

**UK**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
**KENTUCKY**  
College of Nursing

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Lexington, KY 40536-0232

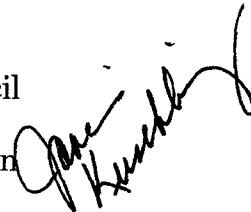
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February 14, 2008

TO: Heidi Anderson, Chair  
Health Care Colleges Council

FROM: Jane M. Kirschling, Dean



RE: Proposed change in admission requirements

The College of Nursing is requesting that the process for admitting freshmen be adjusted to offer a guarantee of admission to professional standing. Attached please find a proposed revision to Senate Regulation 4.2.2.1 which governs admission to the College of Nursing.

Admission to nursing programs across the country is competitive and most commonly happens at the sophomore or junior year, after completion of pre-requisite courses. Prospective students and parents express much interest in having a guarantee of admission to the professional level instead of spending a year (or more) taking pre-requisites and hoping for admission. We have patterned this application process after several of the nursing benchmark institutions. We believe that we will be able to retain more of the top freshman applicants to the University of Kentucky

If you have questions, feel free to contact Pat Burkhart, Director of the Undergraduate Program (3-6253 or [pvburk2@email.uky.edu](mailto:pvburk2@email.uky.edu)) or me (3-6533 or [janek@email.uky.edu](mailto:janek@email.uky.edu)).

We request that this be approved for the beginning of the 2008-9 Admission cycle, for students entering in fall 2009.

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## 4.2.2 SPECIFIC UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

### 4.2.2.1 Admission to College of Nursing [US:4/12/82; US:3/10/86; US:10/14/91; US:2/13/95; US 4/10/00]

The College of Nursing (CON) enrollment will be composed of four-year students, associate degree nursing graduates and diploma nursing school graduates. Admission to the University does not guarantee admission to the College of Nursing. Preference will be given to Kentucky residents.

Applicants must be in a state of good health enabling them to carry out the functions of the professional nurse. Routinely, each student will be required to obtain a rubella and rubeola titers, and have an annual tuberculin test or chest x-ray.

Progression to upper division courses is regulated so that the total number of full time equivalents at the beginning of the junior year does not exceed 120. Admission criteria for four types of students are presented below:

#### A. Criteria for Admission to the 4-year BSN Program Include: [US 4/13/98]

##### 1. Freshman Student

Students will be admitted as freshman to a prenursing curriculum based on the following criteria:

- (a) high school grade point average of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale
- (b) meeting criteria for selective admission to the University of Kentucky as established by Rule 4.2.1.1

##### 2. Admission to the nursing curriculum will occur at the sophomore level for all students based on satisfying the following criteria:

- (a) a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5;
- (b) a grade of "C" or better in all required prenursing courses; and
- (c) a certificate from an approved certified nursing assistant program.

In addition, any or all of the following information may be requested as part of the admission decision:

- (d) a writing exercise based on criteria established by the CON; and
- (e) two letters of reference from individuals who can assess potential for success (e.g., teacher, employer). Reference forms are available by calling (859) 323-5108.
- (f) an interview with members of the Admission and Progression Committee, or their designees.

##### 3. Early Admission

Early admission to the Professional Nursing Curriculum will be granted to graduating high school seniors who meet the criteria of a high school gpa of 3.5 or higher and an ACT composite of 26 or higher (or the equivalent SAT combined score). The total number of spaces available for early admission will not exceed 25% of the maximum enrollment in professional nursing. In order to maintain guaranteed admission to the Professional Nursing Curriculum in the sophomore year, the student must maintain a 3.0 gpa in each semester during the freshman year and a 2.75 gpa in the pre-requisite science courses. Students not meeting those requirements will go into the pool with other applicants for consideration for admission to the sophomore year.

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**B. Criteria for Admission to the 4-year BSN Program for Transfer Students Include:**

[US: 4/13/98; US 4/10/00]

1. for transfer students with less than 24 hours of college credit, meeting the criteria for entering freshman and a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on all college work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions;
2. for transfer students with more than 24 hours of college credit, maintaining a grade point average of 2.5 on all college work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions;
3. grades of "C" or better in all courses required for CON curriculum;
4. a writing exercise based on criteria established by the CON; and
5. one letter of reference from an individual who can assess potential for success (e.g., teacher, employer, etc.); and
6. completion of an approved certified nursing assistant program.

**C. Students will be eligible to apply for readmission the College of Nursing** after suspension from the College when they meet criteria as stated in Section B 1 and 2 of this policy.

**D. A student who is a registered nurse will be considered for admission to upper division courses in the nursing program based on the following criteria:**

1. The applicant must be a registered nurse licensed to practice in Kentucky.
2. an Associate Degree in Nursing from a college accredited by one of the six regional academic accrediting associations with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 on all course work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions.\*

3. a statement of academic and professional goals; and
4. a letter of reference from a supervisor.

\*The registered nurse who is a graduate of a diploma program will be considered for admission after earning a minimum of 60 college credits which include:

English	6 semester credits
Natural Sciences	6 semester credits
Social Sciences	6 semester credits
Humanities	6 semester credits
Nursing <sup>o</sup>	28 semester credits

<sup>o</sup>Nursing credits may be earned from regionally accredited colleges by taking the courses or by taking the ACT-PEP tests. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact the Office of Student Services in the College of Nursing regarding the approved nursing ACT-PEP credits. All nursing courses taken in associate degree or diploma programs are considered lower division courses and are not equivalent to upper division courses in this program. The applicant must have at least a GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 on all college course work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions, and must have satisfactorily completed the ACT-PEP tests which establish the nursing credits.

The application deadline for admission to the Nursing program for all categories of student is March 1st. [SC: 4/24/95; US 4/10/00; SC: 10/30/06]