PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: This interdisciplinary practical nursing program is designed to provide a beginning point for individuals seeking upward mobility in the nursing profession. Practical Nursing students are prepared for giving direct and primary nursing care under the immediate supervision of the clinical instructor, staff R.N., Advance Practice Nurses (APN), and/or physicians in the cooperating clinical facilities. Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) are eligible for acceptance into Practical Nursing program. The CNA who possesses current State of Arkansas Certification receives direct articulated credit in lieu of repeating the course. The program prepares Practical Nurses for employment in a wide range of health care settings including: hospitals, nursing homes, APN offices/clinics, physician’s offices, and private duty care. The Arkansas State Board of Nursing approves the Practical Nursing program with regular evaluations to ensure a quality program of education in the nursing field. Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to apply and take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN) for licensure as a practical nurse.

ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURE: Applicants who have completed the above admission requirements will be reviewed for acceptance to the program. Should the qualified applicants exceed the available slots in the program, admission into a particular class will be based on the date of completed application. After acceptance into the Practical Nursing program, the student must submit evidence of the following in order to begin classes:
1. Current CPR Certification- American Heart Association Health Care Provider or American Red Cross Professional Rescuer. Certification must be valid for entire period of enrollment.
2. Functional Ability Acknowledgement Form
3. P.P.D. Skin Test or Chest X-Ray
4. Hepatitis B Series or Signature on SEARK College Vaccination Waiver Claim Form.

All students accepted into the Practical Nursing Program will be required to have state and FBI criminal background checks and will be required to pay all associated fees. Conviction of certain crimes may make the applicant ineligible to test for licensure despite successful completion of the Practical Nursing Program. Random drug screening may be utilized at any time during the course of the program at the student’s expense.

MAXIMUM STUDENT ENROLLMENT PER SEMESTER: 40

PROGRAM DURATION/CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES: The Practical Nursing Technical Certificate Program is a 35 credit hour program that can be completed in three semesters.

CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT RATE: Based on the Arkansas Department of Higher Education information on Credential Attainment rate for the Practical Nursing Technical Certificate is 75%

PROGRAM COST PER STUDENT:
Tuition: $2,800 Fees: $1,685 Books: $1,046 Required Supplies: $250
Program total cost estimate: $5,781

PLACEMENT RATE: Based on the Arkansas Department of Higher Education information on placement rate for the Practical Nursing Technical Certificate is 90%

LICENSURE PASS RATE: +90%

AVERAGE SALARY: $34,280

STUDENT PLACEMENT EXAMPLES: Medical clinics, doctor’s offices, schools, hospitals