EWC Nursing Program is approved by:
Wyoming State Board of Nursing
130 Hobbs Avenue, Suite B
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7601
https://nursing-online.state.wy.us

And has received National Accreditation by the:
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
Phone: (404) 975-5000
Fax: (404) 975-5020
Email: info@acenursing.org
Web: www.acenursing.org

Effective 2018-2022

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT
Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, sex, religion, political belief, veteran status, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment, or participation in or employment of its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title II, Title VI, Title VII, and Section 504, may be directed to Mr. Ed Meyer, Director of Human Resources, 307.532.8330. Inquiries concerning Title IX may be directed to Dr. Don Appiarius Vice President for Student Services, 307.532.8257. Both may be reached at Eastern Wyoming College, 3200 West C Street, Torrington, WY 92440. Alternatively you may contact the Wyoming Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights Coordinator, 23000 Capitol Avenue 2nd Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050, or 307.777.7675.
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DISCLAIMER: The purpose of the EWC Nursing Student Handbook is to provide students, faculty, and applicants to the program with consistent, current information about the program. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented, EWC reserves the right to make changes as circumstances arise. The contents of the handbook do not, in whole or in part, constitute a contractual obligation on the part of EWC, its employees or agents. The information provided herein is solely for the convenience of the reader and EWC expressly disclaims any liability which may be otherwise incurred.
Welcome to the Eastern Wyoming College Douglas Campus Nursing Program

As Program Director of the Eastern Wyoming College Associate Degree Nursing Program, I welcome you to a challenging and rewarding profession. I congratulate you on choosing nursing as your profession and EWC as your nursing school. In addition to offering the best possible professional education, faculty strives to provide evidence-based teaching and continued exposure to current nursing issues in both lecture and clinical experiences. We take our responsibility seriously in preparing knowledgeable, caring, and clinically proficient registered nurses. Each faculty member is committed to assisting you in achieving success in school and in your nursing career.

We are committed to your learning. Our faculty is prepared to guide you every step of the way in this journey of nursing school. We want the EWC Nursing Program to exceed all of your expectations. We are very proud of our recent accomplishment of becoming nationally accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) which affords the student to be able to apply to Universities and work nationwide.

Within the pages of this EWC Nursing Student Handbook is information and policies that will guide you along your journey. The student policies are congruent with those of EWC, publicly accessible at EWC website: ewc.wy.edu, are non-discriminatory, and consistently applied. Any differences in the ADN policies and EWC general policies are justified by the goals and outcomes of the ADN program.

Once again, I want to congratulate you for being selected from a large group of applicants seeking entrance into the program! We are your partner in your educational process and welcome you aboard this wonderful experience.

Suzey Delger MSN, APRN (Ret), RN
EWC Nursing Director
Program Purpose and Philosophy

The purpose of the Nursing Program is to educate nursing students to provide appropriate, safe, and competent nursing care to diverse populations in a variety of health care delivery settings. Upon successful completion of this program, students will be successful in meeting all End of Program Outcomes and are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Consistent with EWC’s mission and by adopting the statewide curriculum initiative of Revolutionizing Nursing Education in Wyoming (ReNEW), the EWC Nursing Program shares the mission statement “to enhance the quality of nursing and health care in Wyoming by revolutionizing nursing education”. The vision of ReNEW is a shared, competency-based statewide curriculum where students can earn an associate degree or continue seamlessly to the BSN degree (or higher) starting at any of the Wyoming Community Colleges or University of Wyoming. EWC shares the belief of the “intrinsic value and worth of every person” (ReNEW Curriculum).

Philosophically, the EWC Nursing Program & ReNEW believes that health is a state of homeostasis influenced by forces impacting on the person. Nursing is a practice-oriented discipline that uses evidenced-based knowledge derived from the biological, physical, and behavioral sciences to provide safe and humanistic care to persons, families, groups, and communities. The art and the science of nursing is the nucleus of the interdisciplinary health care system. EWC Nursing Program believes the goal of nursing is to use the nursing process and clinical judgment to promote and maintain health, prevent disease and disability, care for and rehabilitate the sick, and support the dying.

As stated in the ReNEW Curriculum, “nursing education must have a strong clinical focus and allow opportunity to apply the theoretical component of nursing. Learning is a dynamic lifelong process, occurring in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains. Learning is the joint responsibility of the educator and the learner with each assuming the responsibility for learning and continued self-development. The role of the educator is to facilitate learning and leadership by providing an environment wherein students have the opportunity to establish goals, examine various means of attaining them, and evaluate the course of actions selected. Practitioners of nursing have a responsibility for professionalism and the mentoring of others. The nurse is a role model for clients, families, and communities in terms of practicing appropriate health behaviors”. Nursing is also an art; an art of caring, compassion, and concern for complete strangers and all people we encounter. You will be asked to take the “Nightingale Pledge” at your pinning ceremony. We at EWC Nursing Program embrace that pledge and all it entails. Once again, welcome to Nursing. You HAVE made a great decision by joining us at EWC Nursing Program.
Curriculum Framework

There are six core curricular concepts from the ReNEW statewide curriculum that form the organizing framework of the EWC Nursing Program.

These six concepts are threaded through each course and include:
1. Safety
2. Clinical Judgment
3. Leadership
4. Patient Centeredness
5. Professionalism
6. Health Promotion.

For EWC Nursing students, these six concepts provide the necessary framework to successfully become a Registered Nurse and act as Associate Degree Benchmark Student Learning Program Outcomes.

Upon completion of this program the graduate will be expected to (END OF PROGRAM, STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):

Safety:
1. Provide safe nursing care within the health care system.

Clinical Judgment:
2. Incorporate prior knowledge, current research, and clinical experience in decision-making.

Leadership:
3. Demonstrate leadership skills as part of an interprofessional team to promote desired outcomes.

Patient Centeredness:
4. Use effective communication and advocacy to provide individualized care.

Professionalism:
5. Practice within the core values, principles, and standards of the nursing profession.

Health Promotion:
6. Utilize the nursing process and a broad knowledge base to maximize health.

Each nursing course is guided by semester student learning outcomes which are published in each course syllabus. Nursing education outcomes are reached through successful achievement of course student learning outcomes, which increase in complexity as the student progresses from one semester to the next. The student utilizes the nursing process when building on knowledge gained from general education and support courses as nursing concepts are mastered.
ReNEW Curriculum

An Overview

Revolutionizing Nursing Education in Wyoming (ReNEW) Curriculum is the result of a group of dedicated Wyoming nurse educators who decided to develop a “shared” curriculum with Wyoming Community Colleges and the University of Wyoming. The intent is to have students be able to make a “seamless” progression from the Associate Degree in Nursing to the Bachelor’s degree in Nursing and fulfill the Institute of Medicine report to increase the number of BSN prepared nurses. With this common philosophy the curriculum will be taught at Community Colleges including EWC and the University of Wyoming undergraduate program.

Welcome to the Nursing Baccalaureate Highway!

The ReNEW Curriculum consists of these Core Courses:

Professional Nursing Care in Health Promotion: (9 credits of didactic and clinical)
This course introduces the learner to the concepts of health promotion, safety, clinical judgment, leadership, patient centeredness, and professionalism. Health promotion includes learning about self-health and health in children, adults, older adults, and the family experiencing a normal pregnancy. Learners will value evidence about healthy lifestyle patterns and risk factors Nursing Lab for disease and illness, apply growth and development theory, develop therapeutic relationships, conduct age appropriate and culturally sensitive health assessment, and promote health using the nursing process and standards of professional nursing.

Professional Nursing Care of the Patient with Chronic Illness: (9 credits of didactic and clinical)
This course introduces the learner to the patient and family with chronic illness using the concepts of health promotion, safety clinical judgment, leadership, patient centeredness, and professionalism. Learners will use caring behaviors, therapeutic communication and advocacy when providing care to patients with chronic illness across the lifespan. The learner will identify the roles and values of the members of the inter-professional healthcare team. The patient and family lived experience is emphasized.

Professional Nursing Care of the Patient with Acute Illness: (9 credits of didactic and clinical)
This course introduces the learner to the patient and family with acute illness using the concepts of health promotion, safety, clinical judgment, leadership, patient centeredness, and professionalism. Learners will use caring behaviors, therapeutic communication and advocacy when providing care to patients with acute illness across the lifespan. The learner will facilitate the effectiveness of the inter-professional health care team. The patient and family lived experience is emphasized.

Professional Nursing Care of the Patient with Complex Illness: (9 credits of didactic and clinical)
This course introduces the learner to the patient and family with complex illness using the concepts of health promotion, safety, clinical judgment, leadership, patient centeredness, and professionalism. This semester is focused on the vulnerable patient which could include
multisystem acute and chronic diseases, process and physiological, mental and socioeconomic factors that put the patient at risk. The patient and family lived experience is emphasized. This semester has the “capstone” experience with one-to-one assignment with a preceptor in a clinical facility.

The Nursing Faculty will provide every student with a syllabus for each course online. **It is the student’s responsibility to closely follow the syllabus.** The nursing classes are very demanding and students should devote up to 30-40 hours per week to accomplish the goal of graduating. Due to the nature of nursing classes, children will not be allowed in the Nursing Lab or classrooms. **There will be no exceptions.** Because this is a learning environment, please make necessary arrangements for child care prior to coming to campus.

Students are encouraged to attend any open Nursing Faculty Meetings which are set each semester at a convenient time and are encouraged to participate fully in all course/clinical evaluations. **Students will be told of all policy changes in a variety of ways including but not limited to: in class announcements, email, and online at** [www.ecw.wy.edu](http://www.ecw.wy.edu)
Admission Requirements
Eastern Wyoming College (EWC) Requirements

**Students must:**

1. Submit an Application for Admission to EWC online and ask that official transcripts requested from all other colleges attended, electronically is preferable. Official transcripts should be sent to:

   Eastern Wyoming College  
   Attn: Admissions Office  
   3200 West “C” Street  
   Torrington, WY  82240

2. Submit a separate Application to the Nursing Program by the published deadline online at www.ewc.wy.edu/nursing

3. Complete or be in the process of completing the prerequisites prior to full admission with all courses combined with a grade of “C” or better AND have an overall 2.5 GPA (see Page 23). Midterm grades will be accessed for those completing the prerequisites. Successful completion of the prerequisites will be required at the end of the semester for conditional enrollment.

4. Have at minimum proficient score on TEAS Test of 58.7%.

Admission to the Nursing Program is based on combining your GPA and TEAS score (see Criteria for Admission, page 22). The highest scoring students will be admitted until slots are filled. In case of a tie, a random drawing will determine the selected student. Two additional students will be chosen as alternates in the event one of the original drop out prior to courses beginning. Admission will be announced by phone and in a letter mailed to the student’s preferred mailing address.

**Prior to full admission students must:**

1. Agree to have a background check and drug screening. See Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening (see page 14).

2. Provide proof of required immunizations and tuberculosis skin testing 2-step PPD or current X-RAY reports.

3. Attend a Nursing Orientation that will be announced in advance.

4. Students are advised that the inability to gain clinical education can result in the inability to meet end of program objectives. These circumstances may prevent acceptance into the program and/or continuance in the program. This may include but not limited to: inability to be rehired as an employee or public discourse of a facility in any form including social media.

5. Agree to simulation activities, touching fellow classmates, and consent to video recording to optimize instruction and learning.

6. Meet the minimum General Nursing Core Performance Standards (see page 8).
General Nursing Core Performance Standards

Admission to and progression in the program is not based upon these standards, rather they will be used to determine whether accommodations or modifications are necessary. Enrolled students to EWC are responsible for providing medical and other documentation related to any disability and the appropriate accommodations needed to meet the Essential Performance Standards set forth by the American Nurses Association, Performance Standards. Reasonable accommodations will be considered on an individual basis.

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**Critical Thinking:** Critical thinking ability to exercise non-clinical & clinical judgment in a timely manner.

**Interpersonal:** Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact professionally and therapeutically with peers, faculty, staff, administrators, patients/clients, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, ethnic, and intellectual backgrounds.

**Communication:** Communication skills sufficient for interaction with peers, faculty, staff, administrators, patients/clients, families and groups in verbal, nonverbal, and written form.

**Mobility:** Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, safely perform treatments/procedures and assist patients/clients; lift and transfer patients/clients; manipulate equipment; walk and/or stand for extended periods of time.

**Motor Skills:** Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe and effective patient/client care.

**Hearing:** Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and safely assess health needs.

**Visual:** Visual ability with or without corrective lenses sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in safe patient/client care.

**Tactile:** Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment of patient/client.

**Professionalism:** The ability to understand and demonstrate sufficient respect for others in non-verbal, verbal, and written communication in the classroom, laboratory, clinical settings in the community, and related public settings. The ability to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the cumulative effect that behavior, appearance, and communication has on the nursing professional image.
Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

The TEAS test is a product of Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) and is a computerized multiple-choice standardized assessment of basic academic knowledge in reading, mathematics, science, and English and language usage. The outcomes assessed on the exam are those which nurse educators deem most appropriate and relevant to measure entry level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants. The goal is to predict those candidates with the highest likelihood of academic success.

Applicants must take the TEAS as part of the nursing program application process. The total score of 58.7% or higher must be achieved. Arrangements can be made to take the test at the Douglas or Torrington campus as well as other Wyoming Community Colleges. Dates will be announced on the EWC website.

“ATI’s best practice to follow for administering TEAS retakes, to help ensure students’ best results, is to limit the number of retakes per year with remediation periods between retakes. Students retaking the TEAS should be administered a different form from their previous TEAS attempts. Each student should be limited to three retakes in 1 year so all assessments taken are from different forms. The suggested remediation period is 2 weeks to 30 days, which is an appropriate time length and follows the majority of institutions’ remediation period”. Eastern Wyoming College will NOT provide any remediation services for the TEAS test.

All students will be given instructions at the time of the scheduled testing time. Scores are automatically sent to the location where the student tested. Students who want their test scores sent to other Nursing Programs must select those schools on the drop down menu and there will be an additional cost. Test results are posted within 38 hours and all scores must be sent electronically to EWC prior to the deadline, which will be announced. WE CANNOT ACCEPT TEAS TEST RESULTS DIRECTLY FROM A STUDENT, THEY MUST BE SENT VIA ATI TESTING SERVICES.

A TEAS study manual and online practice assessments are available for purchase at www.atitesting.com. There is also a free site for the TEAS test that students have found useful. Go to http://www.testprepreview.com/teas_practice.htm

Student Support Services

Please refer to the EWC Student Handbook and the current EWC Catalog for a review of all Student Services available to EWC students.

Inclement Weather

Students may be excused from classes or clinical when the weather bureau has issued weather advisories for hazardous conditions. In that event, it is the clinical instructor’s responsibility to contact students with relevant information. Classes located on the Douglas campus may only be canceled by the EWC President’s office or designee. Students should listen to local broadcasts and check your EWC email/RedAlert email for information concerning class cancellation.
Academic Progression Guidelines

To progress in the nursing program, the student must:

1. Take all nursing courses in sequence as listed in the Curriculum Plan.
2. Maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA per semester without any grade of a “D”.
3. Attain a “C” or better in all nursing, science, and skills laboratory.
4. Achieve satisfactory clinical/skills/simulation lab rating in all nursing courses. Failure of any clinical portion of the course, including lab/simulation time, will result in dismissal from the Nursing Program.
5. Maintain the College and Nursing Program standards of student conduct.
6. Withdrawal from course(s) must follow EWC withdrawal policies and without advisor input may delay program admission and/or progression.
7. Readmission due to confidentiality breaches, unethical, or illegal behavior will not be allowed.
8. Readmission to the program for a student who as withdrawn will be at the discretion of the Nursing Director and dependent on available space in the program in the next cycle of admission.
9. Transfer of students from another Wyoming Community College or the University of Wyoming will be based on meeting the minimum requirements and space availability in the EWC Nursing Program.
10. Advanced placement of a student who is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) will not be possible because of the ReNEW curriculum design and EWC does not have an LPN option. However, an LPN could apply as any other transfer student if they meet the minimum requirements.

Grading Guidelines

Grading will follow the EWC grading policies and Nursing Grading rubrics. Nursing Faculty will post their grading criteria and due dates in each course syllabus. A student may appeal grades following the guidelines outlined in the EWC Student Handbook and Catalog (SEE SYLLABI).

Clinical Expectations

Clinical education begins with meeting objectives that are outlined in each course syllabus. Skills lab/simulation is considered a clinical experience and attendance is mandatory.

Professional attire, page 13, is expected at each scheduled lab time. Practicing skills outside of a scheduled lab does not require professional attire. Professional conduct is always expected in any skill lab or simulation. Confidentiality rules apply to each setting. Safety standards are applied at every setting.

All clinical experiences will be graded by “S” (Satisfactory) or “U” (Unsatisfactory). If a student receives a “U” Unsatisfactory in clinical, they will receive a failing grade (F) for the entire 9 hour nursing course. The student will not be allowed to continue in the Nursing Program. The student will be allowed to appeal the grade in accordance with the EWC Student Handbook/Catalog. Clinical competency and skills are introduced in the classroom and practiced in the clinical setting. Preparation for these clinical experiences often includes practice outside of clinical hours and advance completion of written assignments which are graded according to specific rubrics. Assignments vary by semester as outlined in the respective course syllabus.
Simulated clinical experiences and competency demonstrations in the campus laboratories are comprised of low, medium, and high fidelity environments occurring on days designated on the clinical schedule. Student performance during these experiences is reflective of knowledge level, skill mastery, and appropriate attitudes within the parameters of the learning outcomes. Strict adherence to safety rules is enforced in the simulation and skills area.

Clinical facilities which may be assigned can occur in Wheatland, Torrington, Lusk, Casper, Glenrock, or other sites including out-of-state facilities. **Students are responsible for their own transportation and any housing related expenses.**

**Clinical Evaluation**

Clinical evaluations will be available in your syllabus each semester. It is designed to be “leveled” each semester to show progression and proficiency. SEE SYLLABI for further details.

**Safe Practice**

**The following is considered safe practice:**
1. Functions within the Wyoming Nurse Practice Act, guidelines and outcomes of the nursing program, and the rules and regulations of the health care agency.
2. Practices within the American Nurses’ Association Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.
3. Is accountable for continuity in preparation, documentation, and care of patients, including verbal and written communication. Does not practice beyond the scope of preparation.
4. Shows respect for the individual patient, health team member, faculty, and self to include but not limited to ethical and cultural views.

**Dismissal from the Program**

Students, faculty, and administration have the responsibility to maintain high professional and ethical standards. Students, faculty and administration have the responsibility to maintain patient safety in the classroom, laboratory, and clinical setting. Students, faculty and administration must practice within legal and ethical frameworks adhering to state and national standards of practice.

Immediate dismissal from the nursing program may occur if the Nursing Director/Nursing Faculty deems it necessary.

**Dismissible offenses include but are not limited to the following:**
1. Unprofessional conduct and/or behavior.
2. Breach of EWC College Student Handbook and/or the EWC Nursing Student Handbook.
3. Violation of state or national standards of practice or actions outside the legal or ethical framework outlined by the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses.
4. Violation of facility policies that jeopardize facility relationships and/or penalize EWC Nursing Program from future facility experiences and opportunities.
5. Violation of the substance abuse policy resulting in a positive drug screen that is not validated by medical professional documentation.
6. Inability to pass the Medication Drug Dosage Exam each semester at an acceptable level to safeguard patient safety.
7. Federal HIPAA Violations
   a. Tier one: unintentional violations will result in verbal and written reprimand with probation for the remainder of the program.
   b. Tier two: intentional access to records will result in dismissal from the Nursing Program without readmission options.
8. Failing to meet leveled learning outcomes in all nursing courses indicated by a final course average of a “C” or below or “S”, Satisfactory.
9. Behavior or action outside safe nursing practice as noted in the clinical and professionalism directives that jeopardizes the safety of patients, staff, or classmates. The unsafe behavior may be from isolated, related, or unrelated incidents, intentional or unintentional, resulting in harm or no harm to the client, facility, EWC staff, classmate, or faculty member.
10. Being unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of physical, emotional, or mental disability.
11. A failure to pass a drug screening.
12. Failure to pass the Drug Dosage Calculation tests required for each course.

**Student Due Process**

Students wishing to appeal a faculty or administrative decisions are assured student due process. EWC Nursing Program adheres to the Eastern Wyoming College grievance and appeals process which is outlined in the EWC Student Handbook. To initiate a grievance or appeal, students are expected to follow the chain of command to resolve all concerns and issues as described in the EWC Student Handbook.

**Confidentiality Policy**

Students are expected and required to maintain strict client, family and peer confidentiality in every setting. Breach of confidentiality could result in dismissal from the program.

**Clinical Accessibility Policy**

The EWC Nursing Program utilizes a variety of health care agencies in the community and surrounding area for clinical practice. If you have been employed in one or more of the agencies and are not eligible for rehire as an employee, the agency may not permit you to participate in the essential clinical component of the program. Contact the Nursing Director for a list of agencies.

You may be asked to contact the Human Resources department of the affected agency and request documentation from HR that states the agency’s position on your participation in the clinical component of the program. If you receive a negative response from the agency, you are automatically ineligible to apply or continue in the Nursing Program. A response indicating you will be permitted to attend clinical in the agency must be given to the Program Director PRIOR to the selection process for admission or continuation in the program. If you are unable to fulfill clinical requirements due to a previous employment issue and have not complied with the above, you could be denied entry or continuation into the program. Written permission will also be
required from a contracted agency if any public discourse including social media may jeopardize your ability to complete the necessary clinical requirements in that facility as EWC does not have alternative sites available.

Student Organizations

Nursing students are encouraged to participate fully in the activities of EWC, including the EWC-Chapter of the Wyoming Student Nurses Association as preparation for the professional role in Nursing. Although not mandatory, it is highly recommended that EWC nursing students participate in this organization.

The EWC Douglas Campus Student Association (DCSA) aka Douglas Student Senate, has been established in conjunction with EWC Student Senate in Torrington. Nursing Students are encouraged to full participate in this as well as any other eligible club that EWC has to offer and is available to Douglas Campus Students. Other EWC student clubs and organizations based in Torrington’s main campus are available to Douglas students on a limited basis. Please check online or in the EWC Catalog for further information regarding student clubs.

Professional Appearance/Attire

All students are required to wear the EWC student uniform/lab coat during skills lab check-offs, any clinical learning experiences, including simulation experiences, and as directed by nursing instructors. The student uniform includes the appropriate style of uniform for the cohort; socks; well-fitting shoes that totally enclose the foot; a College issued name tag/badge that identifies that you are an EWC nursing student. Students may be dismissed at the discretion of the instructor from clinical or lab if professional appearance criteria are not followed.

While not an exhaustive list, the following rules will apply to nursing students:

1. All visible tattoos/body-art need to be covered if found to be offensive or per policy of the Clinical site.

2. Students must wear a watch with a sweeping second-hand or digital second hand-indicator. Additional acceptable jewelry includes a wedding band only (no high profile rings will be acceptable), one pierced post-style stud earring in each ear lobe is permitted. All other visible body piercings are not permitted and must be removed prior to entering the clinical site.

3. If asked to get clinical assignments or to do reference work from charts, students are required to wear the complete uniform or a white lab coat with a name tag over conservative business-casual clothing. (No blue jeans, tank tops, tee shirts, shorts, flip flops, above the knee skirts, bare midriffs, excessively tight clothing, low cut tops, and/or see through fabrics).

4. Hair must be neatly styled and pulled back from the face. Long braids or pony-tails must be secured to prevent falling over the shoulder, and bangs must be out of the eyes. Mustaches and beards are permitted per facility policy. They must be clean, trimmed, and well groomed.

5. Nails must meet facility policy. Most clinical sites do not allow artificial nails. Nails must be no longer than the finger-tip.
6. Good personal hygiene is expected every day. Bathing regularly and proper oral hygiene is an expectation to eliminate offensive body odors, including stale cigarette smoke. No perfumes, strongly scented deodorants, or scented essential oils will be allowed.
7. Smoking or the use of e-cigarettes is not allowed in any clinical setting.
8. No gum chewing or use of any oral tobacco (chew or snuff) is allowed in any clinical setting.

Clinical Supplies

The student is required to have bandage scissors, stethoscope, penlight, wrist watch with a second hand, and may be required to have a cell phone during clinical experiences. However, cell phones are to only be used for clinical application and only at the direction of the faculty. Students must adhere to the rules and regulations of the respective agency regarding use of electronic devices in the clinical area. No personal calls or texting is allowed during clinical time.

Criminal Background Check

1. Upon admission to the EWC Nursing Program, the College will provide instructions and the necessary forms for obtaining the background check from the designated vendor of CertifiedBackgroundCheck.com (CastleBranch).
2. The student should inform the Nursing Director of any possible complication that may be encountered on the background check. Clinical agencies will require full disclosure of background information and may require additional background checks at the student’s expense.
3. The student is responsible for the cost of the background check which will be valid for a period of one year prior to admission into the program.
4. The background check may include but is not limited to: criminal background check, positive identification/aka, National Sex Offender Registry, Motor Vehicle Driving Record, Sanctions, Drug Testing and Immunization Tracking.
5. Students may be automatically denied admission or dismissed from the program if they have not been truthful or have provided inaccurate information on the application for admission into the Nursing Program.
6. It is the responsibility of the student to report any changes in the status of their criminal background to the Nursing Director.
7. Flagged results on the background check will result in ineligibility to participate in clinical until which time the matter may be investigated or resolved. Student suitability for clinical placement based upon results of the background check will be determined by the Application Review Committee and must comply with clinical agency requirements.
8. Drug screening will be part of the initial background check. Dismissal from the program can occur for positive drug screening.
9. EWC establishes the right to further drug test ‘for cause’ or random drug screening for the remainder of the time in the nursing program.
10. Students may appeal the decision to deny clinical placement through the established grievance procedure noted in the EWC Student Handbook/Catalog.
Drug Testing

The presence or use of drugs or alcohol, lawful or otherwise, which interferes with the judgement or motor coordination of nursing students in an educational setting, poses an unacceptable risk for patients, colleagues, the College, and cooperating clinical agencies. The nursing program recognizes its responsibility to maintain an educational environment conducive to academic achievement and to cooperate with clinical agencies in providing safe and effective patient care.

Accordingly, all nursing students must comply with the drug testing policy set forth and remain free of drugs or alcohol use while in the academic setting, including classroom and clinical, as well as College sponsored events and nursing association activities. In addition, nursing students are subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws addressing illegal drug and alcohol use. The drug testing policy is intended to complement the EWC prohibited conduct outlined in the EWC Student Handbook/Catalog, Student Code of Conduct.

Nursing students are required to disclose to the Nursing Director any prior chemical impairment, participation in treatment programs, or court convictions pertaining to the manufacture, use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances or intoxicants. Failure to report such activities will result in dismissal from the nursing program. Students are also required to disclose such information to the appropriate licensing agencies at the time of application for licensure in accordance with the established rules and regulations of the licensing agency.

Drug testing refers to the scientific analysis of urine, blood, breath, saliva, hair, tissue or other specimens of the human body for the purpose of detecting the presence of a measurable amount of drug or alcohol. The cost of drug testing will be the responsibility of the student.
Student’s Agreement to Submit to Drug Testing

The nursing program and cooperating clinical agencies reserve the right to require the student to submit to drug testing under the following circumstances:

1. Upon initial enrollment in the program.
2. Upon re-entry to the program for students who interrupt their sequence of study.
3. When there is reasonable suspicion a student is under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances, or intoxicants (prescribed or non-prescribed). This may be evidenced by odor of alcohol or drugs, impaired behaviors, dilated/pinpoint pupils, decreased coordination, marked changes in personality, or unexplained accidents. Impairment may exist in one or more multiple domains, including psychomotor activity and skills, conceptual or factual recall, integrative or synthetic thought processes, judgment, attentiveness, demeanor, and attitudes as manifested in speech or actions.
4. When there is reasonable suspicion or evidence of mishandling patient medications in the clinical setting.
5. When the student’s academic or clinical performance is deteriorating or the student is experiencing increased absenteeism or tardiness.
6. When the student is involved in an accident or injury likely to result in lost time from schooling and requiring a physician’s care, as evidenced by diagnostic tests, prescriptions, or procedures.

Outcomes for a Positive Drug Test

1. A positive test result will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
2. In that event, it will be responsibility of the student to withdraw from classes through the processes in place at EWC.
3. A subsequent meeting will be scheduled with the student. The Nursing Program will follow EWC procedures and policies for those students who are impaired.
4. Documentation of the meeting will include the noted behavioral problem or reported incident, and prescribed academic consequences. Also included will be the student’s intent to see professional evaluation for a potential substance abuse problem at their own expense. The student must acknowledge that failure to abide by the recommended treatment plan will result in ineligibility to apply for readmission to the program at a later date.
5. The Nursing Director will refer the student to counseling services for appropriate referrals for substance abuse.
6. Arrangements for substance abuse evaluation and treatment will be made by the student. All costs associated will be at the student’s expense.
7. If a student tests positive for a prescribed drug, the student must obtain a written statement from a qualified physician stating that the drug level is within prescribed limits and the level does not indicate abuse. The physician must indicate that the drug will not interfere with safe nursing practice in the clinical area.
Immunizations and Laboratory Work

Immunizations and health record requirements vary among clinical agencies and students are expected to abide by the rules and regulations of the respective agency. Students admitted to the program must provide official documentation of each of the requirements listed below prior to clinical placement. All requirements must be in effect (current) throughout the enrollment in the program. Students are responsible for knowing when their documentation expires, particularly if it expires during the school year. Costs for immunizations and lab work are the student’s responsibility. Students may consider the public health nursing office as an economical source for obtaining immunizations and laboratory testing.

1. Tuberculin Skin Test (PPD TWO-STEP): A two-step PPD is required for certain clinical sites and is required yearly, preferably in August. Record must reflect the first test and second test results and a signature of a qualified health care provider. If positive results, the student must provide a chest x-ray interpretation by a physician on an annual basis.

2. Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): Lab titers for measles, mumps, and rubella or documentation of 2 doses of MMR.

3. Hepatitis B: Hepatitis B lab titers or documentation of the appropriate dose series (3-dose or 2-dose series). Students beginning a series must have the last dose as soon as it is possible to take the next dose.

4. Varicella: Varicella lab titer report or documentation of two doses. Self-report of a history of chickenpox will only be accepted with verification from a physician.

5. Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap): Documentation of Tdap vaccination within the past 10 years. The vaccine must include the Pertussis portion and a Td will not be accepted unless there is a medical contraindication for Pertussis and verification from a physician or health care provider.

6. Influenza: Students are required to have an annual flu vaccination. If a student declines immunization, they must wear a mask at all times when in patient care areas during flu season (October 1 through March 31), and must follow the protocol for the clinical agency.

Basic Life Support (BLS/CPR) Certification

Enrolled nursing students are required to successfully complete a Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider course by the American Heart Association. It is the student’s responsibility to maintain current certification throughout enrollment in the program. You must present a copy of an active certification card to the Nursing Director.

HIPAA

Enrolled nursing students are required to comply with the federal regulations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). This Act governs security and privacy rules related to management of health data by health care providers. HIPAA training sessions will be arranged by program faculty in cooperation with the respective clinical agencies. Students will be required to meet all of the clinical agency’s requirements as part of their clinical affiliation.
Confidentiality

Confidential information is protected by federal law. Federal regulations prohibit any disclosures without the specific written consent of the person to whom it pertains. Students will abide by the policies and procedures concerning patient confidentiality as established by the clinical agency. Students cannot divulge personal or medication information concerning any patient or patient record outside the educational setting. In addition, students may not copy or have in their possession any portion of the patient’s medical record containing identifying information. Failure to maintain confidentiality in regard to all matters of business and patient population, including fellow students and faculty medical conditions, will result in immediate dismissal from the program.

Technology Requirements

The nursing program requires use of technology, including the possibility of eTexts, paperless clinical documentation, assignments, and regular interface with an online classroom. For this reason, students accepted into the program must be computer literate and have access to high speed internet. It is highly recommended that students have access to SmartPhones for clinical applications that will be recommended but is not required. The College does not assume responsibility for lost or stolen electronic devices. Students will be expected to have access to Canvas for announcements, topic outlines, discussions, and communication from the faculty. Online services are available via high speed internet. The Douglas Campus is open from 8am-5pm M-F and four open computers are available on a first-come, first-serve basis in the Student Center. Converse County Public Library located at 300 Walnut Street, Douglas, WY is open 9-6pm M, T, W, & F; Th 9-8pm and Sat 10-4pm. Please review their public access policy for the use of their computers. Plan accordingly.

Instructional Methodologies

A wide variety of techniques are used to assist the student in meeting the learning outcomes including Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) online products, concept mapping, nursing process, textbooks, eTexts. Carefully selected experiences in the skills/simulation lab will also be included.

The theory component for most nursing courses may be delivered face-to-face or via ZOOM. A modified ‘flipped-classroom’ may be instituted by faculty in order for students to be well prepared for class which may include completing certain ATI performance assessments for a ticket to attend class or other proof of preparation.

EWC is partnered with ATI to provide products designed to decrease program attrition rates and improve graduate nurses’ pass rates on the National Council of Licensure Examination for RN’s (NCLEX-RN). ATI practice and proctored assessments are integrated in courses throughout the nursing curriculum. The utilization of ATI practice and proctored assessments assists in the identification of individual student strengths and weaknesses. Remediation is offered through the ATI testing that can facilitate student improvement in areas of identified weaknesses.
Faculty will assign ATI tutorials, readings from ATI review modules, practice assessments, and focused reviews to assist students in gaining deeper understanding of concepts and prepare for proctored assessments. Each nursing course incorporates ATI according to a course-specific rubric that can be found in each syllabus. Completion of assigned tutorials and practice assessments, along with performance on proctored assessments, constitutes a percentage of the overall grade in all nursing courses. Students are encouraged to consider ATI an integral part of the nursing curriculum and to review the ATI website and grading rubric thoroughly to ensure understanding well in advance of the published due dates. Full participation in ATI activities is essential to the success in nursing courses and can help the student in the prediction of passing the NCLEX-RN examination.

ATI Assessment Schedule will be published in each syllabus and will be leveled with each semester. The TEAS entrance exam begins the assessments for entry into the Nursing Program and the ATI RN Predictor concludes the ATI testing and will be utilized as the Program Outcomes Assessment for EWC and Higher Learning Commission requirements.

**Drug Dosage Examinations**

Medication calculation competency will be demonstrated by students beginning the first semester and will continue to be evaluated during the remaining semesters.

The student must demonstrate competency in dosage calculations in order to progress in the nursing program. At the beginning of each semester students will be required to take a basic math calculation or drug dosage exam. Students will be provided with the information needed to adequately prepare for this exam and a student may use a basic calculator during the exam. A student may take this exam a total of three times to obtain a passing score. **If the required score is not obtained after the third try, the student WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE IN THE NURSING PROGRAM IN ORDER TO PROTECT PATIENT SAFETY.**

The passing score for each semester is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Exam Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st semester</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Basic Math Calculation Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Drug Dosage Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd semester</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Drug Dosage Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th semester</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>Drug Dosage Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eastern Wyoming College  
ADN Program Requirements

**Required Courses**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1010: English I: Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Foundations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology 1010: General Biology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1400: Pre-calculus Algebra</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOO 2015: Human Anatomy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Test Entrance Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 1100: Nursing Care: Health Promotion</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NURS 1200: Nursing Care: Chronic Illness</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOO 2025-Human Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>CO/M 2010 Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PSYC 1000 General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Fourth Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2300: Nursing Care: Acute Illness</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>NURS 2400: Nursing Care: Complex Illness</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOLB 2240 Medical Microbiology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>POLS 1000 American and Wyoming Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Five Semester Total**  

**69**

See your advisor for more information about the ReNEW BSN track for the University of Wyoming

For more information contact:  
Suzey Delger, Eastern Wyoming College, Director of Nursing  
307-624-7000 or 307-624-7020  
EWC Douglas Campus  
800 South Wind River Drive  
Douglas, WY 82633

Updated: May 2018
ESTIMATED EXPENSES

Prospective nursing students should refer to the current EWC catalog for tuition and fee rates. Please note ATI fees and others are non-refundable. In addition to tuition, fees and required laboratory supplies, the following expenses are estimated for the first year of the program.

- Background Check & Drug Screen $100
- Immunization Requirements/titers 300
- Books 1,500
- Supplies 50
- Uniforms 200
- Stethoscope 40
- Watch with second hand 30
- Eye Protection 20
- Bandage Scissors 10
- Penlight 10
- EWC Program Badge/uniform 5
- Health Insurance (if not already covered) per individual
- Travel to/from clinical 500
- Lab Fees and course fees 900
- Tuition 2,000
- EWC Fees 500
- Travel to/from clinical 1,000

EWC provides, at no expense to students, liability (malpractice) insurance while nursing students are engaged in their clinical laboratory activities. All students are responsible for their own transportation and its related expense to any clinical assignment.

Second year expenses are estimated as follows.

- Lab Fees and Course Fee’s $900
- Books 500
- Travel to/from clinical 500
- Graduation Fees (Pictures/Pinning) 100
- State Board Licensure Fees 190
- NCLEX-RN Exam Fees 200
- Tuition 2,000
- EWC Fees 500

(12-2018)
# Eastern Wyoming College Nursing Program

## Admission Ranking Worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Earned Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Application for general admission to EWC.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Application to the EWC Nursing Program.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Official High School transcript or HISET certificate</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Official transcripts from ALL Colleges previously attended</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>College grade point average.</strong> A minimum grade point average of <strong>2.5</strong> is required. GPA is calculated using all Nursing Program Requirements and U.W. Nursing Prerequisites. All Prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” better. <strong>SEE GPA CALCULATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>GPA</strong> 2.5-4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>TEAS Test adjusted individual total score. A minimum score of 58.7% must be achieved.</td>
<td><strong>Score</strong> 100-58.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Possible Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bonus Points Assigned</td>
<td>Possible Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Revised/Approved 8/2018**

**Additional bonus points** can be earned by having permanent residency in:
Converse County, Crook, Weston, Niobrara, Platte, Goshen =5 points,
Other Wyoming counties =2 points.
Permanent residency is defined in the EWC Catalog.

You **must** meet the minimum of 61.2 points to qualify for the additional residency bonus points.

Memorial Hospital of Converse County (MHCC) Employee or Banner Health Employee =5 points

Students will be ranked according to GPA plus the TEAS Score. BONUS points will be added **after** the ranking. The top students will be admitted and an additional two students will be chosen as alternatives provided they have met the minimum requirement of 61.2 points.
Eastern Wyoming College Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation for Entrance into the ADN NURSING Program
Beginning Fall of 2019

An overall GPA of 2.5 will be the minimum GPA to apply to the Nursing Program. We will ONLY calculate the Nursing Program courses/equivalents to include the ReNEW requirements from the University of Wyoming as indicated below. All but PHCY 3450-Pathophysiology and PHCY 4470 Pharmacology can be taken at EWC. Starred items (*) are EWC Prerequisites that must be complete BY THE END OF SPRING SEMESTER for conditional acceptance into the program in the fall. All prerequisites must be a “C” or better. Mid-term grades will be verified and used as the overall GPA. The other courses listed may or may not be completed prior to admission. Anatomy and Physiology must have been taken within 5 years of applying unless special permission is granted by the Nursing Director.

- *ENGL 1010-English Comp
- *BIOL 1010-General Biology
- *Freshman Foundations-College Studies
- *MATH 1400-Pre-Calc Algebra
- ZOO 2015-Human Anatomy
- ZOO 2025-Human Physiology
- CO/M 2010-Public Speaking
- PSYC 1000-General Psychology
- MOLB 2240-Medical Microbiology
- POLS 1000-American & Wyoming Government
- UW Humanities Elective
- UW 2050 STAT-Statistics
- UW 1000 CHEM-Introductory Chemistry
- UW 1141 FCSC-Nutrition
- UW 1050 BIOL-Medical Terminology
- UW PHCY 3450 Pathophysiology
- UW PHYC 4470 Pharmacology

To remain in the Nursing Program, an overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained throughout with no “D” in nursing courses.
Examination for RN Licensure

Following successful completion of the Nursing Program, graduates may apply to the Wyoming State Board of Nursing and other states to take the NCLEX-RN, national licensure examination. There are individual fees for licensure and the exam that will be discussed along with the application process in the last nursing course of the program. Prospective students need to be aware of the fact that licensure may be denied to those with a misdemeanor/prior felony arrests or convictions or substance abuse history. In addition, applicants for licensure are required to be fingerprinted and undergo another background check. Consult with the Nursing Program Director for specifics or go to the Wyoming State Board of Nursing web-site:

https://nursing-online.state.wy.us

For additional information or answers to specific questions contact:

Suzey Delger, MSN, APRN (RET), RN
EWC Nursing Director
307-624-7000 (W)
Eastern Wyoming College

Nursing Program Application ACCEPTED ONLINE ONLY—Go to www.ewc.wy.edu

Full Name: Last_________________ First__________________ E-Mail__________________________________ Phone___________________________ Date of Birth_______________________________ Permanent MAILING Address _________________________City _________State __ZIP________

Name of Parent/Guardian/Spouse (circle one) _______________________________________

Address ______________________City _________State __ZIP_______ Phone_____________

Date anticipated for entering the Nursing Program:  Fall 20____

Have you previously attended Eastern Wyoming College?     _____YES                    ____NO

Please furnish an official transcript from each College attended to: EWC Torrington. List all previous Colleges attended.

Name/Location of Institution  Dates Attended Degree/Certificate Name Enrolled Under
1._________________________________________________________________________________
2._________________________________________________________________________________
3._________________________________________________________________________________

Are you a U.S. Citizen? ____YES____NO   if no, of what country are you a citizen? _________________

Are you a resident of County: ____Converse _____Crook _____Goshen ____Niobrara ____Platte?

Do you anticipate any negative or damaging information from a background check if admitted to the Nursing Program?  ____Yes ____No (If yes, please contact the Nursing Director)

Has any disciplinary action been taken or is pending against you from any LICENSING AUTHORITY? (If yes contact the Nursing Director) ____Yes _____No

Do you anticipate any clinical agency to deny access to their facility due to dismissal, social media/public comments?  ____Yes____No

Are you currently employed by Memorial Hospital of Converse County OR Banner Health? YES or NO

_____Full-Time   _____Part-Time

Preference: Douglas_____________    or Torrington_______________ OR COULD ATTEND AT EITHER SITE_____

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information furnished is to the best of my knowledge & believe to be true, correct and complete.

Student Signature___________________________________ Date___________________________
APPLICATION CHECKLIST
EWC Nursing Program

- Application to EWC completed online.
- Application to the Nursing Program completed online by deadline.
- Submit ALL official transcripts from any College/university attended for any coursework you have taken by deadline. Transcripts must show the successful completion of the Prerequisites or success if currently enrolled with a grade of “C” or better.
- TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) exam successfully completed within one year and results submitted by ATI electronically to EWC by the application deadline.
- A **minimum of a GPA of 2.5 of Program Requirements and a “C” or better in all prerequisites.** ZOO 2015 Human Anatomy and ZOO 2025 Human Physiology or equivalent must be current within the last 5 years or Director’s Permission.
- Have met all the requirements on the Admission Ranking Worksheet.

I have read the above information and understand the procedures and requirements. I understand that it is my sole responsibility to make sure that all of the above mentioned materials are sent online to the Nursing Program **by the due date** for acceptance to the Nursing Program.

I also understand that there is **no guarantee** of admission even though all of the above items are completed.
EWC Nursing Handbook Verification Form

I ________________________________ have received and understand the information provided in the EWC Nursing Student Handbook.

Date____________________________

Please return to your nursing instructor.