

**TCAT Murfreesboro**  
**Practical Nursing NCLEX Preparatory Course**

***Course Title: Practical Nursing NCLEX Preparatory Course***

**Requirements:**

- Must be eighteen (18) years of age or older to enroll.
- Provide Practical Nursing program transcript, graduation date
- Proof of NCLEX previous attempt. Please provide any Board of Nursing Communications
- Students will need computer access and Wi-Fi services for homework.
- Students must complete the required virtual assignments and in-person requirements.

**Course completion:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will receive a certificate of completion and a transcript to submit to the BON for NCLEX reapplication. The student must apply for re-examination within six months of the completion of the NCLEX preparatory course.

**Course Description:** This course is designed for individuals that have previously completed a Practical Nursing program but have been unable to successfully pass the NCLEX exam. This course is designed to meet the requirements set forth by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

**Campus Dress code:** Scrub set color of personal choice. Athletic shoe of choice. No flip flops or slides permitted.

**Parking Pass:** when on campus, students will be required to register a vehicle in the system, and obtain a parking pass to display in their vehicle while on campus. Further details will be provided at orientation.

**See the rules set for by the Tennessee Board of Nursing below:**

Upon completion of the course, 3 additional attempts will be permitted for the NCLEX- contact BON for specifics.

**If the student fails to pass within 3 attempts:**

According to our policies you must complete an NCLEX preparatory course recommended by the Dean or Director of your graduating program. Once the preparatory course has been completed, the Dean or Director shall submit proof of passing the preparatory course to the Board of Nursing. Once the Board receives the information from the Dean or Director, **you may apply for re-examination within six months of the completion of the NCLEX preparatory course.**

**If the student fails to pass within 6 attempts or 2 years of graduating:**

According to our policies any candidate who fails to pass the NCLEX within two (2) years or six (6) attempts following graduation must, prior to retaking the examination, complete the following:

- Knowledge and skills evaluated by the Dean or Director of the Nursing Program, or designee.
  - The Dean or Director of the Nursing Program, or designee, must submit a letter to the Board with the results of the evaluation and recommendations. The letter must be on letterhead, signed, and dated and submitted to [nursing.examdocs@tn.gov](mailto:nursing.examdocs@tn.gov) with the candidate's name and **Knowledge and Skills evaluation** in the subject line (i.e., John Doe Knowledge and Skills Evaluation).
- Successfully complete all classes and/or clinical courses as required following the evaluation; courses must be completed for a grade; no audited courses are accepted.
- Upon completion of the course(s), request an official transcript be submitted to the Board of Nursing.

**Objectives:**

The objective of the PN **NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) preparatory course** is to help nursing candidates successfully pass the NCLEX-PN (for practical/vocational nurses) exam. These courses are designed to:

**1. Reinforce Core Nursing Knowledge**

- Review essential nursing concepts such as pharmacology, medical-surgical nursing, pediatrics, maternal health, and mental health.
- Nursing skills evaluated
- Emphasize areas that are heavily tested on the NCLEX.

**2. Familiarize Students with the NCLEX Format**

- Provide practice with the computer adaptive testing (CAT) format.
- Offer exposure to different question types: multiple choice, select-all-that-apply (SATA), drag-and-drop, NextGen and hotspot questions.

**3. Develop Critical Thinking and Test-Taking Strategies**

- Teach how to analyze and prioritize patient care scenarios.

- Help students learn how to eliminate incorrect answers and choose the best possible option.

#### **4. Build Confidence and Reduce Test Anxiety**

- Simulate real exam conditions with timed practice tests.
- Offer personalized feedback and performance tracking.

#### **5. Identify and Address Knowledge Gaps**

- Create a targeted study plan
- Track progress

#### **Course Description:**

Students will review the following course materials: Fundamentals, Pharmacology I, Pharmacology II, Adult Medical Surgical I, Adult Medical Surgical II, Pediatric/Maternal Nursing, Mental Health and Management. Students will complete the following:

#### **Teaching Methods:**

- ATI Capstone facilitated by an ATI nurse educator- Proctored pre and posttest required.
- ATI Live Review via Zoom facilitated by an ATI nurse educator
- ATI Comprehensive Predictor Assessment – in person on campus
- Virtual ATI facilitated by an ATI nurse educator
- ATI Comprehensive Predictor Retake- on campus Proctored

#### **Grading Process for successful completion:**

| Required   | Requirements  | Set Days   |
|--|---|--|
| Orientation with Capstone Pretest- on campus proctored   | Attend in person and complete proctored. Bring laptop | <b>Thursday<br/>March 12<sup>th</sup>,<br/>On campus<br/>0800-1400</b> |
| Capstone course work overall score (200 possible points) | 80% required to progress                              |  |

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|  | 160 of the 200 possible points | <b><u>03/12/26 gain access to Capstone</u></b><br><b>End 04/28/26</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|---|

**See attached for Capstone schedule**

| Content review week | Content Module                | Content module opens | Assessments will be completed weekly – | Post Assignment Due Date (Pharmacology 2 and Med/Surg 2 assessments if applicable) |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Week 1              | Fundamentals                  | 3/12/2026            | 3/17/2026                              | 3/22/2026  |
| Week 2              | Pharmacology                  | 3/19/2026            | 2/24/2026                              | 3/29/2026  |
| Week 3              | Medical-Surgical              | 3/26/2026            | 3/31/2026                              | 4/5/2026   |
| Week 4              | Pediatrics and Women's Health | 4/2/2026             | 4/7/2026                               | 4/12/2026  |
| Week 5              | Mental Health                 | 4/9/2026             | 4/14/2026                              | 4/19/2026  |
| Week 6              | Management                    | 4/16/2026            | 4/21/2026                              | 4/26/2026  |

|   |                                    |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Capstone B Post-test-on virtual proctored | Attend in person and complete exam | <b><u>Week of May 4, 2026</u></b><br><b>This will be remotely proctored. Set date with instructor</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|---|

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| Virtual ATI NCLEX Live review | <b>Attend all 3 days virtually - Mandatory</b> | <b><u>May 18, 19 &amp; 20<sup>th</sup></u></b><br><b><u>at home remote</u></b> |
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| <b>Comprehensive ATI exam<br/>Proctored on campus</b>  | Score of 68% required on the Comprehensive exam.   | <b><u>Tuesday,<br/>May 26, 2026</u><br/><u>On campus</u><br/><u>0800-1400</u></b> |
| IF Mandated by the BON: Skills evaluation: Students must complete skills review per instructor.  | Skills review (pass/fail)  | <b>Date to be individually determined and provided to students.</b>               |
| Virtual ATI –Med surg section must be completed  | Students complete the Virtual ATI for greenlight – which gives them another level to test for NCLEX readiness. | <b><u>May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026</u></b>   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt- Comprehensive ATI Proctored on campus<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt will be given after required remediation given per the instructor. | Score of 68% recommended or Level 2  | <b>Will set date with instructor if repeat is needed.<br/>On campus</b>           |

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

#### **1. Demonstrate Mastery of Core Nursing Content**

- Students will accurately recall and apply knowledge in areas such as pharmacology, medical-surgical nursing, maternal-child health, mental health, and community health.
- Demonstrate basic nursing skills for proficiency- if mandated by BON

#### **2. Apply Clinical Judgment and Critical Thinking**

- Students will analyze patient scenarios and select appropriate nursing interventions

#### **3. Utilize Effective Test-Taking Strategies**

- Students will employ strategies to answer various NCLEX-style questions, including multiple choice, SATA (select-all-that-apply), and case studies.

#### **4. Interpret and Prioritize Patient Care Needs**

- Students will demonstrate the ability to prioritize nursing actions based on patient safety, urgency, and the nursing process.

#### **5. Identify and Address Personal Knowledge Gaps**

- Students will use diagnostic assessments to recognize weak areas and implement targeted study strategies to improve performance.

#### **6. Demonstrate Readiness Through Practice Exams**

- Students will achieve a passing score on simulated NCLEX exams under timed, computer-adaptive conditions.

#### **7. Exhibit Professionalism and Accountability**

- Students will develop a personalized study plan and adhere to it, demonstrating responsibility for their own learning and preparation.

#### **8. Communicate Clinical Reasoning Effectively**

- Students will articulate the rationale behind nursing decisions and interventions during group discussions or written reflections.