

PEI Critical Care and Emergency Nursing Program (CCENP)

What is it? This is a part-time/online program that offers two courses to Registered Nurses on PEI who want to increase their level of knowledge and skills in either critical care or emergency nursing. It is a satellite program to the courses offered in Halifax NS through the Registered Nurses Professional Development Center (RNPDC)

<http://www.rnpdc.nshealth.ca>

When are the courses offered and how long are they?

Critical Care Course - Jan 19- Nov 31 2015

Emergency Nursing Course - Jan- Nov 2015 (Specific dates TBA)

Application Deadline Sept 30th 2014

What do the courses consist of? Both courses include self study online content through a website that is introduced during a face-face orientation day. The self study activities are supplemented by labs at UPEI and classroom lecture in both Summerside & Charlottetown, clinical experiences, live online collaborate webinars with Halifax faculty and students, classroom exams, and assignments. You are supported by a project coordinator in PEI.

Who can apply? You must be a Registered Nurse who is a permanent employee of Health PEI. Preference is given to RNs currently working in the critical care or ER setting.

What is the cost of tuition? The cost of tuition is \$600 and is paid by the employee upon acceptance into the PEI program

What about the cost of books? Books cost approximately \$400. A list of required texts are provided on orientation day and will be available at the UPEI Bookstore.

Is there an application fee? There is a \$25 application fee that is required upon submission of the completed application to the project coordinator and should be made payable to "Capital Health"

What are my options for help with the cost of tuition and books? Health PEI employees can access the PEINU Education Fund (\$700/yr), ARNPEI Education Fund (\$200/yr), Mentorship Fund (\$550/yr), and other bursaries through your workplace according to their guidelines and stipulations

What is the difference between the PEI Program and the Halifax Program? PEI learners receive 20% paid study leave during the 10 week clinical placement to assist in achieving the required clinical hours. In return, the learner is required to sign a 1 year return in service agreement to Health PEI.

PEI learners also have the advantage of labs and lecture spaced out throughout the course as well as the support of the in-province project coordinator. Clinical is completed in PEI

What is the application process? First, let your unit manager know you are interested. You then complete the online application form on the RN-PDC website. You will be asked to submit a copy of your nursing license and any certifications you may have (ACLS, TNCC, BLS, CTAS etc.), a resume, letter of interest, and employer reference form that is to be completed by your nurse manager. Finally, email the Project Coordinator and make her aware of your interest (tmatthews@upei.ca)

Are there any other fees I need to know about? This program is available to nurses across PEI so there will be some travel required to attend labs, exams, and lecture at UPEI. Parking at UPEI typically costs \$5/day. You may need to pay for your ACLS or Triage Course if your site of employment does not cover this fee.

What does clinical involve? If you are already have experience working in ER or critical care, a mentorship model is used. You continue to work in your place of employment under the guidance of your mentor. You will also be given an opportunity to travel to other sites in PEI, spend a day with a Respiratory Therapist and spend some time in the ICU setting.

If you are new to the ER or critical care area OR have never worked in these settings, you will use a preceptor model. You will be assigned to a preceptor and will not be counted as staff. The number of hours you require for clinical ranges between 120hrs - 168hrs depending on your level of experience.

Updated July 8th 2014

At the beginning of the course you will need to give your course schedule to your nurse manager so that days off can be coordinated around labs, lectures, clinical, and exams. In some instances you may need to take vacation time in order to make your schedule work but every effort is made to be as flexible as possible

How many hours do I need to devote to the program? An average minimum of 15hrs a week is devoted to the course (this includes self study, lab, lecture, exam, clinical, etc.)

What other skills are required to pass the course? In order to pass the course you will need to become ACLS certified by the end of the course. If you have a recent certification, you will not need to repeat the course. The ER group will need to be CTAS certified by the end of the course. If you are already CTAS certified, you will be credited for that and can omit that content from your studies. There are other opportunities to get credit for previous learning experiences. Please talk to your coordinator about this.

Other important things to consider:

This is an online course so you NEED to have an email and check your email on a regular basis as this is the main form of communication between you and your project coordinator.

This course requires that you have access to a computer in good working condition that has Javascript downloaded onto it.

This course is heavy in content and very challenging but the benefits are insurmountable. You will graduate with a higher level of knowledge, give better patient care, be able to anticipate and identify patient complications, and more will be expected of you as a result. Upon successful completion of the course you will be able to sign your name with ENP or CCNP.

If you have any other questions please contact:

Tanya Matthews

tmatthews@upei.ca

902 566 0754