

Motion to Modify the Admissions Requirements of the Nursing Program

Motion:

Section 5030.20 is modified as follows:

~~Deletions~~ *Insertions*

5030.20 Program Admissions

Nursing

The ~~student~~ *applicant* must meet the general admission requirements of Georgia State University and the Division of Nursing. Acceptance to the university allows the *applicant* ~~student~~ to register for prerequisite course work, ~~leading to the professional program in nursing and~~ but does not guarantee ~~automatic~~ admission into the nursing program. Acceptance into the professional program requires a separate application and admissions process. ~~Applicants~~ *Students will be* are admitted on a space-available basis. *The University gives some preference to applicants who began their college careers at Georgia State and meet all other criteria.*

A person may apply to Nursing only twice. If not accepted on the first application, applicants who have earned fewer than 42 credit hours must meet with an advisor in the Student Advisement Center. Applicants who have earned at least 42 credit hours and are not accepted on the first application must meet with an admissions advisor in the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing.

A student who has a cumulative GSU GPA below 3.0 at the end of their first semester at GSU is permanently ineligible to apply to enter Nursing.

A student who has a cumulative GSU GPA below 3.3 at the end of their third semester at GSU is permanently ineligible to apply to enter Nursing.

Two program options are available in the undergraduate nursing program: the traditional option and ACE (Achieving the Curriculum Expediently). The traditional option is six semesters and does not require summer classes. The ACE option is four semesters, including summer over a 16-month period. Students in both options have identical degree requirements; however, the ACE option has more stringent application requirements.

Traditional Option Prerequisites: The following courses are prerequisites, which must be completed before entering the traditional option in the fall or spring semester.

- Area A courses of the Core Curriculum
- Biol 1110K, Biol 1120K - Anatomy & Physiology 1 & 2
- Biol 2300, Biol 2310 - Microbiology with lab
- Chem 1151K, Chem 1152K (Survey of Chemistry 1 & 2) or Phys 1111K, Phys 1112K (Introductory Physics 1 & 2) or

Biol 1103K, Biol 1104K (Introductory Biology 1 & 2)

It is recommended that Nurs 2010 be taken before beginning the nursing courses, but it is not required.

Traditional Option Requirements *to be Eligible to Apply:*

1. Acceptance to Georgia State University.
2. Completion of prerequisite courses.
3. A minimum grade point average of ~~2.80~~ 3.30. Higher grade point averages receive preference for admission.
4. *A minimum grade point average of 3.30 in the science courses listed above under "Traditional Option Prerequisites." In computing this GPA, only the first two attempts at a course will be considered. Even if a student repeats a course under GSU's repeat-to-replace policy, only the first two attempts will be considered in the Nursing admissions process.*
5. Successful completion of the current version of the Test Essential Academic Skills (TEAS).
6. A two-page typed paper discussing the applicant's position on a current social or health-related issue.
7. Two letters of reference. One should be academic (high school or college instructor); one should be professional (employer, volunteer organization, etc.).
8. An Application Cover Sheet form.
9. Answers to a short list of questions that are included with the Application Cover Sheet form.

ACE Option Prerequisites: The ACE option requires the following prerequisites, in addition to those listed for the traditional option, be completed before entering the first semester of the ACE option.

- All Core Curriculum requirements, Areas A-E
- Nurs 2010 (Health and Human Development Across the Lifespan)
- SNHP 3000 (Communication and Cultural Diversity)
- Psyc 3140 (Abnormal Psychology)

ACE Option Requirements *to be Eligible to Apply:*

1. Acceptance to Georgia State University.
2. Completion of prerequisites courses.
3. A minimum grade point average of ~~3.0~~ 3.30 ~~for applicants already holding a bachelor's degree; a minimum grade point average of 3.25 for applicants who do not yet hold any bachelor's degree.~~ Higher grade point averages receive preference for admission.
4. *A minimum grade point average of 3.30 in the science courses listed above under "Traditional Option Prerequisites." In computing this GPA, only the first two attempts at a course will be considered. Even if a student repeats a course under GSU's repeat-to-replace policy, only the first two attempts will be considered in the Nursing admissions process.*
5. Successful completion of the current version of the Test Essential Academic Skills (TEAS).
6. A two-page typed paper discussing the applicant's position on a current social or health-related issue.

7. Two letters of reference. One should be academic (high school or college instructor); one should be professional (employer, volunteer organization, etc.).
8. An "Application Cover Sheet" form.
9. Answers to a short list of questions that are included with the "Application Cover Sheet" form.
10. Successful completion of the legislative requirements in U.S. and Georgia History, and U.S. and Georgia Constitution.

Admission selection for both options is based on GPA, number of and grades earned in required science courses taken, score on the nursing entrance exam, letters of reference, and a social/health issue paper. If the applicant's native language is not English, regardless of language of instruction, he or she may be required to submit acceptable results on the Georgia State Test of English Proficiency (GSTEP) or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

It is important that *applicants* ~~students~~ are aware of the current level of competition for admission. The program can accommodate only a limited number of students each year.

[The remainder of the section is unchanged.]

Rationale:

The University enrolls over 300 new students per year who declare an intention to apply to the Nursing program. However, due staffing constraints, the program admits approximately 140 students per year and many of these slots go to transfer students. This has resulted in the rejection of many GSU students who then often leave GSU. The motion reduces the number of students eligible to apply. It also provides a mechanism to redirect students who are not admitted to Nursing to other health-related majors where they can be successful. In addition, the Office of Retention is working with the various colleges to help creating new BIS pathways for these students.

The data reveal that students who start off with a low GPA have essentially no chance of gaining admission to the Nursing program.

