

## **Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Program Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is nursing?**

Nursing provides health-related care to individuals, families and communities. This career includes promoting health, preventing illness, restoring health and taking care of sick and sometimes terminally ill patients.

### **2. What job responsibilities are involved with this type of career?**

Job responsibilities vary. Nurses assume several roles when they provide care. They may work as a traditional caregiver or use their training as teachers, counselors, leaders, managers and researchers. All scenarios require strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as adaptability, flexibility, and extensive skilled training and education.

### **3. What personal qualities should a person possess for this type of career?**

The ability to communicate clearly, compassionately and well is **integral** to the nursing profession. Nurses often assist with identifying health-related patient problems and must be able to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing to other members of the health care team. A nurse must also be very service-oriented. In fact, the characteristic of selfless concern for others is often considered the hallmark of this profession.

### **4. Where do nurses work?**

Nurses work in a variety of health care settings, including hospitals, convalescent homes, physician offices, schools and home health care. Other less traditional settings include ambulatory care and Medivac Flight nursing.

### **5. What required prerequisites must a person complete for admission into the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program at College of DuPage?**

Information on prerequisites and required courses can be found in the ADN admissions packet, available online at: [www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu) (click "academics" then select Nursing on the scroll bar), or at the Health Sciences Admissions office, IC 1048.

### **6. What is the job market like for an ADN graduate?**

Students at College of DuPage who have completed the two-year nursing program and have successfully passed the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN: State board exams) have **ALL** obtained employment after graduation.

### **7. What opportunities exist for continuing education in nursing?**

We encourage our students to pursue higher education in their field of study after graduation from College of DuPage. Rush University, Northern Illinois University, University of Illinois (Circle Campus), Aurora University and Elmhurst College offer RN-BSN completion programs that readily accept transfer of credit from College of DuPage. Students with bachelor's degrees often continue their education and receive their master's degrees in nursing, which can be helpful for people interested in nurse administration positions. In addition, continuing education workshops, conferences, seminars and non-credit nursing courses are offered on a regular basis through College of DuPage's Business and Professional Institute, as well as at other colleges, universities, hospitals and various independent companies.

### **8. What is the salary range for a recent ADN graduate?**

The starting salary for a recent graduate is approximately \$43,600, with additional compensation for evening and night shifts. For more information on a career in nursing, attend an upcoming ADN Advising Session. Dates and times for upcoming sessions can be found online at [www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu) (click "academics" then select Nursing on the scroll bar), or by calling the Health Sciences Admissions office, IC 1048, (630) 942-3924.