

An individual must meet the qualifications/pre-requisites for entrance into the program prior to applying for Mercy Scholars.

After being accepted into a specified program, it is then the individual's responsibility to notify Human Resources of their interest in applying for Mercy Scholars.

As part of the selection process for Mercy Scholars, an application, acceptance letter into desired program from the college, previous official transcripts, & references are required. In addition, applicants must complete a job shadow experience, & assessment tool. Once all are completed an interview will be scheduled.

Registered Nurse (RN): Registered nurses (RNs) work to promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. They are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. When providing direct patient care, they observe, assess, and record symptoms, reactions, and progress; assist physicians during treatments and examinations; administer medications; and assist in convalescence and rehabilitation. RNs also develop and manage nursing care plans; instruct patients and their families in proper care; and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health.

To obtain an RN degree, an individual can attend a 2-year program and receive their Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) or attend a 4-year program and receive a Bachelors of Science Degree. (BSN). For a complete listing of accredited Schools of Nursing, log on to www.state.ia.us/nursing.

The Associate Degree Nursing program is designed to prepare men and women for general staff registered nursing positions that involve direct care of patients. Upon completion of the program, students are awarded an associate degree in applied science and are then prepared to work in a beginning staff nurse position. Graduates are eligible for the NCLEX-RN exam. After passing this exam, the graduate receives registered nurse status.

North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) Entrance Requirements:

The applicant must complete the application process through the health professions counselor located in the Student Services office. Admission is based on the following criteria:

1. Completion of a high school diploma or equivalency.
2. Graduated in the upper half of the high school class.
3. Graduated from high school with a minimum 2.5 GPA.
4. Completed the ACT exam with a composite score of 20 or higher.

High School Prerequisites:

The following required courses must be completed with a C grade or better:

- Four semesters of high school/college preparatory math (e.g., Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry).
- Two semesters of high school/college preparatory Chemistry.
- Two semesters of high school/college preparatory Biology.
- It is recommended that 4 to 6 semesters of high school English and 4 to 6 semesters of social studies be taken.

For information on the ADN program at NIACC, e-mail [Donna Orton](mailto:Donna.Orton@niacc.edu) at North Iowa Area Community College, 500 College Drive, Mason City, IA 50401 (1-888-GO NIACC).

Stated above is a suggested college only to obtain this degree. A Mercy Scholars applicant can choose any college they would like to, in order to, obtain this particular degree.
