Pre-Nursing Quick Facts

Students prepare for a career in nursing by building credentials in scholarship, leadership, humanitarian/community service, and shadowing in various nursing settings. There are a variety of nursing career paths.

How do I get a nursing degree at the University of Houston?

The University of Houston College of Nursing offers three undergraduate nursing tracks in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program (Traditional, Second Degree, and RN to BSN). For additional information, contact a UH CON academic advisor at nursing@uh.edu or 832.842.8200.

Traditional BSN: Select Pre-Nursing in your ApplyTexas application and complete 45 credit hours of the pre-nursing curriculum (including Core requirements) *in-residence* at UH. Apply to the Traditional BSN program using the Change of Major application by April 1. Traditional BSN NURS courses are only offered at the UH at Katy location. **Students with more than 15-credit hours of transfer credit may be ineligible for the Traditional BSN.** Non-Pre-Nursing majors may be considered for admission by exception.

Second-Degree BSN: If you have already completed an undergraduate degree, you may apply to the BSN program as a "second-degree" using the NursingCAS application by August 1. The program is completed in three semesters and is offered only at UH at Sugarland.

Average Matriculate Numbers

- GPA: 3.5 (Overall & Science)
- TEAS or HESI: 75% or higher
- GRE: ~300 combined/ 4.0 writing

Types of Nursing Degrees

- Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN)
- Master's of Science in Nursing (MSN)
    - Nurse Practitioner
    - Nurse Anesthetist
    - Nurse Educator
    - Nurse Administrator
- Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- PhD in Nursing

Required Courses & GPA Expectations

UH College of Nursing BSN Program Requirements*

Anatomy & Physiology I/II: BIOL 2301/2101 & BIOL 2302/2102
Chemistry: CHEM 1305
Human Development: HDFS 2317
Microbiology: BIOL 2320/2120
Nutrition: NUTR 2332
Psychology: PSYC 2301
Sociology: SOCI 1301
Statistics: MATH 1342 (MATH 3339 or PSYC 2317 acceptable)
Core Requirements: Creative Arts, English, History, Language/Philosophy/Culture, Political Science, Math

*DISCLAIMER: This list includes only UH College of Nursing requirements—though other nursing programs have similar requirements. Please refer to nursing program websites for specific course requirements and AP/IB credit before applying. You may also meet with a College of Nursing academic advisor: nursing@uh.edu or 832.842.8200.

TEAS & HESI Exams

Nursing schools will require either the TEAS or the HESI exams for admission into BSN programs. Applicants should aim for at least 75% minimum, although some programs may require higher. The University of Houston currently requires the TEAS exam and allows only two attempts. You are responsible for checking which exam is required by your preferred programs.

HESI:

The HESI exam costs $45 and is offered multiple times a month. It consists of two sections:

Academic:
Math, Reading, Vocabulary, Grammar, Biology, Physics, Anatomy/Physiology, and Chemistry

Personality:
Learning Styles Assessment and Personality Profile

TEAS:

The TEAS exam costs $50-$80 and is offered multiple times a month. It consists of four sections:

Reading: 31% of the test

Math: 22% of the test

Science: 31% of the test

English: 16% of the test

uh.edu/pre-health

GRE & MAT Exams

Students who have already earned a BSN and are applying to graduate level nursing programs (MSN, DNP, or PhD) will need to take either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT). There are no specific courses that students need to take prior to the GRE or MAT, but students should plan to dedicate roughly six to eight weeks to exam preparation. While students can opt for a commercial prep course for the GRE, self-study is often sufficient. Students usually sit for the exam in their junior or senior year depending on their application timeline. Generally, it is recommended for a student to take the GRE or MAT early in the year (January-May), as they head into the application cycle.

Volunteering & Shadowing

Volunteering and shadowing are not required to apply to most BSN programs, including the University of Houston College of Nursing; however, admission committees appreciate applicants that can demonstrate that the ability to manage rigorous courses while also staying active in extracurricular activities or employment. Competitive applicants also show a clear commitment to their community and enjoy working with people. Finally, shadowing nursing professionals will help you decide whether a career in nursing is right for you.

Letters of Evaluation

Letters of evaluation are not required to apply to the University of Houston College of Nursing; however, other nursing programs can require up to two to three letters of evaluation. It is your responsibility to ensure that you meet application requirements for the nursing programs in which you are interested in applying. Generally, nursing programs expect you to provide one letter from a science faculty member, a major faculty member and one additional letter from either a nurse, other healthcare professional, research mentor, volunteer coordinator, or employer.

Texas Undergraduate Nursing (BSN) Program Application Information & Deadlines

Institution	Program Type	Application Date (Start Term)	Application?	Exam?
University of Houston	Traditional BSN	April 1 (Fall)	Change of Major Form	TEAS
	Accelerated BSN	August 1 (Spring)	NursingCAS	TEAS
Sam Houston State	Traditional BSN	June 1 (Fall) September 1 (Spring)	NursingCAS/ApplyTexas	TEAS
Texas A&M	Traditional BSN	August 1 (Spring) November 1 (Fall)	NursingCAS/ApplyTexas	HESI
	Accelerated BSN	August 1	NursingCAS/ApplyTexas	HESI
Texas Woman's University	Traditional BSN	February 1 (Fall) August 15 (Spring)	NursingCAS/ApplyTexas	TEAS
University of Texas Health -Houston	Traditional BSN	January 15 (Summer) March 15 (Fall) September 1 (Spring)	Online application	HESI
University of Texas Health -San Antonio	Traditional BSN	February 1 (Fall) August 1 (Spring)	NursingCAS	TEAS
	Accelerated BSN	December 15 (Summer)	NursingCAS	TEAS
University of St. Thomas	Traditional BSN	June 1 (Fall)	NursingCAS	HESI
	Accelerated BSN	June 1 (Fall)	NursingCAS	HESI
University of Texas-Austin	Traditional BSN	March 1 (Fall)	ApplyTexas	Not required
UTMB-Galveston	Traditional BSN	November 15 (Fall) February 1 (Spring) June 15 (Summer)	NursingCAS	TEAS