



GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM INFORMATION





RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program

Dear RN to BSN applicant:

Thank you for your interest in our RN to Bachelor of Science Degree Nursing Program. This program is designed specifically for the licensed RN who wants to further their education to become a baccalaureate-prepared professional nurse. The program is designed for flexibility through distance education, general education, hybrid courses, and clinical immersion options.

Enclosed is the admission packet; please read carefully through the information provided, and contact me if you have any questions. Additional program materials are available on our website at www.gulfcoast.edu/bsn.

Good luck with your educational plans and please let me know if you have any questions!

John Griggs

John Griggs, DNP, MSN, RN-BC, FNP-C, CDCES, CNE
RN-BSN Program Coordinator, Assistant Professor, Nursing
(850) 913-3262 (office)
jgriggs@gulfcoast.edu



The RN-BSN program at Gulf Coast State College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

Rev 10.2.24

CHECKLIST FOR ADMISSION TO THE RN-BSN PROGRAM

The student must complete the following requirements:

- _____ 1. **COMPLETION OF AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM OR DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN NURSING FROM AN ACCREDITED NURSING SCHOOL OR COLLEGE.**
- _____ 2. **COMPLETE THE NURSING DIVISION APPLICATION FOR RN-BSN.** Submit the application online @ <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/degrees-programs/program-by-pathway/health-sciences/nursing-rn-bsn/index.html> by 11:59 p.m., C.S.T., on the published program application deadline. Select "BSN Program Application", complete the online application and technical standards, and click "Submit."
- _____ 3. **PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION OF CURRENT RN LICENSURE WITH NO RESTRICTIONS.** The current license must be active in the state in which clinical rotations are to be completed.
- _____ 4. **PROVIDE OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL SCHOOL & COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS.** Applicant must request that official transcripts showing completion of high school or GED (scores required) **and** all colleges attended be sent to **GCSC Enrollment Services** for evaluation by 11:59 p.m., C.S.T., on the published program application deadline.
- _____ 5. **DOCUMENTATION OF A GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) OF 2.50 OR HIGHER IN ALL COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES AND A "C" OR HIGHER IN ALL PREREQUISITE COURSES APPLICABLE TO THE RN TO BSN PROGRAM.**

UPON ACCEPTANCE INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM THE FOLLOWING WILL BE REQUIRED:

- _____ 1. **CURRENT PPD or TB TEST or DECLINATION WITH X-RAY RESULTS**
- _____ 2. **MEDICAL EXAMINATION - With Satisfactory Results**
- _____ 3. **IMMUNIZATION FORM**
- _____ 4. **SATISFACTORY FINGERPRINT / CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**
- _____ 5. **CURRENT CPR CARD - American Heart Association (BCLS-C) for Healthcare Provider (Basic Cardiac Life Support) or American Red Cross** are the only certifications accepted.
- _____ 6. **SATISFACTORY DRUG SCREENING** – required based upon the clinical agency requirements
- _____ 7. **COMPLETION OF THE STANDARD FLORIDA FOREIGN LANGUAGE UPPER DIVISION ADMISSION REQUIREMENT.** If, at the time of admission, the student has not completed two sequential years of the same foreign language in high school or eight credits in college, the student must complete eight credits of the same foreign language before completing the program.

ADMISSION APPLICATION DEADLINES: Two full-time classes are admitted each year, in the fall and spring semesters. The **preferred** deadline for submission of a completed application and admissions checklist is by 11:59 p.m., C.S.T., on the last working day in **JULY** (for fall admission) and the last working day in **NOVEMBER** (for spring admission). However, we will accept students as late as the first week of classes. Students may enter the program on a part-time basis at 6 entry points per year at the beginning or midterm of any semester.

NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS: Admission to the program is **competitive in nature** and **is not guaranteed**. A selection committee ranks all applications and admission is granted to the most qualified applicants. Applicants can improve their chances of admission by maintaining a high GPA and completing pre & co-requisite courses. **It should be understood that satisfactorily meeting minimum requirements does not automatically guarantee admission.**

Gulf Coast State College does not discriminate against any person in its programs, activities, policies, or procedures on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, gender, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. All questions or inquiries regarding compliance with laws relating to non-discrimination and all complaints regarding sexual misconduct or discrimination may be directed to the Executive Director of Human Resources/Title II/504/Title IX Coordinator and Employment Equity Officer, Gulf Coast State College, 5230 W. US Highway 98, Panama City, FL 32401; 850-872-3866.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE TRACKS

Fall Full-Time Fast Track

| Fall Semester | | Spring Semester | | Summer Semester | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Term 1- -NUR 3069-Advanced Health Assessment -NUR 3925-Symposium I | Term 2- -NUR 3119- Nursing Concepts & Theories | | Term 2- -NUR 3895- Teaching & Learning -NUR 4925- Symposium II | Term 1- -NUR 4837- Healthcare Policy & Economics -NUR 4655- Multicultural Factors & Health | Term 2- -NUR 4847- Clinical Decision Making |
| Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 3128-Pathophysiology -NUR 3636C-Community Health | | Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 3167-Research -NUR 4827C-Leadership / Management | | Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 4945C-Nursing Capstone Practicum | |
| 11 hours / term | 10 hours / term | 7 hours / term | 11 hours / term | 8 hours / term | 5 hours / term |

Spring Full-Time Fast Track

| Spring Semester | | | Summer Semester | Fall Semester | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| Term 1- -NUR 3069- Advanced Health Assessment -NUR 3925- Symposium I | Term 2- -NUR 3119- Nursing Concepts & Theories -NUR 3128- Pathophysiology | Term 3- -NUR 3128- Patho-physiology | | Term 1- -NUR 4837- Healthcare Policy & Economics -NUR 3895- Teaching & Learning | Term 2- -NUR 4847- Clinical Decision Making | Term 3- -NUR 4655- Multicultural Factors & Health - NUR 4925- Symposium II |
| Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 3636C-Community Health | | | Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 3167-Research -NUR 4827C-Leadership / Management | Full Semester (FS)- -NUR 4945C-Nursing Capstone Practicum | | |
| 8 hours / term | 10 hours / term | 7 hours / term | 7 hours / term | 8 hours / term | 5 hours / term | 6 hours / term |

Students may enter the program at the beginning or middle of any semester. Part-time degree plans of 4, 5, or 6 semesters can be designed for individual students based on preference.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BACKGROUND

Applicants to the Nursing Programs of Gulf Coast State College work very hard to meet the entry requirements for selection. Our programs make every effort to accept as many academically qualified students as possible. In addition to meeting basic entry requirements, however, applicants must also consider how their personal history and background may affect their ability to meet admission and clinical requirements, sit for various state licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment.

Nursing Programs require students to submit to a background screening and/or drug screening before being officially accepted into the offered program. The Nursing program/s must follow state-mandated laws for professional practice which will extend to admission and acceptance. State laws may mandate that student/s who have an unfavorable background screening (certain felonies) must have a clean record for 15 years or more past the initial incident before being allowed to take state licensure exam/s. Certain clinical sites may require a clean background screening in order for students to attend clinicals and work with their patients. Students who cannot produce a favorable background check and/or drug screening may not be able to meet their program's admission requirements and clinical obligations, which would jeopardize their ability to successfully complete that program.

Students who graduate from our programs must also pass state licensure exam/s in order to be employable in their program of study. The various state entities that provide testing and licenses for Health Professionals, oftentimes, require background checks / drug screening prior to sitting for the exams and applying for licensure. State laws may mandate that student/s who have an unfavorable background screening (certain felonies) must have a clean record for 15 years or more past the initial incident before being allowed to take state licensure exam/s. It is possible to have successfully graduated from a health science program but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check and/or drug screening.

Employers of licensed health professionals can also have a variety of requirements that must be met prior to the granting of employment. These can include background checks of varying depths, and/or drug screenings. It is possible to graduate from a program and obtain a health professional license, but be denied some employment options due to an unfavorable background check or drug screen.

We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision before completing an application to one of our programs.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS:

Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) students that are granted conditional acceptance into a Nursing program must receive a satisfactory criminal background check prior to final acceptance into the program. The background check will be scheduled and performed at the discretion of the Division to which the student has applied. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the applicable program coordinator.

Please Note: Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. Also, be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access. Although background checks are required before program entry, it is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC and be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. Even if the student has been accepted into and completed a program at GCSC, this does not guarantee authorization for licensure or eligibility to take the licensure exam. Those authorizations are granted by the Nursing governing professional licensure boards. This is a notification to the applicant that Gulf Coast State College has no authority over any state-level medical licensure board and cannot be held responsible if the student is accepted into or completes a Nursing program and subsequently is denied authorization to take the program-specific licensure exam due to criminal background information.

An applicant must consider how his/her personal history may affect the ability to meet clinical requirements, sit for various licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment. Most healthcare boards in the State of Florida make decisions about licensure on an individual basis. You may visit the Florida Department of Health website at <https://www.floridahealth.gov/> for more information regarding licensure. We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

Please read the following information carefully: Any student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provision of 456.0635 (see below) may be **disqualified** from admission to any Nursing program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Nursing programs and/or clinical rotations. The statute listed below can also be found online:
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0456/Sections/0456.0635.html

456.0635 Health care fraud; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration.-

- (1) Healthcare fraud in the practice of a healthcare professional is prohibited.
- (2) Each board within the jurisdiction of the department, or the department if there is no board, shall refuse to admit a candidate to any examination and refuse to issue a license, certificate, or registration to any applicant if the candidate or applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant:
 - (a) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, or chapter 893, or a similar felony offense committed in another state or jurisdiction, unless the candidate or applicant has successfully completed a drug court program for that felony and provides proof that the plea has been withdrawn or the charges have been dismissed.

Any such conviction or plea shall exclude the applicant or candidate from licensure, examination, certification, or registration unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended:

1. For felonies of the first or second degree, more than 15 years before the date of application.
2. For felonies of the third degree, more than 10 years before the date of application, except for felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a).
3. For felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a), more than 5 years before the date of application;
 - (b) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended more than 15 years before the date of the application;
 - (c) Has been terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years;
 - (d) Has been terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state, from any other state Medicaid program, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years before the date of the application; or
 - (e) Is currently listed on the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals and Entities, except when such applicant is listed solely based on a default or delinquency on a student loan as provided in s. 120.82.

This subsection does not apply to an applicant for initial licensure, certification, or registration who was arrested or charged with a felony specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) before July 1, 2009.

(3) The department shall refuse to renew a license, certificate, or registration of any applicant if the applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant:

(a) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, or chapter 893, or a similar felony offense committed in another state or jurisdiction, unless the applicant is currently enrolled in a pretrial diversion or drug court program that allows the withdrawal of the plea for that felony upon successful completion of that program. Any such conviction or plea excludes the applicant from licensure renewal unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended:

1. For felonies of the first or second degree, more than 15 years before the date of application.
2. For felonies of the third degree, more than 10 years before the date of application, except for felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a).
3. For felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a), more than 5 years before the date of application.
 - (b) Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396 since July 1, 2009, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended more than 15 years before the date of the application.
 - (c) Has been terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years.
 - (d) Has been terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state, from any other state Medicaid program, unless the applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years before the date of the application.
 - (e) Is currently listed on the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals and Entities, except when such applicant is listed solely based on a default or delinquency on a student loan as provided in s. 120.82.

This subsection does not apply to an applicant for renewal of licensure, certification, or registration who was arrested or charged with a felony specified in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) before July 1, 2009.

(4) Licensed health care practitioners shall report allegations of health care fraud to the department, regardless of the practice setting in which the alleged health care fraud occurred.

(5) The acceptance by a licensing authority of a licensee's relinquishment of a license which is offered in response to or anticipation of the filing of administrative charges alleging health care fraud or similar charges constitutes the permanent revocation of the license.

Important Note: After acceptance and during enrollment in this program, the student is responsible for notifying the program coordinator of any arrest, regardless of adjudication, that occurs after acceptance through graduation. Failure to promptly notify the program coordinator shall be grounds for dismissal from the program.