

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE AND GRADUATE NURSING
ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION
TRADITIONAL PRELICENSURE STUDENTS

ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

All students who are accepted by EKU's Admissions Office and declare their major as baccalaureate nursing (four year nursing) are admitted to the University as pre-baccalaureate nursing majors. However, admission to the freshman year does not guarantee admission to the laboratory nursing courses. Students seeking to enter NSC 232, 242, and 252 in the third semester of the curriculum must meet minimum program GPA requirements of 2.5 and have Department Chair approval. Spaces in these courses are limited and are reserved for students whose academic record indicates they are more likely to be eligible to be considered for and admitted to the clinical nursing courses. Therefore, not all who meet minimum eligibility requirements are guaranteed a spot in the NSC classes in the third semester of the curriculum. To be eligible to be considered for admission to the clinical nursing courses, in the fourth semester of the curriculum, students must have completed the first three semesters of college work as outlined in the curriculum plan and have submitted a complete department application. All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C"/2.0 or better, have been completed within the specified time frame, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale must be obtained. For the prelicensure nursing program, [Pre-RN Pre-Nursing], some prerequisite courses (BIO 171, BIO 273/MLS 209, BIO 301, CHE 105, NFA 201, NSC 232, 242, and NSC 252) must have been taken within five years prior to the time application is made for admission to the clinical nursing courses unless an exception has been approved by the Department Chair. For the prelicensure Nursing (B.S.N.) Second Degree Option, the courses in BIO 171, BIO 273/MLS 209, BIO 301, and NFA 201 must have been taken within five years prior to the time application is made for admission to the option unless an exception has been approved by the Department Chair. **Completion of eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission to the clinical nursing courses.** Admission to the clinical courses is competitive and based on review of the applicants' academic history by the Baccalaureate Nursing Admission/Readmission Committee. **Spaces are limited and the most qualified applicants will be selected for admission.**

In addition to the academic criteria required for admission, the student must meet the standards written into the Commonwealth of Kentucky Nurse Practice Act. Specifically, the Nurse Practice Act requires that each student be of good moral and ethical character, good mental and physical health, and be academically qualified to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a person licensed to practice as a professional nurse. Applicants for nursing programs should review licensure information posted on the Kentucky Board of Nursing's website, including the information for candidates with a history of prior criminal convictions. **Students must meet all clinical agency placement requirements.**

For progression, students must earn a grade of "C"/2.0 or better in all nursing and supporting courses. Students who fail to meet the requirements for progression must apply for readmission through the Baccalaureate Admission/Readmission Committee. Readmission to a nursing course is not guaranteed to any student. Please refer to the Baccalaureate Nursing Student Handbook for specific information on readmission procedures. The program reserves the right to alter the suggested plan as necessary to enhance a quality educational program.

Students should also refer to the Academic Standards section of this handbook under Academic Information.

CONSIDERATION BY EXCEPTION

Students who desire consideration of their **extraordinary circumstance** should submit an *Application for Admission – Consideration by Exception* to the Department Chair by **October 31** for Spring enrollment and by **March 31** for Fall enrollment. The Admission/Readmission Committee will recommend approval or disapproval of the “CONSIDERATION BY EXCEPTION” to the Department Chair.

TRANSFERS FROM OTHER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OR OTHER NURSING PROGRAMS, READMITTED STUDENTS TO ECU, AND CHANGE OF MAJORS

Transfer students must apply for admission to the University and declare Baccalaureate Nursing as their major. In addition to the official transcripts which are sent to ECU's Admissions Office, **transfer students must also submit copies of all transcripts to the Department Chair for review.** These transcripts will be considered part of the application process and are necessary to determine admission and placement.

Students wishing to transfer nursing courses from another accredited institution must have a minimum grade equivalent of a 2.0 (C) or the program's passing grade in any nursing or support course to be transferred. In addition, the applicant must submit complete course outlines and/or syllabi for nursing courses to the Department Chair for review and consideration for approval. This material should be submitted well in advance of expected matriculation in order to provide time for necessary evaluation.

Transfer students who have been enrolled in nursing courses in another nursing program must also submit an *Applicant from Another Nursing Program* form and a *Nursing School Director Reference* form from all programs in which the student was previously enrolled. All students who wish to transfer and have had previous enrollment in nursing courses at another nursing program must apply through the Admission/Readmission Committee. If a student who wishes to transfer has had a deficiency in nursing course (s) taken at the other nursing program, the student must apply through the Admission/Readmission Committee as well. A deficiency is defined as (a) a theory grade less than the passing grade, (b) an unsatisfactory grade in clinical, or (c) withdrawal from a course in which the student was deficient in classroom or clinical performance at the time of withdrawal. To be considered by the Admission/Readmission Committee, the student who has been enrolled in another nursing program must submit: 1) *Application for Admission to Clinical Nursing Sequence* form, 2) *Applicant from Another Nursing Program* form, 3) *Nursing School Director Reference* form from the previous nursing school director (s), and 4) transcripts from all previous academic work.

Students who have previous academic course work and declare pre-baccalaureate nursing as their major should note that some support courses/prerequisite courses must have been completed within a specific time frame unless an exception is granted by the Department Chair.

ADMISSION TO THE TRADITIONAL BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM CLINICAL SEQUENCE

All students who desire admission to the traditional pre-licensure clinical nursing sequence should submit an *Application for Admission to Clinical Nursing Sequence* form to Rowlett 223 by **March 31** for Fall admission and **October 31** for Spring admission. Spaces are limited and admission is competitive. Students who desire admission by exception, students seeking admission who have been enrolled in another nursing program, students who have withdrawn/dropped nursing courses, students who drop out of the nursing program for one or more semesters and/or students who have had a deficiency in any previous nursing course, must apply for admission through the Admission/Readmission Committee and be recommended for admission by that committee. If admission is made with the provision that documentation of completion of pre-requisite courses must be available from the Registrar when grades are recorded at the end of the current semester (or end of the summer term for fall enrollment); and the documentation is not received, the student is subject to disenrollment from the nursing classes and loss of his/her spaces in the classes. (See Undergraduate Admissions Categories).

If a student is not admitted and desires to be considered for admission to a subsequent semester, a new application form must be completed and returned. All students whose applications must be considered by the Baccalaureate Admission/Readmission Committee (transfer nursing students, students desiring consideration by exception, students seeking admission who have previous deficiencies in nursing courses, and students seeking readmission) must submit all required materials by the specified date given on the forms and in the policy. Mailed applications should be sent certified mail to ensure the applications are received by the department.

Students who are seeking admission to the Baccalaureate Nursing Program must submit copies of all required documentation (please refer to the Section "Required Documentation for Clinical/Clinical Agency Placement Requirements" for specific information) along with their application to Rowlett 223 by March 31 when making application for fall term and by October 31 when making application for spring semester. **Any exception must be approved by the Department Chair. This documentation must be kept up to date each semester of enrollment in the clinical courses and cannot expire at any time during a semester. An application for admission is considered incomplete unless all required documentation has been submitted. Incomplete applications are not reviewed for admission. In addition, students must meet clinical agency placement requirements.**

Additionally, all students entering the clinical nursing sequence must register for Professional Liability Insurance and re-register each August thereafter while enrolled in NSC courses. (See Required Documentation for Clinical section of this handbook).