SCHOOL OF NURSING
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Prerequisite Requirements

Application Deadlines

Admission to the baccalaureate nursing program is a two-step process: 1) admission to the University, and 2) admission to the clinical nursing program. Application deadlines are strictly enforced. **Candidates may apply to the School of Nursing pending receipt of their formal University admission decision.** Students who apply to the University after the priority enrollment periods below are not eligible for admission to the clinical nursing program, but may attend the University as Expressed Interest Nursing students if approved by Admissions and Outreach. Per University policy, the application evaluation fee may not be transferred or used to apply to another term. Sacramento State students, who have graduated or have had a lapse in enrollment, may be required to reapply to the University and meet the same deadlines. For additional information regarding University admission, please contact Admissions and Outreach, Lassen Hall Lobby, (916) 278-7766, [www.csus.edu/admissions](http://www.csus.edu/admissions).

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<th>Deadlines</th>
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<td>October 1 – November 30</td>
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<td>Supplemental Nursing Application</td>
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California Residency

The clinical portion of the nursing program is open only to students who can satisfy the California residence requirements. Expressed Interest Nursing students are not required to be residents of California. For additional information, please contact the Residency Screening Office, Lassen Hall, Room 1011, (916) 278-7766, [www.csus.edu/admissions/california%20residency/index.html](http://www.csus.edu/admissions/california%20residency/index.html).

Prerequisite Courses

1. Oral Communication (any G.E. Area A1 course)
2. Written Communication (any G.E. Area A2 course)
3. Critical Thinking (any G.E. Area A3 course)
4. Statistics (any G.E. Area B4 statistics course)
5. Chemistry
   - Any college-level general OR inorganic OR organic OR integrated course (with associated lab if required at the institution where the course was taken; otherwise not required). An overview or preparatory course for college-level chemistry is not acceptable. Questions? Click [here](http://www.csus.edu/admissions/california%20residency/index.html) for chemistry FAQs.
6. Anatomy or Anatomy and Physiology I (with in-class lab)
7. Physiology or Anatomy and Physiology II (with in-class lab)
8. Microbiology (with in-class lab)


California ASSIST articulation agreements, [http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html](http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html)

High School Advanced Placement (AP) credit information. [http://catalog.csus.edu/16-17/first%20100%20pages/transferadmission.html#AP](http://catalog.csus.edu/16-17/first%20100%20pages/transferadmission.html#AP). Course equivalency for written communication, statistics, and introductory psychology is absolutely acceptable (AP score of 3 or better required)—treated as a “pass” in the Nursing GPA calculation.

- Prerequisite courses are acceptable regardless of date completed, but current knowledge is essential.
- Prerequisite courses must be completed with a C- or better grade.
- Equivalent coursework completed at any regionally accredited college is acceptable.
- Anatomy or A&P I, Physiology or A&P II, and microbiology must include in-class, on-campus labs—virtual or kitchen labs are not acceptable.
- A **GE Area B4** “statistics” course completed within your major is absolutely acceptable (e.g. Los Rios, PSYC 330 Introductory Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences). We recommend you seek advisement from each program you are considering—policies vary.
- Life span human development must be birth through “adult”—a child development course alone is not acceptable.
- Societal-cultural patterns should be a study of multiple societies and the cultural norms of those societies—awareness of cultural norms is very important in patient care! For example, Introductory Sociology or “Cultural” Anthropology—“Physical” Anthropology would not work!
- Confirm the title of the course matches the content area and the total semester units are 3 for non-science and 4 to 5 for science lab coursework (quarter system courses may be slightly less when converted to semester units). For example, if you completed a course with an in-class lab labeled “Anatomy” you are all set! If you completed a unique course such as “Zoology,” or the units are less than noted above, you need to email Teri Tallman, BSN Admissions Coordinator, at tallmant@csus.edu with ARTICULATION in caps in the subject line for advisement. If you do not receive a response within two weeks, resend with SECOND REQUEST in caps in the subject line.
- These guidelines are intended for the Sac State BSN program only. We recommend you seek advisement from each program you are considering—policies vary!

**Corequisite Courses**

Students are strongly encouraged to complete the corequisite courses prior to admission to the clinical major; however, it is not required and the number of corequisite courses completed will not be a factor in the selection process. If needed, student schedules will be modified to allow additional time to finish the corequisite courses, before beginning the clinical nursing curriculum. **Life Span Human Development, Introductory Psychology, and Nutrition must be completed prior to enrollment in the second semester of the clinical nursing program.** A **Societal-Cultural Patterns course must be completed prior to graduation.** Corequisite courses must be completed with a C- or better grade.

Good news! Pharmacology has been integrated across the Nursing curriculum. Students applying for admission Spring 2014 forward will no longer need to enroll in a separate, pharmacology course. As a courtesy, during the transition, students applying to begin the clinical nursing program Spring 2014 and Fall 2014 were allowed to include or omit their pharmacology grade in the Nursing GPA calculation. This grandfather clause will not be offered Spring 2015 forward. **We recommend students seek the advisement of other nursing programs under consideration; prerequisites vary at each institution.**

1. “Life Span” Human Development (adult component required)
2. Introductory Psychology
3. Nutrition
4. A Societal-Cultural Patterns Course must be completed before graduation (e.g. SOC1, ANTH 2, ANTH 101, ANTH 144, ANTH 186, ETHN 011, ETHN 100, or HRS 161).

**Completion of the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)**

Completion of the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is required for all students applying to the clinical nursing program. Any version of the TEAS is acceptable (e.g. 4.0 or V). A minimum score of 75.0% is required to be considered for admission. The test may be taken three times within a five-year period preceding the Supplemental Nursing Application deadline; the highest score will be used. Scores over five years old are acceptable; however, they will NOT be considered an attempt when determining the three-attempt limit. There are no rules regarding the length of time between each test, but ATI recommends a month to allow students
time to review test results and study those areas where improvement is possible. The College of Continuing Education (CCE) at Sacramento State facilitates the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). Testing dates, location and registration information may be found on the CCE TEAS website at www.cce.csus.edu/teas. If you have any questions, please contact CCE at ccenursing@csus.edu. Due to human resource limitations, please do not contact the School of Nursing. The last day to take the TEAS for a fall term is March 1; no exceptions. The last day to take the TEAS for a spring term is October 1; no exceptions. For TEAS tests taken at a non-Sacramento State location, an official TEAS transcript must be purchased online from ATI and submitted by ATI directly to the School of Nursing, www.atitesting.com. TEAS policies vary at each institution. We recommend you seek advisement from each nursing program you are considering.

GPA Requirements

The nursing grade point average used to rank candidates for admission to the clinical nursing program will be calculated using the grades from the prerequisite and corequisite courses completed at the time of application (quarter units and grade points will be converted to semester). Plus and minus grades will not be considered (e.g. a B- or B+ will be considered a B). A minimum Nursing GPA of 3.3 is required to be considered for admission. All prerequisite and corequisite courses must be completed with a C- or better grade. Eligible AP Examination credit will be considered a pass; no effect on Nursing GPA calculation. Candidates must also meet the GPA requirements required for admission to the University.

In-Progress Policy

One science and one non-science prerequisite course, two total, may be in progress in spring when applying for fall; fall when applying for spring—no exceptions allowed. The science prerequisites include: chemistry, anatomy or A&P I, physiology or A&P II, and microbiology. The non-science prerequisites include: oral communication, written communication, critical thinking, and statistics. All eight prerequisite courses must be completed by December when applying for a spring term; June for fall. When applying for a fall term, coursework completed in summer will not be considered. Candidates attending quarter-system schools may apply for fall with winter and spring courses in progress; application will not be processed until winter grades are submitted to the School of Nursing. Candidates attending quarter-system schools may apply for spring with summer and fall courses in progress; application will not be processed until summer grades are submitted to the School of Nursing. There is no limit on the number of in-progress corequisite courses.

IMPORTANT Information for Transfer Students: Oral communication, written communication, critical thinking, and a GE Area B4 math course are also required for admission to the University. When applying to the University for spring admission, all four courses must be completed by the end of the preceding summer term; unlike Nursing, these courses may not be in progress in the fall, www.csus.edu/admissions/transfer/index.html.

Repeat Policy

If a prerequisite or corequisite course has been taken more than once, the highest grade will be included in the Nursing GPA calculation used to rank candidates. However, if a course has been taken more than twice within a seven-year period, preceding the first day of the Supplemental Nursing Application filing period, a five-point deduction per course will be taken from the candidate’s final score in the ranking for admission to the clinical nursing program. Repeats are evaluated based on content and GE Areas; not course numbers. Any course which satisfies a content area is considered an attempt. A course with a W grade is not considered an attempt. Exceptions may be allowed for students who completed coursework as part of a previous major on a case-by-case basis. The In-Progress Policy above applies to repeated courses. If you are considering applying to other institutions, we recommend you contact each institution for advisement regarding their repeat policy.

Health Requirements

Students admitted to the clinical nursing program are required to have specified immunizations by the Student Health Center or a private physician prior to beginning nursing coursework. Drug and alcohol screening is required before beginning clinical nursing. Health insurance is required and must be maintained throughout the program. Complete information on health requirements for nursing students may be secured from the School of Nursing.
Technology Competence

To be successful in the curriculum, students must be able to demonstrate competency in computer technology, such as word processing, use of the Internet, e-mail, and database searches. Clinical nursing students are required to own a personal computer.

Professional Liability Insurance, Automobile Insurance, Transportation and CPR Certification

All students enrolled in clinical laboratory courses in the nursing major must pay the University fee for professional liability insurance, provide proof of automobile insurance, and have a means of transportation to extended campus facilities. Professional liability insurance is mandatory prior to beginning clinical experiences. CPR certification for medical professionals is required as a prerequisite to the program and recertification must be maintained according to the requirements of the American Heart Association or Red Cross.

Background Checks

Nursing students must satisfactorily complete all clinical, community and laboratory requirements in order to progress in courses, progress in the program and to receive their degree. In order to make an initial determination as to whether there are any current barriers to admitted students qualifying for and/or participating in clinical programs, all admitted students must submit to a background check and drug screen under the direction of the nursing program prior to enrollment. Results of background checks and drug screens will be provided to the nursing program's affiliating clinical agencies (partner agencies) which must approve the background checks and drug screens in order for students to qualify for participation in and fulfillment of the required clinical component. Students will be advised of any identified issues impacting their eligibility for participation in required clinical and community placements prior to making their decision to enroll. The full policy concerning background checks and drug screening in the nursing program can be found at www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs. Students should also be aware that the State of California Board of Registered Nursing makes determinations for licensure based in part on background checks. Students who have concerns regarding their background checks should review the BRN website for information related to initial licensure before determining whether to apply and/or enroll in the nursing program: www.rn.ca.gov/enforcement/convictions.shtml.

Challenge by Examination

The School of Nursing offers the opportunity of petitioning certain nursing courses for credit by examination. Students who by reason of special study, experience or training, already possess the skills, knowledge, and attitudes which are the objectives of the given course, may petition for credit by examination. A maximum of 30 units may be challenged. Licensed Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocational Nurses, and Corpsmen are examples of students who may be eligible to challenge specific nursing courses. Additional information may be obtained by referring to "Credit by Examination" in this catalog or by contacting the School of Nursing.