The Practical Nurse Certificate (PNC) is a 48-credit program with up to 32 transferable nursing credits to the ADN program at Maria College. Upon successful completion of the required coursework, students are eligible to sit for the New York State National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). A graduate who passes the licensure exam will be eligible for LPN positions in the health field.

The PNC program is offered through Weekend College and can be completed within six semesters by the qualified applicant. The program consists of 47-48 credits (29 nursing and 18-19 liberal arts), and it is recommended that at least 13-14 liberal arts credits be completed prior to the first nursing course. Admissions priority is given to those applicants who have successfully completed the science requirement.

To enter the PNC program, the applicant must provide evidence of a completed high school program or the equivalent. All applicants will be required to take a placement test to determine the appropriate level of mathematics and language arts. Those scoring below a cutoff may complete remedial course work and be retested after remediation to be admitted into the program. A complete physical examination, first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification (CPR) are required before they will be allowed to take clinical courses.

The PNC program is offered in two tracks:

**Track One** allows a student to complete the Certificate on a part-time basis during the weekend in 47 credits. Of those, 22 to 25 will transfer to the ADN Program at Maria College (15 nursing and 9-12 liberal arts). This track is designed for the student whose interest is to begin working as an LPN after completing the Certificate.

**Track Two** allows a student to complete the Certificate on a part-time basis during the weekend in 48 credits. Of those, 32 will transfer to the ADN Program at Maria College (15 nursing and 17 liberal arts).

If enrollment in the program allows, a student could enroll full time, combining weekend PNC course work with evening liberal arts courses.

### PNC Program Outcomes
NCLEX-PN results for 2012—32 took the licensing exam and 90.6% passed. The national pass rate for 2012 was 83%.