
**Open Admission 2021- Selection Process & Criteria:**

*\*\*It is highly recommended that ALL applicants to the UNC BSN programs first meet with a pre-nursing advisor to ensure you have all elements of your application complete. To meet with an advisor, you must be first admitted to UNC and have a bear number. You may still apply without completing this step, but please note that if you are missing any items your application will be rejected.*

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| To have your application considered, please note the following:* Admission to the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) must be completed before applying to the Nursing program through NursingCAS (recommended to start before December 1st, 2020 to ensure completion in time).
* You must demonstrate potential for successful completion of any in-progress required prerequisite courses by the end of Spring 2021 semester (no later than May 15th, 2021).
* You must complete your submission of the School of Nursing application through NursingCAS by Friday, January 29th, 2021 at 5pm Mountain Time (MT).
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**SCREENING CRITERIA:**

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| * Completion of all application criteria as outlined above.
	+ *If any item is missing, or if instructions are not followed correctly, the application will not be considered.*
* Submission of proof of registration in all remaining prerequisite courses. ***No more than 4 of the 10 required prerequisite courses may be in progress at the time of application***.
* Grade Point Average (GPA)
	+ ALL official transcripts (including transcripts from UNC) must be submitted to NursingCAS.
	+ A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale of most recent 45 credit hours, not including grades from technical courses, high school advanced placement courses, or remedial coursework.
	+ A grade of ‘C’ or higher is required in each of the prerequisite courses (or course equivalent). ‘C-‘ is not acceptable.
	+ Course repeats/grade replacement – applicants who have repeated a prerequisite course will only have the most recent from the first two completed attempts used for the screening criteria (must have a C or higher) and in GPA calculation.
* Demonstration of English Proficiency (if applicable).
	+ If your primary language is not English, or if you are an International Student, you will need to demonstrate required English proficiency for the clinical nursing program by meeting one of the following criteria at the time of application:
		1. **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)** – minimum of 80 on the internet-based test (iBT) with a minimum score of 26 on the spoken English section.
		2. **IELTS (International English Language Testing System)** – minimum of 6.5 total score with a minimum speaking sub score of 7.
		3. Successful completion of the **Intensive English Proficiency Program at UNC** with a minimum average score of 87% in level 6 courses.
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**SELECTION PROCESS:**

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| If an applicant meets the above screening criteria, their application will then be reviewed for admission as follows:* Computation of ***Admission GPA***
	+ Admission GPA will be calculated using the most recent 45 credit hours of coursework **and** GPA from all of the completed nursing prerequisite courses.
	+ High School Advanced Placement scores are **not** factored into GPA.
	+ Grades from technical courses such as CNA, EMT, etc. will **not** be included.
	+ Grades from remedial coursework will **not** be counted.
	+ The Admission GPA will only be calculated on prerequisite coursework completed at the time of admission. If there are still courses to be taken, these will **not** be factored into the Admission GPA. *No more than 4 of the 10 prerequisite courses may be in progress during the Spring 2021 semester at the time of application.*
	+ Course repeats/grade replacement – students who have repeated a course will only have the most recent grade from the first two **completed** attempts used in Admission GPA calculation.
	+ If you are repeating a prerequisite course during spring 2021 semester, the **previously completed earned grade** will be used in Admission GPA calculation.
	+ If a student is admitted to the Nursing program and earns less than a grade of ‘C’ in any of the remaining prerequisite courses or course equivalents during the spring 2021 semester, their admission to the Nursing program will be rescinded.

**Required prerequisite courses included in Admission GPA calculation:*** **BIO 245** – Introduction to Human Anatomy and Physiology (must include minimum of 1 credit lab)
* **BIO 246** – Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology (must include minimum of 1 credit lab)
* **BIO 251** – Allied Health Microbiology (must be a 4-credit course, must include minimum of 1 credit lab)
* **CHEM 281 and CHEM 281L** – Fundamentals of Biochemistry and Biochemistry Lab
* **ENG 123** – College Research Paper
* **FND 250** – Principles of Nutrition
* **NURS 326** – Pathophysiology
* **PSY 230** – Human Growth and Development
* **STAT 150** – Introduction to Statistical Analysis
* Standardized Letters of Recommendation (SLORs)
	+ The SLORs will be averaged between the 2 recommendations.
* Personal Essay
	+ The Personal Essay will be reviewed and scored by at least 2 faculty members of the Undergraduate Leadership Team (ULT). The average score will be used for admission.
	+ Scores are determined by faculty after review of the applicant pool for this admission cycle. If you use a previously submitted essay, please note that your score may not be exactly the same as it was for a different admission cycle.
* HESI Admission Assessment Exam
	+ A composite score generated from averaging the 4 category (Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Basic Math Skills, Anatomy and Physiology) sub scores will be added to your overall admission score. There is no minimum requirement on the overall composite score or sub scores for application eligibility.
* UNC Earned Credits
	+ The number of credits completed at UNC will be assigned points by the ULT and used in the overall admission score as outlined below.

The weighting for the above admission criteria is as follows: 55% Admission GPA; 20% HESI exam; 10% Standardized Letters of Recommendation; 10% Personal Essay; 5% earned credits at UNC. An overall admission score will then be assigned to each applicant and all the applicants will be ranked based on their score. If you do not meet one of the above admission requirements, you may request an exception to the admission policy. The requested exception must be received before January 22nd, 2021 at 5pm to the BSN program coordinator, Dr. Kristin Schams, at kristin.schams@unco.edu prior to application submission. The exception must outline what screening/admission criteria you are requesting the exception for and your specific circumstance. The exception will then be reviewed and a letter approving or denying your request will be sent back to you at your Bear Email address no later than 2 weeks after submission. **Exceptions requested after the above due date will not be reviewed for this application cycle.****NOTIFICATION:** notification letters will be sent to applicants by Friday, February 26th, 2021 to your bear email address. |
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**If offered ADMISSION into the Nursing Program:**

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| * REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION FOR NEW NURSING STUDENTS: information regarding program requirements such as purchase of malpractice insurance, specific health clearance requirements, CPR certification, purchase of uniforms and ATI materials, and course information will be sent to admitted students once they have indicated they plan to attend the UNC Nursing program.
* **A MANDATORY MEETING** for all newly admitted nursing students will be held to answer any questions about Nursing program requirements (location TBA):
	+ Tuesday, March 9th 9-11am
	+ Thursday, March 11th 9-11am
	+ Wednesday, March 24th 9-11am
* Please note: Admission to the program will be contingent on passing a background check (see disqualifying events on our website), clear drug screening, completion of any outstanding prerequisite courses with a passing grade (C or higher), and/or previous degree completion (by May 15th, 2021).
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**Contact the School of Nursing at 970-351-2293 or** **nursing@unco.edu** **if you have any questions.**