

Policy Title: MSN Student Admission

Policy

Minimum admission requirements for the graduate program are established by the faculty of the School of Nursing. The number of graduate students admitted each semester is determined by availability of appropriate qualified faculty and/or clinical resources. Applicants are reviewed on an individual basis.

- I. Criteria for Admission: Criteria have been established against which each applicant is evaluated. The ultimate purpose is to predict potential to succeed at the graduate level. Categories of admission are determined by how an applicant meets criteria for: (A) Full Admission Status; (B) Conditional Admission Status; (C) Provisional Admission Status; and (D) Non-degree Admission Status.

- A. Full Admission Status

1. A baccalaureate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited program.
2. Evidence of current licensure as a registered nurse that is valid in the State of Texas.
3. Grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 point scale in upper-division nursing and/or graduate courses.
4. A combined minimum score of 1000 on the Verbal and Quantitative sections and a minimum score of 3.0 on the written section of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or a minimum score of 400 on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). Scores may not be more than 10 years old. GRE and MAT scores may be waived for applicants who have completed a prior Masters degree.
 - Nurse Anesthesia criteria - A score of 500 or greater on each of the Verbal and Quantitative sections and a minimum score of 3.5 on the written section of the Graduate Record Examination or a minimum score of 400 on the Miller Analogies Test.
5. Satisfactory academic and professional references.
6. Appropriate work experience as defined by individual clinical track directors.
7. Interview, if applicable.

- B. Conditional Admission Status

Conditional admission may be granted for one or more of the following limitations:

1. A Bachelor of Science degree from a nursing school which is not

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accredited by a national accrediting organization.

2. A grade point average below 3.0 on a 4.0 point system.
3. A combined Graduate Record Examination score less than 1000 on the Verbal or Quantitative sections and a score less than 3.0 on the written section or a Miller Analogies Test score less than 400.

Students admitted conditionally may convert to full admission status after maintaining at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average during the first nine semester hours of the program. Students failing to meet this requirement may not be allowed to progress.

C. Provisional Admission Status

Provisional admission may be granted for the following reasons:

1. Applicant has not submitted official copies of documents such as transcripts, GRE or MAT scores, TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score (if applicable), and/or nursing license valid in the State of Texas.
2. Applicant has not completed a basic statistics course.

The student is required to meet the requirements of provisional admission during the first term of enrollment.

D. Non-Degree Admission Status

The non-degree admission category is for those post-baccalaureate students who wish to take courses without seeking a degree and for those who are seeking a post-masters completion certificate. The post-baccalaureate student may apply for full admission to the next entering class at any point during enrollment as a non-degree seeking student. Having met the criteria for full admission, a student may petition the Masters Degree Council for a maximum of 11 semester hours of course work completed as a non-degree-seeking student with a grade of B or better to be applied to course requirements of the graduate degree-seeking programs.

Non-degree-seeking students are allowed to take only the following courses: N5501 Theory (2 hrs); N6102 Information Systems (1 hr); N5506 Statistics (2 hrs); N6151 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 hrs); and N6101 Clinical and Epidemiologic Research (3 hrs).

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Information regarding requirements for the post masters' completion certificate may be found in MSN Policy G5000.