

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services
Procedure for Application & Admission to the Nursing Program

ADMISSION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

Students must have met the following criteria:

- **Qualifying cumulative GPA of 2.5 (Based on your most recent transcript with 12 or more units)**
- **Complete BIO 11, BIO 12, BIO 15 and English 1A or the equivalent with a grade of “C” or better**
- **Be at least 18 years of age at the time of admission**
- **Be in adequate health to perform the duties of a nurse. The student must have a physical examination within three months of the date of admission into the nursing program.**
- **Complete personal background check per program policy at least one month prior to entry.**
- **Pass the TEAS test after invitation into program, but before enrollment. If remediation is necessary, student will have one year to complete remediation and re-take the test for admission**

Students will be selected for admission from the application pool according to the following process:

- Approximately 25% of the students who have applied and are qualified for admission to the nursing program will be admitted by lottery.
- Approximately 75% of the students who have applied and are qualified for admission to the nursing program will be admitted by Academic Scoring System.

PRIOR TO APPLICATION TO THE NURSING PROGRAM

- Read the **Saddleback College Catalog** sections dealing with matriculation services, academic regulations, graduation requirements, and the Associate Degree nursing program. Catalogs are available for student review in Counseling, the Library, and are available for purchase at the **College Bookstore** (949-582-4715).
- Attend a **nursing information session** sponsored by the Division of Health Sciences. There are usually 2 sessions per semester. Dates are published on the website, www.saddleback.edu/hs/rn
- It is strongly recommended that students attend one of the information sessions, **but not mandatory**.
- If you are not a student at Saddleback College or IVC, complete an Application Form to the college, available on the website or personally in Admissions and Records. You will need a student ID to apply to the nursing program.

PRIOR TO ENTRY INTO THE PROGRAM

- You may want to make an appointment with a counselor in **Counseling Services** (949-582-4572) to determine the status of **non-nursing courses completed elsewhere**. If you have taken additional courses since applying to the nursing program, bring the updated official transcripts to your counseling appointment. Matriculation testing should be taken as soon as possible so that English & Math

placement can be determined and that any suggested remediation can be completed prior to entry into the nursing program. An Education Plan may be completed at this time.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY TO THE NURSING PROGRAM OCCURS WITH:

- Completion with a grade of “C” or better all of the following pre-requisites: BIO 11, BIO 12, BIO 15 and English 1A or the equivalent.
- Qualifying cumulative GPA of 2.5 **based on your most recent transcript with 12 or more units.**
- Passing the TEAS test at or above the designated cut score of 67% or higher. Students taking the TEAS test at other schools prior to invitation into Saddleback College Nursing Program will only be allowed to submit their first score for admission.
- Application deadlines: June 15-30 for Spring entry, and February 11-28, 2010 for Fall entry. If the last day falls on a weekend or holiday, then the deadline is the following business day. **No applications are accepted on the weekends or holidays. Please note: February 12 & February 15, 2010 are school holidays and applications will not be accepted on those days. All applications must be hand delivered to the Health Science Division Office, HS 235. You may have someone else deliver the application for you if you are unable to do so.**
- It is advisable to keep an unofficial copy of transcripts for your personal use. Official transcripts must be received by the date of application. Otherwise, the application will be considered ineligible.
- **If subsequent applications are submitted, updated transcripts must be indicated on the new application. Transcripts for courses taken at other colleges after a nursing program application has been submitted should be sent directly to the Saddleback College Office of Admissions & Records, Attention Nursing Transcript Evaluator.**
- The Nursing Program is impacted, therefore, we will not be accepting international students with student F-1 visas into the program.

Counseling and Admissions & Records evaluate the applications to verify qualifying cumulative GPA and prerequisite courses.

Qualified applicants will be ranked by academic score from the application pool.

ACCEPTING OR DECLINING ADMISSION

Students will be notified approximately May 15 for Fall admission and September 15 for Spring admission. Students must accept or decline admission within 2 weeks as indicated in the letter.

Academic Score System

The Academic Score System is a numerical ranking based upon grades earned in pre-requisite science courses and qualifying GPA from most recent transcript with 12 or more units. All eligible students in the application pool will receive an academic score.

75% of the students will be admitted from highest ranking to lowest ranking academic score. In the event that multiple students have the same score, ranking will be based on the number of required core nursing courses completed. 25% of the students will be admitted by lottery.

Only official transcripts on record are included in the academic scoring at the time of application. **Eligible courses from other colleges will only be considered if official transcripts have been received. There will be no exceptions. Work in progress will not be included or considered. Transcripts become the property of the college.**

The following are eligible for the Academic Score System:

- BIO 11 Human Anatomy (4 units)
- BIO 12 Human Physiology (4 units)
- BIO 15 General Microbiology (5 units)
- GPA from the most recent transcript with at least 12 units or more

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

It is to the student's advantage to complete Gerontology 101, N 160 Pharmacology and, N161 Growth and Development before entering the program as these are required courses. Otherwise, these must be completed during the 1st and second semesters as indicated in the curriculum.

The **expenses** for the **first** semester nursing student average \$2500 or more. Students in need of **financial assistance** should **immediately** contact the **Saddleback College Financial Aid Office** (949-582-4860). Scholarships are available for nursing students once they have been admitted to the program. At the completion of the program, the cost for the Board of Registered Nursing application, Licensure exam, Interim Permit and RN License is approximately \$400 or more. Personal background checks cost between \$50-70.

The following immunizations/titers are required before enrolling in the nursing classes: Measles, Rubella, Varicella, TB skin test and Td(tetanus toxoid diphtheria). Flu Shot and Hepatitis B are recommended. If flu shot or Hepatitis B is declined, the student must sign a declination form.

Students who have been **convicted of a misdemeanor or felony** are required to disclose this information on their application to take the RN licensure exam. A conviction may affect your eligibility to take this exam. In the State of California, a convicted child abuser will never be allowed to obtain a RN license. Students who have concerns about these circumstances should contact the **Board of Registered Nursing** (916-322-3350) **before** starting the nursing program.

Students who are known to be a current child, spouse or elder abuser, or known to be dealing drugs, will not be admitted into the program. Students in the program who are found to be a current child, spouse or elder abuser, or found to be dealing drugs may not remain in the nursing program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR RN LICENSURE EXAM

In order to take the NCLEX-RN licensure exam, one of the following curriculum options must be completed:

1. Associate Degree in Nursing (graduate)

- Prerequisite courses
- Required core courses
- General education requirements

2. Registered Nurse Certificate (non-graduate)

- Prerequisite courses
- Required core courses

Students who complete only the registered nurse certificate will take the NCLEX-RN as a non-graduate. Some states require an Associate Degree ("graduate") status before allowing licensure by reciprocity. ***In other words, non-graduates may not be allowed to practice nursing as an RN in another state with their California license.*** For that reason, completion of the associate degree in nursing is highly recommended.

Saddleback College
Division of Health Sciences and Human Services
ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM CURRICULUM

PREREQUISITE COURSES

| Course ID | Title | Units |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| BIO 11 | Human Anatomy | 4 |
| BIO 15 | General Microbiology | 5 |
| BIO 12 | Human Physiology** | 4 |
| ENG 1A | English 1A | 3 |
| Total Units | | 16 |

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (Effective August 2007)

| Sem | Course ID | Title | Units |
|--------------------|--------------|--|----------------------|
| I | • N 160 * | Pharmacology | 2.50 |
| | • GERO 101 * | Lifecycle I: Fundamentals of Aging | 1.50 |
| | • N 170 | <i>Nursing Process</i> | 7.75 |
| | • N 171 | <i>Mental Health Nursing</i> | <u>3.00</u> 14.75 |
| II | • PSYC 1 * | Introduction to Psychology | 3.00 |
| | • N 161 * | Lifecycle II: Growth & Development | 1.50 |
| | • N 172 | <i>Medical-Surgical Nursing</i> | <u>8.75</u> 13.25 |
| III | • N 173 | <i>Nursing Care of Children & Families</i> | 3.50 |
| | • N 174 | <i>Women's Health Nursing</i> | <u>3.50</u> 7.00 |
| IV | • SP 1(or) * | Communication Fundamentals (or) | 3.00 |
| | SP 5 | Interpersonal Communication | |
| | • N 176 | <i>Advanced Nursing</i> | <u>8.00</u> 11.00 |
| Total Units | | | 46.00 |

RECOMMENDED COURSES

| Course ID | Title |
|-----------|--|
| FN 161 | Nutrition for Health Occupations |
| FN 50 | Fundamentals of Nutrition |
| N 263 | Skills Lab Basic |
| HSC 228 | Calculations for Medication Administration |
| N 245 | IV Therapy Techniques for Nurses |
| HSC 217 | Cardiac Dysrhythmias |
| HSC 226 | Advanced Cardiac Life Support |
| HSC 102 | Comprehensive Health Assessment |
| SE 101 | Introduction to Therapy & Rehabilitation |

* Course can be taken prior to entry into the program

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| American Institutions | 3 | units |
| Fine Arts and Humanities (1 course each from Group A and Group B) (Cultural Diversity requirement should be chosen from one of these two courses) | 6 | units |
| Life Skills | Waived | |
| Survey and Assessment of Fitness (KNES 107) | <u>1</u> | units |
| | Total | 10 units |
| Demonstration of Mathematics and Reading Competency required as listed in the College Catalog. Information Competency for Nursing is met with N176. Effective Fall 2009, one Math class beyond Beginning Algebra (Math 251) will be required unless Math 251 was completed summer 2009 or earlier. | | |

NOTE: N160, N161, N170-N176, and GERO 101 must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better prior to or concurrent with the semester for which they are listed.

****Human Physiology must have been completed within the last 7 years.**

Note: If Psych 7 was taken prior to August 2007, it will be grandfathered into the program as a substitute for N161.