

NURSING – FAQ

1 Is there a website with information?

<http://dacc.nmsu.edu/nurs/>

2 Who can I talk to about the program?

Academic Advisor, Nicole Gonzales, DAHL 190E/(575) 528-7249

Academic Advisor, Kelly Briarton, DASP 104A/(575) 874-7786

Program Director, Cynthia Olivas, DAHL 191C/(575) 528-7209

3 In a nutshell, what does a student need in order to apply?

2.75 minimum GPA on pre-requisite classes (first passing grade), HESI A2 75% in all required categories.

4 How does repeating prerequisites apply to this program?

- a. If a student earns a grade of F in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the F? What if the student repeats the course a second time?**

The new grade will replace the F as long as the student receives a grade of C or higher. The first passing grade is counted.

- b. If a student earns a grade of D in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the D? What if the student repeats the course a second time?**

To be considered, the grade must be a C or better and the first passing grade is counted. The new grade will replace the D as long as the student receives a grade of C or higher.

- c. If a student earns a grade of C in a prerequisite course and repeats the course, how is the new grade used toward consideration of acceptance into the program? Does the new grade replace the previous grade or is it averaged in with the C? What if the student repeats the course a second time?**

The only grade that is counted is the first passing grade (C- or better). However, courses older than 7 years can be retaken for a better grade (A or B) to replace the previous grade.

- d. Is there a cap on the number of times a student can repeat a course before the student will no longer be considered?**

Not at this time.

e. Do any prerequisites or other courses have a time expiration?

If so, what are these courses and how do the new grade(s) work into the selection process?

There is no time limit on prerequisite courses. However, Nursing courses taken over two years ago are considered expired. Please check with the Nursing Advisor for more information.

f. How is transfer credit treated? Do you use the grade from the transcript where they previously attended and consider those grades or just take into consideration the CR, CD, or GR?

The department uses the grade from the transcript where the student previously attended and those grades are considered.

g. Are students selected based on their prerequisite GPA alone, or a combination of their prerequisite and cumulative GPA?

Selection is based upon the prerequisite course GPA. The prerequisite GPA must be a 2.75 or higher. Cumulative GPA is only reviewed to ensure the student is not on academic probation.

5 How does exercising the Adjusted Credit Option (ACO), affect student's application?

Some selective admission programs add or deduct points for exercising the ACO. This program does not. Students and advisors should, however, be aware of the overall consequences of exercising the ACO. The policy is outlined under the Academic Regulations section of the current DACC catalog.

6 What kind of a salary do graduates earn?

RN: \$32 - \$37/hr. LPN/LVN: \$18 - \$24/hr.

7 What grades are needed in order to graduate?

In order to remain in the program, students must receive a C+ (77%) or better in each technical course attempted. The Nursing program does not use a traditional grading scale so students should refer to the program for information regarding the current scale.

8 Are there any special exams that may be taken upon completion of the program?

NCLIX-PN or NCLEX-RN licensure exams to become licensed Practical Nurses or Registered Nurses anywhere in the United States. Students must take and pass a Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse exit exam in order to be eligible to graduate and seek licensure.

9 Does having a felony/misdemeanor prevent students from applying?

Prospective students are required to complete and pass a security background check in order to take clinical courses. Past criminal violations may prevent a student from completing the degree and gaining a nursing license or employment in the field.

10 Is there an application deadline?

Student applications are accepted March 15 for the Summer semester, June 15 for the Fall semester, and October 15 for the Spring semester.

11 How many students apply? How many are admitted?

Average number of students applying each semester is 75+
16-24 admitted for Fall semester and 16-24 admitted for Spring semester.

12 What is the average GPA of students accepted?

Generally students admitted have a 3.5 GPA or higher.

13 Is the program approved?

Please refer to the nursing program website for current information regarding state approval and national accreditation.

<http://dacc.nmsu.edu/nurs/program-accreditation-and-approval/>

14 Are there additional program costs?

See department.

15 Are there any special proficiencies students need to have?

English language (written and oral) and computer literacy.

For a list of additional considerations students must be aware of related to entry, such as ability to stand for long periods of time, ability to lift 50+ with assistance, etc., refer to the comprehensive list of "Categories of Essential functions," listed under the Nursing program description in the current DACC Catalog.