ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY
OZARK CAMPUS

1700 Helberg Lane
Ozark, AR 72949
479-508-8500 Ext 6105
Fax 479-667-0198

REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

Each applicant must apply for admission to Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus BEFORE applying to the technical portion of the Registered Nursing Program. Application information may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Services in person or through the following:

Office of Student Services
Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus
1700 Helberg Lane
Ozark, AR 72949
479-667-2117
www.atu.edu/ozark

Each applicant is responsible for verifying that all of the following requested information has been completed and submitted to the Allied Health Administrative Assistant between October 1st and March 1st. All application items requested should be submitted as a complete packet if possible and physically brought to the Allied Health Administrative Assistant in the Health Sciences & Wellness building. You may submit online but will need to upload all the documents in PDF format. No pictures or other formats should be used because they are not very clear when printed out. Applicants are responsible for items sent separately. **Please review your platform coursework to make sure all will be complete by the first week of August.**

The following items must be received by the Allied Health Administrative Assistant by March 1, 2027 in order to be considered complete:

- Registered Nursing Program Application for Admission.
- Acknowledgment of Essential Functions form.
- Understanding of Clinical Participation Requirements form.
- (Practical Nursing to RN) Copy of current unencumbered LPN license and meet one of the following requirements:
  - Have graduated from a State Board of Nursing-approved practical nursing (PN) program within the 12 months preceding the March 1 deadline; OR
  - Have worked a minimum of 1,000 hours as an LPN during the 12 months preceding the March 1 deadline.
- (Paramedic to RN) Copy of National Paramedic Registry Certificate. Paramedics must provide proof of work experience from employers as follows:
  - Paramedics who graduated within 12 months of March 1st application deadline must provide proof from employers of 600 work hours by June 1st.
  - Paramedics who graduated more than 12 months prior to March 1st application deadline must provide proof from employers of 1,000 work hours in the past 12 months by March 1st application deadline. Volunteer hours are not considered in the 1,000 hours.
- Understanding of Criminal Background Check form.
- Copy of current CPR.
- Unofficial copies of transcripts from any other schools attended other than ATU.

Registered Nursing Program
Attn: Allied Health Administrative Assistant
Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus
1700 Helberg Lane
Ozark, AR 72949

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION PACKET IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE NURSING PROGRAM.

REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Registered Nursing Program (RN) at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus is a course of study leading to the attainment of an Associate of Applied Science degree upon completion of a platform of 37 hours of coursework and 30 hours of technical coursework. **The RN program curriculum includes platform coursework which must be completed prior to enrollment in the technical phase.** The technical phase will include 2 consecutive semesters of study starting with the fall term and continuing until end of the spring term of the following year. Students will be required to maintain a "C" grade average and demonstrate satisfactory skill competency during the technical phase in order to meet program requirements for graduation.

The Registered Nursing Program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus has been granted Full Approval by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing (1123 South University Avenue, Suite 800, Little Rock, AR 72204-1619); telephone: 501-686-2700; website: www.arsbn.org).

The Associate Degree of Registered Nursing program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (Address: 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326, Phone: (404) 975- 5000, Web site: www.acenursing.org)

PLATFORM COURSEWORK

Students will be required to complete a platform of 37 hours of coursework with a "C" or better and a minimum 2.75 GPA prior to admission to the technical phase of the RN program.

Students must also hold a current, unencumbered LPN license in their state of permanent residence and meet one of the following requirements:
a) Have graduated from a State Board of Nursing-approved practical nursing (PN) program within the 12 months preceding the March 1 deadline; OR
b) Provide proof of having worked a minimum of 1,000 hours as an LPN during the 12 months preceding the March 1 deadline.

Any LPN completing the Alternative to Discipline program is considered encumbered and will not be considered for admission. Work experience must be in acute or long-term care. See last page of this application for clarification of this work experience.

OR hold a National Paramedic Registry Certificate.

Paramedics must have either a) graduated from an approved paramedic program in the 12 months prior to application with 600 work hours completed by June 1st OR b) worked a minimum of 1,000 hours as a paramedic in the 12 months prior to application. Volunteer hours are not considered in the 1,000 hours.

- If 600 hours are not completed by application deadline and student is selected for the program then it will be a conditional acceptance until either June 1st deadline or 600 completed work hours.

All courses required in the platform for the nursing program are either currently offered on the Arkansas Tech University Ozark or Russellville campuses. Applicants with platform coursework completed at other institutions should have their official transcripts sent to the Office of Student Services for review. The platform coursework includes:

2026-2027 Academic Year Platform Courses

Prefix	Number	Title	Credit hrs
MATH	1113	College Algebra	3
ENGL	1013	Composition I	3
PSY	2003	General Psychology	3
BIOL BIOL	2404 or 2014	Human Anatomy and Physiology I or Human Anatomy	4
BIOL BIOL	2414 or 3074	Human Anatomy and Physiology II or Human Physiology	4
ENGL	1023	Composition II	3

BST COMS COMS	1303 or 2003 or 1003	Introduction to Computers or Microcomputer Applications or Introduction to Computer-Based Systems	3
PSY	3813	Lifespan Development	3
BIOL BIOL	2054 or 3054	Microbiology for Health Sciences or Microbiology	4
SOC	1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
CHEM	1111 and 1113	Survey of Chemistry Lab And Survey of Chemistry	4
RN	2006	Paramedic Transition to RN*	6
		Total Platform Hours	**37 / 43**

*Required only for Paramedic transition students (43 hours for Paramedic students)

Substitution and/or waiving of platform coursework will be at the discretion of the cardiac sonography program director in accordance with the policies and procedures of Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus.

Important Academic Year Information: Students completing the Registered Nursing platform coursework during the 2026–2027 academic year will complete the courses listed above.

Beginning in the 2027–2028 academic year, Introduction to Computers and Lifespan Development will no longer be required. U.S. History will replace Introduction to Computers, and American Government will replace Lifespan Development.

2027-2028 Academic Year Platform Courses

Prefix	Number	Title	Credit hrs
MATH	1113	College Algebra	3
ENGL	1013	Composition I	3
PSY	2003	General Psychology	3
BIOL BIOL	2404 or 2014	Human Anatomy and Physiology I or Human Anatomy	4
BIOL BIOL	2414 or 3074	Human Anatomy and Physiology II or Human Physiology	4
ENGL	1023	Composition II	3
HIST HIST HIST	1903 or 2003 or 2013	Survey of American History or United States History to 1877 or United States History since 1877	3
POLS	2003	American Government	3
BIOL BIOL	2054 or 3054	Microbiology for Health Sciences or Microbiology	4
SOC	1003	Introduction to Sociology	3
CHEM	1111 and 1113	Survey of Chemistry Lab and Survey of Chemistry	4
RN	2006	Paramedic Transition to RN*	6
		Total Platform Hours	**37 / 43**

TECHNICAL COURSEWORK

Students must apply to the technical phase of the program following completion of the platform coursework. Admission to the technical phase is competitive due to limited enrollment. Satisfactory completion of the technical coursework will enable a student to graduate with an Associate of Applied Science degree and apply for state licensure as a registered nurse. The technical phase of the program includes a combination of classroom/laboratory study and required clinical education. During the classroom/laboratory portion of the program, students will have the opportunity to learn registered nursing procedures and practice specific procedures on fellow nursing students. Students will be expected to participate in all class and laboratory activities as both a demonstration subject and a simulated client for their classmates. The clinical education portion of the program consists of working with clients in a clinical facility as a student while under the supervision of a clinical instructor. Clinical education sites are located in various cities and towns throughout the area and some may even require lodging due to their distance from Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus. Students will be responsible for all travel associated with clinical education. In addition, each student will be responsible for all meals and lodging associated with clinical education, unless provisions are made by the clinical education site to which they are assigned. Projected technical coursework for the class will include the following:

Associate of Applied Science Degree				
Registered Nurse				
Prefix	**Number**	**Title**	**Credit hrs**	**Semester taken**
		APPLICATION TO ADN RN PROGRAM		
RN	2113	Introduction to Professional Nursing	3	Fall
RN	2112	Pharmacology I	2	Fall
RN	2116	Theories and Concepts for Registered Nursing I	6	Fall
RN	2115	Practicum for Registered Nursing I	5	Fall
RN	2212	Pharmacology II	2	Spring
RN	2216	Theories and Concepts for Registered Nursing II	6	Spring
RN	2215	Practicum for Registered Nursing II	5	Spring
RN	2211	Nutrition	1	Spring
		Total: 30 Credit Hours	30	

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

In order to be considered for admission to the RN program, each student must meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility for admission to Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus
- Completion of platform coursework with a "C" or better and a minimum 2.75 GPA; conditional acceptance may be granted to those students who are in the process of completing remaining platform coursework. Failure to maintain a 2.75 GPA and "C" or better upon completion of remaining platform coursework or failure to complete all platform coursework prior to the start of the program may lead to forfeiture of RN program admission offer.
- Current unencumbered LPN licensure. Recent graduates must have made application to a

State Board of Nursing in order to be considered for conditional admission. Upon an applicant receiving conditional admission, the applicant must show proof of a temporary license prior to beginning coursework. The applicant must pass the NCLEX-PN prior to the final date to drop/withdraw from courses with full reduction of tuition/fees. Failure to take or pass the NCLEX-PN by this time will result in the student being administratively withdrawn from the program.

- Submission of complete and accurate RN Program Application Packet for Admission
- Completion of appropriate HESI PN or Paramedic to ADN MOBILITY EXAM testing
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Students who speak English as a second language must meet the same admission criteria as other students.
- Must have either a) graduated from a State Board of Nursing approved PN school in the 12 months prior to application OR b) been employed a minimum of 1,000 hours as an LPN in the 12 months prior to application. Work experience must be in acute or long-term care. Volunteer hours are not considered in the 1,000 hours.
- OR hold a National Paramedic Registry Certificate
    - Must have either a) graduated from an approved paramedic program in the 12 months prior to application with 600 work hours completed by June 1st OR b) worked a minimum of 1,000 hours as a paramedic in the 12 months prior to application. Volunteer hours are not considered in the 1,000 hours.
    - If 600 hours are not completed by application deadline and student is selected for the program then it will be a conditional acceptance until either June 1st deadline or 600 completed work hours.

CLASS SIZE

The class size will be determined dependent on clinical site availability and job market.

HESI PN to ADN MOBILITY EXAM

Prior to taking the HESI PN or Paramedic to ADN MOBILITY exam, applicants will be required to pay a testing fee. This is a computerized test and therefore test scores will be immediately available. Test results will then be forwarded to the RN program office and the Office of Student Services. Acceptance of HESI results from testing at locations other than Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus will be at the discretion of the RN Program. The HESI PN or Paramedic to ADN MOBILITY EXAM will be used by the RN program for admission consideration.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Due to the limited spots available for each class of RN students, the RN Program must use a method of ranking each candidate according to the candidate's qualifications. **Applicants will be ranked by scores on the HESI PN or Paramedic to ADN MOBILITY EXAM.**

In the case of a tie in the application score for applicants, the following criteria will be utilized as tie-breakers (the criteria are arranged in order of importance):

1. Cumulative GPA for all college coursework completed prior to the application deadline
2. Date/time of submission of completed LPN to RN program application materials.

SELECTION PROCESS

Offers of admission for available spaces will be made to the qualified applicants with the highest overall ratings. All applicants will be notified by the RN Program of their admission

status. Applicants accepted into the program must notify the RN Program office as soon as possible of their decision to accept or decline the offer of admission. Applicants who decline

admission or are not accepted for admission may reapply for admission the following year. In the event an opening for a student becomes available, then applicants from the alternate list will be admitted according to individual ranking.

The timeline for the application and selection process is included below:

March 1	RN program application and forms included in the packet due to RN program office.
AFTER THE APPLICATION DEADLINE	Students with completed applications will complete appropriate HESI PN or Paramedic to ADN MOBILITY EXAM.
AFTER THE HESI EXAM	RN applications will be reviewed and students will be selected for entry to the technical coursework.

FINANCIAL AID

Students requesting information regarding financial aid are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office as follows

Financial Aid Office
1700 Helberg Lane
Ozark, AR 72949
479-667-2117

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Registered Nursing Program at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark Campus does not discriminate on the basis of color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, age, national origin, religion, veteran status, genetic information, or disability in any of its practices, policies, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, employment, admissions, educational services, programs or activities which it operates, or financial aid. Arkansas Tech University complies with all applicable state and federal laws including, but not limited to, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1974, Age Discrimination Act, Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act, Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Civil Rights Act of 1991.
Responsibility for implementation and compliance with this Nondiscrimination Policy has been delegated to Kathleen Martin, Director of Human Resources, AA/EEO Officer who can be reached by emailing kmartin51@atu.edu or calling (479) 964-0583 ext. 2678. The Nondiscrimination Policy is housed in the University's Equal Opportunity, Harassment (Sexual Misconduct), and Nondiscrimination Policy.

PROJECTED PROGRAM COSTS

Estimated costs for enrollment in the technical phase of the RN program are as follows:

- Approximately $10,000 for tuition and fees
- Approximately $300 for textbooks
- Approximately $300 for a lab coat and clinical uniform
- $15 for a campus parking permit
- Approximately $25 for TB testing
- Approximately $90 for Hepatitis B vaccination
- Approximately $560 for licensure requirements

The above-projected costs are subject to change.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

Students admitted to the RN program will be expected to obtain criminal background checks following entry into the program. Criminal background checks may be a requirement for attendance at some of the clinical education sites affiliated with the RN program. Based upon the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical education site may determine not to allow a particular student's presence at a facility. In addition, a criminal background may preclude licensure or employment following graduation. Students are responsible for the associated costs and delivery of background results to the clinical facility requesting the information.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING

Drug and alcohol testing may be a requirement for attendance at some of the clinical education sites affiliated with the RN program. Based upon the results of these checks, an affiliated clinical education site may determine not to allow a particular student's presence at a facility. The student is responsible for the costs associated with any drug and alcohol testing required for attendance at a particular clinical education site. In addition, the student is also responsible for submission of testing results to the clinical education facility requesting the information.

HEALTH REQUIREMENT

Clinical sites may have requirements in addition to those required by the university. This may include the COVID-19 vaccination. Failure to comply with this additional requirement may result in the inability to complete the clinical coursework for the program.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS FOR THE REGISTERED NURSE

Successful participation in the RN Program includes the ability to perform essential functions, which are necessary for delivery of nursing services in a safe, ethical, legal manner. The essential functions are expected to be demonstrated, with or without reasonable accommodation, by students participating in the RN program. Upon reviewing the Essential Functions for the RN Student included in this packet, the candidate will complete the Acknowledgment of Essential Functions for the Registered Nursing Student form and indicate whether or not that student can perform the essential functions. Prior to admission to the program, the student is responsible for providing written documentation of any disabilities, along with evidence for the need for accommodation. Requests for accommodations will be forwarded to the Disability Coordinator for the university. The university will then decide if reasonable accommodations can be made for that particular student.

Essential Function	Capabilities Expected
Motor Skills	The student should possess sufficient motor capabilities in order to provide safe and effective physical therapy procedures. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to: • Ability to assist and protect patients who are walking, exercising, or performing other activities • Ability to adjust, move, position, and lift patients and equipment • Ability to perform pushing, pulling, bending, twisting, reaching, standing, kneeling, sitting, walking, and crawling • Ability to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) • Ability to manipulate equipment including adjustment of dials, gauges, small nuts/bolts, and various equipment settings • Sufficient endurance to move about a clinical setting steadily throughout an 8-hour work day

Sensory Skills	The student should possess sufficient sensory abilities in order to competently assess and monitor patients. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to: • Sufficient visual ability to recognize and interpret facial expressions and body language, identify normal and abnormal patterns of movement, to read or set parameters on equipment, to discriminate color changes, recognize a patient's physiological status, and assess the patient's environment • Sufficient auditory ability to recognize and respond to verbal communication, auditory timers, equipment alarms, and effectively use devices for measurement of blood pressure • Sufficient tactile ability to palpate pulses; detect and assess changes or abnormalities in skin texture, skin temperature, muscle tone, and joint movement
Communication	The student should possess sufficient ability to communicate effectively and competently in the English language with others using appropriate verbal, computer and written methods. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to: • Ability to read at a level of competency that allows one to safely perform the essential functions of an assignment • Ability to write in a legible manner • Ability to present information about nursing procedures • and services to patients, family members, and other health care professionals • Ability to recognize, interpret, and respond to nonverbal behavior of self and others • Ability to interpret and communicate information regarding the status, safety, and rehabilitation of patients

Behavior	The student should possess sufficient ability to exercise good judgment, develop therapeutic relationships with patients and others, work in stressful situations, and tolerate close physical contact with patients and co-workers. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to: • Ability to work with multiple patients and colleagues at the same time • Ability to work with others under stressful conditions • Ability to work with individuals of varying socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds • Ability to act in the best interests of patients
Critical Thinking	The student should possess sufficient ability to comprehend and process information in a timely manner. Capabilities required include, but are not limited to: • Ability to collect and interpret data related to patients and nursing services • Ability to prioritize multiple tasks, process information, and make decisions • Ability to apply knowledge from education to the provision of nursing services • Ability to observe, measure, and interpret normal and abnormal • patient responses to nursing interventions, and appropriately modify treatment interventions • Ability to act safely and ethically in the nursing lab and clinic

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Criminal Background Check Statement

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing requires a criminal background check be performed on each first-time applicant for licensure. Information taken from the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act is found below. Applicants are reminded that completion of the Arkansas Tech University- Ozark Campus LPN to RN program does not guarantee whether or not the applicant will be allowed to sit for the licensure examination or receive an Arkansas RN license. Applicants must read the statement below, which is taken directly from the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act, in its' entirety and sign the attached release.

17-3-102. Licensing restrictions based on criminal records.
(a) An individual is not eligible to receive or hold a license issued by a licensing entity if that individual has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of any of the following offenses by any court in the State of Arkansas or of any similar offense by a court in another state or of any similar offense by a federal court, unless the conviction was lawfully sealed under the Comprehensive Criminal Record Sealing Act of 2013, § 16-90-1401 et seq., or otherwise previously sealed, pardoned or expunged under prior law:

(1) Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
(2) Murder in the first degree and second degree as prohibited in §§ 5-10-102 and 5-10- 103;
(3) Manslaughter as prohibited in § 5-10-104;
(4) Negligent homicide as prohibited in § 5-10-105;
(5) Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;
(6) False imprisonment in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-11-103;
(7) Permanent detention or restraint as prohibited in § 5-11-106;
(8) Robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-102;
(9) Aggravated robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-103;
(10) Battery in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-201;
(11) Aggravated assault as prohibited in § 5-13-204;
(12) Introduction of a controlled substance into the body of another person as prohibited in § 5-13-210;
(13) Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility as prohibited in § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;
(14) Terroristic threatening in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-301;
(15) Rape as prohibited in § 5-14-103;
(16) Sexual indecency with a child as prohibited in § 5-14-110, if the offense is a felony;
(17) Sexual extortion as prohibited in § 5-14-113;
(18) Sexual assault in the first degree, second degree, third degree, and fourth degree as prohibited in §§ 5-14-124 — 5-14-127;
(19) Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
(20) Offenses against the family as prohibited in §§ 5-26-303 — 5-26-306;
(21) Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
(22) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205;
(23) Permitting the abuse of a minor as prohibited in § 5-27-221;

(24) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print media depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 — 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403;
(25) Possession or use of child sexual abuse material as prohibited in § 5-27-603;
(26) Computer exploitation of a child in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-605;
(27) Felony adult abuse as prohibited in § 5-28-103;
(28) Theft of property as prohibited in § 5-36-103;
(29) Theft by receiving as prohibited in § 5-36-106;
(30) Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301;
(31) Burglary as prohibited in § 5-39-201;
(32) Felony violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, § 5-64-101 et seq., as prohibited in the former § 5-64-401, and §§ 5-64-419 — 5-64-442;
(33) Promotion of prostitution in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-70-104;
(34) Stalking as prohibited in § 5-71-229;
(35) Criminal attempt, criminal complicity, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy, as prohibited in §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202, 5-3-301, and 5-3-401, to commit any of the offenses listed in this subsection; and
(36) All other crimes referenced in this title.

(b)

(1) If an individual has been convicted of a crime listed in subsection (a) or subsection I of this section, a licensing entity may waive disqualification or revocation of a license based on the conviction if a request for a waiver is made by:
(A) An affected applicant for a license; or
(B) The individual holding a license subject to revocation.
(2) A basis upon which a waiver may be granted includes without limitation:
(A) The age at which the offense was committed;
(B) The circumstances surrounding the offense;
(C) The length of time since the offense was committed;
(D) Subsequent work history since the offense was committed;
(E) Employment references since the offense was committed;
(F) Character references since the offense was committed;
(G) Relevance of the offense to the occupational license; and
(H) Other evidence demonstrating that licensure of the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of the public.

(3) The waiver requirements of this section are not required for a renewal of a license if an individual has been convicted of a crime listed in subsection (a) of this section and has either:
(A) Completed the waiver requirements of this section at his or her initial licensure;
(B) Been licensed in this state before the enactment of subsection (a) of this section; or
(C) Attended a professional or occupational school, program, or training in pursuit of an occupational license before the enactment of subsection (a) of this section and would have been qualified to hold an occupational license on or before July 24, 2019.

(c) If an individual has a valid criminal conviction for an offense that could disqualify the individual from receiving a license, the disqualification shall not be considered for more than five (5) years from the date of conviction or incarceration or on which probation ends, whichever date is the latest, if the individual:
(A) Was not convicted for committing a violent or sexual offense; and
(B) Has not been convicted of any other offense during the five-year disqualification

period.

(d) A licensing entity shall not, as a basis upon which a license may be granted or denied:

(1) Use vague or generic terms, including without limitation the phrases "moral turpitude" and "good character"; or

(2) Consider arrests without a subsequent conviction.

(e) Due to the serious nature of the offenses, the following shall result in disqualification for licensure, regardless of the date of conviction or the date on which probation or incarceration ends unless a waiver is granted under subsection (b) of this section:

(1) Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;

(2) Murder in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-10-102 and murder in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-10-103;

(3) Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;

(4) Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility as prohibited in § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;

(5) Rape as prohibited in § 5-14-103;

(6) Sexual extortion as prohibited in § 5-14-113;

(7) Sexual assault in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-14-124 and sexual assault in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-14-125;

(8) Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;

(9) Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;

(10) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205;

(11) Adult abuse that constitutes a felony as prohibited in § 5-28-103;

(12) Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301; and

(13) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print media depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 — 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403.

(f) This chapter does not preclude a licensing entity from taking emergency action against a licensee as authorized under § 25-15-211 for the sake of public health, safety, or welfare.

(g) The disqualification for an offense listed in subsection (a) of this section and the disqualification for an offense listed in subsection I of this section do not apply to:

(1) An individual who holds a valid license on July 24, 2019;

(2) An individual who holds a valid license on or before July 24, 2019, but failed to renew his or her license for any reason; or

(3) An individual who was a student on or before July 24, 2019, in a professional or occupational school, program, or training in pursuit of an occupational license and would have been qualified to hold an occupational license on or before July 24, 2019.

(h) This section does not apply to licensure or certification:

(1) Of professions not governed by this title;

(2) Of polygraph examiners and voice stress analysis examiners under § 17-39-101 et seq.;

(3) Of private investigators and private security agencies under the Private Security Agency, Private Investigator, and School Security Licensing and Credentialing Act, § 17- 40-101 et seq.;

(4) Of body artists under § 17-26-601 et seq. who hold a valid license on or before July 1, 2024; or

(5) Of cosmetologists licensed under Title 17, Chapter 26, Subchapter 3.

17-87-312. Criminal background checks.

(a)

(1) Each first-time applicant for a license issued by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall apply to the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check, to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(2) At the time a person applies to an Arkansas nursing educational program, the program shall notify the applicant in writing of the provisions and requirements of this section.

(b) The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards and shall include the taking of fingerprints.

(c) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board and shall be responsible to the Division of Arkansas State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.

(d) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police shall forward to the board all releasable information obtained concerning the applicant.

(e) For purposes of this section, the board shall follow the licensing restrictions based on criminal records under § 17-3-102.

(f)

(1) The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit for licensure to a first-time applicant pending the results of the criminal background check.

(2) The permit shall be valid for no more than six (6) months.

(g)

(1) Any information received by the board from the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police under this section shall not be available for examination except by:

(A) The affected applicant for licensure or his or her authorized representative; or

(B) The person whose license is subject to revocation or his or her authorized representative.

(2) No record, file, or document shall be removed from the custody of the Division of Arkansas State Police.

(h) Any information made available to the affected applicant for licensure or the person whose license is subject to revocation shall be information pertaining to that person only.

(i) Rights of privilege and confidentiality established in this section shall not extend to any document created for purposes other than this background check.

(j) The board shall adopt the necessary rules to fully implement the provisions of this section. (k)

(1) The board may participate at the state and federal level in programs that provide notification of an arrest subsequent to an initial background check that is conducted through available governmental systems.

(2) The board may submit an applicant's fingerprints to the federal Next Generation Identification system.

(3) The fingerprints may be searched by future submissions to the Next Generation Identification system, including latent fingerprint searches.

(4) An applicant enrolled in the Next Generation Identification system is not required to re-fingerprint when a subsequent request for a state or federal criminal history background check is required if:

(A) A legible set of the applicant's fingerprints is obtained when the applicant enrolls in the Next Generation Identification system; and

(B) The applicant is subject to the Rap Back service of the Next Generation Identification system.

(l) The Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may maintain fingerprints in the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

LPN to RN- If you completed an Arkansas State Board of Nursing-approved program more than 12 months ago, you must have your employer sign to verify that you worked a minimum of 1000 hours.

Paramedic to RN- If you completed an approved paramedic program **in the past 12 months** you must have your employer sign to verify that you have worked **a minimum of 600 hours**. If you completed an approved Paramedic program **more than 12 months ago**, then you must have your employer sign to verify that you have worked a **minimum of 1000 hours**.

LPN: You must check one of the two options listed below and complete the requested information and attach a copy of your unencumbered LPN license.

☐ I completed an Arkansas State Board of Nursing approved program in Practical Nursing in the past 12 months.

Program Name _____Completion Date _____

☐ I completed an Arkansas State Board of Nursing approved program more than 12 months ago. (If this statement is selected, employer must sign statement below.)

I hereby certify that the applicant has worked a minimum of 1000 hours in the past twelve months in this **acute care or long-term care setting** in the capacity of an LPN.

☐ Acute Care ☐ Long Term Care ☐ Other

_____ _____ _____

Employer Signature Employer Printed Name Company Name and Phone Number

PARAMEDIC: You must check one of the two options listed below and complete the requested information and attach a copy of your National Paramedic Registry Certificate

☐ I completed an approved paramedic program in the past 12 months.

Program Name_____ Completion Date_____

- I hereby certify that the applicant has or will have completed 600 work hours by June 1st.

_____ _____ _____

Employer Signature Employer Printed Name Company Name & Phone Number

☐ I completed an approved paramedic program more than 12 months ago. (If this statement is selected, employer must sign statement below.)

I hereby certify that the applicant has worked a minimum of 1000 hours in the past twelve months in the capacity of a Paramedic.

_____ _____ _____

Employer Signature Employer Printed Name Company Name & Phone Number

Definition of Acute Care or Long-Term Care Facilities

Long term care facilities include Nursing Homes or Skilled Nursing Facilities

Acute Care is defined as a facility or position that requires time sensitive and rapid intervention to prevent illness, injury or death. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Inpatient hospitals, including inpatient medical hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, inpatient psychiatric hospitals, and LTACs (long term acute care) facilities.

Urgent care facilities

Ambulatory surgery centers

Dialysis centers

Home health agencies Hospice

Primary care and specialty care clinics are not considered acute care facilities. Even though clinics may occasionally see clients who require some components of acute care, they are not positioned to assume the role of acute care provider.

This is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of every single acceptable type of nursing care. If you have a question, please contact the allied health secretary at 479- 508-8500 Ext 6105 and your employment history will be evaluated on a case by case basis.