Frequently Asked Questions

In an effort to make some of the information commonly asked for readily available 24 hours a day, we have compiled some of the most frequently asked questions. If you do not see your answer here, please feel free to contact us.

**How high does my grade point average (GPA) have to be to get into the nursing program?**
Admission to the nursing program is academically competitive and will be based on academic qualifications. Achievement of the minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the program. The first step in the admission process will be evaluation of a student’s overall grade point average (all attempts at all courses). A student whose overall grade point average is 2.50 or higher will progress in the acceptance process and have a nursing grade point average calculated (all attempts at core courses applicable to the nursing program). A student whose overall and nursing grade point average is a 2.50 or higher will be conditionally accepted. A student whose overall and/or nursing grade point average is below a 2.50 will be denied acceptance to the program. A student must achieve a minimum grade of a C in all core courses applicable to the nursing program. When space limits the acceptance of all qualified applicants, those meeting the minimum requirements will be ranked according to their nursing grade point average (any attempt at the core courses applicable to the nursing curriculum). This ranking will determine admission status.

**What are the requirements for the Generic track nursing program?**
A student is eligible to enter the Generic Track after successful completion with a C or better: Composition I, Introduction to General Psychology, Quantitative Reasoning OR College Algebra, Pharmacology for Health Professions, Human Anatomy & Physiology I and corresponding lab and Anatomy & Physiology II and the corresponding lab. Other core course requirements can be successfully completed along with the nursing sequence.

**If I failed out of another nursing program am I eligible for ABAC’s Nursing Program?**
Students with 2 failures in nursing courses from other nursing programs will be ineligible for ABAC’s nursing program. Failures older than 5 years will be considered on an individual basis.

**When should I take PNUR 1104 (Pharmacology for Health Professions)?**
This class is good for only one year and must be completed with a C or better one semester before you plan to enter nursing. It is suggested that the first anatomy and physiology (BIOL 2011 & BIOL 2011L) be taken before
PNUR 1104. The on-line PNUR 1104 is suggested ONLY for students with a prior health care background. PNUR 1104 must be taken at ABAC and can be repeated one time only.

What is the most common reason an applicant is not accepted into the nursing program?
A low grade point average or failure of a required core course. It is suggested that if a student is not accepted for the semester that they apply they should meet with his/her advisor to plan courses to take to bring up his/her G.P.A.

Once admitted into nursing what grades does the student have to achieve to stay in the program?
To exit a nursing course the student must achieve a minimum grade of a C (which is a 75 average for nursing and PNUR 1104 classes). In addition, the student must maintain a minimum G.P.A of 2.0 to stay in the program.

When does clinical begin?
Clinical activities begin in the first semester of nursing. Students are assigned to hospitals throughout the area for clinical experiences supervised by clinical instructors. A variety of locations, shifts and activities are planned to enhance the overall experience for the student. Students are assigned a clinical rotation. Special accommodations due to work schedules, family responsibilities, and childcare cannot be made due to large student numbers.

What is the typical schedule for a Generic Track nursing student?
During the first semester of nursing, class is two one-half days per week. Skills labs are required for both nursing classes along with one-half day of clinical. For the second semester, the student has two-half days of class and one eight-hour day of clinical and one skills lab per week. Beginning with the sophomore year, the student has class two half-days per week and clinical one eight hour day per week. Psychiatric clinical experiences occur randomly throughout the sophomore year on dates announced at the beginning of the semester. The final semester of nursing the student has class two half days per week and eight hours of clinical two days per week. Students should plan on attending class, skills labs, and clinical activities from four to five days per week.

Can I go full-time or do I need to get my entire core out of the way and then take only the nursing courses?
A student may complete all core classes before entering the nursing program. All core classes are not required before entering the generic nursing program. All core classes are required before entering the One Year Registered Nurse Nursing Program.
Who is eligible for the One Year Registered Nurse program?  This is a bridge program for students with prior health related degrees. A student with a degree from an accredited institution and who hold a license or certification as a practical nurse, paramedic, surgical technician, cardiovascular technician, and respiratory therapist is eligible.

What will happen if I do not submit my nursing application by the posted deadline dates?  A student must gain acceptance to the college prior to completing the online nursing application. The student’s ABAC ID number (918#) and stallion email address is needed to properly completed the application. An application without this information will be discarded. A student who applied after the deadline dates will have their application placed with the next available semester’s applications.

When will I know if I am accepted into the nursing program?  After the application deadline all applications are preliminarily reviewed. If the student appears to be working toward the minimum requirements, a conditional accept letter is mailed. If a student does not meet or in not in process of meeting the minimum requirements, a denial letter is mailed. All full accept letters are mailed at the end of the semester prior to the semester of application.

Should I apply to nursing although I will not have my core course work completed by the deadline date? Yes.  Student must apply by the deadline date even if course work is still in progress. Preliminary letters are mailed based on continued work toward meeting the requirements. The final class is not selected until the end of the semester prior to the expected program start.