

Fall 2026 Practical Nursing Certificate (PNC) Requirements

The information in this document is not designed to be a contractual agreement with an applicant. The program reserves the right to change, without notice, such things as program admission or completion requirements, costs and curriculum as needed and in accordance with Harper College policy.

Important Dates

Fall 2026 PNC Application Dates..... **January 15, 2026 – March 15, 2026**

No entrance exam required!!! Less coursework required for admission.
Please read the entire document for details.

New for 2026 Attend a MANDATORY Information Meeting

- Learn more about the nursing career and the Harper College PNC curriculum, admission standards and program participation requirements
- Check the Harper web site link [Events](#) for the meeting schedule.

Submit Harper Application and Fee

- If you have not previously applied to the College, this is your first step.
- This application and fee can be submitted online at [Harper College](#) or in person at the One Stop, Building A, room 250.

Submit the PNC Program Application

- Submit your program application by going to the PNC web page at [PNC Admission Process and Criteria: Harper College](#) within the time frame indicated above.

Satisfaction of all requirements does not guarantee acceptance to the program, space is limited.

Program Requirements

- **Illinois Health Care worker Registry – active as a Certified Nursing Assistant**

Spring applicants must be on the registry by December 19th

Fall applicants must be on the registry by July 1st

- You must provide proof of your having passed the Illinois State CNA registry exam and have **current registry** status (within the **past 2 years**) and/or actively employed under the Employment Verification section on the registry. Go to [Health Care Worker Registry](#) to check your registry status on the Illinois Department of Public Health web site. Students must have passed the exam in the last 2 years or must have been actively working as a CNA in the last 24 months to meet this requirement.
- If you are not current according to the above criteria but have worked previously, you may be able to recertify please use this link for information [Recertification Process | Illinois Nurse Aide Testing](#)
- If you are enrolled in a CNA course, you must complete the course(s) with a C or better and pass the licensure exam and be listed on the Illinois Dept of Public Health Care Registry by the deadlines above.

- **Harper Grade Point Average (if courses taken at Harper)**

- Current or previously enrolled Harper students must have a minimum **2.0 grade point average** at the time of application. **If your GPA is below a 2.0, your application cannot be processed.**

- **English - Placement into ENG101**

Can be satisfied by one of the following options below. Please check the Testing webpage [English Placement: Harper College](#) for a full list of options.

- Completion of ENG 101 (or 101+ENG095 or 101+ESP095) at Harper with a grade of C or better
- ACT English score of 19 or higher **AND** ACT Reading score of 20 or higher
- SAT Evidence-based Reading & Writing score of 480 or higher
- Cumulative unweighted high school GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale or 4.0 or higher on a 5.0 scale (7th semester or later HS transcript)
- Harper's English placement exam with a score of 4 or higher
- Completion of the appropriate ESL courses that satisfy placement into ENG 101
- GED score of 165 or higher on reasoning through language arts sub-section, completed in English
- Passing grade ("C-" or better) in an aligned English course administered at a participating district 211, 214, and 220 high schools.

There is no time limit on the English requirement.

4) Math Assessment – demonstrate college level placement in mathematics with one of the testing or course options below. Visit [Math Placement: Harper College](#) to view the FULL list of testing and course options. There is no time limit on any of the following for admissions purposes. But time limits do apply to register for course work.

Math Testing and Placement Options	Math Course Options (use link above for additional options)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High school GPA of 3.0 (on 4.0 scale) with C or better in 4th year high school math• ALEKS Math Placement Exam Score of 46 or higher• ACT Math Score 22 or higher OR SAT Math scores of 530 or higher• Score of 165 or higher on Math section of the GED• Placement into College Level math via high school portable math or high school aligned math course	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successful completion of college level math with support• Successful completion of Intermediate Algebra at another college or university (not available at Harper)• AP score of "3" or higher on the AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, or AP Statistics exams

5) **Official High School Transcript OR High School Equivalency (HSE) Results** – The final high school transcript must have the graduation date posted; the HSE report must show passing scores.

- Applicants who have completed high school in another country need a document-to-document evaluation of their high school transcript completed by Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) www.ece.org or World Education Services (WES) www.wes.org stating **U.S. Equivalence: High school diploma**.
- This high school transcript requirement can be waived if official documentation is provided demonstrating completion of the equivalent of a U.S. associate or higher degree.

Re-entry Permission – If you were previously enrolled in either of Harper's nursing programs and were unsuccessful, department permission is required for re-entry.

Courses are not required but if completed it must be within the past 5 years

BIO 260 (160) – HUMAN ANATOMY	Must be completed after January 1, 2021
BIO 261 (161) – HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY	Must be completed after January 1, 2021

Admission Decisions

Satisfaction of all requirements does not guarantee acceptance to the program, space is limited.

- Applications will be processed within 5 – 10 business days. Students will receive an email to the email on the application and/or their Harper email stating if their file is complete or if there are outstanding items. A complete file does not guarantee acceptance, but students with complete files will have priority over those with items outstanding.
- Decision emails will be sent a few weeks after the application closing date to all applicants.
- Students who have completed all the minimum requirements will be considered over those who have items in progress.
- Accepted students who have completed ALL of the 1st semester PNC courses listed here: [Practical Nursing \(PN\) Certificate: Harper College](#) **may** have the opportunity to start in the 2nd semester of the program. This will be determined by the program coordinator and based on availability. Eligible students will be contacted directly.
- All 1st semester courses must be completed to move on to the next semester. This program has a prescribed curriculum and must be followed as outlined [Practical Nursing \(PN\) Certificate: Harper College](#).

Submit Additional Documentation

Official College Transcripts – You will need to submit transcripts from other colleges attended if the documents show completion of coursework you think may fulfill course admission requirements or support coursework applicable to the Harper College Practical Nursing Certificate Program. Transcripts should be sent to processing@harpercollege.edu.

- Foreign college transcripts must first be evaluated by World Education Services (wes.org) or Educational Credential Evaluators, INC (ece.org).
- To learn if/how credits from other colleges will transfer to Harper, applicants must have an official transcript sent directly from each college or university attended. Official transcripts will be evaluated as they are received, and students will receive an email to their Harper email account when the evaluation is completed.

Important Notes

- **NOTE:** International students are not eligible for limited enrollment programs.
- Students will be admitted based on residency (Harper in district and those whose home college does not offer an LPN/PNC program receive priority). Residency is based on the address listed on your Harper account – **Working in district does not constitute residency for limited enrollment selection purposes.**
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all requirements are met and all documentation is on file.
- Accepted applicants must be 18 years of age before the program starts.
- All correspondence regarding your application will be sent to the email address given on your application and your Harper email address. It is your responsibility to see that your information is current. To update your personal information, you will need to contact the One Stop **in** Building A, Room A250.
- Official transcripts will be evaluated as they are received, and students will receive an email to their Harper email account when they have been evaluated. Results can be viewed online through the student portal. Transcript evaluations may take 10 - 12 weeks to process. Questions about transcript evaluations can be directed to the evaluation team.
- **Once your program application has been processed, you will be able to monitor your limited enrollment file online.** Go to harpercollege.edu and log into your **My Harper Student Portal**; limited enrollment information can be found under the **Registration and Records** section.
- It is very important that you make financial aid preparations well in advance of any deadlines so that you know exactly what resources are available to you.

HARPER COLLEGE RESOURCES

Office	Location	Phone
Health Careers Division Office Limited Enrollment	le@harpercollege.edu Building X, Room X250	847.925.6533
Academic Advising and Counseling Services	New Students: Building C, Room C104 https://www.harpercollege.edu/services/advising/cnso/index.php	847.925.6208
	Previous or currently enrolled at Harper Building I, Room I117 https://www.harpercollege.edu/services/advising/index.php	847.925.6393
Access and Disability Services	https://www.harpercollege.edu/services/ads/new.php Building I, Room I103	847.925.6266
Assessment and Testing	https://www.harpercollege.edu/testing/index.php Building A, Room A148	847.925.6541
Business Office/Payment information	https://www.harpercollege.edu/registration/index.php Building A, Room A214	847.925.6880
One Stop Center	onestop@harpercollege.edu Building A, Room A250	847.925.6710
Transfer credit evaluation	evaluation@harpercollege.edu	847.925.6500
Registrar's Office	regoff@harpercollege.edu Building A, Room 213	847.925.6500