

Specialty Exam Requirements

All potential hospital affiliate students must demonstrate minimum competency in three specialty areas of nursing, Mental Health, Maternal-Child and Pediatrics prior to acceptance into the LVN-RN Transition Program. Competency is demonstrated by passing specialty exams in these content areas with a 70% or greater. All exams are administered through the National League for Nursing (NLN) Online Testing Service.

Getting Started

1. Find a preceptor at a local hospital willing to manage your clinical courses
2. Identify the proctor for the exams at the hospital and send their name, hospital address and hospital email to Martha Tafoya (mtafoya@angelo.edu)
3. Coordinate exam dates with the proctor
4. Schedule your exams (OB and pediatrics are taken the same day and are treated as one exam; the mental health exam is to taken on a separate day)

Scheduling NLN Exams

When you have your preferred dates, call the NLN Customer Service at 800-732-8656. Identify yourself as an Angelo State University student in San Angelo, TX, wishing to register for an exam. Along with credit card information, give them the name of the exam, the date you want to take it, and the time you wish to begin the exam. The exams cost \$70 each. Request the following exams:

- NACE II RN-BSN: Care of the Client with a Mental Disorder
- NACE I PN-RN: Child Bearing/Care of the Child

NLN will email the exam code to your proctor prior to the exam date. Once you have completed an exam, notify Martha Tafoya (mtafoya@angelo.edu) via email. You will be notified of your scores by reply email.

Preparing for the NLN Exams

You are encouraged to review that material in these content areas prior to taking the exams. To facilitate your preparation exam blueprints can be downloaded from this link:

Listed below are some suggested web sites and programs designed to facilitate your review of this material. We suggest that you compare several of them to find the method that fits your learning style best.

- MyNursingLab: <http://www.mynursinglab.com>
 - This is a web site designed to support nursing textbooks in various subjects. Choose a textbook, purchase access to MyNursingLab for that book, and then begin working in the self-study course that is created.
 - Suggested books
 - Maternal-newborn nursing & women's health across the lifespan 8th edition (or most current) ; Davidson, London & Ladewig; Pearson Publishing
 - Child health nursing 2nd edition(or most current); Ball, Bindler & Cowen, Pearson Publishing
 - Contemporary psychiatric-mental health nursing 2nd edition (or most current); Kneisl & Trigoboff; Pearson Publishing
- NCLEX-RN Review Courses:
 - Hurst Review: <http://www.hurstreview.com/>
 - Drexel University: <http://passnclex.drexel.edu/>
 - Kaplan: <http://www.kaplannursing.com/>
 - Nursing Education Consultants: <http://www.nursinged.com/>
 - Review for Nurses: <http://nclex.reviewfornurses.com/>