

2012

Traditional Pre-licensure Clinical Nursing Program



Arizona State University
College of Nursing and Health Innovation
1/1/2012

Overview

As a profession, nursing offers the opportunity to participate in promoting and maintaining health and providing care to those who are ill. It is a career that demands a wide range of decision-making, interpersonal, management, and complex technical skills.

The health care field has been rapidly growing and changing due to increased demand for health care, technological advances, an aging population, a shift toward preventing illness and maintaining good health. Employment opportunities have grown recently.

Nurses are an important part of the health care team, providing services to individuals and groups. Nurses care for people of all ages, helping them to regain and maintain positive health. These services are provided in hospital settings, in the community, in the home, at health clinics, within corporations, in schools, and in long term care facilities. Within these settings the nursing role may expand to include such functions as clinician, case manager, teacher, or researcher.

Registered nurses (RNs), regardless of specialty or work setting, treat patients, educate patients and the public about various medical conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients' family members. RNs record patients' medical histories and symptoms, help perform diagnostic tests and analyze results, operate medical machinery, administer treatment and medications, and help with patient follow-up and rehabilitation.

RNs teach patients and their families how to manage their illnesses or injuries, explaining post-treatment home care needs; diet, nutrition, and exercise programs; and self-administration of medication and physical therapy. Some RNs may work to promote general health by educating the public on warning signs and symptoms of disease. RNs also might run general health screening or immunization clinics, blood drives, and public seminars on various conditions.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-11 Edition, Registered Nurses, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos083.htm> (visited October 27, 2010).

Registered Nurse Licensure

Entry into the practice of nursing in the United States and its territories is regulated by the licensing authorities within each jurisdiction. To ensure public protection, each jurisdiction requires a candidate for licensure to pass an examination that measures the competencies needed to perform safely and effectively as a newly licensed, entry-level nurse. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) develops two licensure examinations, the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses and the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX®) for Practical Nurses that are used by state and territorial boards of nursing to assist in making licensure decisions. Students who complete the TPCNP will take the NCLEX-RN.

Once a student completes a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and holds a valid RN license, the student has the option to further their education and pursue graduate work in Nursing. ASU offers graduate degrees in eight concentrations: Adult Health, Neonatal, Community Health, Family Health, Nurse Educator, Pediatric, Psychiatric Mental Health, and Women's Health Nursing. In addition to selecting an area of concentration, students may select

a functional area of study related to their area of specialization: Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, or Nurse Educator.

SOURCE: National Council of State Boards of Nursing, What is NCLEX? https://www.ncsbn.org/What_Is_NCLEX.pdf (visited October 27, 2010)

Legal Limitations for Nurse Licensure

Legislation regarding the Board of Nursing (SB 1096) became law, and was effective August 21, 1998. The law prohibits an individual convicted of a felony from applying for licensure or certification until five years after the date of absolute discharge of sentence. This means that all court-ordered terms of probation or parole must be completed at least five years prior to the date of application. If five years has not elapsed since the date of absolute discharge, the individual is not eligible to apply for licensure or certification and the application, if submitted, will be returned to the applicant. If five years or more has elapsed, the individual may apply for licensure or certification, however, each case will be considered by the Board on its own merits. The elapse of more than five years does not guarantee licensure or certification; it simply permits the submission and Board consideration of an application.

In addition, the Arizona State Board of Nursing may deny anyone for a license if the applicant has committed any acts of unprofessional conduct, such as those listed below. Contact the Arizona State Board of Nursing at 602-771-7800 if you have any questions concerning licensure.

- A. Committing fraud or deceit in obtaining, attempting to obtain, or renewing a license.
- B. Aiding or abetting in a criminal abortion or attempted, agreed, or offered to procure or assist in a criminal abortion.
- C. Any conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of a patient or the public.
- D. Addiction to alcohol or other drugs.
- E. Mentally incompetent or physically unsafe to a degree that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of a patient or the public.
- F. Having a license to practice practical or professional nursing denied, suspended, or revoked in another jurisdiction and not reinstated by that jurisdiction.
- G. Willfully or repeatedly violating a provision of this charter or a rule adopted pursuant to this chapter.
- H. Committing fraud or deceit in obtaining or attempting to obtain a registered nurse practitioner certificate.
- I. Committing an act that deceives, frauds, or harms the public.
- J. Failing to comply with a stipulated agreement, consent agreement, or Board order.
- K. Violating a rule adopted by the Board which relates to the practice of nursing.

Academic Advising for the TPCNP

Academic advising is recommended for all nursing students each semester, and is required for those with nursing advising holds or e-Advisor holds. For students who are not currently enrolled at ASU but plan to attend ASU, academic advising is *strongly* encouraged to ensure that students are following a course of study that will meet ASU requirements. These students are encouraged to seek advisement with a College of Nursing and Health Innovation academic advisor at least once a year. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule an appointment with an advisor. Walk-in advising is available at certain time during the year. To schedule an academic advising appointment or get information about walk-in advising, please call 602.496.0888.

Admissions to the Nursing Major

Our baccalaureate program is divided into two sections: the lower division, in which students complete critical courses, or prerequisites, and the upper division Traditional Pre-licensure Clinical Nursing Program (TPCNP).

Applications for admission to the University as a nursing major will be reviewed by the Nursing Admissions Committee. Students who are admitted to the nursing major at ASU will have guaranteed space in the TPCNP as long as Continuing Eligibility Criteria is maintained (see below). The criteria used for *consideration* for admission to the nursing major are:

- First time resident freshman: 3.00 ABOR GPA, and either a 1040 SAT or 22 ACT score, or in the top 25 percent of high school graduating class.
- First time non-resident resident freshman: 3.00 ABOR GPA, and either a 1110 SAT or 24 ACT score, or in the top 25 percent of high school graduating class.

Ideal candidates will have at least a 3.50 ABOR GPA, and either a 1200 SAT or 26 ACT, or in the top 10 percent of high school graduating class.

Students who are not admissible as a nursing major or who are not admitted by the Admission Committee will be given their second choice major or be admitted as Healthy Lifestyles Coaching majors. Students not admitted directly to the nursing may compete for any vacant seats that have not been filled by those who have guaranteed space (see Advancement: Competitive Application Pool below).

Progression: Continuing Eligibility Criteria

Students admitted to the TPCNP must meet set criteria to continue in this program:

- Earn grades of “B” or better in all prerequisite/critical courses, though one grade of “C” will be allowed
- Take a minimum of 11 prerequisite/critical courses at ASU (dual enrollment and AP credits will be included as part of the 11)
- Earn a minimum 3.50 cumulative ASU GPA each semester
- Earn a minimum 3.50 prerequisite GPA each semester
- Have a minimum 3.75 select GPA when ready to begin the TPCNP courses*
- Complete all screening items (valid, unrestricted fingerprint clearance card; CPR/BLS; immunizations; negative drug screen)

Have you considered a different major as “Plan B” in case you do not secure space in the TPCNP?

**Some “replacement courses” may be allowed in the prerequisite and select GPA. Policies regarding the number and type were changed in 2010. Students may discuss the new policy with their academic advisor.*

Students admitted to TPCNP who meet progression criteria and critical tracking requirements will then be assigned a space in the Clinical Nursing Program in the semester or term when they are ready, or as close to that term as possible. Students who do not meet Continuing Eligibility Criteria will no longer have a space in the program after the first semester in which they do not meet criteria. Students failing to meet the criteria for a second semester will be ineligible to remain in the nursing major. However, these students can change to another major within the College and compete for a space in the program through the Competitive Application Process (see below), if spaces are available.

Critical Courses/Prerequisites

There is sequential ordering of some prerequisite courses. BIO 201 is prerequisite to BIO202; CHM 101 is prerequisite to NTR 241 and MIC 205/206; mathematics (MA) is prerequisite to statistics; and, ENG 101 and 102 are prerequisite to HCR 210. All four lab-science courses (BIO 201, BIO 202, CHM 101, and MIC205/206) are prerequisite to HCR 240.

In the table below, enter the grade earned for each course completed in the 3rd column. Use the last column to indicate courses you are currently taking or will take in the future and enter the semester.

ASU Course	MCCCD Equivalents	Complete	To be Completed
BIO 201	BIO 201		
BIO 202	BIO 202		
CDE 232	CFS 205 (or PSY240 alternate)		
CHM 101	CHM 130/130L		
ENG 101 (“pass” grade if have degree)	ENG 101		
ENG 102 (“pass” grade if have degree)	ENG 102		
HCR 210	HCR 210		
HCR 220	HCR 220		
HCR 230	HCR 230		
HCR 240	HCR 240 (or HCR 240A/HCR 240B)		
MIC 205/206	BIO 205		
NTR 241	FON 241		
PGS 101	PSY 101		
MAT 142 (or higher)	MAT 142 (or higher)		
Statistics	PSY 230 or MAT 206 or GBS 221		
3-credit Elective	3-Credit Elective		
Humanities/Fine Arts or Social & Behavioral Science Course (HU or SB)	HU or SB		

Advancement: Competitive Application Process (CAP)

Students not subject to Continuing Eligibility Criteria interested in competing for a space in the TPCNP must apply to another major in the College (Exercise and Wellness, Health Sciences, Kinesiology, or Nutrition) while completing the prerequisite/critical courses and may then submit materials to be considered for the Competitive Application Process (CAP) to the TPCNP.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements to be in the Competitive Application Process

- Minimum of 3.25 Select GPA
- Minimum of 58.7 on the score on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS®)

The Select GPA and TEAS score will be used to rank students in the CAP from high to low. Nursing faculty may opt to use additional criteria in the selection process (e.g., resume or interview). Students highest on the list will be offered spaces in the TPCNP that remain after Continuing Eligibility Criteria students have been placed. Students not selected may choose to compete again in the next term, if space is available. There is no limit on the number of times students may compete; a waiting list will **not** be maintained.

Select GPA

For purposes of applying to the TPCNP, we will calculate a Select GPA based on the grades from 13 of the 17 critical courses. Plus (+) and minus (-) grade calculations will not be made either in the Select GPA (critical courses) or the total critical course requirement GPA (all 17 critical courses). Only whole grade points will be computed (A, B, and C grades NOT A-, B+, C- and so on). Grades earned in critical courses at ASU and at other colleges are given the same weight (no higher score for courses taken at ASU). The average Select GPA of those advanced in past cycles has consistently been above a 3.9.

The 13 critical courses used to compute the Select GPA must include:

- First-Year Composition courses—ENG 101 and ENG 102 or approved equivalent courses. Students who have already earned a baccalaureate degree may discuss with a College academic advisor the use of grades of “Pass” rather than letter grades for their first-year composition courses.
- Three of the four required lab science critical courses (BIO 201, BIO 202, CHM 101 and MIC 205/206 approved equivalent courses). Science

Calculating your Advancement Score:

Iowa State University offers a free GPA calculator on their Admissions website:
<http://www.registrar.iastate.edu/gpa-calc/gpaCalculator.html>

To estimate your select GPA using a GPA calculator:

1. Enter the course number (e.g., PGS 101) in the “Course” field. Only enter courses that are given a letter grade (no pass/fail or credit/no credit).
2. Enter the number of credits for the course and the letter grade earned for each course in the appropriate fields.
3. Use only whole grades without pluses and minuses (use “A,” “B,” “C,” etc., not A-, B+, etc.)

The total number of credits, GPA for the courses entered, and total quality points will appear at the bottom. You can reset the fields by clicking on the “Reset” button.

courses must have been taken within 7 years of the semester in which the TPCNP will start, unless approved by Standards Committee petition.

- Eight (8) additional critical courses.

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), Version V measures basic and essential skills in the academic content area of reading, mathematics, science and English and language usage. The test time limit is 209 minutes and consists of 170 multiple choice questions. The test structure is as follows:

Subject Area	Minutes	Questions
Reading	58	48
Mathematics	51	34
Science	66	54
English and Language Usage	34	34
Total	209	170

TEAS scores used for this application cycle must have been taken within one year of the application deadline. Students are allowed one retest during the application cycle if they score below 58.7% and took the test for the first time more than 30 days before the last available testing time in the application cycle. A score of 58.7% or higher on the first attempt means that you cannot retest during this application cycle.

TEAS scores are valid for one year. Scores received during one application cycle may be used in a subsequent application cycle at the student's discretion. Students must verify that the TEAS scores are on file in the Student Services Office.

Students are strongly encouraged to take the TEAS at ASU's University Testing and Scanning Services. The College of Nursing and Health Innovation faculty will be voting on a proposal to require students take the TEAS at ASU to be considered for advancement.

Additional Screening Items

Students seeking advancement to the TPCNP must provide proof of immunity to a number of viruses and diseases that could be contracted in clinical experiences, if advanced. Proof of immunity can be in the form of immunization records or results from titers (blood draws that show immunity).

Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR)

Students must provide proof of immunity through:

Positive titer results for Mumps, Rubella, and Rubeola (3 separate titers)

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Students fulfill the requirement by providing proof of a Varicella titer with positive results. A history of chicken pox does not constitute proof of immunity. Two vaccinations may be required for Varicella.

Hepatitis B (Hep B, HBV)

Students should provide immunity through positive titer results. Three (3) doses of Hepatitis B may be required.

Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td, Dt, Tdap, Adacel)

Students must provide proof of a tetanus/diphtheria immunization given within the last ten years. Students are required to keep this immunization current throughout the advancement consideration process and when enrolled in the TPCNP.

Tuberculin Skin Test (TB, PPD, Mantoux)

Students must provide proof of a TB skin test, with negative results, given within the last 12 months. Students with positive TB skin test results must follow up with their healthcare provider for assessment and follow-up treatment, if needed. Treatment must be initiated prior to enrollment in the TPCNP. *TB skin test results must be valid through the date when beginning the TPCNP.* Negative TB skin test or evidence of follow-up treatment is required every 12 months while participating in the TPCNP.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)/ Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification

Proof of CPR/BLS Health Care Provider Certification is required. Students are required to keep the CPR/BLS current throughout advancement consideration and when enrolled in the TPCNP.

Other Requirements

The requirements specified in this section affect student ability to progress in the TPCNP coursework, eligibility for clinical placement, and to ultimately to be licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN).

Fingerprint Clearance Requirement

Students must have an unrestricted, unexpired Fingerprint Clearance Card by the application deadline to be considered for advancement.

Fingerprint Clearance, in the form of a fingerprint clearance card, is required by Arizona State Law to work and care for children, the elderly and vulnerable adults. Fingerprint clearance is determined after a background screening process at both the state and federal level to check for criminal records. Students must have a valid, unrestricted fingerprint clearance card to advance to, and remain in, the Upper Division Nursing program. If you have concerns about a restriction, please call Arizona Department of Public Safety at (602) 223-2279.

Students in the TPCNP may be asked by faculty or healthcare providers at clinical sites to show their Fingerprint Clearance Card, and therefore must carry it with you to classes and clinical experiences.

Students are responsible for maintaining their own records of all required health, immunization and fingerprint clearance documentation and information. The Student Services Office is unable to provide students with copies of any of this documentation.

Federal and State Level Background Screening

Background checks will be managed by CertifiedBackground.com. Students must have an unrestricted security background check to advance to, and remain in, the TPCNP.

Lawful Presence

The College follows the Arizona State Board of Nursing policy regarding lawful presence in the United States. “On January 2, 2008, ARS 1-504 (HB2467) was implemented by the Board requiring **ALL** applicants to provide the Board with **satisfactory documentation** demonstrating the applicants’ citizenship, alien status, legal residency or lawful presence in the United States.”

<http://www.azbn.gov/Documents/Newsletters/2008/Journal%201st%20Quarter%202008.pdf>, page 23.

Drug Screen

Students advanced to the TPCNP must provide evidence of a negative drug/alcohol screen during the period identified by the Student Services Office.

Statement of Health Clearance

It is essential that College of Nursing and Health Innovation students be able to perform a number of physical and cognitive activities in the clinical portion of the program. At a minimum, students may be required to lift, stand for several hours at a time and perform bending activities. The clinical experience also places students under considerable mental and emotional stress as they undertake responsibilities and duties impacting patients' lives. Students must be able to demonstrate rational and appropriate behavior under stressful conditions. Students who have a chronic illness or condition must be maintained on current treatment and be able to implement direct patient care.

A health care provider must sign the Health Care Provider Signature Form within 6 months of application and indicate whether the applicant will be able to function as a nursing student. Health care providers who qualify to sign this declaration include a licensed physician (M.D., D.O.), a nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant.

Statement of Health Insurance Coverage

In order to complete clinical educational experiences at certain healthcare facilities, students are required to carry health insurance coverage.

The College of Nursing and Health Innovation does not require students to carry health insurance. However, if you do not have health insurance coverage, you may not complete clinical educational experiences at healthcare facilities that require health insurance coverage.

Students must state that they understand that it is their responsibility to notify the Student Services Office within 10 business day if their health insurance status changes.

*Tuition & Program Fees***

ASU tuition and fee schedules apply to students in the TPCNP. Tuition and fees are subject to change. Up-to-date information about cost is available at <http://students.asu.edu/costs>.

In addition to ASU tuition and fees, students in the TPCNP are required to pay ***\$1750 per semester in differential tuition and program fees.***

Scholarships

Scholarships are available for students interested in different aspects of nursing or who are from specific backgrounds. More information about scholarships may be found on the web at

<http://nursingandhealth.asu.edu/scholarships>

Traditional Pre-Licensure Clinical Program Deadlines

Program begins (Semester/Month)	Fall/August	Spring/January	Summer/May
Program Type	Traditional (24 Months)	Traditional (24 Months)	Year Round (16 Months)
Deadline to Submit Materials	February 1	September 1	February 1
13 of 17 Prerequisites completed	February 1	September 1	February 1
17 of 17 Prerequisites completed	May 15	December 31	May 15

Traditional Pre-licensure Clinical Program (TPCNP)

After students are advanced to the clinical nursing courses, they take a sequence of four terms. In each term students are enrolled in 7-8 credit hours of clinical or practice coursework, and approximately 8 hours of theory coursework. The four term sequence is planned in blocks.

The College of Nursing and Health Innovation is organized around two major clinical divisions: adult health/parent-child nursing and community mental health/psychiatric nursing. Theory and clinical courses are taught by faculty from these two divisions with opportunities for students to do clinical rotations in many areas of nursing. Clinical rotations provide experience in a range of nursing roles.

Curriculum

The College of Nursing and Health Innovation's philosophy and program completion objectives identify the necessary support linkages among the four major, multidimensional concepts emphasized within the programs, specifically, client, environment, health, and nursing.

From a nursing perspective, the client is viewed from a developmental and holistic approach. Nursing is an interactive process in which nurses collaborate with clients and other members of the health care disciplines in providing care to clients and in improving nursing and other health care services.

The TPCNP is divided into four semesters. In these four semesters, the student's curriculum is focused toward themes:

Junior 1	Junior 2	Senior 1	Senior 2
Health Integrity Health Promotion Wellness	Alterations in Health Integrity Illness Restoration	Health Integrity & Alterations Maintenance Management	Health Promotion Restoration Maintenance Leadership
Individuals	Individual & Family	Community & Groups	All

Sample TPCNP Schedule

The TPCNP at ASU is a highly intensive time commitment for students. Students take 16 credit hours per semester for four (4) semesters and there are numerous lab requirements within those credits. Junior 1 (first semester of the TPCNP) includes four courses. The curriculum is very rigorous and students are encouraged to limit employment to no more than 10 hours per week. Course scheduling will vary.

Typical weekly schedule for Junior 1 students:**

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:40-9:30	NUR 312: <i>Theory for Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 312: <i>Theory for Nursing Practice</i>	*NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>
9:40-10:30	NUR 330: <i>Professional Nurse Attributes</i>				NUR 330: <i>Professional Nurse Attributes</i>	
10:40-11:55	NUR 311: <i>Pharmacology</i>				NUR 311: <i>Pharmacology</i>	
Lunch						
Afternoon	*NUR 310/320 <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>	*NUR 310/320 <i>Nursing Practice</i>	
*Evening	NUR 310/320: <i>Nursing Practice</i>					

* Occasional Monday, Friday, Saturday and evenings will be required in the program.

** Course order subject to change.

Junior 2, Senior 1, and Senior 2 Semesters have a similar weekly schedule.

Options for Students Not Advanced to the TPCNP

Advancement to the TPCNP at ASU is highly competitive. Not all qualified students will be advanced. Early on, students are advised to think about a “Plan B” if they do not get advanced. We encourage students in this situation to meet with an academic advisor in the Undergraduate Student Academic Services Office (USASO) and to seek career advising.

One option available to students who are not advanced is to request advancement for the next term after earning higher grades in critical course replacements, if appropriate, and improving the TEAS score. When requesting advancement a subsequent time, all 17 of the critical requirements must be completed.

Some students opt to pursue a minor in a field of interest or in a field related to nursing while asking for advancement a subsequent time. Others may decide that nursing is not the right major for them and gather information on other majors.

Some students may opt to pursue an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing at a community college. Upon completion of the associate's degree and receiving RN licensure, these students may then decide to return to ASU for the RN to BSN program. The 35 credits of upper-division nursing coursework can be completed in as little as 18 months. Some students will need to allow additional time to complete upper-division General Studies requirements before enrolling in the RN-BSN coursework.

Does the Traditional Pre-licensure Clinical Nursing Program at ASU sound like the right program for you? _____

If you do get secure a seat in the TPCNP, what are back-up plans (Plan B, Plan C) have you identified?

Important CONTACT Information

College of Nursing and Health Innovation (CONHI)

500 N. 3rd St.

Phoenix, AZ 85004

<http://nursingandhealth.asu.edu/>

College Undergraduate Student Academic Services Office (USASO)

Cheryl Herrera, Director

502 E. Monroe Street, Suite C-250

Phoenix, AZ 85004

602.496.0888

602.496.0705 fax

Baccalaureate Nursing Programs Office

Dr. Brenda Morris, Senior Director

500 N. 3rd St.

Phoenix, AZ 85004

602.496.0852

ASU Enrollment Services

411 N. Central Avenue, Suite 166

Phoenix, AZ 85004-2120

602.496.4372

