SCHOOL OF NURSING

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING

APPLICATION PACKET

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EKU School of Nursing
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Program
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EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF NURSING
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

APPLICATION INFORMATION - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING

All students who are accepted by the Eastern Kentucky University's Admission Office and declare their major as (pre-nursing AASN) are admitted to the University as a pre-associate of applied science in nursing major. However, students must also complete a School of Nursing online application to the AASN program at https://success.eku.edu/portal/aasn_login. Admission to the University does not guarantee admission to the AASN program. Students who desire admission to the AASN program should submit an online *Application for Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Admission* by **May 15** for Fall admission and **October 31** for Spring admission. A minimum EKU GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale is required for admission to the AASN program.

Additional admission criteria includes the completion of the HESI A2 Test and completion of all requirements in CastleBranch by May 15 for Fall Admission and October 31 for Spring Admission. **Completion of eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission to the AASN program.** Admission to the AASN program is competitive and based on review of the applicant's academic history. **Spaces are limited and the most qualified applicants will be selected for admission.**

TRANSFERS FROM OTHER NURSING PROGRAMS

Transfer students must apply for admission to the University and declare Pre-Associate of Applied Science in Nursing as their major. In addition to the official transcripts which are sent to EKU's Admissions Office, **transfer students must also submit copies of all transcripts to the School Chair for review.** These transcripts will be considered part of the application process and are necessary to determine admission and placement.

Students wishing to transfer nursing courses from another accredited nursing program must have a minimum grade equivalent of a 2.0 (C) or the program's passing grade in any nursing or support course to be transferred. In addition, the applicant must submit complete course outlines and/or syllabi for nursing courses to the School Chair for review and consideration for approval. This material should be submitted well in advance of expected matriculation in order to provide time for necessary evaluation.

Transfer students who have been enrolled in nursing courses in another nursing program must also submit through the online AASN application portal *Applicant from Another Nursing Program* form and a *Nursing School Director Reference* form from all accredited nursing programs in which the student was previously enrolled. All students who wish to transfer and have had previous enrollment in nursing courses at another accredited nursing program must apply through the Admission/Readmission Committee.

If an applicant is not admitted and desires to be considered for admission to a subsequent semester, a new application must be completed and returned.

An exception related to the application deadline must be approved by the School of Nursing Chair. **An application for admission is considered incomplete unless all required documentation has been submitted. Incomplete applications are not reviewed for admission. In addition, applicants must meet clinical agency placement requirements.**

In addition to the academic criteria required for admission, the applicant must meet the standards written into the Commonwealth of Kentucky Nurse Practice Act. Specifically, the Nurse Practice Act requires that each student be of good moral and ethical character, good mental and physical health, and be academically qualified to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a person licensed to practice as a professional nurse. Applicants for nursing programs should review licensure information posted on the Kentucky Board of Nursing website.

CLINICAL POLICY
REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR CLINICAL/CLINICAL AGENCY PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree

All students must submit evidence of compliance with immunization requirements, screenings, CPR training, background check, drug screening, and health insurance certificate/letter of coverage with application for admission to the clinical nursing sequence (see Admission and Progression policies for pre-licensure and registered nurse students). **All records must remain current and cannot lapse anytime during the semester in which the student is enrolled in a clinical nursing course.** It is the **student's responsibility** to submit renewal documentation prior to expiration. Failure to do so will result in the student not being eligible to continue in the nursing program. **Students progressing in the program who do not meet these requirements are subject to disenrollment from their clinical nursing courses.** All students must also submit evidence of professional liability insurance, purchased through EKU, while enrolled in clinical nursing courses. Clinical documents verifying compliance with immunizations, tuberculosis screening, CPR, personal health insurance coverage, urine drug screening, background check and other requirements must be submitted to CastleBranch before admission to clinical. It is the **student's responsibility** to provide updates as indicated. The following is a list of specific requirements:

IMMUNIZATIONS & TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING

1. Tuberculosis Screening
    a. An initial two-step TB skin test, or TB blood test, is required before beginning the clinical nursing sequence.
        i. In a two-step procedure, a person is given a baseline PPD test. If the test is negative, a second test is administered one to three weeks later. If the second test is negative, the person is considered uninfected. A positive test indicates the need for further screening. **The students must specify they are requesting the two-step PPD when they initiate the testing procedure.**
        ii. TB blood tests are acceptable and will satisfy the two-step TB screening requirement. Acceptable blood tests are QuantiFERON-TB Gold or T-SPOT TB test.
    b. Students who have completed the initial two-step screening or initial TB blood test, must submit documentation of an annual negative one-step PPD skin test.
    c. If the PPD skin test is positive, or if a PPD is contraindicated, further evaluation is necessary.
    d. PPD skin test documentation must include lot # and vial expiration date**.**

NOTE: The tuberculosis screening documentation must remain current for the entire semester and must not lapse at any time during the semester.

2. MMR-Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Rubeola Immunity: Documentation of protective rubeola, rubella, and mumps titers (if one titer is negative you should receive a booster and recheck your titer) or documentation of two doses of vaccine 28 days apart after the first birthday. The two doses of vaccine can be given four weeks apart.

3. Hepatitis B vaccination: documentation of vaccination with three doses of vaccines.

- Documentation of first two doses must be submitted with BSN application if series is needed. Documentation of third dose must be submitted six months after second dose is administered.

4. Varicella (chicken pox) immunity: Must have either serologic evidence of immunity (varicella zoster virus titer) or documentation of vaccine, (two doses, four weeks apart).
    - If a student had chicken pox in the past, they must submit documentation of immune titer or two doses of varicella vaccine.

5. Pertussis booster vaccine (TDaP-Adacil, which has the pertussis component). This vaccine is for adolescents and adults and is different from the vaccine given to infants and young children. Td, dT, or DtaP are not acceptable forms of the TdaP vaccine. Vaccine must be received within the past 10 years. If vaccine was received more 10 years ago, documentation of lapsed Tdap vaccine and an updated Td booster must be submitted.

6. An Influenza vaccine must be obtained annually for each upcoming "flu season" and documentation submitted. The due date for the annual vaccine for the upcoming season is **October 31**. The only exemption will be with a written medical deferment. Students with such deferment will be required to wear a mask.

7. COVID-19 vaccination: students must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Acceptable vaccinations include:
    a. Moderna COVID-19
        a. Vaccine administered as a series of **two doses administered 1 month apart.** Must have documentation of receipt of both doses.
    b. Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19
        a. Vaccine administered as a series of **two doses administered 3 weeks apart.** Must have documentation of receipt of both doses.
    c. Janssen Pharmaceuticals Companies of Johnson & Johnson
        a. One dose

    Documentation must include vaccine manufacturer, lot number, and date vaccination was received. If two dose vaccine, must include both dates vaccines were received.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, OR
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

Student Health Services will administer vaccines to students. Student Health Services does not perform any cash transactions, nor do they bill insurance. See the Student Health Services website for additional information:
https://healthservices.eku.edu/general-information

CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR)

Clinical sites require students to have completed **American Heart Association, Basic Life Support training** prior to attending clinical in their facility. All students are required to have evidence of current satisfactory completion of CPR training during ALL clinical rotations. The CPR certification

must remain current throughout the entire semester of the clinical course and cannot lapse at any time during the semester.

Available course on campus to satisfy the CPR requirement is EMC 104. When a student is full time, these courses may not cost any extra and will count toward restricted electives.

Students may contact the American Heart Association regional office in Lexington, (859) 317-6880 , for class information.

All hospitals offer classes to employees and may allow outsiders if space is available. If you are a hospital employee, this class is often free.

Check bulletin boards located throughout the Rowlett building. CPR instructors will post information and phone numbers.

INSURANCE

Personal Illness

The cost of treating illnesses or injuries incurred in clinical situations is not covered by the clinical agency or University. Students are **required** to carry personal health insurance to cover such situations. Submit Letter of Coverage containing student's name, group number, effective date, and current date from insurance provider with your *Application to the Clinical Sequence Nursing Program* and by August 1st annually.

Professional Liability Insurance

All students participating in clinical learning experiences must purchase professional liability insurance through the University and maintain it while enrolled in all clinical nursing courses. The University has arranged for appropriate liability insurance coverage at a modest cost to the student. Students will not be allowed to attend clinical experiences unless they have obtained this liability insurance coverage through Eastern Kentucky University. The time period for coverage is August 15-August 14 of a calendar year; no prorating for partial coverage is possible. The liability insurance covers only clinical experiences which are part of scheduled classes. The liability insurance will no longer be in effect if the student withdraws from school or graduates.

CASTLEBRANCH

Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences utilizes CastleBranch as a system to maintain clinical documents, process background checks, and assist in the urine drug screening process. It is the student's responsibility to upload clinical documents into CastleBranch prior to the application deadline. Students must use their official EKU name for CastleBranch accounts and clinical documentation. These documents are shared each semester with the clinical facilities. Information about submitting clinical documents, processing a background check, and completing a urine drug screening are as follows:

Background Check

Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences requires background checks for all students entering programs in the Health Sciences. This is to ensure a safe clinical environment for both students and the public and to meet the contractual requirements of clinical facilities.

Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences works with CastleBranch to ensure an acceptable screening procedure. Students who fail to submit a background check through CastleBranch cannot complete or maintain enrollment in any Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences Program. A background check must be performed through CastleBranch prior to initial enrollment in the clinical sequence of the nursing program.

Upon completion you will receive notification that your background screen is complete and a copy of your report will be available to Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences. If any information is found that would negatively affect your eligibility for Health Sciences program, you will be given an opportunity to challenge the information through the Adverse Action process associated with CastleBranch.

Students who have lived outside the United States must disclose previous residency and submit an international background check in addition to the standard background check. There is an additional fee associated with the international background check.

It is important that you submit information in a timely fashion so the information will be available for the program to review by the deadlines published. If you have any questions on the background screening process, please contact CastleBranch Client Services at 888-723-4263.

Urine Drug Screening

Urine drug screening is required for all students to meet contractual requirements of clinical facilities and consists of a 9-panel standard urinalysis panel (marijuana, cocaine, PCP, amphetamines, opiate metabolites, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, methadone, and propoxyphene) plus MDMA (ecstasy), oxycodone, and hydrocodone. **Students must obtain a urine drug screen prior to initial enrollment in the clinical sequence of the nursing program.** Random drug screenings or audits could also be required while enrolled in the program. EKU contracts with CastleBranch to ensure an acceptable screening procedure. Students who fail to submit a urine drug screen through CastleBranch cannot complete or maintain enrollment in any Eastern Kentucky University College of Health Sciences Program. **Dilute negative results will not be accepted. Students with dilute negative results must contact CastleBranch to obtain another screening.** If the drug test contains a positive result, the student will be contacted by a Medical Review Officer (MRO) affiliated with CastleBranch for consultation and/or for additional information to substantiate the positive result. Students with unsubstantiated, positive screening results will be ineligible to participate in clinical experiences and therefore, cannot be successful in the course or progress in the program. Instructions are on the following flyer.

To be considered current and in compliance, all records MUST be approved by both CastleBranch and the School of Nursing and must not lapse at any time during the semester in which the student is enrolled in clinical course(s). It is the student's responsibility to ensure currency and validity of required documentation.

Background Check, Drug Test, & Medical Document Manager

TIME SENSITIVE
DO NOT DELAY

ATTENTION STUDENTS:
We've partnered with CastleBranch to help you supply the required qualifications for your program. To get started, carefully follow the instructions below:

Follow the directions below to get started:
1. Visit https://portal.castlebranch.com/EJ17.
2. Click on "**PLACE ORDER**," "**Please Select**," and "**ASN**."
3. Select **EZ55: Background Check, Drug Test and Medical Document Manager** (Note: You will see 3 separate codes listed. Do not select these unless approved by the Nursing Office.)
4. Then proceed with the prompts.

GET STARTED NOW at:

https://portal.castlebranch.com/EJ17

For Best Results - Use a **laptop** or **desktop computer** to complete this process.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, SCHOOL OF NURSING
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING
CURRICULUM PLAN

FIRST YEAR			
Must have all academic readiness requirements complete prior to application to AASN program.			**CREDIT HOURS**
FIRST SEMESTER	HSO 100	Student Success Seminar	1
	ENG 101	Reading, Writing & Rhetoric (English Composition I)	3
	*BIO 307	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
	NSC 114	Nursing Concepts	5
	NSC 114C	Nursing Concepts Application	3
		Total	**15**
SECOND SEMESTER	ENG 102	Research, Writing & Rhetoric (English Composition II)	3
	*BIO 308	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
	*SOC 131 or PSY 200	Introductory Sociology Introduction to Psychology	3
	NSC 124	Medical Surgical Nursing I	3
	NSC 124C	Medical Surgical Nursing I Clinical	2
	NSC 126	Mental Health Nursing	2
	NSC 126C	Mental Health Nursing Clinical	1
		Total	**17**
SECOND YEAR			
FIRST SEMESTER	*BIO 273 or MLS 209	Clinical Microbiology or Medical Microbiology	4 3
	NSC 223	Medical Surgical Nursing II	4
	NSC 223C	Medical Surgical Nursing II Clinical	2
	NSC 225	Family Nursing Care	4
	NSC 225C	Family Nursing Care Clinical	2
		Total	**15/16**
SECOND SEMESTER	NSC 240	Medical Surgical Nursing III	4
	NSC 240C	Medical Surgical Nursing III Clinical	3
	General Education Element 3a or 3b	Arts & Humanities	3
	General Education Element 2 or 4	Quantitative Reasoning or Natural Sciences	3
	NSC 250	NCLEX Review	1
	NSC 255	Trends and Issues in Nursing	2
		Total	**16**
		PROGRAM TOTAL	**63/64**

***Supporting Courses can be no older than 5 years at the time of program admission.**
All courses in each semester must be completed before advancing to the next semester.
Approved July 2020

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
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ADMISSION SCALE

Student: _____ EKU Student ID: _____

Current EKU GPA (If applicable, high school GPA or, if not an EKU student, the cumulative college GPA . If college hours have been earned then must use EKU GPA or college GPA): *minimum 2.50 GPA required	Points possible = 4 (3.50 GPA = 3.5 points)	Total points earned:
HESI A2 Nursing Assessment Exam: • Reading comprehension • Grammar • Vocabulary • Math	Points possible: 40 90-100 = 10 80-89 = 5 79 or below = 0	
Support Courses (Support courses listed below are NOT prerequisite courses.) Must be completed within 5 years of application for admission	Points possible: 6 Points awarded for each course completed: A = 2 points B = 1 points C = 0 points D/F = -2 points (deduction)	Total points earned: All deficiencies and first passing grade within 5 years of admission will be counted in point calculation
BIO 307 (not a prerequisite course) Human Anatomy and Physiology I		
BIO 308 (not a prerequisite course) Human Anatomy and Physiology II		
BIO 273 or MLS 209/211 (not a prerequisite course) Microbiology		
Previous Nursing Program Enrollment/Transfer		
Previous enrollment and/or transfer from another nursing program	Four points will be deducted for **each** nursing course failure	

Date: _____ Total points earned toward admission: _____

Revised July 2021

Calculation of Points:

1. A minimum EKU GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale must be obtained. Completion of eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission to the clinical nursing courses. Spaces are limited and the most qualified applicants will be selected for admission.

2. The GPA used is the most current EKU GPA at the time application is made or high school GPA if no previous college coursework.

3. Students who are applying to the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program are required to complete the Health Education Systems, Inc. Admission Assessment (HESI A2) prior to applying to the program. The HESI A2 evaluates general knowledge in areas of math, reading comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar. The HESI A2 may be taken a **maximum of 2 times during a 12-month period**. There is **no required wait time** to repeat the exam. The **higher score** on each section will be used for calculation of points.

4. All coursework listed on the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Admission Scale must be no greater than five years old when application is made for admission. Coursework greater than five years old must be repeated for currency unless an exception is approved by the School of Nursing Chair. A student who wishes to request an exception should, after consulting with the College of Health Sciences academic advisor, submit a request in writing to the School of Nursing Chair with rationale for the exception. If approved, the School of Nursing Chair will document in the student's file with a copy to the student and advisor.

5. In the event a course has been repeated, the calculations will be made as follows:
   a. **every grade attempt** which resulted in a **deficiency** (grade of D or F or equivalent) will be included in the calculations, unless those grades are shown as officially bankrupted on the transcript.
   b. grade attempts which resulted in a passing grade (C, B, or A) will include only the **first attempt which resulted in a passing grade** in the calculation.

6. An exception will be made if the student had coursework greater than five years old and was required to repeat the coursework for currency. Grades greater than 5 years old will not be included in the calculations. In that instance, every new grade attempt (within the last five years) which resulted in a deficiency will be included in the calculations, and only the first attempt which resulted in a passing grade within the past five years will be included in the calculation. If the student is granted an exception for coursework greater than five years old, all grade attempts on the older coursework will be calculated as described in a and b above.

7. Students who hold a Bachelor's degree in another field and apply for the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program will be held to the same competitive point scale for admission as the other applicants.

8. Four points will be deducted for each nursing course failure.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF NURSING

ONLINE ADMISSION APPLICATION - ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING

Online AASN Application Form Link:
https://success.eku.edu/portal/aasn_login

Helpful information on *how to apply* to the AASN program:
https://nursing.eku.edu/how-apply-aasn

Deadlines for admission: **May 15** for Fall entrance and **October 31st** for Spring entrance.

NOTE: To be eligible for admission, students must first apply to the University and be admitted to Eastern Kentucky University before AASN applications can be processed. AASN applicants will be notified of the School of Nursing admission decision through the applicant's official EKU student email account. It is important to activate and monitor the EKU email account as soon as possible upon admission to the University as this will be the official mode of all communication with applicants.

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(HESI A2) ADMISSION ASSESSMENT EXAM INFORMATION

Students who are applying to the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program are required to complete or schedule an appointment to take the **Nursing Admission Assessment (HESI A2) Exam**. Only applicants with a completed HESI A2 Exam will be reviewed for admission to the program. The HESI A2 Exam evaluates general knowledge in areas of math, reading comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar to assess each student's strengths and areas needing development. The HESI A2 may be taken a **maximum of 2 times during a 12-month period**. There is **no required wait time** to repeat the exam. The **higher score** on each section will be used for calculation of points. Refer to the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Admission Scale in this packet for admission assessment criteria.

The HESI A2 Exam will be offered in the Health Sciences Learning Resource Center located at Rowlett Building Room 310 on the EKU campus.
Please use the following links:
Register for a testing date: **https://forms.gle/gRMBNGeKbTrBXP8TA**
Map and directions to Rowlett Building (#61 on map): directions
Temporary visitors parking pass in order to avoid a parking ticket: visitor's parking pass. Visitor parking is available in the Alumni Coliseum Commuter Lot after receiving a parking pass from the online portal.

The HESI A2 exam fee is $53. The fee must be **paid online** at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled test date. If online payment is not made 72 hours prior to the test date, you will need to reschedule the test. **You will be required to present proof of payment prior to testing.** A photo ID will be required on the day of testing. Test takers who are absent on the scheduled testing date or arrive more than 30 minutes late, will be asked to reschedule the exam. **The exam may only be rescheduled one time.** Cancellation without a 24-hour advance notice will require the test taker to pay the fee in order to reschedule. Students may repeat the exam one time, if desired. Testing scores will be valid for one year**.**

For free study resources, please visit the Health Sciences Learning Resource Center webpage:
https://hslrc.eku.edu/#_ga=2.95922524.1746036151.1610634247-408653830.1610634247

Study resources are also available at Study.com and a review book entitled *Admission Assessment Exam Review, 5th Edition,* ISBN 9780323582261, is also available. Please note, resources may cover additional material NOT on the exam. Please focus on Math, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and Grammar. ACT and SAT Study Guides may also be helpful in preparing for the HESI A2 Exam.

View available upcoming testing dates by using the link found at "Register for a testing date:" (above) All testing times are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.