



Health Sciences Division
RN-BSN Program

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program

Dear RN to BSN applicant:

Thank you for your interest in our Bachelor of Science Degree Nursing Program. This program is designed specifically for the licensed RN who wants to further his / her 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 <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/programs/nursing-rn-bsn/index.html>.

Good luck with your educational plans!

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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.

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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 HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION APPLICATION FOR RN-BSN.** Complete the application online @: <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/programs/nursing-rn-bsn/index.html>. Select "Apply to the RN-BSN Program Now," fill out the application, 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 the 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) is the only certification accepted.**
- _____ 6. **SATISFACTORY DRUG SCREENING – may be 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 consecutive 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 the last working day in **JULY** (for fall admission) and the last working day in **NOVEMBER** (for spring admission). 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.

RN-BSN COURSE REQUIREMENTS & CURRICULUM PLAN

Nursing AS/ Diploma Credits – the following courses (or the equivalent) must be completed along with current, unencumbered Registered Nursing licensure

Course Number	Course Name	Credits
HUN 1201	Principles of Nutrition	3
DEP 2004	Developmental Psychology	3
NUR 1022C	Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NUR 1142	Introduction to Pharmacology	2
NUR 1210C	Basic Care of the Adult	4
NUR 1213C	Intermediate Adult Care	10
NUR 2420C	Maternal-Infant Nursing	4
NUR 2310C	Nursing Care of the Child	4
NUR 2520C	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 2214C	Advanced Adult Care	11

Prerequisite Courses – completed with a “C” or better prior to RN-BSN program graduation

Course Number	Course Name	Credits
BSC 2085	Human Anatomy & Physiology	3
ENC 1101	English Composition I	3
Humanities	Humanities I, II, or III (HUM I, II, and III are required for graduation)	3
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

NOTE: These general education courses may be taken during the RN-BSN program; however, students may choose to begin the general education courses at any time.

Course Number	Course Name	Credits
Humanities	Humanities I, II or III (HUM I, II, and III are required for graduation)	6
CHM 1032	General, Organic Biochemistry or higher (CHM 1040 & 1045 are OK)	3
POS 2041	American National Government	3
STA 2023	Statistics	3
ENC 1102	English II	3
MAC 1105 or	College level math or higher	3
MGF 1106		
EUH 1000 or 1001	Western Civilization I or II	3

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.

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE – RN-BSN Program
CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (Not All Inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations • Develop nursing care plans • Make rapid decisions under pressure • Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations • Assist with problem solving
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, educational, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues • Cope effectively with high levels of stress • Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner • Cope with confrontation • Demonstrate high degree of patience
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain treatment procedures • Initiate client education • Document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, to maneuver in small spaces and to perform procedures necessary for emergency intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move around in patient's rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas • Administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation procedures • Walk the equivalent of 5 miles per day • Remain on one's feet in upright position at a workstation without moving about • Climb stairs • Remain in seated position
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calibrate and use equipment • Position patients/clients • Perform repetitive tasks • Able to grip • Bend at knee and squat. • Reach above shoulder level • Lift and carry 25 pounds • Exert 20-50 pounds of force (pushing/pulling)
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, and cries for help • Hear tape recorded transcriptions • Hear telephone interactions
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe patient/client responses • Identify and distinguish colors
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertion of a catheter
Environmental	Ability to tolerate environmental stressors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt to shift work • Work with chemicals and detergents • Tolerate exposure to fumes and odors • Work in areas that are close and crowded • Tolerate the use and wearing of personal protective equipment such as masks, face shields, gloves, and gowns as necessary for your shift (1-12 hours).

SOURCES:

1. Red Alert: The Americans With Disabilities Act Implications for Nursing Education Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression Framework. Southern Regional Education Board, Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing, March 1993.
2. Dictionary of Occupations and Professions, Vol. II, 4th ed. 1991, Nurse, General Duty.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BACKGROUND

Applicants to the Nursing Programs in the Health Sciences Division 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.

Health Sciences Programs require students to submit to a background screening and/or drug screening before being officially accepted into the offered program. The health sciences 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 clinical 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 the 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 concerning making application to one of our programs.

Criminal Background Checks

Gulf Coast State College (GCSC) students that are granted conditional acceptance into a Health Sciences 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 of Health Sciences at GCSC. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the program coordinator. Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. The student must also be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access. It is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC and be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. 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 (www.doh.state.fl.us/) 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 Health Sciences program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Health Sciences 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) Health care fraud in the practice of a health care profession 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.