

**UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE  
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM**

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**TITLE OF POLICY:**                    **ADMISSION, REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCELERATED  
2<sup>ND</sup> DEGREE BSN APPLICANTS**

**ORIGINAL DATE:**                    OCTOBER 6, 2008

**LAST REVIEWED/REVISED:**    NOVEMBER 2008

**POLICY:**    Applications to the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program apply through Student Services, School of Nursing. Applicants must meet all established criteria for admission to the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN program.

Qualified applicants are admitted without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a veteran.

Applicants are advised that once admitted Act 33/34 (Criminal Record Check/Child Abuse History) Clearances, FBI Fingerprinting, a drug screen and/or additional testing will be required by some clinical facilities.

Applicants who plan to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (as well as most other states) are advised that upon application for the Registered Nurse Licensure Examination, the Board of Nursing will inquire as to whether the applicant has been convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, felonious act, an illegal act associated with alcohol, or an illegal act associated with substance abuse(s).

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**PROCEDURE:**

The following criteria are required for admission:

- 1) A baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited university or college with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
  - a) International degrees and transcripts must be submitted to the Office of International Services, 706 William Pitt Union; University of Pittsburgh; Pittsburgh, PA 15260, for verification.
- 2) A competitive GRE score.
- 3) Two letters of professional recommendation in sealed envelopes
- 4) Resume

- 5) For applicants whose native language is not English, successful achievement on the TOEFL or IELTS (see Policy No. 365, "Verification of English Language Proficiency for Students classified as Foreign Students").
- 6) A personal essay explaining how this program will help achieve their professional goals
- 7) Completion of all pre-requisite courses with qualifying grades prior to admission:
  - a. Human Anatomy & Physiology\* (includes labs) 6-8 credits
  - b. General and Biological Chemistry \*(includes a lab) 4 credits
  - c. English Composition 3 credits
  - d. Human Genetics\* 3 credits
  - e. Human Growth & Development (birth through death) 3 credits
  - f. Microbiology\* (includes lab) 4 credits
  - g. Pathophysiology Across Life Span\* (graduate course) 4 credits
  - h. Psychology 3 credits
  - i. Sociology 3 credits
  - j. Statistics (descriptive, probability, & inferential) 3 credits

**\*Applicants must have been completed within past 8 years with a grade of "B-" or better. Courses from other colleges or universities must be evaluated as equivalent to University of Pittsburgh courses.**

- 8) A pre-admission interview. If the applicant resides at a great distance, a telephone interview may be substituted.
- 9) Applicant materials are assembled and filed in Student Services and must include:
  - a. Completed application for admission to the Accelerated 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree BSN Program
  - b. Application fee (non-refundable and does not apply to the payment of tuition).
  - c. Official transcripts of all course work taken at any university or college.
  - d. Official copy of GRE.

**On-line Application:** (preferred):<https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=up-nurs>

- 10) When the application is complete, the admission panel will review the material and make a decision based on the admission criteria and the number of spaces available.
- 11) Student Services notifies applicants in writing of their admission status. Students may be accepted provisionally if they are completing prerequisite classes.
- 12) Admission must be granted before registration is permitted.
- 13) Provisional admission may be granted after completion of 6 credits of pre-requisites if all other admission requirements are met. Undergraduate applicants who are within 12-18 credits of graduation will also be considered for provisional admission.
- 14) Admitted students complete the program in three consecutive full-time terms, alternative schedules may be considered on an individual basis.
- 15) Once admitted, Act 33/34 (Criminal Record Check/Child Abuse History) Clearance and FBI fingerprinting will be required for clinical courses.

Approved by Faculty Organization:  
Reviewed: 08/09  
Revised: 10/08, 11/08  
Revisions Approved by Total Faculty: 11/08