

All prospective candidates for graduation from Alcorn State University must either pass a departmental examination or complete a written project. The Associate of Science in Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs have selected a comprehensive examination to meet the University requirement. This examination is part of the course requirements and will be administered in the graduating semester of both of the Undergraduate Nursing Programs.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT POLICY

Upon admission to the School of Nursing, a student who discloses a properly certified disability will receive a reasonable accommodation.

However, in order to perform safe client care, students must meet core performance standards and functional abilities for admission and progression, as published by the Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing (SCCEN). A copy of the Core Performance Standards can be found on the School of Nursing (SON) webpage at <https://www.alcorn.edu/academics/schools-and-departments/school-of-nursing/son-undergraduate-admissions>.

Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Health and Disability Services at (601) 877-6460 to discuss specific needs. Health and Disability Services is located in the Felix H. Dunn Health Services Center, 1000 ASU Drive, #779, Alcorn State, MS 39096. The Office of Health and Disability Services coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

ACCREDITATIONS

In addition to the Southern Association for the Accreditation of Schools and Colleges Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Associate of Science in Nursing and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs are accredited by the following agencies:

State of Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL)

3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211-6453
Telephone: 601-432-6486 <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/nursing>

The Associate of Science in Nursing program at Alcorn State University at the Natchez Campus, located in Natchez, Mississippi, is accredited by the:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate of Science in Nursing program is Continuing Accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at <http://www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm>

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ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

Cora S. Balmat School of Nursing Telephone:

(601) 304-4226

Fax: (601) 304-4372

The Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) curriculum is designed to prepare graduates who are competent to function as entry-level registered nurses. The graduate of the ASN Program will be proficient in a core set of competencies that will guide their practice as registered nurses. These competencies include: client-centered care, professionalism, leadership, systems-based practice, informatics and technology, communication, teamwork and collaboration, safety, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice (Mississippi Nursing Competency Model, 2012). The graduate is prepared to utilize clinical reasoning through the nursing process as a basis for clinical decision making. The graduate engages in collaborative and managed care in diverse settings.

The curriculum fulfills the educational needs of qualified applicants who desire to prepare for nursing in a relatively short period of time in a university setting. Opportunities are also provided for upward mobility of licensed practical nurses. The curriculum combines courses offered by Alcorn State University, Natchez Campus, with planned and guided learning experiences in clinical nursing in affiliating hospitals and community agencies. The number of hours required for graduation with the Associate of Science in Nursing degree is 64.

MISSION AND END-OF-PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The mission of the ASN Program is to cultivate a learning environment that facilitates the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to provide safe, competent nursing care that promotes optimal health outcomes for individuals, families, and communities.

The graduate of the ASN Program possesses the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to:

1. Evaluate nursing care provided to clients, families, groups, and communities across the lifespan from diverse backgrounds in a variety of settings to ensure that it is compassionate, age and culturally appropriate, and based on a client's preferences, values and needs.
2. Collaborate with members of the interprofessional health care team to manage and coordinate the provision of safe, quality care for clients, families, and groups.
3. Demonstrate use of best current evidence and clinical expertise when making clinical decisions in the provision of client-centered care.
4. Use evidence-based quality improvement processes to effect change in the delivery of client-centered care.
5. Demonstrate effective use of strategies to mitigate errors and reduce the risk of harm to clients, self, and others in healthcare, home, and community settings.
6. Use evidence-based information and client care technology to communicate relevant client information, manage care, and mitigate error in the provision of safe, quality client-centered care.
7. Assimilate integrity and accountability into practices that uphold established regulatory, legal, and ethical principles while providing client-centered, standard-based nursing care.
8. Use leadership, management, and priority-setting skills in the provision and management of safe, quality client-centered care.
9. Analyze the impact that the macrosystem has on the provision of safe, quality client-centered care in the microsystem of the work unit.
10. Use verbal and nonverbal communication strategies with clients, families, colleagues, and groups from diverse backgrounds that foster mutual respect and shared decision making to enhance client satisfaction and health outcomes.

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

The applicant must:

1. be eligible for undergraduate admission to Alcorn State University;

2. submit an official high school transcript or documentation of GED;
3. have an American College Test (ACT) composite score of 18 or greater (15 or higher prior to October 1989);
4. have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale on transferable college credits;
5. complete the prerequisite courses listed below. (The application may be submitted pending completion of the Pre-requisite courses.)
7. complete an Alcorn State University Application for Undergraduate Admission (if not currently enrolled at the University); and
8. complete an Application for Admission to the Associate of Science in Nursing Program.

PROGRAM OF STUDY: GENERIC ASN OPTION*

Completion of prerequisite course requirements for the Associate of Science in Nursing degree does not automatically insure admission to the ASN Program Generic Option.

Prerequisites	Class	Hrs.
BI 114	Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab	4
BI 214	Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab	4
MA 121	College Algebra	3
UL 101	University Life	1
	Total	12

First Year (26)							
First Semester	Class	Hrs.		Second Semester	Class	Hrs.	
NU 118	Foundations of Client-Centered Care	8		NU 128	Client-Centered Care I	8	
EN 111	Composition I	3		BI 325	Microbiology with Lab	4	
SY 235	Introduction to Sociology	3					
	TOTAL	14		TOTAL		12	
Second Year (26)							
NU 218	Client-Centered Care II	8		NU 223	Role Transition	3	
PH 320	Developmental Psychology	3		NU 229	Client-Centered Care III	9	
SY 235	Creative Arts/Humanities Elective **	3				-	
	TOTAL	14		TOTAL		12	

****Electives must be approved. UL 101 University Life is a university requirement for incoming freshmen. Nursing courses must be taken in sequence with the designated Prerequisites and Co-requisites.**

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE (LPN) ADVANCED PLACEMENT OPTION

The Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Advanced Placement Option is designed for the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) who seeks to further his/her education and advance in the nursing profession. The LPN Advanced Placement Option is a three (3) semester program, which begins in the summer semester and can be completed at the end of the following spring semester, after completion of all degree requirements.

Licensed Practical Nurses who are currently practicing and have a minimum of one year practice experience are eligible for consideration for admission to the LPN Advanced Placement Option. Applicants for the LPN Advanced Placement Option must meet the general University undergraduate admission requirements and ASN Program admission requirements. The applicant must have a current unencumbered license to practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Applicants for the LPN Advanced Placement Option are also required to successfully pass a credit examination. The credit examination may be taken twice in order to achieve the score needed for Program admission and validation credit. Individuals will be contacted by the School of Nursing personnel regarding testing dates and registration instructions.

If the applicant is unsuccessful on the credit examination, he/she may apply for admission into the Generic Option. Applicants successfully passing the credit examination requirement of the LPN Advanced Placement Option must enter the ASN Program during the same academic year the credit examination is completed. After passing the credit examination and registering for the LPN Advanced Placement Option, the Licensed Practical Nurse is awarded eight (8) semester hours credit for NU118: Foundations of Client-Centered Care and is responsible for paying the credit-by-examination fee prior to enrolling in NU 128.

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR LPN ADVANCED PLACEMENT OPTION:

The applicant must:

1. submit a copy of a current unencumbered licensed practical nurse (LPN) license with eligibility to work in Mississippi.
2. be eligible for undergraduate admission to Alcorn State University;
3. submit an official high school transcript or documentation of GED;
4. have an American College Test (ACT) composite score of 18 or greater (15 or higher prior to October 1989);
5. have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale on transferable college credits;
6. achieve the required score for admission on a credit examination.
7. complete the prerequisite courses listed below. (The application may be submitted pending completion of the Pre-requisite courses.)
8. complete an Alcorn State University Application for Undergraduate Admission (if not currently enrolled at the University); and
9. complete an Application for Admission to the Associate of Science in Nursing Program.

PROGRAM OF STUDY: LPN ADVANCED PLACEMENT OPTION:

Completion of prerequisite course requirements for the Associate of Science in Nursing degree does not automatically insure admission to the ASN Program LPN Advanced Placement Option.

Pre-requisites	Class		Hrs.
BI 114	Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab		4
BI 214	Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab		4
MA 121	College Algebra		3
EN 111	Composition 1		3
SY 235	Introduction to Sociology		3
UL 101	University Life		1
	TOTAL		18

NU 118	Foundations (Credit by Examination)		8
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Summer Session	Class		Hrs.
NU 128	Client-Centered Care I		8
BI 325	Microbiology with Lab		4
	TOTAL		12

First Semester	Class		Hrs.		Second Semester	Class		Hrs.
NU 118	Client-Centered Care II		8		NU 223	Role Transition		3
PH 320	Developmental Psychology		3		NU 229	Client-Centered Care III		9
	Creative Arts/Humanities Elective*		3					
	TOTAL		14			TOTAL		12

*Electives must be approved. UL 101 University Life is a university requirement for incoming freshmen. Nursing courses must be taken in sequence with the designated Prerequisites and co-requisites.

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM

The applicant must:

1. be eligible for undergraduate admission to Alcorn State University;
2. submit an official high school transcript or documentation of GED;
3. submit official transcript(s) from each college/university attended;
4. An ACT composite score of 21. Students with the required ACT composite score must also have at least a grade of “C” in each prerequisite course to the nursing major and a 2.0 GPA.
5. Students without the required ACT composite score must complete all the course prerequisites to the nursing major with at least a grade of “C” and a GPA of 2.5.
6. complete an Alcorn State University Application for Undergraduate Admission;
7. complete an Application for Admission to Undergraduate Nursing Programs; and
8. complete lower level prerequisites for entering to the Upper Level Program of Study. Lower level prerequisites must be completed and documented (via transcript) by each applicant prior to the anticipated date of enrollment in the first clinical nursing course.

LOWER LEVEL PREREQUISITE COURSES (Required of all BSN Program applicants)

Completion of lower level prerequisite course requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree does not automatically assure admission to the BSN Program.

Prerequisite Courses

Semester Hours

English (6 Hours)

Composition I	3
Composition II	3

Creative Arts (9 Hours)

Literature	3
Oral Communication	3
Elective (Creative Arts Elective)	3

Social Sciences (21 Hours)

History	3
Sociology, Ethics, The Family	9
General Psychology	3
Developmental Psychology	3
Statistical Methods	3

Natural/Physical Sciences 15 Hours Total (Including Labs)

Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab	4
Anatomy & Physiology II with Lab	4
Microbiology with Lab	4
Nutrition	3

Junior Year (30)

7. complete an Alcorn State University Application for Undergraduate Admission;
8. complete an Application for Admission to Undergraduate Nursing Programs; and
9. complete lower level prerequisites for entering to the Upper Level Program of Study. Lower level prerequisites must be completed and documented (via transcript) by each applicant prior to the anticipated date of enrollment in the first clinical nursing course.

PROGRAM OF STUDY: RN to BSN PROGRAM OPTION

First Semester	Class	Hrs.		Second Semester	Class	Hrs.
NU 4220OL	Health Assessment	3		NU 4360OL	Nursing of Communities/Populations	3
NU 4220LOL	Health Assessment Lab	1		NU 4360LOL	Nursing of Communities/Populations Lab	1
NU 431OL	Scholarly Writing	4		NU 437OL	Research II	4
NU 432OL	Pathophysiology	3		NU 438OL	Nursing Leadership/Management	5
NU 433OL	Research I	3		NU 438LOL	Nursing Leadership/Management Lab	1
NU 434OL	Enhancement Pro. Role	3		NU 439OL	Health Policy and Finance	3
	TOTAL	17			TOTAL	17

Twenty-six (26) hours of credit is awarded to each RN to BSN student as validation credit. To receive credit for the 26 hours, each student must pay a fee of \$390.00 to the Business Office on the Lorman Campus during the last semester of enrollment. A receipt of payment must be provided to the Secretary for Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program.

Only Registered Nurses who have been admitted into the RN to BSN Program Option are eligible to register for online nursing courses.