will disqualify them from attending a course or program. If an individual has been convicted of a felony, misdemeanor A, or a non-excluded misdemeanor, the individual may not provide direct patient care and/or work with controlled substances, which will result in the inability to enter and/or complete the program. Misdemeanor charges will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Misdemeanor involving violence against a child, family member, animal; unauthorized sexual conduct with a child or disabled adult; or theft may exclude a student from training. Traffic violations are excluded from consideration.

The following factors will be used in deciding under what circumstances, if any, the student will be allowed to provide direct patient care, work with controlled substances, or for other designated externships:

1. Types and number of offenses
2. Passage of time since the offense was committed
3. Circumstances surrounding the commission of the offense
4. Intervening circumstances since the commission of the offense
5. Relationship of the facts to the individual’s suitability to work in their chosen career field (e.g., working with children, disabled persons, elderly adults, and/or controlled substances)

If you have questions regarding your eligibility to enroll in a course or program, you can discuss your concerns with the program department head. However, students with criminal backgrounds can only be officially cleared for registration by the Campus Review Committee. Student Services staff cannot, under any circumstance, make decisions regarding clearance of criminal background check results.

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I have read and understand the Background Screening Student Information. I am aware that, regardless of findings, the fee is nonrefundable. I understand that criminal convictions may lead to ineligibility for a course, program, and ultimately employment. The College Tuition Refund Policy (available online) will apply to all students who are dismissed or withdraw.

I voluntarily consent to the criminal background investigation and give my permission for the results to go directly to Bridgerland Technical College on my behalf. I understand the College will not share the results with anyone other than me (the student) and the Campus Review Committee. I further understand the College considers me to be a “volunteer worker and/or prospective employee” during any sanctioned internship, externship, or clinical experience.

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Student Name (please print)

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Date

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Student Signature







**Bridgerland Technical College  
Practical Nursing Program**

**DRUG SCREEN PROTOCOL**

A urine drug screen is required of all accepted students in the Practical Nursing program at Bridgerland Technical College. This panel drug screen tests for cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, marijuana, opiates, Phencyclidine, propoxyphene, methadone, methaqualone, and other substances as deemed necessary.

Prior to registration and/or admission to such program(s), a student must utilize the College's designated third-party drug screening services and pay a nonrefundable fee. The student must complete the drug screen within the time frame specified by the third party. There will be no exceptions. **Refusal to submit to the drug screen will be treated the same as a positive drug screen and the student will not be allowed to enter the program.**

Results of the drug screen will be sent directly to the Bridgerland Practical Nursing Program.

**Failed Drug Screen – Rights and Remedies:** If a drug test reveals the presence of a non-prescribed controlled substance the student may do the following:

- The student must submit a current copy of the prescription for a controlled medication if that is the cause of the positive drug screen.
- The student may request that the Medical Review Officer review **the same specimen** and make a determination if a legitimate prescription drug may have caused a positive drug screen.

**Therefore, if a legitimate prescribed drug is not identified (in a positive drug screen) the student will be dismissed from the program. The student may choose to re-apply for admission.**

**Application to the program does not ensure admission. New application materials will be required.**

**If your drug screen is not definitive because the sample is “dilute”, you will have to submit to another drug test. The second test will require a hair sample or other methodologies as deemed necessary.**

I have read and agree to follow the requirements stated above for the drug screen and national background check protocol. I understand that failure to comply with these protocols will be grounds for dismissal from the program.

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Student Name (Printed)

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Student Signature

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Date



## Practical Nursing Program

### CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT & RELEASE OF INFORMATION AUTHORIZATION

All personal and health information including Federal Background Check results and Urine Drug Screen results will be kept in my permanent confidential student file at Bridgerland Technical College. I am aware that the practical nursing director, assistant director, and faculty may have access to my student file.

I also understand that Bridgerland and clinical site administrations have the right to request access to this information. I recognize that my ability to participate in clinical rotations is contingent upon satisfactory results on my background check and drug screen. I could be denied the opportunity to attend clinical by Bridgerland or any or all clinical facilities based on these results. I am aware that this could result in suspension or expulsion from the program.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize Bridgerland to release any  
(Print Name)  
requested files, or records of information of any type, to clinical site administrations used by the Practical Nursing program as required by law.

I release Bridgerland Technical College from any and all liability related to this release of information.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**PHOTOGRAPHY\VIDEO\PUBLICATIONS RELEASE FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), authorize Bridgerland Technical College permission to use my image and/or my written or verbal statements in Bridgerland Technical College publications, documents, videos, audio recordings, and any other media format that Bridgerland Technical College may create for both marketing and educational purposes.

I understand that I will not be compensated for allowing this usage and that I am granting Bridgerland Technical College unlimited use of the images and/or written and verbal statements.

By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the above release and agree to be bound thereby.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student's date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If this release is obtained from a student under the age of eighteen (18), then the signature of the student's parent or legal guardian is also required.

Printed Name Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER USE

All computers at Bridgerland Technical College (BTECH) are shared educational resources of the State of Utah for the primary use of professional staff and student access. The use of the network and/or online courses is considered to be a privilege and is permitted to the extent that available resources allow. With this privilege come certain responsibilities that need to be understood and carried out by all users. Classroom computer settings must remain constant to provide a quality training environment. **Therefore, any user found inappropriately or without authorization adding, modifying, or deleting current computer settings or software (i.e., screen savers, wallpaper, graphics, games, unlicensed software, instant messaging client, file sharing, downloading of copyrighted materials, etc.) will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and possible termination from the College.**

Users must accept the responsibility of adhering to high standards of professional conduct and act in a responsible, decent, ethical, and polite manner. Internet use is for the purpose of encouraging the pursuit of higher knowledge. Although reasonable effort is made to filter out controversial material, each individual's judgment regarding appropriate conduct in maintaining a quality resource system is essential. Students will treat their instructors, fellow students, and support staff with respect both in the physical and online classroom environments.

All users are required to complete an Acceptable Computer Use Agreement (see below). While this document does not attempt to articulate all required behavior by its members, it does seek to assist by providing the following guidelines:

1. All use of the Internet must be in support of a world class public education facility and educational research consistent with the purposes of the network.
2. Computer accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their account. All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property. Great care is taken by the network's administrators to ensure the right of privacy of users. However, it is recommended that users not give out personal information like home addresses and/or telephone numbers. Also, passwords should be kept private and changed frequently.
3. No personal laptop computers, desktop computers, smart phones, tablet devices, or any other personal device capable of network connection will be allowed on the network; although, personal devices may connect to the Internet via the College's wireless network. Personal network devices such as wireless access points, routers, servers, firewalls, etc., are not allowed.
4. Prohibited behaviors include:
  - Sending or displaying intimidating, offensive, or inappropriate messages or pictures
  - Illegal activities (defined as a violation of local, state, and/or federal laws)
  - Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
  - Any use of language deemed to be vulgar
  - Using another person's password/account
  - Accessing another person's computer, folders, work, or files without their consent
  - Possessing or using any software tools designed for probing, monitoring, or breaching the security of a network
  - Violating copyright laws
  - Having someone else complete work

- Using additional materials to complete exams
  - Any use for commercial purposes or financial gain
  - Any use for product advertisement or political lobbying
  - Any use which shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by other users
  - Extensive use of the network for private or personal business
5. In regard to e-mail, chat rooms, and threaded discussions (if applicable), “netiquette” includes:
    - Having appropriate e-mail addresses
    - Using only language that would be appropriate in any face-to-face conversation at the College
    - Respecting the comments of teachers and other students. Discussions and disagreements over issues are appropriate; however, put-downs or any type of negative comments about another student or instructor is not appropriate
  6. This is a legally binding document and careful consideration should be given to the principles outlined herein. Violations of the provisions stated by the College may result in suspension, revocation of network privileges, and/or dismissal/termination.
  7. The above-mentioned use is subject to revision. College policy may also dictate terms of acceptable computer use.
  8. As necessary, the College will determine whether specific uses of the Internet are consistent with this document. Bridgerland Technical College shall be the final authority on use of the network and the issuance of user accounts. Bridgerland Technical College may or may not provide e-mail accounts as deemed necessary.

**Bridgerland Technical College Staff/Student  
Acceptable Computer Use Agreement**

Applicant _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Employee <input type="checkbox"/> Student
I have read the College’s Acceptable Computer Use document and consent to abide by its provisions. I understand violation of the use provisions stated in the document may constitute suspension or revocation of network privileges.	
Signature _____	Date _____

Revised: May 2020



BRIDGERLAND TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
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**Practical NURSING HANDBOOK**  
**Agreement Form**  
Fall 2024

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
acknowledge that I have received and read a copy of the Bridgerland Practical  
Nursing Handbook. I understand and will abide by the standards set forth therein.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# *The Nightingale Pledge*

*I solemnly pledge myself before God  
and in the presence of this assembly,  
To pass my life in purity and to  
practice my profession faithfully.*

*I will abstain from whatever is  
deleterious and mischievous,  
and will not take or knowingly  
administer any harmful drug.*

*I will do all in my power  
to maintain and elevate  
the standard of my profession,  
and will hold in confidence  
all personal matters committed to my keeping  
and all family affairs coming to my knowledge  
in the practice of my calling.*

*With loyalty will I endeavor  
to work closely with the health team,  
and devote myself to the welfare  
of those committed to my care.*

*In 1893, Mrs. Lystra E. Gretter and the Farrand Training School for Nurses wrote an adaptation of the physician's Hippocratic Oath for nurses. It was named the Florence Nightingale Pledge in honor of the esteemed founder of nursing and is also known as the Nurses' Oath.*



**Bridgerland Technical College**

1301 North 600 West

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Bridgerland Receptionist for Health Building..... (435) 352-6159

**“Employment Through Training”**