

## **Pre-Nursing**

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Registered Nursing is among the Top Ten Occupations with the Largest Job Growth. Nurses promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. They have a unique scope of practice and can practice independently, although they also collaborate with all members of the healthcare team to provide the care needed by each patient as an individual. Nurses are hands-on health professionals who provide focused and highly personalized care. The field has a wide range of career opportunities, ranging from entry-level practitioner to doctoral-level researcher. Nurses also serve as advocates for patients, families, and communities. They develop and manage nursing care plans; instruct patients and their families in proper care; and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health ([exporehealthcareers.org](http://exporehealthcareers.org)).

Kansas State University does not offer a Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN). Students complete about 65 credit hours of college coursework before they transfer to a traditional BSN program of their choice. However, it is possible to stay three years, or graduate from K-State and then transfer. For students who decide to earn a degree here, and desire a career in nursing, there are accelerated BSN's.

Accelerated baccalaureate programs are shorter in time (12-16 months) than traditional programs, usually through a combination of bridge courses and core content. Instruction is intense with courses offered full-time with no breaks between sessions. Students receive the same number of clinical hours as their counterparts in traditional programs. Admission standards are high with programs typically requiring a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. This link provides a list of programs across the country.

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Publications/issues/Aug02.htm>

### **Application Process**

Some nursing programs will require an application to the nursing school, as well as an application to the College or University. The application process and deadlines vary considerably. Therefore, you are strongly encouraged to review the nursing schools' websites and contact their representatives.

Most nursing programs use an online application or the Nursing Centralized Application System (NCAS). NCAS allows applicants to complete one online application and designate multiple programs to receive it. NCAS verifies the materials for authenticity.

Many nursing schools now require the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), or the Nurse Entrance Test (NET) as part of their application process. Both of these exams measure entry level skills and base knowledge in reading, math, science and English. The exams serve two purposes. First, they assess entry level skills and abilities of nursing school applicants and second, they serve as a means to standardized students. Programs receive applications from across the country, from students who attend both large and universities; liberal arts colleges; community colleges in rural counties or large urban communities. Nursing schools may also use the scores as a way to predict success in passing the nurse licensure exam (NCLEX). Study guides, practice exams and other material are available on-line.

It is recommended a student apply to more than one program; the typical number is 3-5 schools. Be aware of each school's requirements and look for as much overlap between courses as possible.

## Pre-Nursing Worksheet – Kansas State University

Kansas State University does not offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN). Students complete about 65 credit hours of college coursework before they transfer to the BSN program of their choice. The curriculum outlined below meets the minimum requirements for many schools, but the information presented here is a general guideline. The ultimate authority on pre-requisites is the professional school. You are strongly encouraged to review the nursing schools' websites, and contact each school's representative.

All of the pre-requisites must be taken for a letter grade, not A/Pass/Fail. A grade of "C" or better is required for all courses. Competitive candidates have a cumulative grade point average above 3.0.

### **MOST regional nursing schools require the following:**

K-State Course	Credit Hours	Grade
ENGL 100    English Comp I	3	_____
ENGL 200    English Comp II	3	_____
COMM 106    Public Speaking	3	_____
PSYCH 110    General Psychology	3	_____
SOCIO 211    Intro to Sociology	3	_____
FSHS 110    Human Development	3	_____
ANTH 200/204 Cultural Anthropology	3	_____
MATH 100    College Algebra	3	_____
STAT 325    Statistics	3	_____
FNDH 132/400* Basic Nutrition/Human Nutrition	3	_____
(*Required by Newman College, Wichita, KS)		
BIOL 198    Principles of Biology	4	_____
CHM 110/111 General Chemistry and Lab	4	_____
BIOL 455    Microbiology	4	_____
BIOL 340    Human Body	8	_____
Pathophysiology	4	_____

Required at some schools. K-State does not offer the course. Students will need to make arrangements to have the course completed before they begin nursing school. Speak with the nursing advisor to review and discuss options.

Humanity electives vary considerably from school to school. Students are encouraged to obtain the latest information directly from the programs of most interest to them.

The following list is an example of humanity classes commonly required.

ENGL 251    Intro to Literature	3	_____
GEOG 100    World Geography	3	_____
HIST 251/252 US History	3	_____
CLSCS 105    Medical Terminology	1	_____
MUSIC 250    Intro to Music	3	_____
PHILO 130/365 Moral Philosophy/Medical Ethics	3	_____

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