

Western Technical College

HEALTH AND PUBLIC
SAFETY DIVISION

Nursing Associate Degree Self-Assessment

Nursing is a very rewarding career that requires compassion, critical decision making, and high level communication skills. At Western Technical College we take the education of our nursing students seriously and take pride in their success as students and nurses. Historically, compared with all nursing programs nationwide, Western graduates have been consistently successful in passing the national exam required to practice nursing.

The expectation and success of our nursing graduates is reflected in the rigor and challenge of the nursing program coursework. As such, determination and commitment play a large role in the success of our nursing students, and we recognize that everyone's situation is unique. Other important factors to consider:

- **Is this the right career for me?**
Students are encouraged to work with a Western Career Coach to fully explore the Nursing program expectations before making the commitment to the demands of this program and profession. Nursing is not for everyone, but for those who are committed, it is an extremely rewarding experience.
- **How much time will I need to devote to studying?**
For every 1 hour of class, you should expect to study 3 hours outside of class. Make sure you factor in adequate time to devote to your studies.
- **Should I work while in the core nursing courses?**
It is recommended that you consider limiting your hours of outside work as much as possible while in the program. This will allow time to focus on the requirements of the core courses and clinicals.
- **Have I included my support network in this decision?**
Having a network of family or friends to support you while you pursue your Nursing degree can be a tremendous benefit. Make sure to have an honest conversation with your network about how important their support is for you.