

Policy S-3.01
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF NURSING

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TITLE: **ADMISSION TO MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM**

POLICY: The Academic Affairs Committee reviews admission criteria annually and advises the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs (ADSA) on admission policy. Data on all applicants are compiled by the Office for Academic and Student Affairs (OASA).

RATIONALE: The College of Nursing must screen applicants and control admission in order to select appropriate candidates and to ensure adequate resources (e.g., faculty and clinical placements) for the delivery of high quality nursing education. Applicants are selected based upon criteria that demonstrate the best potential for success in the program.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION:

The following criteria will be utilized in the process of admission to Master of Science in Nursing Program:

General Criteria:

1. A score of 500 or higher on each of the verbal and quantitative sections in the prior version of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. In the new version of the GRE a minimum score of 153 in the verbal section and 144 in the quantitative section.
2. Completion of the GRE Analytical Writing Measure is optional.
3. Current licensure (or eligibility) as a Registered Nurse in the State of Florida.
4. A baccalaureate degree in nursing from a CCNE or NLN accredited program.
5. An upper division nursing major GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
6. International students or students whose native language is not English are required to pass one of the following tests with a satisfactory score of:
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):
 - Computer-based: 213
 - Paper-based: 550
 - Web-based: 80
 - iBT Speaking Component: 26
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS):
 - Overall score: 6.5
 - Speaking component: 7
 - Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB):
 - Overall score: 79
 - Successful completion of the University of Florida English Language Institute Program

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7. International students or students whose native language is not English with unsatisfactory scores on the TOEFL and TOEFL iBT Speaking Component, IELTS, or MELAB; unsuccessful completion of the UF English Language Institute Program; or an unacceptable score on the verbal part of the GRE must achieve an acceptable score on an essay administered by the Academic Written English Program at UF.
- 8.
9. Students must either be a U.S. citizen, legal U.S. resident or hold a valid visa.

Additional Requirements:

1. Two letters of recommendation- one clinical and one academic.
2. A 1-2 page (double-spaced) statement to include expectations of the program and anticipated goals for graduate education.
3. Personal Data Record
4. Resume/curriculum vitae
5. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

PROCEDURE:

Applications will be screened by the OASA. Applicants meeting all criteria and requirements will be recommended for admission on a space-available basis, pending a review by the Track Coordinator.

1. Deadline for completion of applicant file is March 15 and September 15 for currently enrolled Accelerated BSN students for a Spring start date. Applications will be accepted after March 15 on a space-available basis.
2. Applicants will be rank-ordered according to selection criteria, and this order will be considered in determining admission should there be more qualified applicants than spaces available.
3. Students who do not meet the stated criteria but have a minimum of 420 in each category of the prior form of the GRE or a minimum of 148 Verbal and a 140 Quantitative in the current form of the GRE and have a minimum of 3.00 in their upper-division nursing GPA will be sent a Petition Form (Attachment #1) which will be reviewed by the Graduate Admission Advisory Committee using the Petition Review Form (Attachment #2).
4. Successful applicants are recommended to the Dean of the College of Nursing for admission, and all applicants are informed in writing of the outcome.
5. Applicants admitted based upon Petition Review will be admitted on a conditional basis, which will be stipulated in the admission letter.

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Review or Approval Authority	Responsible Party	Initial Approval / Review	Most Recent Approval / Review of Changes	Editorial Changes	Policy A-01 Review
Approval	Academic Affairs Committee*	04/05	5/14		5/14
Review	Leadership Council	05/05	5/14		
Approval	General Faculty	05/05	5/14		
Approval	Dean	06/05	5/14		

***Bold = committee responsible for A-01 review**

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Attachment #1

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Petition Form - MSN

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

To petition for consideration of admission, respond to the questions listed and submit this form to the College of Nursing Office of Academic and Student Affairs.

1. List all previous work experience:

2. Describe your leadership/volunteer experiences related to the Nursing Profession:

3. Are you the first generation of your family to attend college?

4. List any college or university awards, honors, or scholarships you have received:

5. Are you a member of a group under-represented in the nursing profession? If yes, please explain.

6. Describe your expectations of the MSN program and anticipated goals for graduate education (300 – 500 words).