

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How hard is it to get into Parkland?

Admission to Parkland is open to anyone who is a graduate of an accredited high school, has a GED, or is over 18 years of age and is able to benefit from college-level instruction.

High school students between 16 and 18 years of age who want to take classes at Parkland should start with their high school counselor. See Dual Credit on page 8.

Admission to Parkland does not ensure admission to a particular course or program of study. Several areas (including Nursing and Health Professions) have selective admissions standards and deadlines.

We do not require ACT or SAT scores for admission; however, if submitted, appropriate scores will be used in place of placement test scores. Students are required to take assessment tests in reading, writing, and mathematics after they are admitted. Assessment results are used to place students in classes where they have the best chance for success.

Questions? Call the Office of Admissions and Records at 217/351-2482 and ask to speak with an admissions advisor.

2. How do I get started?

APPLY EARLY! Apply online or call or stop by for an application. Fill it out and return it to the Office of Admissions and Records, room A167. Have your transcripts sent (high school and/or college), and you will receive additional instructions on the enrollment process.

Questions? Call 217/351-2482.

3. What is the deadline for admission?

Complete your application for admission at least four months prior to the semester that you plan to attend Parkland.* This way you will have plenty of time to schedule assessment tests, see a counselor, and register for classes. You may apply for admission right up until classes begin each semester, but this may delay your enrollment and limit your course selection.

** Health Professions programs have limited enrollment and a priority application processing deadline. The deadline to apply for fall semester admission to these programs is March 1 of every year. The Associate Degree Nursing program also accepts applicants for spring semester. The deadline to apply is October 1.*

4. What can I do with a degree from Parkland?

You can transfer to a four-year college or university, or go straight to a job in the career field of your choice. 84 percent of the Parkland transfer program students surveyed plan to continue their education, of whom nearly 91 percent plan to attend a four-year institution. In our career programs, 82 percent of students that we surveyed reported they were employed following graduation.

5. How many students will be in my classes?

On average, there is one full-time faculty member for every 20 full-time students. This allows for lots of student and faculty interaction. Large lecture classes are noted in the Parkland *Class Schedule* each semester, so you'll know in advance. Our two lecture halls each hold up to 137 students.

6. Is there a parking fee?

At Parkland, parking is free, and no I.D. sticker is needed. Accessible parking close to the buildings is available. Illegal parking is not permitted, and violators are subject to tickets and sometimes towing.

7. Does Parkland provide adequate security?

Parkland College provides a trained police staff with law enforcement powers 24 hours a day 7 days a week. All of our sworn officers are certified emergency medical technicians and can respond to most situations on campus in approximately one minute. The services we provide make Parkland a safe learning/working environment.

The Office of Public Safety is located in room X109 (across from the bookstore). For emergencies, call "911" from any in-house telephone or 351-2369 from off-campus.

8. Can I work on campus?

Many offices on campus employ student workers; in fact, many offices couldn't survive without student employees! To find out which offices are currently hiring, contact the Career Center in room A175 or visit www.parkland.edu/careercenter and click [Student Employment](#).

9. Are there computers I can use?

Yes. Parkland's open computer laboratories have up-to-date hardware and software available to students. Lab assistants are always on duty to help you.

Lab hours:

M108

M-Th 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

F 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

S 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

D209

M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

S closed

10. Who takes classes at Parkland?

The diversity of the student body at Parkland is one of the most exciting aspects of our college. Ethnic minorities make up 24 percent of our student population, and just over 4 percent are international students. Fifty-three percent of our students are women and 47 percent are men. The average age of all students is 27.7; 59 percent of our students are between the ages of 17 and 24; and 37 percent are in the 25-55 age range.

11. Where will I live?

Parkland students live in a variety of situations — at home, in an apartment, or in a private residence hall. We provide information about apartments and the rental market in Champaign-Urbana, as well as a roommate referral service.

For off-campus housing information visit www.parkland.edu/ and choose **Campus Life, or go to **Student Life**, room X161.**

What's New at Parkland?

NEW space acquired for classes

Parkland purchased the office building at 1307 - 1319 N. Mattis Avenue, Champaign in fall 2007. The building currently houses Parkland's Business Development Center, the Construction Education Alliance, and the Illinois Employment and Training Center. The college plans to develop the unfinished space (about 20,000 square feet) into a new Health Professions Annex by the end of spring semester or early summer 2008. A new human patient simulator will be the centerpiece of the annex.

NEW CSIT Service Learning Center

Computer Science and Information Technology students now employ their education, skills, and hands-on training to provide IT support for nonprofit organizations, noncommercial community projects, senior citizens, and disabled persons. In return, students gain experiential learning as they work closely with community clients to manage projects with "real-world" specifications and timeframes.

CSIT Department • 217/353-2099 • B116
<http://slc.csit.parkland.edu>

NEW Digital Media degree partnership

Parkland 3D Games and Graphics or 3D Animation and Game Design students may also enroll in DePaul University's bachelor degree program in Graphics and Animation, Technical Designer Option. Dual enrollment offers students a smooth transition to DePaul with an excellent B.S. option to continue developing their portfolio and skills. Benefits also include locked-in DePaul tuition rate and graduation requirements.

CSIT Department • 217/353-2099 • B116
www.parkland.edu/csit/DePaul.html

NEW online chat at library

Ask a question, get an answer from a Parkland librarian. Online live chat is now available during library hours.

www.parkland.edu/library/pro.html

NEW radio format

The Wave 88.7 FM has launched a new format, featuring a variety of alternative rock and indie music, geared towards Parkland students and community members. The station has also opened up DJ shifts to Parkland students, staff, and community members and has been working with local venues to promote concerts and events.

WPCD Radio • 217/351-2450

NEW psychology course

PSY 222 Industrial and Organizational Psychology – This course applies psychological theory and research to organizations. Study organizational structure, development and change; leadership and decision making; job satisfaction and motivation; and more. Great for psychology and business majors.

Social Sciences and Human Services • 217/351-2229

NEW PCTV programs

- *Cobra Corner*, hosted by new PCTV program manager Chris Foster, provides an in-depth look at Parkland athletics with game recaps, coach and player interviews, and player profiles.
- *Outside the Box*, hosted by Fay Rouseff-Baker and Tony Mendes, takes an inside look at the exciting world of entrepreneurship both locally and statewide, hoping to inspire others to tackle their own entrepreneurial ideas.

PCTV • 217/373-3821

NEW courses for LPN program

Interested in a nursing career but can't commit to two+ years in school? Are you a CNA who wants to advance your nursing skills? Parkland's Licensed Practical Nurse certificate program, recently revived with new courses for spring 2008, can be completed in one year of full-time study, including a summer semester. Graduates will be prepared for employment in clinics, hospitals, and long-term care facilities and will be prepared to take the licensing examination for Licensed Practical Nurse.

Health Professions • 217/351-2224 • www.parkland.edu/hp

NEW pre-engineering dual credit courses

High school students: prepare for engineering programs at community colleges and universities with this new course series, based on a nationally developed curriculum offered to more than 1,000 high schools across the country:

- Introduction to Engineering Design – fall semester only
- Principles of Engineering – spring semester only
- Digital Electronics – fall semesters (pending local/state approval)
- Computer Integrated Manufacturing – spring semesters (pending local/state approval)

Students should have at least high school Algebra I and an interest in engineering. Knowledge of AutoCAD is helpful, but not required.

Career Programs • 217/351-2236

NEW OTA service-learning initiatives

First- and second-year students in Parkland's Occupational Therapy Assistant program engaged in several service learning projects within the District 505 community:

- providing tutoring services for students at Lincoln Challenge, one hour per week for 10 weeks
- facilitating adult and children groups at the Center for Women in Transition in Champaign, one hour per week for 10 weeks
- providing community-based services through Level II fieldwork at Circle of Friends Adult Day Center

NEW artists wanted at Art Annex

Parkland Art Gallery Annex at the Library's new art exhibit space provides a chance for students, faculty, staff, and alumni to showcase their art. Artists may be current or former students as well as current faculty or staff members. All work must have been completed during the past two years.

Art Gallery • 217/351-2485