

# Bachelor of Science in Nursing, BSN

## Admission

Students entering the university who are not licensed registered nurses (RN) apply to the BSN prelicensure program. Registered nurses apply to the RN-BSN program.

All entering first-year and undergraduate transfer students who have earned fewer than 24 s.h. when they apply for admission to the University of Iowa must complete the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). For information about the American College Test, visit the ACT website; for information about the Scholastic Aptitude Test, visit the College Board website.

Applicants to the BSN and RN-BSN programs whose first language is not English must score at least 100 (internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Registered nurses educated outside the United States are required to present verification of having passed the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) examination and specified Excelsior baccalaureate nursing examinations.

Applicants admitted to the College of Nursing are expected to be able to meet the curriculum's performance standards; see "Technical Standards" below.

A criminal background check is conducted for all prelicensure and undergraduate students before they begin the nursing major. Admission to all programs is conditional pending successful review of criminal background and abuse registry.

## Admission to the BSN Prelicensure Program

All applicants to the BSN prelicensure program (direct and standard admission applicants) must have satisfied the following minimum high school course requirements.

- English: four years.
- Mathematics: three years, including algebra I, algebra II, and geometry.
- Science: one year of biology, one year of chemistry, and one year of physics.
- Social science: three years.
- World languages: four years (fourth-level proficiency) of the same world language; or two years (second-level proficiency) in two different world languages; or two years of the same world language plus one 3 s.h. course from the GE CLAS Core International and Global Issues, Values and Culture, or Diversity and Inclusion.

## BSN Direct Admission

A select group of highly qualified students is admitted to the College of Nursing directly from high school through the BSN Direct Admission Program. To be considered for direct admission, students must meet the following requirements:

- a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.80, and
- completion of all the minimum high school course requirements listed under "Admission to the BSN Prelicensure Program" above.

High school requirements must be satisfied prior to enrollment at the University of Iowa.

Students admitted through the Direct Admission Program must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 and have clean criminal and student life records during their first four semesters in the program. Students who fail to meet these requirements may be subject to probation or dismissal from the College of Nursing.

## BSN Standard Admission

In order to apply for standard admission to the College of Nursing, students must:

- have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00;
- have a minimum of 48 s.h. of college credit;
- have completed the minimum high school course requirements listed under "Admission to the BSN Prelicensure Program" above, with any deficiencies satisfied through college coursework;
- have completed all BSN prerequisite coursework listed under the Bachelor of Science in Nursing [p.     ] (a maximum of two natural science prerequisites and two social science prerequisites may be in progress or planned at the time of application); and
- must have a grade of C (2.00) or higher on all prerequisite coursework.

In order to enter the College of Nursing, successful standard competitive admission applicants must:

- maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00;
- have a minimum of 64 s.h. of college credit; and
- have completed any remaining prerequisite coursework listed under the Bachelor of Science in Nursing [p.     ], including any remaining natural science and/or social science prerequisites.

Successful standard admission students must complete any remaining natural science prerequisite no more than 10 years before they enter the College of Nursing and enroll in coursework for the nursing major.

## Admission to the Nursing-RN Program

Applicants to the program must hold an RN license and an Associate Degree in Nursing or Diploma in Nursing. They must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00. Admission is highly competitive, with emphasis on the natural sciences (anatomy, biology, chemistry, microbiology, physiology), writing (composition I and II), and mathematics (statistics). World language is not an admission requirement.

## Technical Standards

Applicants to the College of Nursing are expected to be capable of completing the entire nursing curriculum and earning a BSN degree. Nursing is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. The college's technical standards provide an objective measure on which to base informed decisions about whether individual students will be able to participate in the nursing program. Technical standards also help students determine whether they will need accommodations or modifications in order to participate.

The technical standards are provided to all students before matriculation and are available online in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Handbook; see Section VIII: Clinical Course

and Health Science Student Requirements. Students with disabilities who believe that they may need assistance in meeting the core performance standards should contact Student Disability Services.

## **Selection**

The college's admission committee recommends to the dean the applicants who appear to be best qualified. Fulfillment of minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the College of Nursing. The committee may require personal interviews. A physical examination report and specific health screening requirements must be on file at University of Iowa Student Health 10 days before the class opens for the first clinical nursing course.

## **Application Deadlines**

- BSN prelicensure direct admission: Jan. 15.
- BSN prelicensure standard admission: March 1.
- Nursing-RN (RN to BSN) program: March 1 for fall entry; Sept. 1 for spring entry.