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 UH College of Nursing offers two primary undergraduate nursing programs (Traditional BSN and Second-Degree BSN).

Traditional BSN: Pick any major in which you are interested and complete 45 credit hours of the pre-nursing required courses (including Core courses) in-residence at UH. Apply to the Traditional BSN program using the Change of Major application by April 1. Traditional BSN program courses are only offered at the UH at Katy. Students with more than 15-credit hours of transfer or AP/IB credit may be ineligible for the Traditional BSN.

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 15. The program is completed in three semesters and is offered only at the UH at Sugarland.

Required Courses & GPA Expectations

UH College of Nursing Pre-Requisites*
Anatomy & Physiology: BIOL 1334/1134 & 1344/1144
Chemistry: CHEM 1301
College Algebra: MATH 1310
English: ENGL 1303 & 1304
Human Development: HDFS 2317
Microbiology: BIOL 1353/1153
Nutrition: NUTR 2332
Psychology: PSYC 1300
Sociology: SOCI 1300
Statistics: MATH 2311
Core Requirements: History, Political Science, Creative Arts, Language/Philosophy/Culture

*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 requirements regarding coursework and AP/IB credit before applying. You may also meet with an advisor in the Pre-Health Advising Center to discuss other options.

Average Matriculate Numbers
- Overall GPA: 3.5
- Science GPA: 3.5
- TEAS: 75% or higher
- HESI: 75% or higher
- GRE: ~300 combined / 4.0 writing

General Information
- Bachelor’s Degree (BSN)
- Accelerated Bachelor’s Degree
- Master’s Degree (MSN)
  - Nurse Practitioner
  - Nurse Anesthetist
- Doctorate of Nursing Practice

TEAS & HESI Exams

Nursing schools will require either the TEAS or the HESI exams for non-graduate BSN programs. The University of Houston currently utilizes the TEAS exam for its undergraduate nursing programs and only allows two attempts. Students are responsible for checking which exam is required by other programs they plan to apply to.

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

Applicants should aim for at least 75% minimum, although some programs may require higher.

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

Applicants should aim for at least 75% minimum, although some programs may require higher.
GRE

Students who have already earned a BSN and are applying to graduate level nursing programs (MSN, DNP, or PhD) will need to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The GRE consists of three sections: Quantitative, Verbal, and Essay section. There are no specific courses that students need to take prior to the GRE, 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 early in the year (January-May), as they head into the application cycle.

Volunteering & Shadowing

Volunteering and shadowing are not required to apply to 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 the professionals in the nursing field will help you decide whether nursing is the right profession for you to pursue.

Letters of Evaluation

Letters of evaluation are not required to apply to the University of Houston College of Nursing; however, many 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 Program Application Deadlines

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th>Application Date (Start Term)</th>
<th>Application?</th>
<th>Exam?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>Traditional BSN</td>
<td>April 1 (Fall)</td>
<td>Change of Major Form</td>
<td>TEAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accelerated BSN</td>
<td>August 15 (Spring)</td>
<td>NursingCAS</td>
<td>TEAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>Traditional BSN</td>
<td>August 1 (Spring)</td>
<td>NursingCAS/ApplyTexas</td>
<td>HESI</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accelerated BSN</td>
<td>November 1 (Fall)</td>
<td>HESI</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Traditional BSN</td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>HESI</td>
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<tr>
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<td>NursingCAS/ApplyTexas</td>
<td>TEAS</td>
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<td>March 15 (Fall)</td>
<td>TEAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Texas Health -San Antonio</td>
<td>Traditional BSN</td>
<td>September 1 (Spring)</td>
<td>HESI</td>
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<td>January 15 (Summer)</td>
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<td>TEAS</td>
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