



SCHOOL OF NURSING

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Second Bachelor FAQs

Good news! Candidates with regionally accredited baccalaureate or higher degrees may apply to the Traditional BSN program—even when University admission is closed to Second Bachelors (*Cal. Educ. Code 89267.3*).

To facilitate the Spring 2018 change to an online application, **apply to the University before you submit your supplemental nursing application** – see FAQs #13 and #14 and deadlines below.

Fall Deadlines

University Application – October 1 – November 30

Supplemental Nursing Application – February 1 – March 1

Spring Deadlines

University Application - August 1 - August 31

Supplemental Nursing Application - September 1 - October 1

Frequently Asked Questions

1. [Do you offer a continuous Accelerated Second Bachelor of Science in Nursing \(ASBSN\) or Entry Level Master's \(ELM\) track for post-baccalaureate students?](#)
2. [Can you direct me to other program options?](#)
3. [Why should I consider Sac State?](#)
4. [Do you admit spring and fall?](#)
5. [Do you offer a part-time track?](#)
6. [May I work while I am in the program?](#)
7. [Can I qualify for financial aid?](#)
8. [Are fees higher for post-baccalaureate students?](#)
9. [Do I need to submit a supplemental application to the School of Nursing?](#)
10. [Is the Nursing admission criteria different for post-baccalaureate students?](#)
11. [Do you ever make exceptions or waive admission criteria?](#)
12. [How do I know if I am eligible to apply or what my chances are for selection?](#)
13. [Should I apply to the University?](#)
14. [What if University admission is closed to Second Bachelors?](#)
15. [If University admission is closed to Second Bachelors, may I attend Sac State to complete any missing prerequisite or corequisite course work?](#)
16. [May I use my previous college course work to satisfy the nursing prerequisite and corequisite requirements?](#)
17. [What if my course work is over 5 to 7 years old?](#)
18. [Do I need to complete any other General Education or graduation requirements?](#)

19. [May I use course work completed outside of the United States?](#)
20. [How do I determine if my course work is acceptable?](#)
21. [How do I know if my oral communication, written communication, and critical thinking courses will transfer?](#)
22. [I have taken multiple chemistry courses—which course should I use?](#)
23. [May I substitute upper-division course work with the same content?](#)
24. [May I repeat course work to improve my Nursing GPA?](#)
25. [If the course I am repeating is in progress at the time of application will the prior grade be included in the Nursing GPA calculation?](#)
26. [Do I need to take the Writing Placement for Juniors \(WPJ\) examination?](#)

1. Do you offer a continuous Accelerated Second Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ASBSN) or Entry Level Master's (ELM) track for post-baccalaureate students?

No. Post-baccalaureate candidates are encouraged to apply to our four-semester Traditional BSN program (winter and summer intersessions off).

2. Can you direct me to other program options?

Yes. Here is a link to the California, Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) list of accredited nursing programs, <http://www.rn.ca.gov/education/rnprograms.shtml>. You might consider one of the Accelerated Second Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ASBSN) or Entry Level Master's (ELM) programs offered in California.

3. Why should I consider Sac State?

- *State-of-the-art human-patient simulation lab*
- *Excellent NCLEX pass rates, <http://www.rn.ca.gov/education/passrates.shtml>*
- *Exposure to multiple clinical agencies*
- *Ranked #20 in "Top Nursing Schools in the U.S." by College Atlas—ranked #2 in California*

4. Do you admit spring and fall?

Yes.

5. Do you offer a part-time track?

No. Admission is only offered to candidates who are able to attend full-time—including evenings and weekends. Lecture, clinical, and labs are generally offered during the day, Monday through Friday, but students may also be scheduled for clinical evenings and weekends.

6. May I work while I am in the program?

Due to the rigorous nature of the clinical nursing program, it is recommended students not work during the program. If a student must work, the faculty strongly advise no more than 16 hours per week—work must be scheduled around the nursing curriculum.

7. Can I qualify for financial aid?

While it is more difficult to obtain financial aid as a graduate, students are encouraged to meet with a representative in the Financial Aid Office a year or more in advance of application to the clinical major to obtain information regarding eligibility for scholarships and low-interest loans, <http://www.csus.edu/faid/future-students/index.html>.

8. Are fees higher for post-baccalaureate students?

Yes. The fee schedule for post-baccalaureate students is slightly higher. Here is a link to the University fee schedule, http://csus.edu/aba/bursars-office/fees_deadlines_refunds.html.

9. Do I need to submit a supplemental application to the School of Nursing?

Yes. A link to the application materials will be available on the Traditional BSN homepage on September 1 to October 1 for spring; February 1 to March 1 for fall, <http://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/>.

10. Is the Nursing admission criteria different for post-baccalaureate students?

No. Continuing Sac State students, community college transfers, and Second Bachelors are given equal consideration in the selection process—it is all about the points! Please refer to the Traditional BSN homepage for more detailed information, <http://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/>.

11. Do you ever make exceptions or waive admission criteria?

No.

12. How do I know if I am eligible to apply or what my chances are for selection?

We currently have over 1,000+ Sac State, Expressed Interest Nursing students and an even larger number of transfer students seeking program information—we need your help and patience! Due to impaction, we are not able to provide phone or drop-in advising at the School of Nursing. We ask prospective students to complete the following steps:

- Read our online program information. It's easy - just click on the program information links, <http://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/>.
- Write down any questions not addressed on our website.
- Attend a [BSN group advising session](#). You will have an opportunity to ask questions one-to-one at the end of the presentation.

13. Should I apply to the University?

Yes. To facilitate the Spring 2018 change to an online application, apply to the University **before** you submit your supplemental nursing application.

- Spring: August 1 – August 30
Fall: October 1 – November 30
- Cal State Apply is new (replaced CSU Mentor)—we recommend you apply early!
- After you create your Cal State Apply, ID and Password - select "Undergraduate" and "Seeking a Second Bachelor's Degree." Do NOT select "Graduate" Application!
- Second Bachelors are not required to enter course work for all colleges attended in the "Transcript" entry section—please ignore multiple error messages. If you already entered course information, that is absolutely okay—do not delete! This exception is allowed for Second Bachelors only—all other applicants are required to enter all course information.
- After you submit your University application, you will be prompted by email to create a Sac State, SacLink Username and Password—may take a few days! **You will need your SacLink Username and Password to submit your supplemental nursing application.**
- Good news! All applicants are required to submit one set of transcripts for all colleges attended to the University only—no need to submit a second set to the School of Nursing!

- *Do not upload transcripts to Cal State Apply! The University will email you detailed transcript submission instructions after you submit your application—may take a few days.*
- *Admission to the University is contingent on admission to the Traditional BSN program. If you are selected for admission, the BSN Admissions Coordinator will forward your name and Sac State ID to the University Admissions and Outreach Office for processing.*
- *Nursing, Second Bachelor applicants are NOT allowed to change their major at any time during the admissions process.*

14. What if University admission is closed to Second Bachelors?

No worries! Even when University admission is closed to Second Bachelors, there is an exception for Nursing. However, Second Bachelors are required to apply by the deadlines outlined above.

15. If University admission is closed to Second Bachelors, may I attend Sac State to complete any missing prerequisite or corequisite course work?

No. However, Second Bachelors may be eligible to complete course work during winter and summer intersession through the Sac State, College of Continuing Education. Check the winter and summer class schedules and contact the College of Continuing Education for additional information, <http://www.cce.csus.edu/>. A local community college is another option!

16. May I use my previous college course work to satisfy the nursing prerequisite and corequisite requirements?

Yes. Equivalent course work completed at any regionally accredited college is acceptable.

17. What if my course work is over 5 to 7 years old?

Good news! Your course work does not expire at Sac State. However, current knowledge is important to your success in the Nursing program. If you completed anatomy or physiology several years ago, you may want to dust off your textbooks and self-study. We recommend you seek advisement from each program you are considering—policies vary!

18. Do I need to complete any other General Education or graduation requirements?

No. Candidates with regionally accredited bachelor's degrees are only required to complete the course work necessary for preparation as a registered nurse—the prerequisites, corequisites, and "clinical" Nursing major curriculum (EO 1084).

19. May I use course work completed outside of the United States?

You need an expert! Equivalent course work approved for transfer by the University, Admissions and Outreach office is absolutely acceptable. Please submit the following items with your supplemental nursing application:

- *Written statement/email from the Sac State, Admissions and Outreach office stating your degree and units are transferable, <http://www.csus.edu/admissions/aboutus.html>.*
- *Original, sealed transcript.*
- *U.S. educational records evaluation in English by a service approved by the University (such as WES or ERES).*

20. How do I determine if my course work is acceptable?

- *Equivalent course work 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 “statistics” course completed within your major is absolutely acceptable—a research course alone would not satisfy this requirement.*
- *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 units are 3 for non-science and 4 to 5 for science lab course work (quarter system courses may be slightly less when converted to semester units). For example, if you completed a course with an in-class lab titled “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 Heidi Travis, BSN Admissions Coordinator, heidi.travis@csus.edu with 2BA 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!*

21. How do I know if my oral communication, written communication, and critical thinking courses will transfer?

Second Bachelors are not required to complete additional GE, unless they choose to improve their Nursing GPA. In recognition of your previously earned degree, we will find course work within your previous degree to satisfy these requirements—however, we will hold you to the content requirements.

- *Oral communication must be a public speaking, group discussion, or course involving oral presentation.*
- *Written communication may be a lower-division or upper-division writing course.*
- *Critical thinking may be a second, more advanced, writing course or a course including “critical thinking” or “analysis” in the course description. You may want to review the Sac State, critical thinking course descriptions for examples of what we are looking for (see Area A, Basic Subjects), <http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/#text>.*

If you need assistance, please email Heidi Travis, BSN Admissions Coordinator, at heidi.travis@csus.edu with 2BA 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.

22. I have taken multiple chemistry courses—which course should I use?

Within the limits of the Nursing, Repeat Policy, use the course with the highest grade! Generally, for chemistry, a course is considered a repeat if you repeat course work with similar content (e.g. multiple CHEM 1A or CHEM 1A equivalent courses). Completing a different series is not considered a repeat. For more detailed information, please refer to the following guide (see Chemistry FAQ link), https://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/Docs/req_prereq_core_q.pdf.

23. May I substitute upper-division course work with the same content?

Yes. We recommend you seek advisement for each program you are considering—policies vary!

24. May I repeat course work to improve my Nursing GPA?

*Yes, within the limits of the Nursing, Repeat Policy. Please refer to the “Repeat Policy” section of the **Prerequisites Requirements** guide for more detailed information, <http://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/>. We recommend you seek advisement for each program you are considering—policies vary!*

25. If the course I am repeating is in progress at the time of application will the prior grade be included in the Nursing GPA calculation?

*No—within the limits of the “In Progress” policy outlined in the **Prerequisite Requirements** guide, <http://www.csus.edu/hhs/nrs/programs/undergraduate/traditional/>. If you do not complete the course with a grade of C- or better, your Nursing GPA will be recalculated using the previous grade. We strongly recommend you do not relax on your in-progress course work in case you need to reapply!*

26. Do I need to take the Writing Placement for Juniors (WPJ) examination?

No. The WPJ exam is waived for Second Bachelors admitted to the BSN program.