

**UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

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

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**TITLE OF POLICY:**                   **ADMISSION: REQUIREMENTS FOR RN-BSN APPLICANTS  
(STUDENTS ADMITTED PRIOR TO 2003)**

**ORIGINAL DATE:**                   **SEPTEMBER 1, 1994**

**LAST REVIEWED/REVISED:**       **NOVEMBER 2011**

**POLICY:**       Applicants to the RN-BSN Option apply through Student Affairs and Alumni Relations, School of Nursing.

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 disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era.

The following criteria are required for admission:

- a. current RN license
- b. successful completion of an NLN accredited diploma or associate degree program within the past three (3) years.
- or
- c. 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.
- d. RNs who do not meet the above criteria must attain:  
a minimum score of 45 on each of the following ACT-PEP challenge exams for 30 credits:

#403 Fundamentals of Nursing  
#554 Adult Nursing  
#457 Maternal Child Nursing; and

a minimum score of 43 on ACT-PEP challenge exam for 10 credits:

#503 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

- e. Cumulative Quality Point Average (QPA) of 2.5 or above 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

Eighteen (18) of the elective credits must be in such academic courses as the natural sciences, social sciences or the humanities.

At least 9 of the required 50 prerequisite credits for the RN Options must have been earned within the last eight (8) years.

- f. A score of at least 45 in ACT-PEP challenge exams for Anatomy and Physiology and Microbiology are also accepted for RN students who do not have college level courses in those areas.

Note: Applicants to the RN-BSN program at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and at Johnstown will follow Policy #4, but not the procedure of Policy #4.

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**PROCEDURE:**

1. Application forms are obtained from and returned to Student Affairs and Alumni Relations. Students may apply for admission in the Fall, Spring or Summer terms.
2. Applicant materials are assembled and filed in Student Affairs and Alumni Relations Office, and must include:
  - a. Completed application for admission to the RN-BSN Option.
  - 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. ACT-PEP examination scores.
  - f. Personal essay indicating long term professional goals.
  - g. Resume or work history.
3. When the application is complete, Student Affairs and Alumni Relations Office notifies the Director of RN Options who, in consultation with the Director of Student Affairs, makes the admission decisions based upon a minimum prerequisite QPA of 2.5 and the number of spaces available.
4. Applicants are notified in writing by Student Affairs and Alumni Relations Office of their admission status.
5. Admission must be granted before registration is permitted.

Approved by Total Faculty Organization: 11/80, 9/97

Revisions approved by Faculty 9/97

Reviewed 05-06. 11-12