

# *Admission to Upper Division Nursing Courses*

After being accepted into the University and having completed or being currently enrolled in Pathophysiology, the student may apply for enrollment in the upper division nursing courses. An application for admission may be obtained from the School of Nursing website.

It is important that applicants understand the following facts before being admitted to a course of study ending in a nursing license.

- Immunization of health care providers is required. This is to protect immune compromised patients from exposure to communicable disease. OBU cannot guarantee a clinical placement for students who choose to not be immunized. Without clinical placement, the student cannot complete a nursing degree.
- A urine drug screen is required. Marijuana is an illegal drug at the federal level. Any agency receiving federal funds of any kind is prohibited from allowing marijuana use. Health care agencies receive federal funds. Additionally, health care agencies prohibit providers' use of any substance which might impair judgment and put patients at risk. Therefore, it is possible that a student who tests positive for marijuana, even if it is for medical purposes, may not be granted a clinical placement in some health care agencies. Without clinical placement, the student cannot complete a nursing degree.
- A state and national criminal background check is required. Certain crimes prohibit individuals from holding a license to practice nursing. If these crimes are identified by the background check, it is possible that a student may not be granted a clinical placement in some health care agencies. Without clinical placement, the student cannot complete a nursing degree. Before beginning a nursing course of study, if there is a crime in an individual's background, an Initial Determination of Eligibility for Licensure can be obtained from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

The Oklahoma Baptist University School of Nursing is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. Graduates of this state-approved program are eligible to apply to write the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for (registered or practical) nurses. Applicants for Oklahoma licensure must meet all state and federal requirements to hold an Oklahoma license to practice nursing. In addition to completing a state-approved nursing education program that meets educational requirements and successfully passing the licensure examination, requirements include submission of an application for licensure, a criminal history records search, and evidence of citizenship or qualified alien status [59 O.S. §§567.5 & 567.6]. To be granted a license, an applicant must have the legal right to be in the United States (United States Code Chapter 8, Section 1621). In addition, Oklahoma law only allows a license to be issued to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and legal permanent resident aliens. Other qualified aliens may be issued a temporary license that is valid until the

expiration of their visa status, or if there is no expiration date, for one year. Applicants who are qualified aliens must present to the Board office, in person, valid documentary evidence of:

- A valid, unexpired immigrant or nonimmigrant visa status for admission into the United States;
- A pending or approved application for asylum in the United States;
- Admission into the United States in refugee status;
- A pending or approved application for temporary protected status in the United States;
- Approved deferred action status; or
- A pending application for adjustment of status to legal permanent resident status or conditional resident status.

The Board has the authority to deny a license, recognition or certificate; issue a license, recognition or certificate with conditions and/or an administrative penalty; or to issue and otherwise discipline a license, recognition or certificate to an individual with a history of criminal background, disciplinary action on any professional or occupational license or certification, or judicial declaration of mental incompetence [59 O.S. §567.8]. These cases are considered on an individual basis at the time application for licensure is made, with the exception of felony convictions. Potential applicants to state-approved education programs, with a criminal history, may obtain an initial determination of eligibility for licensure or certification from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing for a fee. The initial determination of eligibility for licensure petition can be accessed at <http://nursing.ok.gov/initialdeterm.pdf>.

Each applicant is considered by a committee composed of faculty from the School of Nursing. Admission to and continuation in the nursing program requires a professional review by the faculty. Criteria for admission and progression in the nursing area of concentration are outlined below. These criteria must be met prior to enrollment in junior-level nursing courses.

Official verification of the following clinical requirements are **required for admission** to the School of Nursing.

- Immunization records or titers demonstrating immunity to:
  - Measles
  - Mumps
  - Rubella
  - Varicella (Chicken Pox)
  - Hepatitis B
  - Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap)
  - Coronavirus (COVID) OR a [Declaration of Intent to Decline](#)
- Health Insurance
- Criminal Background Check
- Urine Drug Screen

*The following must be completed in the month of **May ONLY**:*

- TB testing (PPD, Tspot, IGRA, or Quantiferon)
- CPR Certification

*The following must be completed **July 15th-August 31st**:*

- Signed—Confidentiality Statement
- Signed—Student Handbook Signature Page

- Signed—A Statement of Intent to Participate
- Signed—Theory Exam Policy
- Completed—NESA mandatory education

*The following must be completed **October 1st-25th**:*

- Influenza vaccine

For more detailed information, see the [Clinical Practicum Requirements Policy](#) in OBU School of Nursing student handbook.

### Criteria for Conditional Admission in Upper Division Nursing Courses

The following criteria must be met for conditional admission into the nursing program:

- Complete online application and pay application fee.
- Earn a minimum 2.8 cumulative GPA.

For the courses listed below, the following applies:

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • CHEM 1124 Intro to Chemistry | • SOCI 1223 Intro to Sociology        |
| • BIOL 2354 Human Anatomy      | • PSYC 1223 Intro to Psychology       |
| • BIOL 2364 Human Physiology   | • NURS 1101 Cornerstone               |
| • BIOL 3274 Microbiology       | • NURS 2013 Development and Nutrition |
| • MATH 1163 College Algebra    | • NURS 2213 Pathophysiology           |
| • MATH 2003 Statistics         |                                       |

- A student must complete the courses with a minimum grade of “C”.
- A student may repeat any course only one time.
- A student cannot repeat more than two of any of the courses listed above. If a student must repeat more than two of the courses at any institution to achieve a grade of C, they will not be able to apply for admission to the School of Nursing.
- Achieve a minimum average of 70% on all nursing course exams.
- Complete all Clinical Practicum Requirements.
- If the student has attended any nursing programs previously, submit a letter from the Dean/Director stating that the student left the program in good academic standing. This must accompany the application.

### Criteria must be met for full admission into the nursing program

- Upon admission to the upper division nursing program, the applicant may have a maximum of 9 non-nursing credit hours to complete. The outstanding 9 credit hours do not include courses in the plan of study for the School of Nursing. The student must have these outstanding credits completed by the start of the Senior I semester to progress into the senior year of the program.
- All conditional requirements must be completed.
- For courses taken at another college or university, all official transcripts must be in the Academic Center no later than August 15th, of the admission year, or the student will not be considered for admission.

## General Criteria for Progression in Area of Concentration Courses

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Once a student has been admitted to the School of Nursing, the following progression criteria must be met to remain in the program:

- A student must achieve at least a C in all nursing Area of Concentration courses.
- A student is limited in the number of pre-requisite, supportive, and Nursing Area of Concentration courses that can be repeated. (See list of pre-requisite and supportive courses in Admission Criteria.) If a student is unsuccessful in a third course, including courses taken at any institution, at the time of the third failure, the student will not be able to continue working toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at OBU.
- A student may repeat any course only once.
- A student must achieve a 95% score on a Medication Safety Exam each semester.
- A student must achieve a minimum average of 70% on exams in all nursing courses.
- A student must maintain current [Clinical Practicum Requirements](#).

**Section 504 Statement:** Pursuant to Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act Of 1973, any student who has a documented disability (or would like to pursue documenting a disability) should contact the Student Services Center as soon as possible to discuss potential accommodations. Identification is the responsibility of the student.

In order to be admitted or retained in the program after admission, all applicants will possess:

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- Sufficient visual acuity, such as is needed in accurate preparation and administration of medications, and for the observation necessary for client assessment and nursing care.
- Sufficient olfactory acuity to detect the presence of unusual odors, such as a wound infection.
- Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication from clients and members of the health care team and to assess health needs of people through the use of monitoring devices such as stethoscopes, IV infusion pumps, fire alarms, and other monitors which emit audible signals.
- Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to respond promptly and to implement the skills required in meeting the safety needs of a client. These include, but are not limited to, the manipulation of equipment, performance of CPR, assisting a client with daily hygiene, positioning and ambulating clients, and administration of medications.
- Sufficient communication and language skills (speech, comprehension, reading, and writing) to communicate effectively with clients, families, and members of the health care team, as may be necessary in the client's interest and safety.

- Sufficient intellectual functioning and emotional stability to plan and implement care for clients.
- Ability to manage personal health status.

Students who have a need for services due to disabilities, please contact the Director of Student Services. Students will also need to notify the School of Nursing faculty in writing that a disability exists at the time of admission to the upper division nursing courses or if a disability occurs during enrollment in the nursing program. Documentation from a qualified professional will be requested to validate the student's ability to provide safe nursing care. Continuation in the nursing program will be based on the student's ability to provide safe nursing care to clients.

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