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		Approved Date:	02/07/2025
		Effective Date:	02/18/2025
		Review Date:	2028

## POLICY TITLE: MSN STUDENT ADMISSION

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### Policy

The University of Houston general admission requirements for master's graduate programs include application for admission, official transcripts from each college or university previously attended, officially reported standardized test scores (i.e. GRE), letters of recommendation, resume or curriculum vita, and personal statement. Requirements can be found at <https://www.uh.edu/nursing/msn/program-requirements/>

### Criteria for Admission

Criteria were established by the faculty against which each applicant is evaluated for admission. The purpose is to predict individual potential to succeed at the MSN level. It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit all necessary documentation to NursingCAS by the published deadline for admission consideration to the MSN program. Categories of admission are determined by the degree of criteria met.

1. Apply and pay application fee for graduate admission through NursingCAS.
2. Completion of a bachelor's degree in nursing from an institution regionally accredited by one of the six recognized regional accrediting associations:
  - MSCHE: Middle States Commission of Higher Education
  - NEASC-CIHE: New England Association of Schools and Colleges–Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
  - HLC: Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
  - NWCCU: Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
  - SACSCOC: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
  - ACCJC: Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges [Western Association of Schools and Colleges]
  - WSCUC: Senior College and University Commission
3. Completion of a bachelor's degree in nursing from an institution professionally accredited by:
  - Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
  - Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
4. Evidence of current, unencumbered, valid licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas issued and monitored by the Texas Board of Nursing. This may be printed from the Board of Nursing website or Nursys License verification and uploaded into the NursingCAS application.

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5. Official transcripts from each institution attended reflect a grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0-point scale on coursework completed, and the baccalaureate (or higher) degree conferred, sent directly from each institution to NursingCAS.
6. Applicants to the MSN program must provide a one-page personal statement. The personal statement should include information about your education and experience as a professional nurse to date, why you are interested in graduate education, what your career goals are for the next five (5) years, why you choose UH for your graduate education, and what contributions you plan to make to our mission at the Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing and to advanced nursing practice. This document will be uploaded into the NursingCAS application.
7. Upload a current resume in NursingCAS.
8. An interview with current faculty will be required.
9. Official score Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for applicants with a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. A GRE score will be required for applicants with a GPA between 2.75 – 2.95 for conditional admission. A GRE score will also be required if the prospective student does not have an official individual transcript that reports GPA. Scores may not be more than 5 years old.
10. Two current letters of recommendation: one from a university faculty/or registered nurse with an advanced degree and one from an employer. Applicants will follow the NursingCAS References process and are responsible for completion of reference. All documents including letters of recommendation need to be completed prior to an interview being granted
11. It is preferred that all MSN applicants are currently employed with a minimum of one (1) year of experience as a baccalaureate prepared registered nurse. It is preferred that students maintain at least part-time employment as a Registered Nurse during the program.
12. Applicants must satisfy the Gessner College of Nursing Policy for Clinical Readiness Requirements during the first semester with the exception of completion of criminal background check, drug screen, and obtaining UH badge. The criminal background check, drug screen and obtaining a UH badge must be completed prior to the first day of class

Approved by Gessner College of Nursing Faculty Council: 02/07/2025

Approved by Dean Kathryn Tart: 03/07/2025