

NURSING (ASN)

Admission Requirements

The Associate of Science in Nursing Program at Gordon State College is designed to prepare students for a rewarding career as registered nurses. Upon successful completion of the program, the unlicensed graduate is eligible to apply for licensure as a registered professional nurse after successfully passing the national licensure exam (NCLEX-RN).

Applicants must have graduated from high school or received a GED. All students must be admitted to Gordon State College by the deadline for the application period for which you are applying. **Students must also submit a separate online application for the nursing program. Application periods and required paperwork are posted on the Department of Nursing website.**

To be considered for acceptance into the nursing program, students must have:

1. Acceptance to Gordon State College
2. Exemption from or completion of all Learning Support classes.
3. Nursing core classes **must** be completed with a minimum **grade** of C or better. A grade of D in any core class is not accepted by the Nursing department.
4. Minimum cumulative/overall GPA of 2.5 to be eligible **to apply**.
5. Have a minimum cumulative/overall GPA of 2.75 in **all** required science and math courses.
6. Completion of a Nursing Admission Test.
7. BIOL 2251K Anatomy & Physiology I, BIOL 2252K Anatomy & Physiology II, **and** BIOL 2260K Foundations of Microbiology **must all be less than 5 years old at the time of admission. No exceptions.**
8. **Not failed two (2) or more nursing courses in any unsuccessful attempt at a nursing program, including LPN. A grade of D is considered failing in a nursing program.**
9. Not failed any nursing course with a grade of F in any unsuccessful attempt in a nursing program, including LPN.
10. Ability to meet Department of Nursing Core Performance Standards.
11. **It is strongly suggested that 75% of the core course requirements be completed prior to applying to the nursing program. To be eligible to apply to the program, the applicant must have completed NURS 2251K**

Self-managed nursing applications are available online only during selective periods from the Department of Nursing website. Application deadlines are posted online.

Admission to the Nursing Program is selective and competitive. Applicants with the strongest credentials will be accepted first. A student must be accepted into the Nursing Program to be able to register for nursing classes.

Applicants who are not accepted must reapply during the next application period. The Nursing Program reserves the right to end the application period once enough qualified applications have been received.

Progression / Readmission Policy

To progress through the nursing program, the student must attain a "C" (75%) or better to pass any nursing course and have satisfactory

clinical performance. If a student withdraws from one nursing course, they must withdraw from all nursing courses within the same semester.

A student may apply for readmission to the Gordon State College Nursing Program one time only under the following conditions:

1. The student has not previously failed or withdrawn from another nursing course, semester, or program.
2. The student failed the required course(s) for one semester of the nursing program with a grade of "D" 68 - 74.99, **or** the student withdrew from the semester with a grade of W. (Students that fail any nursing course(s) with an "F" 67.99 or less, are not eligible to return to the nursing program.)
3. The student has no written disciplinary actions on file that may establish a pattern of unprofessional behavior.

If the student meets the above criteria, the student may appeal to return to the semester they failed or withdrew. To appeal, the student must submit an academic request form to the department no later than midterm of the following semester. The student must return to the semester within one calendar year of the failed attempt.

Readmission will be dependent on the outcome of the appeal and seat availability/clinical capacity. This policy is in effect no matter where in the program the student is unsuccessful, and for all Gordon State College nursing programs. The student may be required to sign a contract outlining requirements to be readmitted into the nursing program.

Core Performance Standards

All potential and enrolled students in the Department of Nursing must meet the following **Technical and Nursing Performance Standards** that encompass intellectual, physical, and social competencies required to provide safe client care.

Issues	Standard	Examples of Activities
Critical Thinking Ability/Clinical Judgment	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment and decision making	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use short- and long-term memory 2. Transfer knowledge from one situation to another 3. Process information, evaluate outcomes, problem-solve and prioritize care 4. Identify cause-effect situations 5. Exhibit competency in reading, understanding, and performing calculations for computing medication dosages 6. Develop nursing care plans, evaluate the plan of care

Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Negotiate successful conflict resolution 2. Respect cultural diversity and the rights of others 3. Establish rapport with clients and colleagues 4. Maintain therapeutic relationships with clients/colleagues 5. Work effectively in small groups 6. Demonstrate verbal and nonverbal therapeutic communication 	Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces and maintain physical tolerance for repetitive movements and demands of the work shift.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move within confined spaces 2. Sit or stand and maintain balance 3. Reach above shoulders and below waist 4. Twist, bend, stoop, climb on stool or stairs, and move quickly in response to potential emergencies 5. Push, pull, lift or support up to 50 pounds. Use upper body strength. 6. Administer rescue procedures, i.e. cardiopulmonary resuscitation
Communication Ability	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal, written, and electronic form.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write and speak English effectively so as to be understood by the general public 2. Explain health conditions, diagnostic and treatment procedures and initiate health teaching based on assessed needs, available resources, age, lifestyle and cultural considerations 3. Interpret and document client responses to health status through verbal communication, along with nonverbal cues and behaviors 4. Document client information accurately, completely, and legibly through written, oral, and electronic reports 5. Understand and accurately use medical terminology 	Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe, effective nursing care.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grasp small objects with hands 2. Manipulate small objects with fingers (IV tubing, pencil/pen) - Pinch/pick (manipulate a syringe, eyedropper, etc.), twist (turn objects) 3. Perform physical activities necessary to do basic nursing skills such as putting on sterile gloves, donning mask and gown, operating a manual and/or electronic blood pressure cuff and other essential skills 4. Provide or assist client with activities of daily living 5. Manipulate instruments, supplies, and equipment with speed, dexterity, precision, and adequate eye-hand coordination 6. Perform electronic keyboarding/documentation and/or extensive writing with a pen 7. Calibrate and use equipment (syringes, vials, ampoules, medication packages, manual blood pressure cuff, etc.) 8. Position clients correctly and efficiently

Hearing Ability	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hear auditory alarms such as monitors, fire alarms, and call bells 2. Ability to discern auscultation sounds and cries for help 3. Ability to accurately take orders over the telephone 	Emotional Stability	Emotional stability sufficient to tolerate rapidly changing conditions and environmental stress.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish therapeutic interpersonal boundaries 2. Provide clients with emotional support 3. Adapt to changing environment and stress while maintaining professional conduct and standards 4. Focus attention on task 5. Perform multiple tasks concurrently 6. Handle strong emotions 7. Use appropriate coping strategies
Visual Skills	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for safe client care.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perform basic nursing skills such as inserting an IV, counting respirations, preparing and administering medications 2. Observe client's condition and responses to treatment 3. Read small print, gauges, thermometers, measuring cups, syringes, and other equipment 4. Discriminate colors, changes in color, size, and continuity of body parts (skin color changes, color of drainage) 5. Identify, prepare, and administer medications accurately 6. Identify hazards in the environment 7. Visualize written words and information on paper and on a computer screen correctly 	Professional Behavior	Respect the nursing profession and behave in a respectful, ethical, and professional manner with others in the class, laboratory, or clinical area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interact respectfully and appropriately with peers, faculty/facility staff, and clients 2. Engage in self-evaluation of behaviors and practice performance 3. Collaborate effectively with clients/families, interdisciplinary teams 4. Integrate ethical behavior in nursing practice 5. Incorporate the standards of the profession into behaviors and actions 6. Respect and adhere to the policies and procedures of the Department of Nursing and clinical agencies
Tactile Ability	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feel vibrations to detect pulses, etc. 2. Detect temperature 3. Feel differences in sizes and shapes and detect surface characteristics 			

Source: Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing (1993) and National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.: *Guidelines for Using Results of Functional Abilities Studies and Other Resources* (1999)

General Degree Requirements

For graduation with an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) degree, these requirements must be completed in accordance with the academic regulations stated in this catalog and in the *Gordon State College Nursing Student Handbook*:

1. Complete the prescribed curriculum with a minimum 2.0 grade point average. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) is required for each core course and for each nursing course in the curriculum. A minimum 2.0 Gordon State and nursing program GPA is needed to graduate.
2. Complete all nursing courses at Gordon State and be registered at the College during the semester that all graduation requirements are satisfied.

3. Complete the Constitution and history requirements as required by the State of Georgia.

Clinical Assignments

All clinical agencies will have specific requirements. Students must comply with requirements such as obtaining required immunizations, background checks, and drug screens to be eligible to attend clinical. If a student is denied a clinical experience at one clinical agency because of findings in the student's criminal background check or drug screen, the clinical requirements for that course cannot be met. The student would then not be able to successfully complete the course; therefore, withdrawal from the program would be required. Gordon State College has no way of knowing or controlling who will be permitted to have clinical experiences in the agencies.

Licensing Examination

Admission to the nursing program and completion of course requirements do not guarantee students the right to take the licensing examination for registered nurses. An applicant who has been indicted or convicted of an offense other than a minor traffic violation, who is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act, or who has been issued a license which has been encumbered (denied, revoked, suspended, surrendered, restricted or placed on probation) by any state board may be permitted to take the licensing examination at the discretion of the Georgia Board of Nursing. The license may not be issued until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the Board. If charges are substantiated, the license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant's meeting all other criteria for licensure.

Curriculum

Please note that the Core IMPACTS Curriculum for the ASN Degree differs from the other Core IMPACTS requirements for other Associate of Art or Science degrees.

Required High School Curriculum requirements do not apply to students in two-year terminal degree or one-year certificate programs. However, students in these programs who transfer into programs leading to the baccalaureate degree will be required to meet RHSC requirements if they have not completed 30 semester hours.

Code	Title	Hours
Area C		
Communication in Writing		
ENGL 1101	English Comp I	3
ENGL 1102	English Comp II	3
Area M		
Mathematics and Quantitative Skills		
MATH 1001	Quantitative Skills & Reason	3
	or MATH 1111 College Algebra	
Area A		
Arts, Humanities & Ethics		
Select one of the following:		
ARTS 1100	Art Appreciation	
ARTS 1101	Survey of Art History I	
ARTS 1102	Survey of Art History II	
COMM 1110	Public Speak	
COMM 1500	Intro to Interpersonal Commun	
FREN 1001	Elem French I	

FREN 1002	Elem French II	
HUMN 1500	Humanities I	
MUSC 1100	Music Appreciation	
SPAN 1001	Elem Spanish I	
SPAN 1002	Elem Spanish II	
SPAN 1060	Accelerated Elem Spanish	
THEA 1000	Voice and Diction	
THEA 1100	Theatre Appreciation	
ENGL 2111	World Literature I	
ENGL 2112	World Literature II	
ENGL 2121	British Lit I	
ENGL 2122	British Lit II	
ENGL 2131	American Lit I	
ENGL 2132	American Lit II	
PHIL 2010	Introduction to Philosophy	
PHIL 2020	Introduction to Ethics	

Area T

Technology, Math, & Sciences (NonSTEM)

Select one Lab Science courses (sequence not required):

BIOL 1111K	Introductory Biology I ¹	4
	or CHEM 1151K Survey of Chemistry I	

Area P

Political Science & US History

Must choose one American History:

HIST 2111	American History I	3
	or HIST 2112 American History II	

Major Foundations

BIOL 2251K	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 2252K	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIOL 2260K	Foundations of Microbiology	4

Area S

Social Sciences

PSYC 2103	Human Growth & Devel	3
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Total Hours **34**

¹ BIOL 1111K Introductory Biology I or CHEM 1151K Survey of Chemistry I only needed as a pre-requisite for BIOL 2251K Anatomy & Physiology I if the student has not previously taken BIOL 2251K Anatomy & Physiology I.

Learning Support

Code	Title	Hours
English		
ENGL 0999	Support for English Comp ¹	2
Math		
MATH 0997	Support for Quantitative Reason ²	2
or		
MATH 0998	Algebra Asst/Quantitative Skls ³	1
Other		
		1

¹ co-requisite support for ENGL 1101 English Comp I

² co-requisite support for MATH 1001 Quantitative Skills & Reason.

³ co-requisite support for MATH 1111 College Algebra

If placement index scores at time of enrollment indicate, student will be placed into co-requisite English or Math Learning Lab sections to facilitate academic progress. Learning Support credits do not fit into core curriculum for degree completion.

Nursing Program Accreditation and Approval

The Gordon State College nursing programs have full approval by the Georgia Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

Information about approval and/or accreditation may be obtained from the following:

Georgia Board of Nursing
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, Georgia 31217
(478) 207-2440
<https://www.sos.ga.gov/georgia-board-nursing>

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000
www.acenursing.org (<https://www.acenursing.org/>)