

Nursing Assistant Informational Session



CNAs don't just care for patients- they bring comfort, dignity, and humanity to healthcare ❤️

(Anonymous)



Apply to Pima Community College

Begin your journey as a student and unlock new opportunities in your career.

Take the next step

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Apply to Pima

Admission Requirements for the Nursing Assistant Program

Test	Minimum Score	Placement
Reading	Minimum Score of **236**	Nursing Assistant
Quantitative Reasoning	Minimum Score of **200**	Nursing Assistant
Writeplacer	Minimum Score of **4**	Nursing Assistant

You may also utilize your Pima transcripts with the following completed courses with a "C" or better:

- **ACL 080 or higher**
- **WRT 090 or higher**
- **ICS 081 or higher**

IMPORTANT: Multiple Measures may not be utilized for acceptance into the Pima Community College Nursing Assistant Program.

Knowledge Review for the Accuplacer Assessment

Select the links below for helpful educational resources to prepare for your examinations.

General Info

Official Accuplacer information and student resources.
Accuplacer

Mathematics

Pima placement testing practice materials.
Practice Math Tests

Study Guides

Official study guides and preparation tools.
Pima Guides

Grammar & Writing

Interactive reading and writing practice.
ReadTheory.org

Khan Academy

Comprehensive online lessons and exercises.
KhanAcademy.org

Important Requirements

Certified Nursing Assistant Program Entry

PCC Enrollment

To apply, you must be enrolled with the college and have a student “A” number assigned.

PN Pathway

If your declared major is “Practical Nursing” you may enter through the Practical Nursing pathway.

Major Change

If your major is not “Practical Nursing” you must change it to “Nursing Assistant” for the program duration.

Advisor Support

Please consult with your program advisor for further guidance and support.

Mandatory Health and Medical Criteria: Vaccinations and Physical Examinations

Health Declaration

An Immunization and Health Declaration form must be completed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or qualified examiner within the past year.

Must be submitted to the Nursing Department before beginning any clinical learning experiences.

Action Required

Health Declaration form

***If you choose to decline a required or recommended vaccine, it is important to understand that some clinical sites may not accept students who are not vaccinated. This may limit your clinical placement options and could affect your ability to meet the clinical requirements of the Nursing Assistant Program.

May obtain a vaccine declination form through your counselor.

01 Tuberculosis (TB)

Negative **PPD, T-SPOT, or QuantiFERON-TB Gold** current through the last day of the course.

02 MMR Vaccine

MMR x 2 (measles, mumps, rubella) or a positive serology (titer) results indicating immunity.

03 Hepatitis B

Immunization series (2 or 3 injections) or positive/reactive serology (titer) results indicating immunity.

04 Varicella (Chickenpox)

Varicella x 2 or positive serology (titer) results indicating immunity.

05 Tdap Vaccine

Tdap immunization within the last 10 years; must not expire until after the last day of the course.

06 Influenza

Annual vaccination, one injection within the last seasonal year.

Additional Program Requirements

CPR Certification & Criminal Background Check (Continued)

CPR Certification

Current **Basic Life Support Provider** certification that does not expire until after the last day of the course.

The card must clearly state **“BLS Provider”** and indicate the provider is the **“American Heart Association”**.

Criminal Background Check

DPS Fingerprint Clearance Card: Arizona Department of Public Safety card must be in good standing and not expire before the last day of the course.

The application can be obtained directly from the official Arizona Department of Public Safety website.

Recommendation: Digital fingerprinting is highly recommended as it typically yields much faster results compared to manual fingerprinting.

Directions to Complete IVP Application:
Digital Fingerprint Application

Criminal Background Check

Level 1 Fingerprint Clearance Card Guidelines

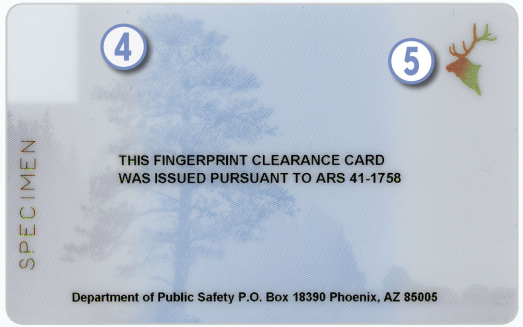
Accepted Document

Level 1 Fingerprint Clearance Card

Must be in good standing and valid through the end of the program.



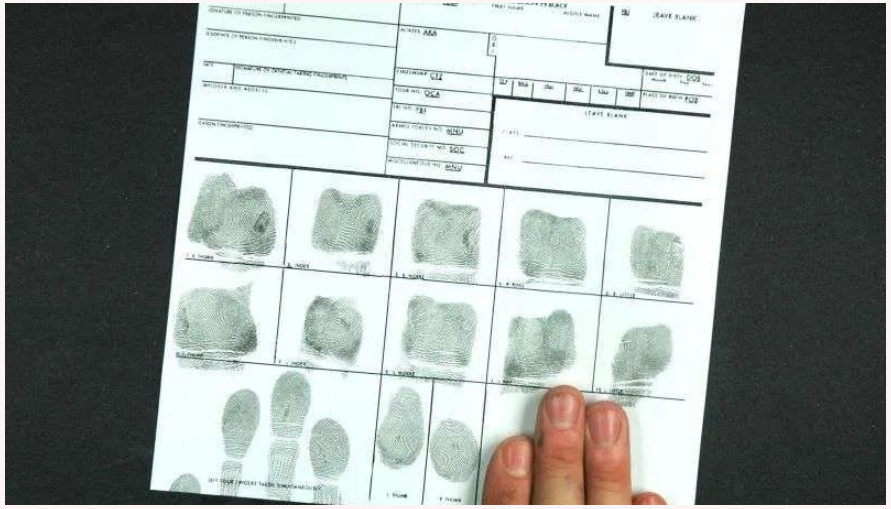
FRONT



We Do NOT Accept

Inked / Manual Fingerprint Cards

Standard paper fingerprint sheets are not valid for clinical clearance.



Drug Screening Guidelines

Nursing Assistant Program Requirements

Designated Lab

Drug tests are conducted by a College designated laboratory. Detailed instructions will be provided AFTER acceptance into the program.

Strict Deadline

Drug screening must be completed by the designated deadline. Failure to complete the required drug screening by the deadline may affect the student's eligibility to participate in clinical experiences.

Positive Results

Positive drug test results will result in a denial letter from the program.

Prescriptions

Please take any prescription medications with you to your drug screening appointment.

Nursing Assistant Program Hours and Time Commitment

Nursing Assistant students are expected to attend **100% of all scheduled lecture, skills laboratory, and clinical experiences**. Because the clinical skills laboratory requires preparation and practice outside of scheduled class time, students are strongly encouraged to keep outside commitments to a minimum while enrolled in the program.To support student success, **optional (but highly recommended) Open Skills Lab sessions** are offered weekly to provide additional practice and instructor guidance.

The **NRA 101 Nursing Assistant** course is designed to prepare students for the **Arizona State Board of Nursing Nursing Assistant Certification Examination**, which is administered by **TMU Headmaster**.

The program consists of three instructional components:

- **Didactic (Lecture)**
- **College Skills Laboratory**
- **Clinical Experience**

Lecture	**Minimum: 47.5 hours**
Skills Lab	**Minimum: 47.5 hours**
Clinical Lab	**Minimum: 45 hours**
Total Hours:	**140**

Students should carefully consider any additional commitments, including employment or extracurricular activities, when planning for success in the Nursing Assistant Program. This program is rigorous and requires a significant commitment of time and effort both in and outside of scheduled class, laboratory, and clinical hours. Students are strongly encouraged to develop a realistic study schedule and time management plan **prior to the start of the program** to support their academic success.

Suggested Classes

Nursing Education Pathway

The following classes are **NOT mandatory**, but are recommended to enhance your academic success:

HRP 100

Success in Health Professions

HRP 101

Medical Terminology

HRP 103

Basic Health Professional Skills

Approximate Costs for Nursing Assistant Students

Nursing Assistant Program Costs	
Physical Exam / Immunizations	**Varies**
AHA BLS	**$60.00**
Drug Screen	**$40.00**
Textbooks	**$200.00**
Tuition & State Exam Fees	**$1,207.00**
Fingerprint Clearance Card	**$67.00**
MyClinicalExchange	**$20.00**
***Course Total Estimated Cost:**	**$1,514.00**
**Costs are estimates and subject to change.*	

Equipment for the Nursing Assistant Program

REQUIRED

- **Laptop Computer**
- **PCC Uniform & Shoes**

Recommended

- Stethoscope
- Manual Blood Pressure Cuff
- Watch with Second Hand

⚠️ ***Students are advised to research costs carefully before enrolling.***

Required Textbook

Mandatory Items

- Required Digital eBook
- Mandatory hard copy workbook

***Must have book on the first day of the course

Optional & Timeline

Additional Options

An optional hard copy textbook is also available at an additional price; however, the the Digital book is required.

Delivery Estimate

Allow 1–3 weeks to obtain your books.

Order on Lippincott Direct (2026-2027)
Lippincott Direct - Pima CC Desert Vista Campus

Financial Resources

College & Scholarships

Paying for College

Federal Grants Info

Scholarships

Visit the scholarship portal for opportunities:

pima.edu/scholarships

Workforce Support

ARIZONA@WORK

Please contact a representative for more details:

Arizona at Work

Job Path

Explore employment programs:

jobpath.org

Application for the Pima Community College CNA Program

Summer Cohort

Application Window

March 1 – March 31

Fall Cohort

1st & 2nd 8 week Sessions

Application Window

June 1 – June 30

Spring Cohort

1st & 2nd 8 week Sessions

Application Window

October 1 – October 31

Important Guidelines

- Applications may not be accepted outside of these active windows. You must reapply if you miss the deadline.
- Prospective students will receive a response via Pima student email within **two weeks AFTER** the window closes.

Acceptance Policy

Admission into the program is strictly on a **first-come, first-served** basis.

⚠️ You are not officially accepted until you receive a formal **"Letter of Acceptance"** via your Pima student email.

Conclusion of Presentation

Academic Advising

For any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your academic advisor:

pima.edu/student-resources/advising

✨ *Wishing you the best of luck on your educational journey!* ✨