1. **What programs are offered by nursing school?**
The School of Nursing offers a Basic/Trimester Bachelor of Science and a RN to Bachelor of Science. The Basic/Trimester BSN Program is open to both undergraduate and second degree seekers. The RN to BSN program is open to undergraduates and second degree seekers who have a California Registered Nurse’s license.

2. **When and how do I apply to the nursing program?**
If you are applying to the Basic and Trimester BSN Programs, refer to the packet for Spring and Fall application deadlines. You may submit an application with only one prerequisite course in progress. You must receive a grade of C or higher in the course that is in progress to be admitted.

3. **Is there a waiting list to enter your nursing program?**
We do not have a waiting list. We use a point system to find the best qualified students for admission each semester.

4. **If I applied last year and was not selected, does my application automatically get considered for next semester?**
No! You must submit a new application for each admission cycle.

5. **Can international students apply?**
The program can only admit 2 international students a semester to the Basic/Trimester BSN Programs. The top two international students will be offered admission into the program.

6. **AB 540 Students**
At this time, we cannot consider AB 540 students for admission into our Nursing Program.
“Nonresident students meeting the criteria (for AB 540 status) will be exempted from the payment of nonresident tuition, but they will not be classified as California residents. They continue to be ‘nonresidents’.“ (Exemption request form)
However, if the applicant has achieved Employment Authorization Card and Social Security Number through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, the applicant can be considered for admission.

7. **Can out of state residents apply?**
No. At this time, due to impaction, only California state residents can be considered for admission.

8. **Is it difficult to get into the program?**
Yes! More students apply to the CSULB’s School of Nursing than there are spaces available. PLAN AHEAD! The higher your grades, the better your chances are of being admitted to the program. Also, take your prerequisite courses as soon as possible and apply to the School of Nursing when you have completed them or are enrolled in your LAST prerequisite course.

9. **How does the School of Nursing select applicants for admission?**
The Student Affairs Admissions Committee looks at several factors when considering which applicants will be admitted. The criteria for selection out of 10 possible points are:
   a.) TEAS Assessment Overall Test Score (2 points max)
   b.) GPA in the science prerequisite courses (4 points max)
   c.) GPA in the GE prerequisite courses (2 points max)
   d.) General Assessment Math Score (2 points max)
Candidates with the highest cumulative scores, based upon their personal profile, must participate in a mandatory faculty Communication Exercise. This exercise will be held approximately thirty days after the nursing application deadline. This exercise earns applicants a maximum of 2 points. After the communication exercise, successful candidates will be offered admission into the program.

10. **How many students do you accept, and how often are students admitted?**
We admit 70 students to begin Basic/Trimester BSN classes each fall and spring semester.

11. **What if I took a prerequisite course at another college or university?**
Prerequisite courses are listed in the application packet. Many colleges and universities can tell you which transfer to CSULB due to contractual agreements. It is very important that prerequisite courses are equivalent to the CSULB courses listed on the application. Do not assume that the courses you took will be equivalent to CSULB’s courses. Also, do not assume a class is an equivalent even if it is accepted by another nursing program. If the course is not listed at assist.org, or on our science prerequisite chart located on our website, you must submit the course syllabus to the School of Nursing for evaluation.

12. **Do I have to take the prerequisite courses at CSULB?**
No. Students may take the prerequisites at any college or university as long as the courses taken are equivalent in content and units to those listed in the application brochure. Many equivalencies are obtained by submitting a course description and course syllabus to our nursing department.

13. **Can I take a second GE course in the same category and/or retake a science course to improve my pre-nursing GPA rating?**
The first Science/GE course with an C or better taken which fulfills a Science/GE category requirement will be used for the Pre-NRSRG GPA calculation effective Fall 2011.

14. **Do you accept AP English, Calculus, Chemistry, Statistics and Psychology?**
Yes. Students receive credit that the requirement has been met. However, we calculate students’ ratings without these courses.

15. **Is there a time limit on when I took my prerequisites?**
Yes. All natural sciences should have been taken within the last five years.

16. **If I have more than one prerequisite in progress, can I still apply for admission?**
No, you can only have one prerequisite in progress on the application deadline date. The course in progress is considered a C for rating calculation.
17. **What courses can I take after my prerequisite course work is completed?**

Many students like to complete their general education courses before entering the nursing program. This will allow them to focus on the nursing courses and be ready for graduation as soon as the nursing courses are finished.

18. **What GPA do I need to apply to the nursing program?**

For the Basic/Trimester BSN program, all prerequisite courses must be C or higher. A grade of C- is not acceptable. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in each of their science and their general education prerequisite courses. However, the science GPA average Fall 2014 was 3.93. The higher the grades the better the applicants’ chances are of being admitted to the program.

19. **How long will it take me to complete the BSN Program?**

Students admitted to the Basic/Trimester BSN Program take five semesters to complete the nursing courses, but the trimester students finish sooner by going summer(s). The RN to BSN program takes approximately 3-4 semesters to complete.

20. **Can I attend courses on a part-time basis?**

For the basic BSN program, each semester is scheduled for 15 or 16 units. Some students take general courses during the summer or winter break to decrease the number of units during the regular semester. If students must be out a semester, the leave of absence procedure must be followed.

21. **Are there any nursing courses in the evening?**

Nursing courses are usually offered during the day or early evening. Lecture and lab classes are offered one or two days a week. Clinical classes are offered Monday through Sunday during day or evening shifts.

22. **Can I take the state board exam before I graduate?**

No. The NCLEX can only be taken after your BSN has been awarded by the university.

23. **What if I have my LVN already?**

LVNs, who are accepted for admission, can have Nursing 200 waived. Two spaces are reserved each semester for LVN admissions. After you have submitted an LVN application, official transcripts and TEAS results, you will speak with the LVN nursing advisor who will help you plan your program and get you on the LVN waiting list.

24. **What if I have my RN already?**

A.D.N.-RN students enter with 56 units of transferable lower division credit. Fourteen additional units may be given for lower division general education course work. Up to 70 total units may be transferred. RNs should be GE certified at the community college prior to application to CSULB. The RN Pathway program has been developed for the A.D.N.-RN student. The first semester is a bridge year. Some classes may be taken with the basic students while others are designed to help transition students to the BSN level. All students merge during the senior year.

25. **Are there nursing classes in the summer?**

Yes, students in the Trimester will attend in the summer.

26. **When can I meet with a nursing counselor?**

There are group counseling sessions each semester. It is recommended that you attend one of these sessions prior to submitting your application to the nursing department. Once you have this information, a personal appointment can be made by calling 562-985-2201 or emailing monalisa.ward@csulb.edu if you have additional questions.

27. **Does acceptance into the program mean that I am automatically accepted to the University?**

No. You must file three separate applications (two for CSULB and one for the SON) by the deadlines required for each. Check the CSULB website (www.csulb.edu) for the University application deadline.

28. **Where do I send my official transcripts?**

It is recommended that you have your official transcripts sent directly to you and that you attach one set of official unopened transcripts to your nursing program application, and submit one set to the University when requested.

29. **Can I take the TEAS more than once and if I can take it more than once, which score will be used?**

You may take the TEAS more than once; however, we require that there must be 30 days between each test date. We will use the test that yields you the highest rating.

30. **When is the TEAS offered?**

Multiple TEAS dates are offered January, April, June, July August and November. If the TEAS was not taken at CSULB, applicants must arrange to have official TEAS scores sent by atitesting.com to CSULB.

31. **What if I want to transfer from another nursing program to your program?**

Transfer students are taken on space availability only. Write a letter of interest to the Undergraduate Director, submit letter of recommendation from current Nursing Dean/Chair, and submit official transcripts along with nursing course syllabi. Fill out a transfer application. After your file is reviewed, the Undergraduate Director will meet with you to discuss your options.

32. **Do I need to submit letters of references?**

Letters of reference and testimonials are not a factor in the basic BSN application process. Please do not submit these items.

33. **Can I substitute Anthropology for Sociology?**

No. We only accept a Sociology 100 equivalent course. Anthropology is not equivalent to Sociology 100.

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