

Pacific Union College Department of Nursing & Health Sciences

Associate of Science Degree in Nursing Program

General Information and Frequently Asked Questions

General Information

Pacific Union College is:

- A Christian liberal arts college
- A fully accredited four-year college
- Ranked among the top ten western regional liberal arts colleges in U.S. News and World Report

Pacific Union College has been educating nursing students since 1958 when it first established the Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (ASN). The AS Nursing degree program is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, INC. (ACEN, 3343 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 850, Atlanta GA 30326; (404) 975-5000. www.acenursing.org).

AS Nursing Degree Program

Curriculum: A description of the AS Nursing degree program, degree requirements and curriculum is available at www.puc.edu/academics/department/nursing-health-sciences/rn-education. Select document NHSC-07 for admission requirements and pre-nursing for entry into the AS Nursing degree program. Select document NHSC-08 for an overview of both the AS and RN to BSN degree requirements, along with A-06, which lists AS and BSN general education requirements. Nursing faculty advisors assist students in developing an academic plan.

PUC's AS Nursing degree program is one of many two-year associate nursing degree programs in California that graduate more than two-thirds of the nursing students eligible to take the RN licensure examination.

Once started, the AS degree program can be completed in six (6) academic quarters. During the final three quarters of the nursing program, students travel to clinical sites two times each week, leaving less time to take additional on-campus courses. For that reason, all AS Nursing cognate and general education courses must be completed before starting the second-year nursing classes.

Several starting dates per year: The AS Nursing degree program admits students three quarters out of the academic year: Fall, Winter, and Spring.

Continuing Your Education: Hybrid *and* Online RN to BSN Programs

The RN to BSN Program at Pacific Union College allows students to seamlessly complete their BSN in a two-step process by first completing AS degree requirements and then continuing on to complete the remaining requirements for the BSN. An RN license is required for students to complete some BSN courses. Both the Hybrid and Online programs follow non-traditional schedules designed to meet the needs of the individual who must work while pursuing an education. Classes are developed on adult learning principles and designed for interactive learning experiences. Full-time, part-time, and online options are available. Contact the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences or visit www.puc.edu/departments/nursing-health-sciences for more information.

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Frequently Asked Questions

When can I apply to the AS Program?

In general, once you are sure that you want to pursue nursing and you think you have met all of the eligibility requirements, submit your application. You can submit your application at any time, but you will only be considered for admission after you have met all requirements. For advice that relates to your specific circumstances, contact the Nursing Admissions Coordinator: nursing@puc.edu.

When will my application be considered for the AS Program?

Once you have submitted your application and met all of the admission requirements, your application will be considered for the next quarter; the admission requirements are listed on the NHSC-07 guide sheet.

Which courses are prerequisite to the AS Nursing Program?

- MATH 096 Basic Algebra II or MATH 094 Algebra With Financial Applications II (or a full year of HS Algebra II)
- CHEM 101 Introductory Chemistry or PHYS 105 Intro to Physics (or a full year of HS Chemistry or HS Physics)
- ENGL 101 College English I
- BIOL 101 Human Anatomy or BIOL 102 Human Physiology
- NURS 110 Introduction to Nursing

Note that any course that applies towards the AS degree must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

Which grades and test scores are reviewed for the AS program admission process?

- AS Nursing admissions GPA – A minimum GPA of 3.00 in AS Nursing prerequisite and cognate courses is required. Preference will be given to applicants who have earned a nursing GPA above 3.30 and completed at least 12 units of nursing required courses at PUC.
- ATI TEAS score – Academic Preparedness score at the Proficient Level (58.7%-79.9%) or better is required; preference will be given to applicants who score at the Advanced or Exemplary Level.
 - Applicants can take the TEAS a total of three times, with a minimum of 60 days between tests.

What will increase my chances for acceptance into the AS Nursing Program?

Earning As and Bs in all of the classes required for nursing is one of the most important things you can do to improve your chances for admission to the AS Program. In addition, scoring well on the ATI TEAS, receiving excellent recommendations, and completing most or all of the required cognate and GE classes can also increase your chances of acceptance.

What will hurt my chances for acceptance to the AS Nursing Program?

Earning a final grade below C in a class required for nursing can decrease your chance of admission, even if you have successfully repeated that class.

What are the Nursing Application Deadlines?

- April 15 – Fall Quarter, September 15 – Winter Quarter, December 15 – Spring Quarter

For more information on the AS Nursing Program or the application process, see the AS Nursing Program Application Checklist, the AS Nursing Program Application Form, and the NHSC-07 guide sheet available on the RN Education page of the Nursing & Health Sciences department website, www.puc.edu/academics/departments/nursing-health-sciences/rn-education.