California State University, Long Beach
Department of Nursing
(562) 985-4463 or 985-5425
WEBSITE: http://www.csulb.edu/depts/nursing

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION
FOR THE BASIC STUDENT

Foreign Students & Non-Residents
(California residents are given priority over all other applicants)

Foreign Student Applicants
Prior to admission to the Nursing Department, students with transcripts from foreign colleges or universities must have those transcripts evaluated by the Center for International Education. Call for an appointment.

Non-Resident Applicants
Check with the University Admissions Office for eligibility requirements before beginning the application process.

Telephone numbers that may be helpful:

- Nursing Department: 562-985-4463
- Chemistry Department: 562-985-4941
- Biology Department: 562-985-4806
- Academic Advising: 562-985-4837
- Enrollment Services: 562-985-5471
- Center for International Education: 562-985-5476
- Testing Services: 562-985-5476

Prerequisite Courses

Natural Sciences
- Human Anatomy (BIOL 208) Lecture & Lab – 4 semester units minimum
- Human Physiology (BIOL 207) Lecture & Lab – 4 semester units minimum
- Microbiology (MICR 200) Lecture & Lab – 4 semester units minimum
- Organic Chemistry (CHEM 202) Lecture – 3 semester units minimum
- Biochemistry (CHEM 302) Lecture & Lab – 3 semester units minimum

*Biochemistry was not taken prior to the application deadline, it must be taken concurrently with the first semester courses and it must be passed with a grade of C or better in order to progress to the following semester.

**Admission Prerequisites beginning Fall 2005:
Beginning Fall of 2005 the prerequisite courses for both chemistry courses, Chem 202 and Chem 302, will now be a combined five unit class. Call the nursing office for the course numbers of your institution.

Social Science
- Psychology (PSY 100): Introduction to Psychology 3 semester units
- Sociology (SOC 100): Introduction to Sociology 3 semester units

Time Limits
All natural sciences must have been taken within the last 5 years.

Grades
All prerequisite course grades must be C or higher (a grade of C- will not be accepted). Applicants seeking admission to the nursing program are encouraged to attend a counseling session before submitting an application.

Basic Student Counseling sessions are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month during the Fall and Spring semesters:

- March 17, 2004
- April 21, 2004
- September 15, 2004
- October 20, 2004
- November 17, 2004

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Repeated Courses
For admission into the basic nursing program, calculation of the grade point average for prerequisite courses repeated at CSULB or transferred into CSULB from another college or university will follow CSULB policy as described in the annual Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog.

Course in Progress
One course can be in progress at the time you submit an application. Admission to the program will be contingent of your completing the course with a grade of C or better. Admission GPA for an in-progress course will be calculated as a C grade.

Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE)
This exam is a graduation requirement of the University; however, it is strongly recommended that you take the WPE prior to entering the nursing program. To register for the examination, contact the Testing Office (562)985-4006. A fee is charged for the exam. The exam is offered only in February, April, July, and November.

Application Procedure

Attend a Basic Student Counseling Session
Before submitting an application for admission to the nursing program, you should attend a counseling/advising session where the application process will be explained. Time will be allotted for questions. See counseling dates on the front of this brochure.

Apply to the University (Apply as Pre-nursing)
You must apply to and meet the University admission requirements prior to applying to the nursing program. Applications may be gotten online at http://www.csulb.edu. Include one set of official transcripts from all college level work with the application.

University application deadlines are:
- Fall: November 30
- Spring: February 15
- August: August 31

Apply to the Nursing Department
This is a separate application from your application to the University. Complete the attached application and submit it with a second set of official transcripts from all college level work:
- Course Waivers - for science courses not taken at CSULB, waivers from the specific departments need to be attached to the application for those courses without an articulation agreement from the University. You may find these articulation agreements either from the nursing office or from http://www.assist.org.
- Critical Thinking Test: all applicants must take the Department test prior to the application deadline. There is a charge of $20.00 that is collected at the time you register for the test at the nursing office. The test will be given on several days, but sign up early before they fill up.

Application deadlines for the Nursing Department:
- Fall: November 30
- Spring: February 15
- August: August 31

Notification of Qualified Applicants
You will be notified by the Nursing Department that your application was received and to schedule you for an interview three weeks after the application deadlines. All interviews must be in person.

Selection Criteria
A personal profile will be developed for each applicant with points earned from:
- GPA in the prerequisite courses: 4 pts. maximum
- Critical Thinking Test Score: 2 pts. maximum
- Personal Interview Score: 1 pt. maximum

Candidates with the highest cumulative scores, based on their personal profile, are selected for admission. Seventy-two (72) students are admitted in the Fall and Spring semesters.

Letters of reference and testimonials are not a factor in the application process, please do not submit.

Alternates
Ten candidates are selected to be alternates. An alternate is admitted to replace a candidate who withdraws from the program before the end of the first week of the semester. Because there is no waiting list, alternates not admitted will need to re-apply in order to be considered for admission the next semester.

Notification of Admission Status
You will be notified by the Nursing Department of your admission status by mail in approximately four weeks after the interviews have been completed.

Trimester Program
In addition to our Traditional six semester program, the Department of Nursing is now offering students who have been accepted into the program the option of entering a trimester program that can be completed in just two years. The curriculum in this program is exactly the same with the exception that the course work is scheduled over the summer. Selection for this option will be done by lottery at the mandatory Student Orientation session.

Additional Information

General Education
You do not have to complete your general education requirements prior to entering the nursing program. A few of the nursing prerequisite courses also meet general education requirements.

Health Requirement
Upon admission to the program, all students will be required to pass a departmental health examination and to be evaluated on their ability to meet the department’s Essential Performance Guidelines. For more information, see the Undergraduate Handbook online at http://www.csulb.edu/depts/nursing/

Second Baccalaureate Degree Students
The University is no longer considering applicants for second baccalaureate degrees. However, due to the state need for nurses, appeals will be considered for applicants to Nursing. To request consideration for admission, applicants must send along with the above specified Nursing Application the following items: a University Application, a second set of official transcripts, and the application fee to the department by the deadline for the Nursing Department. A compelling letter must accompany the application to the Department explaining why an exception should be granted. The application will then be processed along with the other undergraduates.

Another alternative is to inquire at the department for information regarding our Accelerated Program.

Licensed Vocational Nurses
LVNs can seek advanced placement. An LVN advisor is available to assist you with the application procedure. LVNs who are only seeking RN Licensure can use the thirty–unit option.