The Practical Nursing Certificate program is designed to meet the educational goals of those who wish career entry as a licensed health care worker. Practical nurses provided nursing care for medical, surgical patients in long-term care facilities, hospitals, clinics, physician offices, home health, and community health facilities. Graduates of this program are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).

Successful graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Utilize the nursing process, therapeutic communication, critical thinking and evidence-based practice to assist clients and significant others to achieve an optimal level of self-care;
2. Function within the appropriate standards of practice to deliver safe, competent, holistic, legal and ethical care;
3. Recognize the diversity of human experience and client-centered variables when participating in planning and implementing nursing interventions;
4. Recognize and respond to environmental factors that may impact the individual’s ability to adapt to illness, maintain safety and security and achieve restoration of maximum functioning;
5. Communicate effectively to elicit client concerns, meet healthcare learning needs and contribute to team decision making and collaboration;
6. Act within the generic scope of the practical nurse’s practice to respond to clients as human beings who have the freedom to exercise choices and determine their state and perception of health;
7. Utilize the steps of the nursing process to assist the client with common, predictable health problems to achieve a state of biological, psychological and spiritual wellbeing;
8. Engage in the pursuit of clinical excellence within the scope of the practical nurses practice through professional affiliation, lifelong learning, inquiry and mentorship;
9. Accept professional accountability for maintaining skills and the technological expertise required to provide safe, quality care and contribute positively to the profession of nursing.