



College of Health, Education and
Social Transformation
School of Nursing - MSC 3185
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-3812
nursing@nmsu.edu

PRE-NURSING 3-SEMESTER DEGREE PLAN AND BSN PROGRAM ADMISSION POLICIES

OVERVIEW

- The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is a four (4) year, 124-125 credit hour degree plan.
- Students can expect to complete at least three semesters of pre-requisite coursework prior to starting the five (5) semester nursing program.
- Students will be designated as 'pre-nursing' until they are admitted to the BSN program.

PRE-NURSING GRADE POLICIES

- Pre-nursing students must achieve a grade of 'C-' or higher in all nursing pre-requisite and general education courses.
- Students can repeat a nursing pre-requisite course **one time** for a grade replacement; however, a repeated course does not count towards the minimum 15-credits required to retain institutional merit-based scholarships. It is recommended that students repeating a nursing pre-requisite course for GPA calculations do so in the summer so that their 15-credit minimum registration for financial aid is not affected. Alternatively, there may be equivalent courses that a student could take for a grade replacement. Please contact your pre-nursing advisor or the SON Advising Office for more information.
- Grades will be averaged for all repeated courses beyond the first.
- Science and Statistics classes can be no older than 7 years at the time of application.

BSN PROGRAM ADMISSION POLICIES

- Applicants must achieve a minimum nursing pre-requisite GPA of 2.75 in order to be eligible to apply to the BSN program. (Note: The GPA of accepted students is generally higher than this minimum.)
- Applicants must achieve a minimum of 75% on all required sections of the HESI A2 Admission Assessment. (Note: The HESI A2 scores of accepted students are generally higher than this minimum.) A maximum of 2 attempts is allowed per application cycle. If a student fails the HESI exam four times, they will be required to complete targeted remediation on the Science and/or Math sections that were not passed. Exam scores are valid for ONE semester. The HESI A2 exam should be taken at least 1 month before the application deadline (see below).
- When you are registered in your last semester of pre-requisite courses, contact the School of Nursing Advising Office at nursing@nmsu.edu to confirm your eligibility to apply, and to request a BSN program application and instructions for taking the HESI A2 exam.
- Admission to the BSN program is a competitive process and is based on ranked admission scores.

The NMSU BSN Program Admission Score* is calculated as follows:

Nursing Program Pre-requisite Course GPA	40%
HESI A2 Admission Assessment Score	50%
New Mexico residents, military students, 135 Mile Out-of-State Tuition Discount for Texas resident	2%
Four (4) or more pre-requisite courses taken at NMSU	3%
Admission Essay Score	5%

*BSN program admission score calculations are subject to change.

PRE-NURSING STUDENT ADVISING AND COMMUNICATION

- Pre-nursing student advising is provided through the NMSU Center for Academic Advising and Student Support (CAASS).
- Students should meet with their pre-nursing advisor each semester.
- Please update any changes in your contact information in [myNMSU](https://myNMSU.edu) to ensure that you receive important communications about the BSN program.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING YOUR NURSING APPLICATION ARE:

APRIL 1st FOR FALL SEMESTER ADMISSION

SEPTEMBER 1ST FOR SPRING SEMESTER ADMISSION

SCHOOL OF NURSING ADVISING OFFICE

575-646-7311

nursing@nmsu.edu

2026-2027 PRE-NURSING GUIDELINES

The Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN) is a four-year, 124-125 credit hour degree program. Admission to the BSN program is competitive and based on cumulative GPAs in nursing prerequisite courses and HESI A2 exam scores. Pre-Nursing students should plan to complete their prerequisite coursework over a minimum of three semesters.

Students are required to meet with their academic advisor each semester. For students needing to improve their GPA, any prerequisite course may be repeated once, and only the highest grade will be counted. Students are responsible for understanding their degree plan, scheduling meetings with their advisor prior to early registration, registering for classes on the designated day, and keeping their NMSU account address and phone number(s) current.

Students who are near completion of their prerequisites can request a BSN program application and information about the HESI from the Nursing Advising Office via e-mail at nursing@nmsu.edu. Please include your Aggie ID in any communications. Eligibility will be confirmed before an application is given out.

PRE-NURSING REQUIREMENTS

SEMESTER 1 17 cr.

*ENGL 1110G Rhetoric/Composition	4 cr.
*MATH 1220G College Algebra	3 cr.
*CHEM 1120G Applied Chemistry & lab (preferred) or CHEM 1215G General Chemistry I	4 cr.
PSYC 1110G Introduction to Psychology	3 cr.
NUTR 2110 Human Nutrition	3cr

SEMESTER 2 17 cr.

*ENGL 2210G Professional & Technical Communic.	3 cr.
*CEPY 1120G Human Growth and Behavior	3 cr.
SPMD 2210/2210L Anat. Phys. I & lab	4 cr.
MATH 1350G or A ST 311 Stat. Applic.	3 cr.
BIOL 2110G/2110L Cellular Biology & Lab	4 cr.

SEMESTER 3 18 cr.

COMM 1115G or COMM 1130 Oral Comm.	3 cr.
SPMD 2225/2225L Anat. & Phys. II & lab	4 cr.
BIOL 2320 or BIOL 311 Microbiology	3 cr.
BIOL 311L Microbiology Lab	2 cr.
**Area VI Creative & Fine Arts	3 cr.
**Area V Humanities	3 cr.

An alternative 4-semester prerequisite degree plan is available upon request.

*See the updated 2026-2027 NMSU Catalog - Nursing Roadmap for equivalent course options.

****These classes are not included in the Prerequisite GPA**

Pre-Nursing students are eligible to submit an application to the BSN program if they have:

- A 'C-' grade or better in all nursing pre-requisite and general education courses.
- **A minimum GPA of 2.75** in nursing prerequisite courses
- **HESI A2 Admission Assessment** scores of 75% in each required section (**BIOLOGY, MATH, CHEMISTRY, ENGLISH**)
- Note: Pre-nursing GPA and HESI scores for accepted students is generally higher than the minimum requirement

Deadlines for submitting an application to the BSN program are:

- **April 1st** for fall semester admission
- **September 1st** for spring semester admission

BSN CORE CURRICULUM

SEMESTER 4 – BSN Level 1 14 cr.

NURS 3110 Human Pathophysiology Found. for Nursing	4 cr.
NMNC 3110 Intro. to Nursing Concepts	3 cr.
NMNC 3135 Princ. of Nursing Practice	4 cr.
NMNC 3120 (Evidence Based Practice	3 cr.

SEMESTER 5 – BSN Level 2 16 cr.

NMNC 3210 Health & Illness Concepts I	3 cr.
NMNC 3220 Health Care Participant	3 cr.
NMNC 3230 Nursing Pharmacology	3 cr.
NMNC 3235 Assessment & Health Promotion	4 cr.
Viewing a Wider World (special list)	3 cr.

SEMESTER 6 – BSN Level 3 13 cr.

NMNC 4310 Health & Illness Conc. II	3 cr.
NMNC 4320 Prof. Nursing Concepts I	3 cr.
NMNC 4335 Patients w/ Chronic Conditions	4 cr.
Viewing a Wider World (special list)	3 cr.

SEMESTER 7 – BSN Level 4 15 cr.

NMNC 4410 Health & Illness Conc. III	4 cr.
NMNC 4435 Clinical Intensive I	4 cr.
NMNC 4445 Clinical Intensive II	4 cr.
Approved Nursing Elective from Special List	3 cr.

SEMESTER 8 – BSN Level 5 14 cr.

NMNC 4510 Concept Synthesis	3 cr.
NMNC 4520 Prof. Nursing Concepts II	3 cr.
NMNC 4535 Clinical Intensive III	4 cr.
NMNC 4545 Capstone	4 cr.

Pre-Nursing Advising

Appointments:

Center for Academic Advising
 & Student Support
 575-646-2941

Educational Resource Building

For Applications & HESI Exam

Info: School of Nursing Advising
 Office, 575-646-7311, Health &
 Social Services Bldg., Suite 110
nursing@nmsu.edu

Total Credits: 124-125 (NURS courses only: 66 credits)
 With the exception of NURS 110, 155, and 328, NURS courses are
 only open to those admitted to the BSN Degree Prog

(Revised 04/14/2026)