A Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) works under the supervision of a Registered Nurse (RN) or a physician to provide nursing care. LVNs work directly with patients in hospitals, assisted-living facilities, clinics and in their homes. The role of the LVN is to act as the RN’s assistant. A LVN license qualifies you to perform patient care that a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) is not trained to do, including giving medication and administering injections.

LVN programs take at least one year of training through a community college, trade school, vocational college, or your local hospital. Most schools provide classes on emergency care, biology, and physical education, followed by hands-on clinical work.

## Prerequisite coursework required by some LVN programs

| **Prerequisite** | **Coursework** |
| --- | --- |
| One semester of Anatomy | Anatomy 1 |
| One semester of Physiology | Physiology 1 |
| One semester of Developmental Psychology | Psych 41 |

*Note: Requirements differ by program. Some programs may require that courses be taken in the past 5 years. Contact the program you are interested in applying to for specific admissions requirements. Some schools may not accept Sciences courses that are that have online labs, check with each school individually.*

## LVN School Selection Criteria

* Successful completion of all prerequisites with a minimum of "C" in all prerequisite courses.
* Grade point average of all general prerequisite college courses, prerequisite science courses, and overall.

## Salary Information

The median wage in 2021 in California was $58,790 annually ([labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/](https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetails.asp?searchCriteria=vocational+nurse&careerID=&menuChoice=occexplorer&geogArea=0601000000&soccode=292061&search=Explore+Occupation)). The median is the point at which half of the workers earn more and half earn less.

## Recommended Website

| **Website** | **Website address** |
| --- | --- |
| California Board of Vocational and Psychiatric Technicians | [bvnpt.ca.gov/](https://www.bvnpt.ca.gov/) |

## Select LVN Program Websites

| **Website** | **Website address** |
| --- | --- |
| American Career College – Los Angeles | [americancareercollege.edu/programs.html](https://americancareercollege.edu/programs.html) |
| Annenberg School of Nursing – Reseda | [asn.edu/vn-program/](http://www.asn.edu/vn-program/) |
| California Career College, Canoga Park | [californiacareercollege.edu/](https://www.californiacareercollege.edu/) |
| Casa Loma College – Van Nuys | https://casalomacollege.edu/ |
| Concord Career College – North Hollywood | [concorde.edu/](https://www.concorde.edu/) |
| Glendale Career College | [glendalecareer.com/](https://www.glendalecareer.com/) |
| Kaplan College – North Hollywood Campus | <https://kaplan.com/closedcolleges/> |
| Pasadena City College | [pasadena.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/nursing-programs/career-ladder/index.php](https://pasadena.edu/academics/divisions/health-sciences/nursing-programs/career-ladder/index.php) |

Note: Information is subject to change without notice. Check with the individual campus for the most up-to-date information. *Web site links are provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and/or Los Angeles Pierce College (LAPC) of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. The Los Angeles Community College District and/or Los Angeles Pierce College bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.*