

# WESTERN DAKOTA TECH

800 Mickelson Dr. • Rapid City, SD 57703

p. (800)544-8765 p. (605)394-4034 f. (605)394-2204

June 7, 2021

Nick Wendell  
SD Board of Technical Education  
800 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2291

Dear Nick:

Please accept this letter as notification that Western Dakota Tech would like to offer a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) cohort in Philip, SD beginning the Fall 2022 semester. The request for the LPN Program at an additional location is based on meetings with economic development and health care representatives serving the Wall / Philip area. The new location will include:

- 45 credit diploma - Practical Nursing

This additional location will help WDT better serve students and meet local industry needs. The attached prospectus describes the background and rationale for this additional location request.

The CIP code for Practical Nursing will remain the same at 51.3901.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Respectfully,



Dr. Ann Bolman  
President

# Practical Nursing Diploma Program



800 Mickelson Drive  
Rapid City, SD 57703

# Additional Location Application

Diploma in Practical Nursing

Fall 2022

# Practical Nursing (LPN)

## Diploma Program

### Executive Summary

Western Dakota Tech recognizes the importance of investing in rural healthcare education and facilitating recruitment and retention efforts in rural areas, reducing workforce shortages and barriers to continuing education. Philip, SD offers an optimal location to provide a service to students in the surrounding areas. The hospital, clinic, long term care facility, home health, rehabilitation, and assisted living facilities are ideal clinical learning environments. Additionally, the school district currently has vacant classrooms for lecture and lab with faculty office space.

Western Dakota Tech requests approval to add a Philip, SD campus located at 330 Scottie Ave, Philip, SD 57567 as an additional site. Western Dakota Tech would like to offer its LPN diploma program at this site beginning in the Fall 2022 semester. The LPN program will be offered in the following instructional delivery models during the 2021-2022 academic year:

- Western Dakota Tech main campus located in Rapid City, SD
- Whitewood campus located in Whitewood, SD
- Philip campus located in Philip, SD (Beginning Fall 2022)
- Some courses included in the program are also offered in on-line and in hybrid formats.

Western Dakota Tech believes this is an excellent fit for this new location as we currently offer a very successful LPN diploma program at our main campus. This additional location will allow students to earn an LPN diploma in Nursing with flexibility to not commute to the main campus. These students will be eligible to sit for the NCLEX-PN Examination and become Licensed Practical Nurses. Graduates can be employed in:

- Full-service hospitals
- Specialty hospitals
- Specialty clinics
- General clinics
- Home health care facilities
- Hospice facilities
- Long term care centers
- Assisted living centers

### Identification and Description of the Program

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) are collaborative members of the health care team, working under the supervision of RNs and physicians. They provide direct patient care by assisting with activities of daily living, giving medications in various ways including injections and IVs, and performing other care necessary for patient treatment. LPNs work in many settings that provide a number of scheduling options, such as hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, home healthcare facilities, government and private facilities. Schedules may include evening, night and weekend shifts due to the nature of the cares provided. LPNs are an essential part of the health care team and have a positive influence in the lives of clients. WDT's Practical Nursing program stresses the importance of incorporating a variety of experiences including lecture, lab and clinical hours to ensure graduates have the knowledge, skills and experiences needed to be successful after graduation. Graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN exam and be licensed as an LPN after approval by the Board of Nursing in their state of residence.

## Objectives and Purpose of the Program

The mission of the Practical Nursing program is to educate graduates to provide safe, quality, evidence-based, patient-centered care as an entry-level Practical Nurse in the current healthcare environment.

<b>WDT Institutional Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Program Learning Outcomes</b>
<i>Critical Thinking</i>	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quality Improvement:</b> establish the quality and safety of health care systems by evaluating data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and using improvement methods to design and test changes</li> </ul>
<i>Technical Knowledge and Skills</i>	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Safety:</b> demonstrate safety measures by engaging in system effectiveness and applying individual safety measures</li> <li>• <b>Evidence-based Practice:</b> deliver optimal health care by integrating best current evidence with clinical expertise and integrating evidence-based practice with patient/family preferences and values.</li> </ul>
<i>Communication</i>	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informatics:</b> employ informatics to communication with care teams, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision making</li> </ul>
<i>Professionalism</i>	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Teamwork and Collaboration:</b> demonstrate teamwork and collaboration by functioning effectively within nursing in inter-professional teams, engaging in open communication and mutual respect, and applying shared decision-making to achieve quality patient care</li> <li>• <b>Patient-Centered Care:</b> provide patient-centered care by providing compassionate and coordinated care based on respect for patient’s preferences, values, and needs</li> </ul>

Upon completion of a Diploma in Licensed Practical Nursing, a student will achieve these Program Learning Outcomes:

## Methods of Attaining the Objectives of the Program

Upon receipt of approval from the SD Board of Technical Education and the SD Board of Nursing, Western Dakota Tech will accept up to 16 students for the first class to begin in August 2022. A marketing campaign to recruit students will include web, print and radio spots as well as working with the City of Philip.

The LPN Program will be offered through traditional lecture and lab courses at the Philip location. Students will attend instructor supervised clinical shifts at regional healthcare facilities. Courses may also be offered in hybrid formats. Western Dakota Tech is a laptop required campus and all classes utilize the Learning Management System, providing students with resources during class and supplemental material and information outside of the classroom. Students attending the Philip location will have access to all student success resources offered at the main campus in Rapid City.

## Description of Labor Market Demands in the US and South Dakota

### Employment Projections for Licensed Practical Nurses

South Dakota				
Program Title & Matching SOC* Code	SOC* Title	2019 Base Number of Jobs	2028 Projected Number of Jobs	Percent Change
<b>Licensed Practical Nurses</b>				
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed	1,922	2,011	4.6%

United States				
Program Title & Matching SOC* Code	SOC* Title	2019 Base Number of Jobs	2028 Projected Number of Jobs	Percent Change
<b>Licensed Practical Nurses</b>				
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed	721,700	786,653	9%

SOC\* - Standard Industrial Classification

Source: Labor Market Information Center, SD Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Department of Labor

## Population to be Served by the Program

This program will be available to all students who successfully meet Western Dakota Tech's admission criteria established for the program. No restriction will be made regarding race, creed, gender or age. Western Dakota Tech will recruit students from a variety of backgrounds including both traditional and non-traditional.

## Program Capacity

Starting Semester	Delivery Format	Capacity
Fall 2022	Traditional Day	16
Fall 2023	Traditional Day	16

## Projected Three-Year Budget Plan

One full-time faculty position will be added. Additional coursework will be taught by adjunct faculty.

	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
Instructor Salary/benefits	75,000	75,000	75,000
Adjunct Faculty	5,000	5,000	5,000
Equipment	60,000	3,000	3,000
Supplies	3,000	3,000	3,000
Travel - In District	1,000	1,000	1,000
Travel - Out-of-District	0	0	0
Accreditation/Dues/Fees	1,000	1,000	1,000
Training	1,000	1,000	1,000
Totals	146,000	89,000	89,000

### Program Competencies

Students enrolled in the diploma program will be able to complete required coursework in 14 months. Program competencies at the Philip location will utilize Western Dakota Tech's existing approved LPN curriculum with the same expectations and assessments that are required for the Rapid City campus program.

### Entry and Exit

Entry dates - Fall 2022. Entry is desired at the start of the Fall semester, but students will be able to enroll in some General Education classes the prior to Fall 2022.

Exit point: Graduation with a diploma in Licensed Practical Nursing after completion of all coursework

Completion of the LPN diploma provides additional educational pathways which will enable students to advance from a diploma program into an AAS Degree in Nursing that then qualifies them to pursue a BS Degree in Nursing.

### Statement of Non-Duplication

The LPN Diploma is also offered by Southeast Tech, Mitchell Tech, and Lake Area Technical. The inability to meet the workforce needs in the nursing industry makes the need for an additional location in the Philip area a necessity.

### Curriculum Design

See Appendix A for Curriculum Sequence

## Wage Factor

Wages for Licensed Practical Nurses				
South Dakota				
Program Title & Matching SOC* Code	SOC* Title	2019 Average Wage	Starting Wage Range	
			10 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
29-2061	Licensed Practical Nurses	\$18.99	\$14.62	\$16.48

United States				
Program Title & Matching SOC* Code	SOC* Title	2020 Average Wage	Starting Wage Range	
			10 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile
29-2061	Licensed Practical Nurses	\$23.47	\$17.10	\$20.22

SOC\* - Standard Industrial Classification

\*Data source: South Dakota Department of Labor and Bureau of Labor Statistics

## CIP Code

CIP Code: 51.3901

Title: Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse Training (LPN, LVN, Cert., Dipl, AAS)

**Definition:** A program that prepares individuals to assist in providing general nursing care under the direction of a registered nurse, physician or dentist. Includes instruction in taking patient vital signs, applying sterile dressings, patient health education, and assistance with examinations and treatment.



# Appendix A – Curriculum Design

## **PRACTICAL NURSING**

### **Diploma, 45 Credit Hours, 14-Month Program**

The mission of the Practical Nursing program is to provide graduates with the knowledge, skills, attitude, and integrity to provide safe, prudent, and patient-centered care necessary to prepare them to successfully complete the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN) and become employed as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN's) are an important member of the healthcare team, and, in many settings, including long-term care, medical offices and transitional care, their role has expanded to include IV therapy and supervision. The Practical Nursing program stresses the importance of incorporating a variety of experiences including lecture, lab, and clinical hours to ensure graduates have the knowledge, skills, and experiences needed to be successful after graduation.

Students considering the Practical Nursing program are required to fulfill additional requirements before entering technical program courses. Students in the second semester technical courses of the Practical Nursing program must successfully meet benchmark scores on the required exit exam in order to graduate. Please refer to the Practical Nursing Application Process or contact the Practical Nursing Program Director.

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
CIS 105	MICROCOMPUTER SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS I	3
ENGL 101	COMPOSITION*	3
HC 114	ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS	3
MATH 101	INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA** <i>or higher</i>	3
PSYC 101	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Technical Requirements</b>		
NRS 101	SKILLS LAB I & II	2
NRS 105	FUNDAMENTAL NURSING PRACTICE I	3
NRS 110	FUNDAMENTAL NURSING PRACTICE II	2
NRS 115	FUNDAMENTAL NURSING PRACTICE III	2
NRS 121	FUNDAMENTAL NURSING CLINICAL I & II	4
NRS 130	FUNDAMENTAL NURSING CLINICAL III	1
NRS 205	ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE I	3
NRS 210	ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE II	2
NRS 215	ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE III	2
NRS 221	ADVANCED NURSING CLINICAL I & II	4
NRS 230	ADVANCED NURSING CLINICAL III	1
NRS 235	ADVANCED NURSING CLINICAL IV	2
NRS 240	TRANSITION TO PRACTICAL NURSING	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

\* Prerequisite: Acceptable ACCUPLACER score or Basic Writing.

\*\* Prerequisite: Acceptable ACCUPLACER score or Basic Math/Elementary Algebra.

Clinicals, practicums, and internships may include, but are not limited to, differential shifts (evenings, nights, weekends, and holidays) to meet industry expectations. This may require travel outside the Rapid City area.

## Semester Breakdown for Diploma Fall Start

<b>General Education Requirements must be completed before enrolling in NRS Technical Courses.                      Required General Education courses are offered in the Fall, Spring, and Summer Semesters.                      Students must hold a current CNA certification or receive a C or better in HC 124 and HC 126 before                      entering NRS Technical Courses.</b>					
CIS 105	Microcomputer Software Applications I		<b>CR</b> 3		
ENGL 101	Composition		3		
HC 114	Anatomy & Physiology for the Health Professions		3		
MATH 101	Intermediate Algebra <i>or higher</i>		3		
PSYC 101	General Psychology		3		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>			<b>15</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring Semester</b>		<b>CR</b>
NRS 101	Skills Lab I & II	2	NRS 205	Advanced Nursing Practice I	3
NRS 105	Fundamental Nursing Practice I	3	NRS 210	Advanced Nursing Practice II	2
NRS 110	Fundamental Nursing Practice II	2	NRS 215	Advanced Nursing Practice III	2
NRS 115	Fundamental Nursing Practice III	2	NRS 221	Advanced Nursing Clinical I & II	4
NRS 121	Fundamental Nursing Clinical I & II	4	NRS 230	Advanced Nursing Clinical III	1
NRS 130	Fundamental Nursing Clinical III	1	NRS 235	Advanced Nursing Clinical IV	2
			NRS 240	Transition to Practical Nursing	2
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>

# Appendix B – Letters of Support

Dick Johnson – CEO/General Manager West River Electric Association, Inc., WDT Board of Trustees

Vonda Hamill – Director Philip Area Health Foundation

Michael Vetter – Mayor of Philip, SD

Jeff Rieckman - Haakon School District Superintendent

Krista O’Dea – Director of Nursing Philip Health Services

Brad Heltzel – Plant Superintendent Scotchman Industries, Inc., WDT Board of Trustees



## West River Electric Association, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

**Home Office**  
1200 West Fourth Ave.  
PO Box 412  
Wall, SD 57790-0412  
Telephone: (605) 279-2135  
Toll Free: 1-888-279-2135

**Branch Office**  
3250 E. Hwy. 44  
PO Box 3486  
Rapid City, SD 57709-3486  
Telephone: (605) 393-1500  
Toll Free: 1-888-393-1500

June 4, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education  
925 East Sioux Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Chairman Dykhouse and SD Board of Technical Education

I am writing a letter in support of the proposal for an offsite nursing program at Philip, SD. I grew up and spent my entire career in western South Dakota, and have a passion for rural healthcare. Being a former volunteer EMT for 12 years and director of the Wall Ambulance for 8 of those years, I found out firsthand the importance of rural health care and the health care facilities in Wall and Philip.

There are several reasons for my support:

1. The program will provide much needed training for the healthcare workforce in these communities that is currently lacking.
2. Many prospective students in the communities will not, or cannot, travel to Rapid City to receive training and education but will travel a shorter distance to train in Philip.
3. Provide an above average income and benefits to our rural communities so vital to our economy.
4. A higher trained workforce will raise our level of healthcare thereby benefiting not only our members receiving service from us, but our employee group.
5. The program will be a catalyst for other economic development opportunities in our communities.
6. The City of Philip, Philip Health Services, School, and communities of Philip and Wall have embraced this opportunity.

As many of you know, I am also on the newly formed Board of Trustees of Western Dakota Technical College, so I have a very vested interest to see this extension of healthcare to our region succeed. I look forward to seeing the fruits of this program once it is implemented and graduates begin their new or enhanced careers.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dick Johnson, CEO/General Manager

RDJ/rj

**Mission Statement:**

*West River Electric Association, Inc. shall strive to continually improve customer service and satisfaction by providing safe, reliable, efficient and reasonably priced electricity and services, while leading in the development of our community for the well being of our members.*



# Philip Area Health Foundation

605-859-2342  
P.O. Box 324, Philip, SD 57567

June 4, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education  
925 East Sioux Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Greetings Chairman Dykhouse and members of the board,

I am pleased to write this letter on behalf of the Philip Area Health Foundation (PAHF) in support of Western Dakota Technical College (WDT) and the proposed plan to expand their Practical Nursing Program to include a satellite campus in Philip.

One of PAHF's goals is to recruit and retain capable and dedicated care givers to staff the facilities that Philip Health Services (PHS) operates. There is a valuable pool of potential nursing candidates in our service area that have indicated an interest in entering the health care field. The reality is that these same people find the geographical challenges of obtaining their education an insurmountable obstacle. Providing a campus in Philip will bring the educational opportunity much closer to them, allowing them to carry on with their family and work obligations while still earning their degrees. We are optimistic that many of these individuals will find their employment opportunities within our geographic service area.

PAHF is committed to helping PHS ease their shortage of nursing professionals, and we see WDT's proposed program as an excellent way to achieve this goal. Both PAHF and PHS are potentially excellent funding sources for tuition reimbursement, scholarship opportunities and signing bonuses to help further enhance the enrollment numbers, and fortify the already strong Practical Nursing program that WDT offers. Together we can create a viable stream of highly qualified caregivers and continue the tradition of excellent care that patients receive at our critical access facilities.

We look forward to collaborating with Western Dakota Technical College on this program and thank you for any consideration that you give to the proposal.

Kind Regards,

Vonda Hamill  
Director  
Philip Area Health Foundation



# CITY OF PHILIP

140 S. Howard Ave., 4th Floor  
P.O. Box 408  
Philip, SD 57567-0408

Phone: (605) 859-2175  
Fax: (605) 859-2266  
Website: [www.philipsd.us](http://www.philipsd.us)

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June 4, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education  
925 East Sioux Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Chairman Dykhouse and members of the South Dakota Board of Technical Education:

Please accept this letter of support for Western Dakota Technical College's (WDT) plan to create an additional site for its Practical Nursing Program in Philip.

The City of Philip has been and continues to be a strong supporter of creating opportunities in our community. WDT's plan will not only provide educational opportunities for our community members but also qualified licensed practical nursing staff for Philip Health Services.

Since its inception in 1956, Philip Health Services has been and continues to be a vital component in our great community in western South Dakota for healthcare and employment. It encompasses and provides healthcare for not only the residents of Philip, but also a large surrounding region as it is the only healthcare system within a 90-mile radius. This includes a hospital, medical clinic, nursing home, assisted living center, therapy center and many other services.

The City of Philip appreciates WDT's efforts to provide this educational opportunity while also improving the healthcare workforce in our area. Therefore, the City of Philip strongly encourages the SD Board of Technical Education to grant WDT the opportunity to create an additional site for its Practical Nursing Program in our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Vetter, Mayor  
City of Philip

Cc: file

# Haakon School District 27-1

## Philip Schools

P.O. Box 730 • Philip, SD 57567-0730

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June 4, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education

Please accept this letter of support for Western Dakota Technical College's plan to expand their Licensed Practical Nursing program to the community of Philip and the surrounding area. Rural health care is an important part of our rural community and being able to assist WDT in providing certified employees is valuable to our entire community.

We are hoping that this would lead to a long-lasting strong partnership with WDT and one that we can build on and expand in the future. The Haakon School District is committed to help assist our current students, alumni, and current residents continue their education and be able to live and support their families in our communities. This program will allow community members who may not be able to attend classes on campus in Rapid City the opportunity to become certified professionals.

We are looking forward to seeing this program move forward and are excited for the opportunities that it will bring. We also appreciate the efforts of the WDT staff working to improve the healthcare workforce in western South Dakota.

Sincerely,



Jeff Rieckman

Haakon School District School Superintendent

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**"Better Schools Make Better Communities"**

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Jeff Rieckman  
Supt./Elem. Principal  
(605) 859-2679  
FAX: (605) 859-3005  
jeffrey.rieckman@k12.sd.us

Britni Ross  
Business Manager  
(605) 859-2679  
Fax: (605) 859-3005  
britni.ross@k12.sd.us

Mandie Menzel  
Secondary Principal  
(605) 859-2680  
Fax: (605) 859-3550  
mandie.menzel@k12.sd.us



**Philip Health Services, Inc.**  
503 West Pine Street / PO Box 790  
Philip, South Dakota 57567  
Phone (605) 859-2511 Fax (605) 859-3506  
[www.phillohealthservices.com](http://www.phillohealthservices.com)

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June 3, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education

Greetings,

I am writing on behalf of Philip Health Services in support of the Western Dakota Technical Institute's plan to create an additional site for its Practical Nursing Program in Philip SD.

Philip Health Service cares for the needs of the Philip Community and surrounding area. We are the only Health Care facility within 90 miles in any direction. Due to the somewhat isolated location of Philip, we often struggle to fill open positions with qualified medical personnel. Our facility continues to grow and the need for qualified, trained, health care professionals is greater than ever. Our Hospital, ER, Clinic, Nursing Home, and Assisted Living Center currently have several open positions. This shortage pattern has continued over the last several years. Our dedicated team works hard daily to provide compassionate, safe, and high-quality care to the people we encounter.

The opportunity to support a local program is a very exciting one that would most definitely spark interest in the health care field. I feel strongly that this type of outreach program would also provide opportunity for the potential pool of nontraditional students. A program such as this, would provide access to quality education and career opportunity in a most convenient location.

Philip Health Services looks forward to working with Western Dakota Technical Institute. Philip Health appreciates their efforts to improve the healthcare workforce and provide opportunity for personal growth in Philip and the surrounding communities.

Kindest regards,

Philip Health services  
Krista O'Dea  
Director of Nursing  
Philip Health Services  
Philip SD, 57567  
605-859-2511 Ext 131



June 7, 2021

South Dakota Board of Technical Education

Dear Chairman Dykhouse & members of the Board:

Please accept this letter of support for Western Dakota Technical College's (WDT) plan to expand their Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) programs.

Philip Health Services serves a very broad area of rural communities in Western South Dakota. Our need for qualified, trained health care professionals is an absolute must and is more crucial than ever – especially with the recent expansion of Philip's nursing home facility. I believe Philip Health Services has plans to hire an additional 20 to 30 people within the next year.

In Philip and the surrounding communities, families rely on Philip Health Services for their health care needs, elderly care and employment. An additional Practical Nursing training site in Philip would provide an opportunity for local individuals, who already live in the area, to receive their education and work locally without having to travel the 160-mile round trip to Rapid City.

It is our hope that we can continue our planning and support of the WDT expansion of its LPN program here in Western South Dakota. Scotchman Industries appreciates the South Dakota Board of Technical Education's support of our partnership with WDT in leveraging opportunities here in our smaller community's work force.

Sincerely,



Brad Heltzel  
Plant Superintendent  
Scotchman Industries, Inc.