Policy No. 4.1

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF NURSING

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

TITLE OF POLICY:ADMISSIONREQUIREMENTSFORRNOPTIONSAPPLICANTS (STUDENTS ADMITTED PRIOR to 2008)

ORIGINAL DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1994

LAST REVIEWED/REVISED: MARCH 2009

POLICY: Applicants to the RN Options Track apply through Student Services, School of Nursing.

The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an employer, values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. Further, the University will continue to take affirmative steps to support and advance these values consistent with the University's mission. This applies to admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in University programs and activities. Additional policy information on this is available at www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/07/07-01-03.html.

The following criteria are required for admission:

- a. notarized copy of current RN license (students may be permitted to take theory courses only until evidence of successful completion of NCLEX is provided).
- b. successful completion of an NLN accredited diploma or associate degree program within the past three (3) years.

successful completion of an NLN accredited program more than 3 years ago but with evidence of at least 1000 hours of work in the most recent 3 years.

or

RNs who do not meet the above criteria must attain:

a minimum score of C on each of the following Excelsior challenge exams for 30 credits:

#403 Fundamentals of Nursing #554 Adult Nursing Academic Policies and Procedures Undergraduate Program Policy No. 4 Page 2

#457 Maternal Child Nursing; and#503 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

c. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) above 3.0 for the 50 specified pre-requisite credits which must be semester credits or the equivalent.

Chemistry	4 credits
Anatomy & Physiology	6 credits
Microbiology	3 credits
Psychology	3 credits
Human Development	3 credits
English (Writing/Composition)	3 credits
Sociology	3 credits
Electives	25 credits

Prerequisites: Applicants who have a GPA between 2.5 and 3.0 on the above prerequisites may be admitted with provisional status and can be promoted to full status if the cumulative GPA is above 3.0 at the end of 9 credits.

- 1. Eighteen (18) of the elective credits must be in such academic courses as the natural sciences, social sciences or the humanities.
- 2. At least 9 of the required 50 prerequisite credits for the RN Options must have been earned within the last eight (8) years.
- 3. A minimum grade of C in Excelsior challenge exams Anatomy and Physiology and Microbiology, Life Span Development, and English Composition are also accepted for RN students who do not have college level courses in those areas.
- 4. Credits may be granted for challenge examinations taken through the National League for Nursing, in the following content areas: Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, Normal Nutrition, Diet Therapy and Applied Nutrition, and Fundamentals of Drug Therapy, provided the student earns a score at the 70th percentile or better when compared with baccalaureate student norms.
- 5. Credit may be granted for challenge examinations taken through CLEP. See policy #34.

Note: Applicants to the RN Options Track at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and at Johnstown will follow Policy #4.1, but not the procedure of Policy #4.1.

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- **PROCEDURE:** 1. Application forms are obtained from and returned to Student Services. Students may apply for admission in the Fall, Spring or Summer Terms.
 - 2. Applicant materials are assembled and filed in Student Services and must include:
 - a. Completed application for admission to the RN Options Track.
 - b. Application fee (non-refundable and does not apply to the payment of tuition).
 - c. Complete official transcripts from diploma or associate degree program and any other college level course work.
 - d. R.N. license.
 - e. Excelsior Challenge examination scores, if needed.
 - f. Personal essay indicating long term professional goals.
 - g. Resume or work history.
 - 3. When the application is complete, the Director of Student Services for the RN Options Track who makes the admission decisions based upon a minimum prerequisite GPA above 3.0 and the number of spaces available.
 - 4. Applicants are notified in writing by Student Services of their admission status.
 - 5. Admission must be granted before registration is permitted.
 - 6. A hold is placed on registration of the application is incomplete. Students may be permitted to take theory only classes during the first term of admission at the discretion of the faculty advisor. All application materials must be submitted prior to registration for subsequent terms.

Approved by Undergraduate Faculty Organization: 11/80 Revised 97-98, 99-00, 01-03, 08-09 Revisions approved by Faculty 9/97, 2/00, 5/03, 03/09