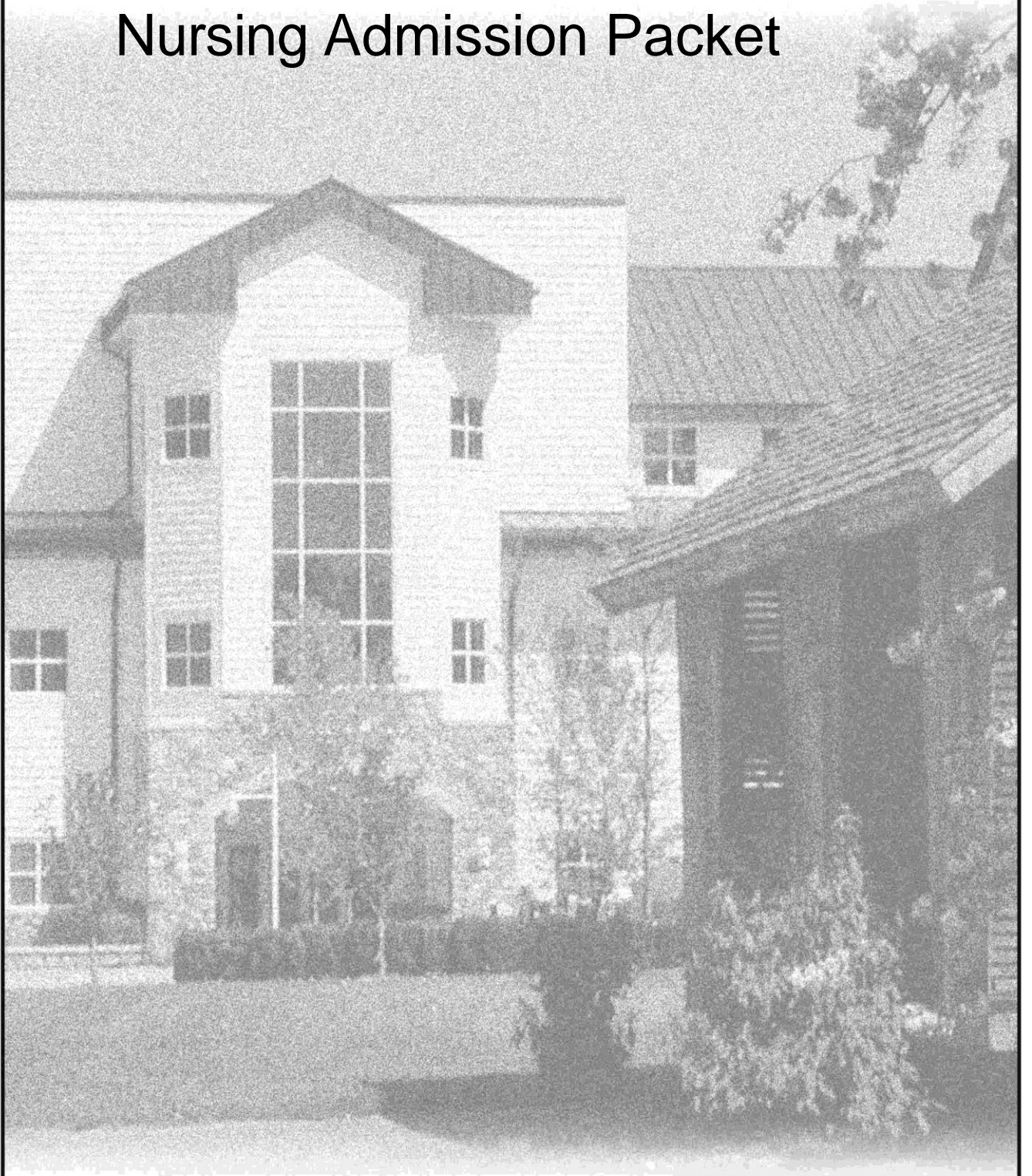


BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nursing Admission Packet



Dear Prospective Nursing Student:

This packet was designed to provide you with information about the Health Science programs, the profession of nursing, and the Nursing Program at Brookdale Community College. It includes the nursing admission process and the curriculum requirements for the Nursing Program.

Before considering admission to the program, we suggest you take time to investigate the profession. Observing nurses working, speaking with nursing professionals, visiting the College Library, or searching the Internet may help you to better understand the job requirements and the program.

Any questions regarding admission to the Brookdale Community College Nursing Program should be addressed to healthscienceadmissions@brookdalecc.edu. Questions about prerequisites and courses should be directed to an Academic Advisor at 732.224.2555. If you have specific questions about the field of nursing, please contact Mary Ehret, Director of Nursing.

Good luck with your decision.

Sincerely,

Joan Santa Croce, MSN, RN
Department Chair
732.224.1976
jsantacroce@brookdalecc.edu

Mary A. Ehret, MS, RN
Director of Nursing
732.224.2185
mehret@brookdalecc.edu

Jayne Edman, Ed.D., RN
Dean of Health Science
732.224.2415
jedman@brookdalecc.edu

REGISTERED NURSES

Nature of the Work

Registered nurses care for the sick and help people stay well. They are typically concerned with the “whole person,” providing for the physical, mental, and emotional needs of their patients. They are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. When providing direct patient care, they observe, assess, and record symptoms, reactions, and progress; administer medications; instruct patients and families in proper care; and assist in convalescence and rehabilitation. They also help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health.

Hospital nurses form the largest group of nurses. Most are staff nurses who provide bedside nursing care and carry out medical regimens. They may also supervise licensed practical nurses and aides. Hospital nurses usually are assigned to one area such as surgery, maternity, pediatrics, emergency room, intensive care, or treatment of cancer patients.

Home health nurses provide services to patients at home. After assessing patients' home environments, they care for and instruct patients and their families. Home health nurses care for a broad range of patients, such as those recovering from illnesses and accidents, cancer and childbirth. They must be able to work independently and may supervise home health aides.

Community health nurses work in government and private agencies and clinics, schools, retirement communities, and other community settings. They focus on populations, working with individuals, groups, and families to improve the overall health of communities. Community health nurses instruct individuals, families, and other groups in health education, disease prevention, nutrition, and child care. They also arrange for immunizations, blood pressure testing, and other health screenings.

Nursing home nurses manage nursing care for residents with conditions ranging from a fracture to Alzheimer's disease. Although they spend some of their time on administrative and supervisory tasks, registered nurses also assess residents' medical conditions, develop treatment plans, and supervise licensed practical nurses and nurses aides.

Nurses can advance to management positions. Increasingly, these positions require a baccalaureate degree in nursing. Opportunities to pursue a baccalaureate degree in nursing are available through transfer (articulation) agreements with four-year colleges.

With a master's degree in nursing, registered nurses may obtain certification as advanced practice nurses, enabling them to provide primary health care and diagnose and treat common illnesses and injuries. Advanced practice nurses can also prescribe medications and devices.

Job Outlook

Employment of registered nurses is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations. Faster-than-average growth will be driven by technological advances in patient care, which permit a greater number of medical problems to be treated, and increasing emphasis on primary care. In addition, the number of older people, who are much more likely than younger people to need medical care, is projected to grow very rapidly.

Earnings

The average salary for a Full-Time RN in NJ is over \$77,000.

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH SCIENCE GRADUATES

Graduates of the Health Science programs who wish to apply for a license to practice must answer questions on the licensing application related to criminal history. These questions can be accessed on the respective discipline Web site under the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs.

REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED NURSE

The Nurse Practice Act of the State of New Jersey, the Board of Nursing Statutes (N.J.S.A. 45:11-26 et. seq.) and Regulations (N.J.S.A. 13:37) govern the legal practice of nursing in the state. It is important that applicants who plan to study nursing know the licensure requirements for the state in which they choose to practice. Graduation from the Brookdale Community College nursing program does not guarantee eligibility to meet licensing requirements.

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS

Clinical agencies mandate criminal history background checks for all students engaged in patient care, and each student must undergo a criminal history background check, which requires a valid Social Security number. These checks are conducted by an external vendor, and the information is sent to the College and to clinical agencies. Agency personnel will evaluate the information they receive and, in their sole discretion, make the final determination as to each student's ability to continue to engage in patient care in their agency. If a student is denied clinical placement by any clinical agency due to criminal history information, that student will be dismissed from the program.

Graduates of the Health Science programs who wish to apply for a license to practice must answer questions on the licensing application related to criminal history. These questions can be accessed on the respective discipline Web site under the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs.

DRUG SCREENING

1. Clinical agencies require evidence of a negative drug screening before the start of the clinical experience. You will be given the information to obtain drug screening prior to starting clinical. Re-testing is required annually.
2. These screenings are conducted by the external vendor, and the information is sent to the student and to the College.

3. If an initial drug screen is positive without documentation of medical necessity or a prospective student refuses to complete the drug screen, the student will not be allowed to enter into the health program.
4. If an initial drug screen comes back with a “Negative – Dilute” result, the student will be allowed one additional re-test at their own expense.
5. If the second test result is a normal (not dilute) negative, the test is considered complete and satisfies the program requirement of a normal drug screen. If the second test result shows a “Negative – Dilute” result, the results will be reported to the clinical agency.
6. If a student is denied clinical placement by any clinical agency due to drug screening test results, the student will be dismissed from the program. As a result, the student will not be able to complete the requirements of the program.

Nondiscrimination Policy

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student’s disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- ◆ Brookdale’s Academic Integrity Code
- ◆ Student Conduct Code
- ◆ Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the BCC Student Handbook and BCC Catalog.

Disability Services/Accommodations

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Disabilities Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability, and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Students with Disability Alert Forms are responsible for giving them to the instructor. They are responsible for discussing the accommodations they are entitled to if the

provision of the accommodation(s) does not jeopardize the integrity of the course. They are responsible for requesting accommodations in a timely manner. Students must remind their professors a week before each examination to allow them and/or Disability Service Office staff to plan for testing accommodations. Students with disabilities must maintain the same responsibility for their education as other students. These responsibilities including maintaining the academic integrity of the courses and following the Student Conduct Code.

Mental Health

- Mental Health Crisis Support: From a campus phone, dial 5555 or 732-224-2329 from an external line; off-hours calls will be forwarded to BCC police (2222 from a campus phone)
- Psychological Counseling Services: 732-224-2986 (to schedule an appointment during regular hours)

NURSING PROGRAM ADMISSION PROCESS

Introduction

The objective of the admission process is to admit qualified applicants to the Nursing Program. A rolling admission process is used for this program; that is, completed applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis, and qualified applicants who have completed the entire admission process are admitted until each class reaches capacity. When there are more applicants than seats for each class, a waiting list is kept in the Health Science Institute office.* It is the responsibility of each applicant to verify his/her status on the waiting list with the Health Science Associate and to notify registration and the Health Science office if there is any change in address.

Requirements for admission to the Nursing Program include:

1. Graduation from high school or a GED.
2. Completion of the Brookdale application.
3. Completion of the Nursing Program application.
4. Completion of all Foundational Studies courses as determined by the College Foundational Studies Placement Test.
5. Completion of high school biology and chemistry or the equivalent college courses.
6. Achievement of passing scores on the Health Science entrance examination.
7. Attendance at an Information Session.
8. Completion of either a CNA/CHHA/PCA/PCT course.

Two (2) copies of high school/college transcripts are required. An official copy is to be sent directly to the Admissions Office. The other copy should be brought with the student for the meeting with an Academic Advisor. All communication with the Admissions Office should be addressed to:

Beth Stryker
Brookdale Community College
Office of Admissions
765 Newman Springs Road
Lincroft, New Jersey 07738
healthscienceadmissions@brookdalecc.edu

***There may be a waiting list for the Nursing Program. Please check with Beth Stryker at 732.224.2330 for more information.**

Application Process

1. **Complete the College application.**
2. **Complete the Nursing Program application.** The Nursing Program application should be returned to the Admissions Office as quickly as possible. The date that this application is received in the Admissions Office will determine in part (see #8 below) your placement on the waiting list. Tech Prep high school students may submit this application during their junior year if they are enrolled in chemistry and if the Health Science entrance examination has been scheduled.
3. **Take the Foundational Studies Placement Test.** When you file a College application, you will automatically be scheduled for the Foundational Studies Placement Test. This test is used to determine readiness for college-level courses. It includes English, mathematics, reading, and algebra. Students who do not pass a section(s) of the test must take the appropriate developmental course(s).

If a student has completed at least 24 college level credits including English composition and a mathematics course higher than elementary Algebra with a grade of "C" or better from an accredited college, this test may be waived. In order to obtain a waiver, contact the Admissions Office. For high school students, the Foundational Studies Placement Test may be taken in the senior year.

4. **Meet with an Academic Advisor.** Students will be given information about meeting with an advisor after taking the Foundational Studies Placement Test. Within one week, it is the student's responsibility to make an appointment with an advisor to have the Foundational Studies Placement Test results interpreted and to select appropriate courses. Tech Prep high school students should schedule a meeting with their Brookdale advisor before November of their senior year.
5. **Complete high school biology and chemistry** or equivalent college courses.
6. **Take the Health Science entrance examination for nursing students.** When all Foundational Studies courses and high school biology and chemistry, or equivalent college courses, are complete and grades posted to your transcript, contact Beth Stryker at healthscienceadmissions@brookdalecc.edu to get a pass for the Health Science entrance examination. All the above steps must be completed before the Health Science entrance examination can be taken. The Health Science Entrance exam must be taken at Brookdale Community College. Exam results from a test taken at another institution are not transferrable.

Students not achieving the minimum passing score on the entrance exam may retest after 30 days. If you are not successful on the second exam you must wait one year in order to retest. **You may only attempt the entrance exam three (3) times.**

7. **Attend an Information Session.** Once you have successfully completed the above steps you will be scheduled for an Information Session. Attendance at the Information Session is **a mandatory step** in the admission process. The purposes of the session are to provide students with more specific information about the program and to provide an opportunity for students to raise questions and share concerns. During the Information Session, students will complete a questionnaire which will be used by the Health Science Institute office for placement purposes. High school students may attend the Information Session during their senior year.
8. **Be placed on the waiting list.** After you have attended the Information Session your name will be placed on the waiting list. Placement on the waiting list will be prioritized by information session and then by the date the Nursing Program application is received in the Admissions Office.
9. **Read the Criminal History Background Check Information on Page 5. Criminal history clearance is required to begin the program.**
10. **Read the Drug Screening Information on Page 5. A negative Drug Screen is required to start the program.**
11. **Complete a nurse's aide course with a passing grade.** The following courses are accepted: Certified Nurse Aide, Certified Home Health Aide, Patient Care Assistant or Patient Care Technician. Licensure is not required. All other certifications require approval by the Director of Nursing.

Admission into the Nursing Program

1. **Receive an acceptance letter and an Intent to Enroll form.** Students will be notified by mail of acceptance to the Nursing Program. At that time the student will receive an Intent to Enroll form.
2. **Return the Intent to Enroll form.** If a student does not return the Intent to Enroll form, he/she will be dropped from the list and must reapply for admission. The Intent to Enroll form **must** be returned to the Health Science Office within the time specified on the form. **No student's admission is processed until the Intent to Enroll Form with the starting date identified has been received in the Health Science Institute office.**
3. **Provide proof of successful completion of a nurse's aide course.** Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA), Certified Home Health Aide (CHHA), Patient Care Assistant (PCA), or Patient Care Technician (PCT) are acceptable. Licensure is not required. As soon as the course is completed, proof of completion must be submitted to the Health Science Institute.
4. **Register.** No student may register for nursing classes without approval from the Health Science Institute.

Deferrals

1. Students may defer admission to the Nursing Program twice without losing their place on the waiting list. If a student requests a third deferment, the student's name will be placed at the end of the waiting list.
2. Students who drop their course less than 30 days prior to the first day of class will be placed at the end of the waiting list.
3. Students who defer admission more than 30 days prior to the first day of class will maintain their place on the waiting list if it is their first or second deferment.

Transfer of General Education Courses

There is no time limit on the transferability of general education courses. Transfer courses must come from an accredited institution. A grade of "C" or higher is required for a course to transfer into Brookdale.

STARS Admission

Seats are held for NJ STARS students who have met the admission requirements. Students who refuse an offer of admission will have one additional opportunity for admission before they are placed at the end of the waiting list.

Tech Prep Admission

Seats are held for Tech Prep students who have met the admission requirements and who have graduated from high school within the past three years. High school students who are in the Monmouth County Tech Prep Program may submit an application during their junior or senior year if biology has been successfully completed, the student is currently enrolled in chemistry, and the Health Science entrance examination has been scheduled. The Foundational Studies Placement Test is taken during the second term of the senior year. Students who refuse an offer of admission will be placed at the end of the waiting list. High school graduates may, however, advance through the standard rolling admissions process.

Nursing Program, A.A.S.

This program prepares the student for entry-level nursing positions in hospitals or comparable facilities. Clinical learning experiences are required in some courses. Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensing Exam for Registered Nursing (NCLEX-RN). Successful completion of this examination results in licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN).

Suggested Sequence - Nursing A.A.S. Program Degree

The following sequence is an example of how this degree can be completed. This sequence is based on satisfaction of all Foundational Studies requirements and prerequisites and presumes a Fall Term start date. An individual's program may vary depending on transfer institution, career objectives, or individual needs. See an academic advisor for other options and to monitor your progress. Students must satisfy specific requirements in order to be admitted to this program. See Admission to Health Science Programs, [Admission and Registration](#) section of this catalog.

Semester 1

- BIOL111 - Anatomy and Physiology I Credits: 4
 - ENGL121 - English Composition: The Writing Process Credits: 3
 - PSYC106 - Introduction to Psychology II Credits: 3
 - HESC 107 – Exploring Healthcare Careers Credits: 2
 - HESC 105 - Medical Terminology Credits: 3 or
 - HESC 115 – Nutrition and Health Credits: 3 or
 - HESC 165 – Pathophysiology Credits: 3
- Total credits: 15**

Semester 2

- BIOL112 - Anatomy and Physiology II Credits: 4
 - NURS 111 – Professional Roles I Credits: 1
 - NURS 125 – Pharmacology for Nurses Credits: 2
 - NURS 171 – Nursing Concepts I Credits: 6
- Total credits: 13**

Semester 3

- PSYC208 - Life Span Development Credits: 3
 - NURS 165 – Issues in Nursing Credits: 2
 - NURS 112 – Professional Roles II Credits: 1
 - NURS 172 – Nursing Concepts II Credits: 6
- Total credits: 12**

Semester 4

- BIOL213 – Microbiology Credits 4
 - NURS 211 – Professional Roles III Credits: 1
 - NURS 271 – Nursing Concepts III Credits: 7
- Total credits: 12**

Semester 5

- ENGL122 - English Composition: Writing and Research Credits: 3
- NURS 212 - Professional Roles IV Credits: 4
- NURS 272 – Nursing Concepts IV Credits: 5

Note: Faculty recommend that ENGL 122 be taken in the summer session. For a full-time credit load this semester students can take courses required for the BSN degree.

Total credits: 12

NURSING PROGRAM ADMISSION CHECKLIST

- 1. Complete a Brookdale application.
- 2. Carefully review the Nursing Program Admission Packet at <http://brookdalecc.edu/pages/244.asp>
- 3. Complete a Nursing Program application. Return the application to the Admissions office. All communication with the Admissions office should be addressed to:
Beth Stryker
Office of Admissions
Brookdale Community College
765 Newman Springs Road
Lincroft, New Jersey 07738
- 4. Take the Foundational Studies Placement Test (may be waived if student has completed 24 college credits including college-level math and English composition with a grade of “C” or better from another college).
- 5. Have a college transcript sent to Admissions if you are transferring courses. Transcripts must be official and students wishing to have previous credits evaluated toward Brookdale degrees are responsible for having transcripts sent to the Admissions office and informing their Academic Advisor that they would like their transcripts evaluated. Transcripts will not be evaluated until the student has successfully completed one semester at Brookdale.
- 6. Make an appointment with Counseling and Advising located in the second floor of the CAR Building. Questions about prerequisites and general education courses should be directed to your Academic Advisor. Call 732-224-2555 to make an appointment.
- 7. Complete all Foundational Studies courses as determined by the College Foundational Studies Placement Test.
- 8. Complete high school biology and chemistry or the equivalent college courses.
- 9. Take the Health Science entrance examination. When all Basic Skills courses and high school biology and chemistry, or equivalent college courses, are complete and grades posted to your transcript, contact Beth Stryker at healthscienceadmissions@brookdalecc.edu to get a pass for the Health Science entrance examination. **It is the student’s responsibility to contact the Admissions office when all Foundational Studies courses and high school biology and chemistry, or equivalent college courses, are successfully completed.**
- 10. Attend an Information Session. **Once you have successfully completed the above steps you will be scheduled for an Information Session by the Admissions office.** Attendance at the Information Session is a **mandatory step** in the admission process. A student’s name will not be placed on the waiting list until he or she attends an Information Session.
- 11. Complete a course as a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA), Certified Home Health Aide (CHHA), Patient Care Assistant (PCA) or Patient Care Technician (PCT) with a passing grade prior to starting the first nursing class. Licensure is not required. All other certifications require approval by the Director of Nursing.

Disclaimer—The content and requirements of this checklist may be altered at any time at the discretion of the College. This checklist was checked for accuracy at the time of printing but should not be considered a contract between the College and the student.

Brookdale Community College
NURSING PROGRAM APPLICATION

If you have not applied for admission to the College,
 complete a College application before filling out this form.

Complete all questions below. *All applicants must be matriculated students.*

LAST NAME	MAIDEN NAME OR OTHER	FIRST NAME	STUDENT ID NUMBER
STREET ADDRESS		PHONE NUMBER (HOME OR CELL)	
CITY	STATE	ZIP	EMAIL ADDRESS

Please answer the following:

1. Are you a new student at Brookdale? yes no
2. Have you completed high school? yes no
3. Are you a NJ Stars student? yes no Are you a tech prep graduate? yes no
4. Do you have an equivalency certificate (GED)? yes no
5. Have you taken the Foundational Studies Test? yes no
6. If not, when are you scheduled to take it? _____
7. Please list any other colleges attended _____

8. If you have 24 credits with a grade of "C" or above, were you given a Foundational Studies Test Waiver? yes no

The admission requirements for the Nursing Program include:

- Completion of a Brookdale application
- Completion of a Nursing Program application.
- Return application to:

Beth Stryker
 Office of Admissions
 Brookdale Community College
 765 Newman Springs Road
 Lincroft, New Jersey 07738
- Completion of all Foundational Studies courses as determined by the College Foundational Studies Placement Test.
- Completion of high school biology and chemistry or the equivalent college courses.
- Achievement of passing score on a Health Science entrance examination.
- Attendance at an Information Session.
- Completion of a nurse's aide course.

Completion of this form does not guarantee admission into the Nursing Program.

I hereby certify that I have read each page of the Nursing Admission Packet, that I am fully familiar with the contents of this document, and that I fully understand and have agreed to its terms and provisions.

I hereby understand that the submission of this application does not result in my name being placed on the waiting list. I must successfully pass the Health Science entrance examination and attend an Information Session to be placed on the waiting list.

Signature _____ Date _____