

# Vocational Nursing Program

## Student Prospective Guide



FY 2023-2024

South Texas College

Nursing & Allied Health Division

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# PREFACE

## Vocational Nursing Program Student Guide

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The Vocational Nursing (VN) Program will prepare students with the basic competencies to become safe practitioners in the healthcare field. Upon successful completion of the Level II Certificate, the graduate will be able to petition for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (PN) (NCLEX-PN). After successfully passing the exam, the individual will be a licensed practical nurse and can work in hospitals, day-surgery centers, rehabilitation centers, physicians' offices, home health care agencies, among other areas. The Vocational Nursing (VN) Program at South Texas College is approved by the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON).

This **guide** has been developed to provide prospective VN students with information about the VN program and application process. Please follow the steps.

### *Selective Program*

The VN Program is a selective program with application requirements. Students must meet all program application requirements before being eligible to apply. To be considered for program admission, applications must be submitted during the application periods, as published on the Vocational Nursing Program webpage. Due to limited resources, some applicants who meet all program application requirements may not be admitted to the program for the current application period.

### *Program Selection Process*

The VN Program selection process is **Competitive Entry** and is **based on a Competitive Point System**. Points are awarded based on a Point System from: pre-requisite courses, HESI A2 exam scores, STC Cumulative GPA, and other additional points as listed in the Application Form. A **Cutoff Score** is calculated for each application period based on the qualified applicant pool, the number of slots available, and may vary for each application period. Qualified applications are ranked from highest to lowest points and admission is based solely on this ranking. Students are assigned site placement (Starr, Mid-Valley, and McAllen) based on the physical address during the selection process.

### **The Step-by-Step Student Guide includes the following information:**

- Step 1: Admission to South Texas College
- Step 2: Student Information Session
- Step 3: Program Information & Requirements
- You are ready to Apply
- Notification of Application Status
- Program Cost

## *Vocational Nursing Degree Plan*

The Vocational Nursing Degree is designed for individuals who would like to pursue a nursing career. Students must meet the program application requirements before applying to the program. Upon completion of the Vocational Nursing, the graduate will be able to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). The Vocational Nursing is a one-year program. Students must successfully pass every semester to continue in the program.

### **VOCATIONAL NURSING – FALL & SPRING ADMISSION**

#### ***TSI Liable***

<b>PRE-REQUISITES</b>	<b>CREDIT HOURS</b>
VNSG 1420 Anatomy & Physiology for Allied Health or	4
BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	
<a href="#">VNSG 1500</a> Nursing in Health & Illness I	5
<a href="#">VNSG 1304</a> Foundations of Nursing	3
<a href="#">VNSG 1323</a> Basic Nursing Skills	3
<a href="#">VNSG 1160</a> Clinical I - A	1
<a href="#">VNSG 1161</a> Clinical I - B	1
<a href="#">VNSG 1327</a> Essentials of Medication Administration	3
<a href="#">HPRS 1106</a> Essentials of Medical Terminology	1
Credit Hours	17
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	
<a href="#">VNSG 1509</a> Nursing in Health and Illness II	5
<a href="#">VNSG 1162</a> Clinical II - A	1
<a href="#">VNSG 2331</a> Advanced Nursing Skills	3
<a href="#">VNSG 1230</a> Maternal-Neonatal Nursing	2
<a href="#">VNSG 1234</a> Pediatrics	2
<a href="#">VNSG 1261</a> Clinical II - B	2
Credit Hours	15
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>	
<a href="#">VNSG 2510</a> Nursing in Health and Illness III <sup>1</sup>	5
<a href="#">VNSG 1105</a> NCLEX-PN Review <sup>1</sup>	1
<a href="#">VNSG 1362</a> Clinical III <sup>1</sup>	3
Credit Hours	9
Total Credit Hours	45-49

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<sup>1</sup> CAPSTONE: Successfully passing [VNSG 2510](#) Nursing in Health and Illness III, [VNSG 1105](#) NCLEX-PN Review and [VNSG 1362](#) Clinical III.

## Step 1: ADMISSION TO SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

Students are admitted to South Texas College through the provisions of [Board Policy 3200](#). General admission to the College does not imply admission to the Vocational Nursing Program. The Nursing and Allied Health Division offers Selective Programs with application requirements. Prospective students must meet all program application requirements before being eligible to apply to Selective Programs.

### *Traditional Students*

South Texas College has developed a checklist to assist new students with the admission process. See the [Admission Checklist](#). For further information or assistance, contact The Office of Admissions & Record (OAR) at 956-872-8323 or email [admissions@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:admissions@southtexascollege.edu).

Students must have the listed requirements completed and on file before applying to the program.

- Apply for admission online at Apply Texas ([www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org))
- Meet TSI College Readiness Standards, or TSI exemption standards

### *Transfer Students*

Students transferring from another accredited college or university must comply with [Board Policy 3200 and 3320](#). For further information or assistance, contact The Office of Admissions & Record (OAR) at 956-872-8323 or email [admissions@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:admissions@southtexascollege.edu).

Students must have the listed requirements completed and on file before applying to the program.

- Apply for admission online at Apply Texas ([www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org))
- Submit official transcript(s) from each institution previously attended to the OAR for official transfer course evaluation
- Meet TSI College Readiness Standards, or TSI exemption standards

**Note to transfer students:** When transferring credits from your former college/university to STC, only the credits transfer, not the GPA.

## Step 2: STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

The VN Program offers **Information Sessions** for interested students. Students are **required** to complete an Information Session, virtually or by reviewing this guide, to learn about the program information & requirements, program tracks, point system-evaluation, application period, and clinical requirements. This is mandatory, due to the high volume of students seeking a Vocational Nursing Degree. Students who complete the Information Session (virtually or by reviewing this guide) will need to successfully complete the Post Exam and obtain a **Certificate of Completion**, which is a document that needs to be submitted with the Vocational Nursing Application.

### *Virtual Information Session*

Information Sessions are offered virtually. Sessions are scheduled approximately one (1) hour and students are recommended to “book a session” via the [VN Webpage](#). It is recommended that the student have a copy of their official or unofficial college or university transcript for review, if applicable. During the virtual session, the student will be able to ask questions during the session. After attending the Virtual Session, the student can schedule a one-to-one [follow up appointment](#) with the VN Advisor. Students completing the virtual session are responsible for understanding all program requirements.

### *Overview of the Step-by-Step Guide*

This **Step-by-Step Guide** is designed for students who are not able to attend a live scheduled Information Session. Once the student has read the Step-by-Step Guide, the student can schedule a [follow-up appointment](#) for individualized tailored advising. Students reading the Step-by-Step Guide are responsible for understanding all program requirements.

### *Certificate of Completion*

Students who complete a session, either virtually or by reviewing the Step-by-Step Guide, must successfully complete the Post Exam for the Information Session. The Certificate of Completion is available on the [VN Webpage](#). The certificate is one of the required documents for applying to the VN Program. The certificate must be within the academic year of application submission.

## Step 3: PROGRAM INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

### *Program Selection Criteria*

The selection criteria are used to assess the applicant's score. Points are given for the following selection criteria:

1. Pre-requisites courses
2. HESI A2 Exam scores
3. Cumulative GPA
4. Additional points as listed in the application form for the specific track

### Pre-requisites

**All pre-requisites must be completed with a grade of "B" or better to be eligible to apply to the VN Program.**

Pre-requisite Courses	Credit Hours
Option 1	
VNSG 1420 Anatomy & Physiology for Allied Health	4
Option 2	
BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II	4

VNSG 1420, BIOL2401 and BIOL 2402 ***do not*** have an expiration date.

**Note:** For students transferring BIOL 2401 and/or BIOL 2402 with a separate lecture (3 credits) and lab (1 credit), both courses must be a grade of B or better, and both lecture and lab, must be transferred for a total of 4 credit hours.

### HESI A2 (Admission Assessment) Exam

The HESI A2 Exam is an admission requirement for the South Texas College VN Program. The exam consists of academic exams and a personality profile that identifies the applicant's learning style. All students are required to take the exam, ***no exceptions***. Total time allotted to complete the exam is 4.25 hours. The instructions to register and take the exam and frequently asked questions can be found on [\*\*FAQ FOR HESI A2 EXAM\*\*](#).

### Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)

The VN program will award students points on the program application based on the South Texas College cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher at the time of application submission. The cumulative GPA is a compilation of all courses taken at South Texas College, regardless if it was for the VN Program. For students who are transferring courses from another college/university, the GPA does not transfer. Only the grade and credit hours are applied to the Vocational Nursing Degree.

Points will be awarded as follows:

4.00 – 3.5                      2 points

3.49 – 3.0                      1 point

2.99 – 2.0                      0 point (students who fall in this bracket will be allowed to apply to the program, but will not be granted points on the application)

### Additional Points

The VN program offers applicants the opportunity to earn Additional Points, which are not required when applying to the VN program; however, they will assist applicants to earn additional points towards the total score.

### **South Texas College Graduate of the Patient Care Technician Program**

South Texas College Graduates, who have completed a certificate from **the PCT** program, will be awarded points on the application based on the criteria below. The PTC Certificate must be conferred on the South Texas College transcript. The Online Application will pick up certificate when applying.

- Patient Care Technician Certificate  
STC Grad with grade of B or higher in each course = 4 points
- Patient Care Technician Certificate  
STC Grad with grade of C or higher in each course = 2 points

### **CSFH 0101 College Success for Healthcare**

Students enrolled in College Success for Healthcare course are presented with an overview of the rigorous and challenging environment of healthcare education, and an understanding of the commitment needed to become a successful nursing or allied health professional. Students who complete this course with a grade of B or higher, will be granted points on the application. It is also recommended for students to take this course, if they have been out of school for a long duration of time and want to strengthen their learning skills or earn extra points on the application. Points will be awarded as A = 3 points, and B = 2 points.

### Repeating Courses

The VN Program does not deduct points for retaking courses. However, the latest course grade stands and it is the one that will be considered at the time of application.

## ***Program and Clinical Compliance Requirements***

### Immunization Requirements

Applicants are required to submit proof of the immunizations listed below with the program application.

- Immunization documentation but be visible to read
- Immunizations must be validated by either a stamp or signed by facility or physician
- Must be from a U.S. medical source
- Name and D.O.B. must be documented on all forms
  - Tetanus/Diphtheria/ Pertussis Tdap: Proof of dose within the last 10 years
  - Hepatitis B – complete 3 vaccine series or proof of positive serology
  - Measles/Mumps/Rubella MMR – 2 doses required or proof of positive serology
  - Varicella (Chicken Pox) – 2 doses required or proof of positive serology
  - Meningitis MCV (state requirement for students under the age of 22) – one dose within the last five years

For immunization review, please email [Clinical Affairs](#) a copy of your immunization record. The clinical affairs specialist will review and inform the student if immunization meet the standards.

**Note:** Once a student is officially admitted in the VN Program, the student will be required to fulfill additional immunizations and clinical requirements. Further instructions will be provided to the student on your letter of acceptance and the mandatory orientation.

### Criminal Background Check through Texas Board of Nursing

In compliance with the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) requirements, **all** students must submit a criminal background through the TBON.

1. Complete the [TBON Roster](#) form to start the criminal background check. This process needs to occur 10-12 weeks prior to applying to the VN program.
2. Email the form to [clinicalaffairs@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:clinicalaffairs@southtexascollege.edu).
3. Check your email in about 2-3 weeks from submission of the form, for an email from [nobody@identogo.com](mailto:nobody@identogo.com)
4. Schedule your appointment to get your digital fingerprints done

Upon completion of the TBON background check, the student will receive a Blue Card or an Outcome Letter from the TBON via United States Postal Service. The student must retain the Blue Card or Outcome Letter, and a copy will be required when applying to the Program.

Students with a ***positive criminal history*** should complete the [TBON Roster](#) earlier. The process for students with a positive criminal history may take 6-10 months to complete. If you should get a letter from TBON questioning your history and requesting a Declaratory Order, please respond to the letter accordingly.

**Note:** All Declaratory Order decisions are determined solely by the TBON. The Outcome Letter will determine if the student can sit for the National Council Licensure Examination-PN (NCLEX-PN) after the student's criminal background has been reviewed by the TBON and successful completion of the STC VN Program.

### Functional Abilities Standards

[Functional Abilities Standards](#) are the essential functions, which every STC NAH student is expected to perform and are necessary for successful participation in the VN Program. This form will be completed at the time the application is submitted. These are necessary in order to provide healthcare services in a safe, ethical, and legal manner. Students participating in the VN Program are expected to demonstrate the essential functions listed in this form, with or without reasonable accommodation. These are applicable in classrooms, laboratories, and clinical settings. The STC NAH Program uses independent clinical education sites that may or may not be able to offer the same reasonable accommodations that are made available by the College.

Any student wishing to request reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability must initiate the process by contacting an ADA representative from the Office of Student Accessibility Services for information and procedures at 956-872-3077 or 956-872-2173, email [disability@southtexascollege.edu](mailto:disability@southtexascollege.edu) or visiting the website <https://studentservices.southtexascollege.edu/disability/>.

# YOU ARE READY TO APPLY

## *Requirements when submitting Application Online*

When Step 1 – 3 are complete, you are ready to apply using the Online Application.

### **Vocational Nursing**

There are two (2) application periods per year Fall and Spring. The number of students admitted will vary per application period. Students may apply in June/July to be considered for the Fall Program and/or may apply in October/November, to be considered for the Spring Program. Check the [VN Webpage](#) for specific application dates and deadlines.

Students must meet all application requirements before being eligible to apply to the VN program. Meeting the application requirements is not a guarantee of program admission. Students must gather all the necessary documentation when submitting the application online. Review the VN Checklist before submitting the application.

### Application Requirements Checklist

**The following items should be on the STC Student System before applying, check JagNet for verification.**

- High School transcript on file with the Office of Admissions and Records
- TSI College Readiness Standards or TSI exemption standards
- Pre-requisite courses with a grade of B or better in each course (VNSG 1420, or BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402)
- Have accumulated a cumulative GPA of at least a 2.0 or higher with South Texas College
- If applicable, all prerequisite courses have been transferred and are listed with STC
- HESI A2 Exam Scores
  - Are within the last two (2) years, and are within the eligibility period, if taken more than once
  - HESI scores are 70% or higher on each section (English Language Composite, Science and Math) Points will be awarded for each category.
  - HESI scores have been reviewed and approved by an VN Advisor and are in the STC Student System

**The following items will be uploaded to the Online Application at time of submission.**

- Certificate of Completion for attending the Information Session
- Official documentation of all required immunizations or proof of positive serology
  - Tetanus/Diphtheria/ Pertussis Tdap: Proof of dose within the last 10 years
  - Hepatitis B – complete 3 vaccine series or proof of positive serology
  - Measles/Mumps/Rubella MMR – 2 doses required or proof of positive serology
  - Varicella (Chicken Pox) – 2 doses required or proof of positive serology
  - Meningitis MCV (state requirement for students under the age of 22) – one dose within the last five years
- Blue Card or Outcome Letter from Texas Board of Nursing; upload only the front of the card with name and address
- [Functional Abilities Standards Form](#) Read, complete, sign and upload to the online application

## Point System Scoring

The VN Program selection process is based on a Point System. The following selection criteria is used to assess the applicant's points.

VN Program Application Ranking Worksheet		
Criteria I, II, and III are required to apply to the program. The items in Criteria IV are optional and are not required to apply to the program; however, it will help the applicant to earn additional points.		
Criteria	Points	Enter Points
<b>I. Pre-requisite courses with a grade of B or higher (choose an option)</b>  <u>Option 1</u> VNSG 1420 A&P for Allied Health _____  <u>Option 2</u> BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I _____ BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II _____ (average points for BIOL 2401 & 2402)	Grade A = 5 pts Grade B = 3 pts	
<b>II. HESI Scores (add points from each category)</b>  English Language Composite = 70%+a. _____ = ____ pts Science: Anatomy & Physiology = 70%+b. _____ = ____ pts Math: = 70%+c. _____ = ____ pts	<b><u>HESI A2 Points</u></b> 100% - 90% = 3 pts 89% - 83% = 2 pts 82% - 70% = 1 pt	
<b>III. Cumulative GPA with STC</b> GPA at time of application _____	3.5 – 4.00 = 2 pts 3.0 – 3.49 = 1 pt 2.0 – 2.99 = 0 pt	
<b>IV. Additional Points</b> The following items are not required to apply to the program; however, they will help the applicant to earn additional points.		
a. CSFH 0101 College Success for Health Care Completed with a grade of “B” or higher	Grade A = 3 pts Grade B = 2 pts	
b. Patient Care Technician Certificate STC Grad with a grade of “B” or higher in all courses	4 points	
c. Patient Care Technician Certificate STC Grad with a grade of “C” or higher in all courses	2 points	
<b>Total Points</b> The maximum score is 23 points		

The maximum points a student can earn on this Point System is twenty-three (23) points. Students are ranked from highest to lowest points. The selection for a cohort is solely based on this ranking.

The Point System Evaluation Form can be found on the [VN Webpage](#). Students are encouraged to explore their grades and points to improve application score. A student's goal is to be as close as possible to the maximum points. The higher the student's score, the higher the probability of being admitted.

## NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION STATUS

The South Texas College Vocational Nursing (VN) Program communicates via Jag email to inform all applicants of their admission status. Notification Letters will be emailed via Jag email on the specified date listed on the [VN Webpage](#) Applications and Timelines. Students should make sure the Jag email is working for application status. This is the main form of communication of the VN Program.

### *Application Status*

Qualified applicants with total points **above** the cutoff score will be admitted and applicants with total points **below** the cutoff score will be denied. Applicants with total points **equal** to the cutoff score will be designated as alternates.

Applicants will receive notification of their application status as either "admitted", "alternate", or "denied" via the Jag email address. The program **does not** have a **waiting-list**. Applicants who are not admitted for the current period are encouraged to meet with the VN Program Advisor to discuss alternative options.

### Admitted Status

Admitted Applicants must officially accept their admission to the program on or before the mandatory orientation by submitting the Acceptance form. The mandatory orientation will outline all the details of the program, including but not limited to additional immunizations, uniform, clinical requirements, student resources, books and class registration.

### Alternate Status

Applicants with total points equal to the cutoff score will be designated as alternates and notified of their application status through Jag email. Should any of the admitted applicants decline admission; an alternate will be offered admissions to the program. A random draw (through a lottery system) of alternate applicants will be used as needed.

### Denied Status

Applicants with total points below the cutoff score will be denied and notified of their application status through Jag email. Denied applicants are encouraged to meet with the VN Program Advisor to discuss alternative options such as:

- Applying for other programs within NAH or other Divisions
- Re-applying for the next application period
- Improving score on the application

Upon the denied applicant's request, further consultation can be scheduled with the:

- VN Advisor
  - Applicants can meet with the VN Advisor to review other options or how to improve points for next application period.
- VN Program Chair
  - Applicant can meet with the VN Program Chair after the applicant has met with the VN Program Advisor.
- NAH Division Dean
  - Applicant can meet with the NAH Division Dean after the applicant has met with the VN Program Advisor and VN Program Chair.

## VN PROGRAM COST



### NURSING & ALLIED HEALTH DIVISION Program Cost FY 2023-2024

Program	Semester	Credit Hours	Tuition	Differential Tuition	Student Activity Fee	Other Fees	Insurance Fee	Books	Supplies	Equip, Tools, & Other Expenses	Program Total Cost	
<b>Vocational Nursing Certificate</b>	pre-reqs	8	\$ 1,280.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 32.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,737.00	
	1	17	\$ 2,720.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 712.65	\$ 12.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,122.05	\$ 7,089.70	
	2	15	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 712.65	\$ 12.00		\$ 500.00		\$ 4,809.65	
	3	9	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 712.65	\$ 12.00		\$ 500.00		\$ 3,375.65	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>\$ 7,840.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,375.00</b>	<b>\$ 196.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,137.95</b>	<b>\$ 36.00</b>	<b>\$ 305.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,122.05</b>	<b>\$ 17,012.00</b>	

\*Source: Financial Services Department

# FAQ FOR HESI A2 EXAM

The HESI A2 Exam is an admission requirement for the VN Program. The exam consists of academic exams and a personality profile that identifies the applicant's learning style. All students are required to take the exam, **no exceptions**. Total time allotted to complete the exam is 4.25 hours.

Students are required to have HESI passing scores prior to applying to the Vocational Nursing Program. VN applicants are required to have HESI passing scores as part of the program application requirements, within the last two years.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How do I register for HESI A2 Exam?

- To register for your HESI Distance Testing you will need an Evolve account. Please create your account on this website [Evolve Website](#).
- Log into your Evolve Account and click on "HESI Assessment Student Access"
- Click on Distance Testing

**Note:** If you wish to take the Exam with **South Texas College**, follow the steps:

- Log on to the [Student Assessment Center](http://studentservices.southtexascollege.edu/testing/) <http://studentservices.southtexascollege.edu/testing/>
- Choose exam "HESI"
- Read the instructions regarding HESI
- Go to the HESI Store and follow the prompts to register for the exam

**Note:** If you wish to take the Exam with **Prometric**, continue the steps:

- Click on Distance Testing Tab > Register for a Distance Exam
- Complete the required information, check box, and click the submit button
  - Please confirm your first and last name match your government-issued photo ID with signature
  - Click Tab on your keyboard to populate information
  - Enter school's department ID **199281**
  - Select the appropriate exam

## SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE-DISTANCE Department ID: 199281

### \*IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Do not use the school's department ID as your student ID when creating your student Evolve account.
- The first and last name on your Evolve account must be the same as it appears on your government issued photo ID with signature (i.e. Driver's License or Passport). You will not be admitted into the testing lab if there is any discrepancy between what is listed on your Evolve student account and what is presented on your ID.
- Your government issued ID must include your signature and a photo that resembles your current appearance to gain admittance into the testing center (your middle name/initial is not required).

You will receive an email Confirmation Notice indicating that you may schedule your exam. Carefully review the information contained in your Confirmation Notice. If your name is not correct, or has been changed, please contact Elsevier HESI Assessment at [exameligibility@elsevier.com](mailto:exameligibility@elsevier.com). Failure to do so could result in forfeiture of your testing appointment and associated fees.

### PLEASE NOTE:

You will receive your Eligibility ID within 1-3 business days from our receipt of your eligibility request. Please add the following email address to your email's safe sender list to avoid delays: [exameligibility@elsevier.com](mailto:exameligibility@elsevier.com). If you do not see the notification, please check your spam/junk folder.

### 2. How much does the HESI A2 Exam cost?

The price for the exam with South Texas College is \$70. The price for the exam with Prometric is approximately \$115c. When registering for the exam, be prepared with a Debit/Credit Card. The fee is the same if you re-test on a section or all sections.

**3. Where can I take HESI?**

You can take HESI with *South Texas College or Prometric*. To take the HESI with South Texas College, visit the [Student Assessment Center](#) and follow the prompts or refer to question 1. To take the HESI with Prometric follow the steps on the Evolve website.

**4. What is tested?**

**HESI SUBJECTS TESTED # OF ITMES**

**English Language** (must take all sections of the English Language section)

**Reading Comprehension:** Provides reading scenarios in order to measure reading comprehension, identifying the main idea, finding meaning of words in context, passage comprehension, making logical inferences, etc.

*Recommended time: 60 minutes*

55 items\*

**Vocabulary & General Knowledge:** Contains vocabulary terms that are commonly used in both general English-speaking settings and in health care fields. *Recommended time: 50 minutes*

55 items\*

**Grammar:** Contains basic grammar, including parts of speech, important terms and their uses, commonly occurring grammatical errors, etc.

*Recommended time: 50 minutes*

55 items\*

**Math**

**Basic Math Skills:** Focuses on math skills needed for health care fields, including basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, fractions, decimals, ratio and proportion, household measures, general math facts, etc. *Recommended time: 50 minutes*

55 items\*

**Science**

**Anatomy and Physiology (only):** Provides coverage of general terminology and anatomical structures and systems. *Recommended time: 25 minutes*

30 items

**Personality Profile (not graded, for diagnostic purposes only)**

**Learning Style:** Assesses the preferred learning style. *Recommended time: 15 minutes*

14 items

**Personality Profile:** Assesses personality related to preferred learning style. *Recommended time: 15 minutes*

15 items

\*Includes 50 scoring and 5 pilot items

**5. How should I prepare?**

A study booklet is available and can be purchased at stores listed below. If it is your first-time taking HESI, it is recommended that you take VNSG 1420 or BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402 before taking the exam.



**HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review**, latest edition, with content review and sample test questions. May be purchased at:

- [Evolve Website](#)
- Any major bookstore or website
- You may also view the book at most South Texas College Center for Learning Centers (CLE)

Other resources you can use to prepare for the exam are Quizlet.com, Kahnsacademy.org, YouTube, HESI A2 apps.

**6. What scores do I have to attain on the HESI A2 Exam?**

Each section must be passed with a 70% or higher. Below is an example of the HESI Exam formula for the VN Program application.

HESI Points awarded per category  
 100% - 90% = 3 points  
 89% - 83% = 2 points  
 82% - 70% = 1 point

**Example**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Score</b>
English Language Composite Score (all 7 exams)	<u>75% = 1 point</u>
Science Composite Score: Anatomy & Physiology only	<u>80% = 1 point</u>
Math Score	<u>88% = 2 points</u>
	HESI Score = 4 points

**7. When will I receive my exam scores?**

Exam scores are available immediately after completion of the exam. If you are unsure if you passed your HESI Exam, please visit the VN Advisor for clarification. Your scores are also available on your HESI account 24/7 through the Evolve Elsevier website.

**8. Do I have to take HESI A2 if I have a Doctoral degree, Master’s degree, Bachelor’s degree, Associates degree, or Certificate?**

Students who have attained a doctoral, masters, bachelors, associates and/or a certificate are still required to take the HESI exam. All students applying to the Vocational Nursing Program or the Associate Degree Nursing Programs are required to take HESI and meet the passing scores, no exceptions.

**9. What if I don’t pass the HESI A2 Exam the first time?**

You may retake the HESI Version 2 Exam after a 2-3 week waiting period. You will retest with a different version (version 2) of the exam— no student will have the same exam items twice.

If you fail the exam on the second attempt, you must wait until the next eligibility period to test. You can test for HESI A2 Exam six times per year, which is two times per eligibility period.

You can repeat the exam if you scored under 70% or 75% on a required test section and repeat that section within the same “eligibility period” as the first exam. If student decides or wishes to improve scores (**on either version 1 or version 2**), the highest score of 70% or better will be taken into consideration within the same eligibility period.

Do not register for the HESI A2 on a third time attempt within the same eligibility periods. Registration fees will not be refunded and scores will not be accepted.

Eligibility periods are:    January 1 through May 31  
    June 1 through August 31  
    September 1 through December 31

**10. Do I have to pay for the entire exam if I retest?**

Yes, the exam is the same fee whether you test for the entire exam or retest on a section(s). Please make sure you retest within the eligibility period of the first exam.

**11. How long are my A2 Exam scores valid?**

HESI scores are valid for 2 years from the time of completion.

**12. I am having technical difficulty with the website or registering for the exam?**

For technical assistance, re-activating your account, rescheduling or changes on HESI registration, contact Elsevier Client Services at 1-800-222-9570 or contact Elsevier Review & Testing via email at [exameligibility@elsevier.com](mailto:exameligibility@elsevier.com) for further assistance.

## List of Webpages and URLs

### VN Webpage

<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/academics/vocational-nursing/index.html>

### Admission Checklist

<https://studentservices.southtexascollege.edu/checklist.html>

### Apply Texas

[https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c\\_start.WBX](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX)

### Board Policy 3200

### Board Policy 3200 and 3320

<https://admin.southtexascollege.edu/president/policies/ch3.html>

### Clinical Affairs Specialist

<mailto:clinicalaffairs@southtexascollege.edu>

### Evolve Website

<https://evolve.elsevier.com/>

### Online Information Session

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/BSNAdvising@stusouthtexascollege.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

### Student Assessment Center

[https://secure.touchnet.com/C20193\\_ustores/web/classic/index.jsp](https://secure.touchnet.com/C20193_ustores/web/classic/index.jsp).

### Texas Board of Nursing - Graduates & NCLEX Examinations

### TBON Roster

[https://nah.southtexascollege.edu/clinical\\_affairs\\_pdf/TX%20Board%20of%20Nursing%20ROSTER.pdf](https://nah.southtexascollege.edu/clinical_affairs_pdf/TX%20Board%20of%20Nursing%20ROSTER.pdf)

### Texas Board of Nursing Website

[License Lookup \(boardsofnursing.org\)](https://boardsofnursing.org)