Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Frequently Asked Questions

When can I apply?
New students matriculate into the 4 term Accelerated BSN option each spring (January) and the 6 term BSN option each summer (May) semester. The deadline to apply for the ABSN option is August 10th. The deadline to apply for the BSN option is December 22nd. The application is posted online approximately two months before each application deadline.

How do I submit an application for the School of Nursing?
Applications can only be submitted online. When available, the application is posted here: http://nursing.unc.edu/admissions/applications/index.htm.

How many applications do you receive each semester? How many students do you accept?
The School of Nursing receives approximately 400-500 applications for the 6-term BSN option each year. We admit 104 students to that option each summer. We typically receive 200-300 applications for the 4-term ABSN option each year and admit 64 students to that option each spring.

When should I expect my admissions decision letter?
Admissions decision letters for all applicants are mailed out approximately 12-14 weeks after the application deadline. We are not able to inform applicants of their admissions decisions by phone or email.

Do you have a waitlist?
Applicants will receive admissions decisions via mail indicating if they have been admitted, denied or waitlisted. Waitlisted students may be notified up until the day courses start if a space becomes available in the program. No information is released regarding position on the waitlist or the number of students placed on the waitlist. If spaces do not become available, the waitlist does not carry over to the following term. Applicants who were waitlisted would need to submit a new application to be considered for admission for a future term.

How competitive is admission into the School of Nursing?
Admission to the School of Nursing is very competitive. The minimum cumulative grade point average for admission to the 24-month BSN option is a 2.8 on a 4.0 scale. Admission to UNC–Chapel Hill as a first-year student does not guarantee admission to the School of Nursing as a junior. The minimum cumulative grade point average for the Accelerated BSN option is a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. All applicants seeking admission as second degree students must have earned the first degree prior to submitting the nursing application. Applicants must be eligible to return to all institutions previously attended.

How is my application evaluated?
The admissions committee critically evaluates each applicant’s academic performance, descriptive essays, community service history, and special skills and abilities that have the potential to affect care delivery or contribute overall to the nursing profession. The ideal applicant will clearly demonstrate a strong academic history as well as a commitment to the ideology of nursing and service to others. Performance in required science courses is particularly important.

How many classes will I take each semester? How many hours per day will I attend class?
For a list of class schedules for upcoming terms, visit http://nursing.unc.edu/current/course-schedules/index.htm.
Can I study part-time?
Pursuing the Bachelor of Science in Nursing requires a full-time commitment throughout the 4 terms or 6 terms of enrollment. Attendance is required in the fall, spring and summer semesters.

Where are clinical rotations held?
Clinical rotations are held at various health care locations in Orange County as the home of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as well as all counties contiguous to Orange.

Do you offer the BSN or ABSN option online?
No.

Will I be able to work full-time while attending nursing school?
As the BSN program is a full-time course of study, the majority of nursing students find the demands of attending courses and clinicals far too rigorous to incorporate full-time employment into their daily schedules.

Can I finish my prerequisites after I begin nursing school?
No. All prerequisites must be complete by the time a student matriculates into the program. Please refer to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing overview for specific instructions on when specific prerequisites must be completed: http://nursing.unc.edu/academics/bsn/index.htm.

I took the science prerequisites more than ten years ago. Do I need to retake them?
Science prerequisites must have been completed within ten years of the application deadline. The science prerequisites include Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, General Psychology, and Statistics.

My cumulative GPA is slightly below the required minimum. Should I apply anyway?
No. Only applicants meeting the minimum GPA requirement will be considered for admission.

Will the admissions committee consider graduate-level work when determining my cumulative GPA?
Yes. All college coursework, including graduate-level courses, is included when calculating an applicant’s cumulative GPA.

Do you require the GRE or MAT?
No.

Do you require letters of recommendation?
No. We do not require or accept letters of recommendation.

I already have a bachelor’s degree. Should I apply to the 4 term ABSN or 6 term BSN option?
As a second-degree applicant, you may be eligible for either the 6 term BSN option or the 4 term Accelerated BSN option. Please compare the course schedules (http://nursing.unc.edu/current/course-schedules/index.htm) to better determine which option is best suited for your lifestyle, employment needs and personal commitments.

I have attended college before and want to apply to the School of Nursing to pursue my Bachelor of Science in Nursing. What should I do first?
We strongly encourage students to submit their college transcripts for a transcript evaluation before applying. The transcript evaluation form can be found here: http://nursing.unc.edu/admissions/transcript-evaluation/index.htm. After receiving your completed transcript evaluation, you should verify completion of all prerequisites and finish taking any outstanding courses before submitting your application. Students may wish to complete their outstanding prerequisite courses through The William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education at UNC-Chapel Hill.
(http://fridaycenter.unc.edu) or through a local community college.

I am in high school or have never attended college and I want to earn my BSN from UNC-CH. What should I do first?
You should contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at UNC Chapel Hill (http://www.admissions.unc.edu) to obtain information about admission to the university. Your first two years of study will be devoted to completing General Education requirements and the Nursing Science Prerequisites. Students seeking a first bachelor’s degree are admitted to the upper division (junior/senior) typically in the spring semester of the sophomore year. Students must complete all lower-division (first-year/sophomore) courses prior to matriculating into the School of Nursing. The first nursing courses begin in the first summer session (May) preceding the junior year.

Is financial aid available?
Yes. We encourage all students to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): www.fafsa.ed.gov. Prospective students may also wish to contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at UNC: www.studentaid.unc.edu. Additional information regarding scholarships and financial aid for prospective nursing students is available at http://nursing.unc.edu/admissions/financial-aid/bsn-applicants/index.htm.

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