

Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) is a public, two-year, associate degree granting institution that provides learning in an environment of academic excellence, civic responsibility, cultural appreciation and international understanding. As one of 17 colleges and universities comprising Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (ConnSCU), NVCC offers easy credit transfer and a significantly more affordable price tag than private education. The College is a mostly open admission institution, offering more than 100 accredited programs leading to associate degrees or professional certification and over 120 [continuing education](#)/lifelong learning courses for professional development and workforce training. We are the only Connecticut community college to offer associate degree programs in aviation science, horticulture, digital arts and visual and performing arts, dance option. Courses are offered during days, evenings and weekends and individuals may enroll as full- or part-time students.

Overview of Allied Health, Nursing and Physical Education

The Division of Allied Health, Nursing and Physical Education at NVCC helps students develop the technical expertise and critical thinking skills necessary to become health care professionals. Our graduates have excellent success rates on state and national licensure exams, are highly recruited and tend to stay within the region and work in acute care, long-term, rehabilitative and community settings. The division is made up of four nationally accredited health career programs: nursing, physical therapist assistant, radiologic technology and respiratory care. An Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course and various physical education courses are also offered.

Nursing

The Nursing program is part of the recently formed Connecticut Community College Nursing Program (CT-CCNP) and shares a common curriculum, admissions process and policies with its sister programs. In 2008, NVCC expanded its enrollment from 85 admitted students to 125 in response to community needs. The average student is approximately 32 years of age but students range in age from late teens to mid-fifties, with many mature students seeking a second career after being displaced from their initial choice. NVCC graduates have maintained NCLEX-RN (licensure) first time pass rates above state and national averages, most recently 95% for the Class of 2010, and 97% for the Class of 2011.

Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)

The PTA program admits 30 students each year and was developed with a unique consortium model. Students from six community colleges including NVCC take their general education courses at the college in their community and come to NVCC for the specialized PTA courses. This has been an effective way to gather specialized faculty and equipment on one campus. More than 90 clinical placements throughout the state provide internships for the students and graduates are hired at hospitals, rehabilitation facilities and private physical therapy offices.

Radiologic Technology

The Radiologic Technology program utilizes modern technology including digital imaging to provide students with the knowledge and skills to work in hospitals, offices and imaging centers. The program admits approximately 20 students each year and graduates have consistently maintained a 100% pass rate on the Radiologist Technologist Registry Examination.

Respiratory Care

Twenty students are admitted annually to the Respiratory Care program and are prepared as respiratory therapists who will participate in the care of individuals with heart and lung problems. This employment area is considered a “hot job” and growth is predicted in the number of therapists needed due to an aging population and an increase in problems related to asthma and smoking. The respiratory care laboratory was recently renovated and a second adult ventilator will be purchased this fall with capital improvement bonding funds to provide students with the specialized equipment necessary to develop the technical expertise needed to provide safe patient care.

Program	Graduates	2011 First-time pass rate
Nursing	91	95%
Physical Therapist Assistant	15	85%
Radiologic Technology	13	100%

