

**Idaho State University  
School of Nursing  
Baccalaureate Nursing Program**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

*Please note that it is highly recommended that students meet with the nursing school advisor for clarification of the following information and for assistance with academic planning..*

**How do I become a nursing major?**

Students are admitted to ISU as pre-nursing majors and typically complete the nursing prerequisite courses during the first year. Once these courses have been successfully completed the student can then formally apply to the nursing program.

**What prerequisite courses will I need to apply to the BS in Nursing program?**

**For students applying to Nursing Program in Fall, 2007**

The following courses will be used to determine prerequisite Grade Point Average:

PSYC 101     Introduction to Psychology  
HCA 210     Medical Terminology  
BIOL 101     Biology (with lab)  
PSYC 225     Child Development  
CHEM 101     Introduction to General Chemistry  
MATH 253     Introduction to Statistics  
ANTH 237, 238, or 239 (ANTH 100 or SOC 101 may be taken but must also meet Goal 9, 10a or 10b)  
BIOL 221     Introductory Microbiology  
BIOL 221L    Introductory Microbiology Lab

The following courses must be completed *or in progress* upon applying to the program:

NURS 220     Introduction to Nursing  
BIOL 301     Anatomy and Physiology  
CHEM 102     Intro. To Organic and Biochem.  
CHEM 103     Intro to Gen., Organic and Biochem Lab.  
NTD 340     Therapeutic Nutrition

NOTE: It is also recommended that the following courses are complete or in progress upon application: ENGL 101, ENGL 102, MATH 108, COMM 101.

## **For Students Applying to Nursing Program in Fall, 2008**

The following courses will be used to determine prerequisite Grade Point Average:

BIOL 101     Biology (with Lab)  
CHEM 101     Intro. To Gen. Chem.  
PSYC 101     Intro. To General Psych.  
BIOL 301     Anatomy & Physiology  
HCA 210     Medical Terminology  
BIOL 221     Introductory Microbiology  
BIOL 221L    Introductory Microbiology Lab  
PSYC 225     Child Development  
BIOL 302     Anatomy & Physiology  
ANTH 237, 238, or 239 **OR** ANTH 100 or SOC 101

The following courses must be completed *or in progress* upon applying to the program:

BIOL 305     Pathobiology  
CHEM 102     Intro. To Organic and Biochem..  
CHEM 103     Intro. to Gen., Organic and Biochem. Lab.  
NTD 340     Therapeutic Nutrition

NOTE: It is also recommended that the following courses are complete or in progress upon application: Math 108, ENGL 101, COMM 101, ECON 101, 201, 202, **OR** AMST/POL 101, ENGL 102.

### **What factors are considered for admission to the BS in Nursing program?**

- 1) Grade Point Average in prerequisite courses
- 2) Scores on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)- English, Math, Science, and Reading sections

### **How competitive is the admissions process?**

The admissions process is competitive. Successful applicants typically have a prerequisite GPA over 3.4 and score above 80 percent on the TEAS. See application for complete details. Please note that both factors are important and both are considered for admission. Therefore, students should focus on doing well in each area to increase their chances of success.

### **When can I apply to the BS in Nursing program?**

Applications are accepted once each year. Applications are available May 15 and must be submitted to the School of Nursing by September 14.

### **Where can I get an application form?**

Applications are available at [www.isu.edu/nursing](http://www.isu.edu/nursing), Kasiska College of Health Professions (Building 66) Room 247A and also on the bulletin board across from 247A.

### **What is needed for the application process?**

The application process requires submission of prerequisite grades and TEAS scores. In addition, applicants must submit proof of CPR certification, criminal history check, and health verification requirements. It is highly recommended that students meet with the nursing advisor *as early as possible* for detailed information related to the admission process.

### **What is the TEAS?**

The TEAS or Test of Essential Academic Skills is a scholastic aptitude assessment of English, Math, Science, and Reading skills. The test can be taken, beginning in June, in Pocatello (282-2130) or Idaho Falls (282-7750) at the Counseling and Testing Center. A TEAS study guide can be purchased at the ATI website for \$25.00: <http://www.atitesting.com/> or by calling 1-800-667-7531.

### **How long will it take to complete the BS in Nursing degree? When are students admitted?**

The baccalaureate program, including prerequisites, can be completed in four years of full-time attendance. Students are admitted to the nursing program in sophomore spring semester and then complete five semesters of study.

### **Can courses taken at another university transfer to the nursing program?**

Yes, many courses will transfer especially English, Psychology, Biology, etc. Once you apply to Idaho State University, your transfer credit will be evaluated by the ISU Office of Admissions. Particular nursing courses will be evaluated by the School of Nursing to determine equivalency. The nursing advisor can assist you with transfer credit issues. In some cases, a university or departmental petition may be necessary.

### **Is there a “fast track” nursing program?**

Yes, there is a BS fast track program offered through ISU School of Nursing at the ISU Boise Center. Students applying must have a previous baccalaureate degree in any area. Some prerequisite courses are also required. Four semesters are completed prior to earning the BS in Nursing degree. For more information on Boise Fast Track visit:

[www.isu.edu/nursing](http://www.isu.edu/nursing) or make an appointment to speak with the Boise Fast Track advisor at (208) 373-1785. The fast track option is not currently available in Pocatello.

### **Can LPNs or Associate Degree/Diploma RNs complete their BS degree?**

Yes! For LPNs the admissions process is the same as for other students. However, HCA 210 and NURS 220 are waived. Once admitted to the program, LPNs are typically awarded credit for “transition courses” by submitting a petition. (Student must pay for these credit hours). LPNs progress through the BS program just as other students; however, the number of credit hours taken each semester is reduced.

Registered Nurses with an Associates degree who would like to obtain the Bachelors degree may apply to the “RN Completion Program”. Applications to this program are accepted during fall, spring, or summer of each academic year. The application process for RNs is separate from the others so applicants should consult with the nursing advisor for complete information.

Special note: RNs and LPNs must have a current license to practice as such at the time of application.

### **Does the School of Nursing have a graduate program?**

Yes! The graduate program provides high quality training for leadership roles and advanced practice in nursing. Students can select from five options including: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Clinical Nurse Specialist, Clinical Nurse Leader, Nursing Education, and Nursing Leadership. The majority of course work is offered online with the exception of a few campus visits. Practicum requirements are completed in a clinical setting. Programs of study are either full-time (2 years) or part-time (3 years). The AD to MS program is also available for currently registered nurses. For the AD to MS program, students complete a series of “bridge courses” and then begin graduate study. For all graduate programs, students must have a current license to practice nursing

### **Can I meet with someone who can help me with my questions and concerns?**

Yes! A full-time academic advisor is available who can assist you with your questions. To schedule an appointment, please contact Marla Jones at 208-282-2132 or 2185. It is recommended that you meet with an advisor early and at least once each semester.