Pennsylvania College of Technology
A Penn State Affiliate
Workforce Development

Program Schedule and Time Commitment

The Pennsylvania College of Technology Practical Nursing Program offers full-time and part-time options to accommodate different schedules. Both options require a significant commitment to classroom learning, clinical experiences, and independent study. Before applying, students should consider their employment, family responsibilities, and availability.

Choose Your Program Schedule

	Full-Time Program	Part-Time Program
Program length	12 months	24 months
Days per week	4 days	2 days
Class days	September: Monday–Thursday April: Tuesday–Friday	Currently Thursday–Friday
Daily schedule	Approximately 8 instructional hours	Approximately 8 instructional hours
Lecture hours	8:00 AM–4:30 PM	8:00 AM–4:30 PM
Clinical hours	Vary by clinical site	Vary by clinical site

Full-Time Program

Students attend four days per week, including two days of classroom lecture and two days of clinical experiences or skills lab.

Part-Time Program

Students attend two days per week, currently Thursdays and Fridays. Classroom lectures, clinical experiences, and skills labs are scheduled throughout the program.

Please note: Clinical hours may differ from regular classroom hours and may include early mornings, daytime, evenings, or other assigned times. Program schedules are subject to change based on clinical availability and instructional requirements.

Study Time Outside of Class

Nursing school requires more than attending scheduled classes. Students should plan for approximately two hours of independent study for every one hour of classroom lecture (a 1:2 lecture-to-study ratio).

+ Completing readings, assignments, and study guides
+ Preparing for exams and medication quizzes
+ Reviewing nursing concepts and practicing skills
+ Preparing for clinical experiences

Both full-time and part-time students are expected to dedicate adequate time outside of class to meet academic requirements.

Attendance and Required Make-Up Days

All required program hours must be completed. Pennsylvania College of Technology reserves the right to schedule additional instructional or make-up days outside regularly scheduled class days.

Make-up days may be necessary due to student absences, inclement weather or cancellations, holidays, clinical scheduling changes, or other program requirements.

All missed program hours must be completed during designated make-up days reserved and scheduled by the Practical Nursing Program.

Students are responsible for arranging their personal and work schedules to attend all required instructional, clinical, and make-up days.

Plan Ahead for Success

Both program options are academically demanding and require consistent attendance, preparation, and time management. While the part-time option offers fewer scheduled class days per week, both programs require the same commitment to meeting academic, clinical, and attendance requirements.

We encourage all prospective students to consider the full-time commitment before applying to the Practical Nursing Program.