

CSU, Chico School of Nursing

Admission Criteria and Instructions

1) Prerequisites

Four science and four foundation (Area A) courses are required for admission to the CSU, Chico nursing program. At the time of application, a minimum of two science courses and two foundation courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher. Any remaining prerequisite science and/or foundation courses must be in progress during the application period and reflected on the official transcript submitted to NursingCAS.

Science prerequisites: Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Microbiology; **all with a concurrent lab.**

- a) Science courses must be either four semester units or five quarter units.
- b) Organic chemistry is highly recommended. However, general, integrated and inorganic chemistry are all accepted.
- c) Science prerequisites cannot be introductory courses; they must be for majors or for allied health. Be sure to check the course descriptions for "Introduction to ..." courses to determine whether they are noted as CSU transferable courses.

Foundation prerequisites: Oral Communication, Written Communication, Critical Thinking, Statistics.

If more than two courses have been completed in the prerequisite science or foundation courses, the two highest grades for each will be used to calculate admission points.

2) Co-requisites

Any number of co-requisite courses can be in-progress at the time of application to the nursing program. However, it is highly recommended that all four courses be completed before entering the program. Any co-requisite courses in-progress or not taken, must be completed by the end of the first semester in the nursing program to progress to the next semester. All co-requisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

Nursing co-requisites:

- a) Nutrition (this should be a basic nutrition course).
- b) Child Development or Human Development or Human Life Span Psychology
- c) Principles of Psychology
- d) Principles of Sociology or Cultural Anthropology

3) Course Equivalency

To check equivalence of prerequisite or co-requisite courses taken at California Community Colleges, go to <http://www.assist.org>. If a required course is not listed on Assist.org or was taken outside of the California Community College system, email a copy of the catalog course description to prenursadvisor@csuchico.edu for transfer evaluation. Be sure to include the course title, number of units, which college attended, and semester or quarter taken.

4) On-line Courses

Online versions of transferable courses are accepted. **NEW! EFFECTIVE WITH THE SPRING 2019 NURSING APPLICATION:** For science courses, the theory portion of the course *as well as the lab* can be online, but the lab must be taken with the theory in the same semester. For questions regarding on-line course acceptance, please email a copy of the catalog course description to prenursadvisor@csuchico.edu. Be sure to include the course title, number of units, which college attended and semester/quarter taken.

5) Course Recency

Completion of all science prerequisites, plus statistics, must be within the last seven years at the time of application. For example, if applying for the fall 2018 semester, a statistics course taken in spring of 2011 would still be eligible, but would expire by the next application period.

6) AP Credit

AP Credit is accepted. Test scores are required if you received AP test credit for a nursing prerequisite or co-requisite course and want that credit to count toward your nursing application. Your test score must be a three or higher. Upload an unofficial copy of your **AP test score report from College Board**. In place of results from College Board, currently enrolled Chico State students may upload a copy of their Transfer Credit Report indicating the AP test subject and score.

7) Official Transcript Submission and Courses In-Progress

All transferable college courses taken must be entered in the NursingCAS application. Any prerequisite or co-requisite courses in-progress must also be entered. All courses taken or prerequisite/co-requisite courses in-progress at the time of application must be documented by submission of official transcripts to NursingCAS.org. Prerequisite courses in-progress must be completed with a grade of C or higher before entering the nursing program. Courses in-progress that are not prerequisite or co-requisite nursing courses do not require submission of official transcripts to NursingCAS. However, transcripts are required for all other transferable coursework taken.

8) Averaging Grades

If a prerequisite course has been taken more than once, all grades for that course will be averaged for determining points. Following are the exceptions:

- a) Chemistry – You can take general chemistry, integrated chemistry, inorganic chemistry or organic chemistry. If you repeat the same type of chemistry course, those grades will be averaged. If you take a different type of chemistry for the repeat, the higher grade will be counted.
- b) Critical Thinking - If you take an English-based critical thinking course, then take another of a different type (e.g. PSYCH or PHIL-based) the higher grade of the two courses will be counted.
- c) Oral Communication – You can take either small group or public speaking for oral communication, and the higher grade of the two courses will be counted.
- d) Recency – If a course must be retaken to fulfill the seven year recency requirement, the new course grade will be counted with no averaging of grades.

9) GPA

The CSU, Chico School of Nursing requires a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average (Cum GPA) for the following:

- a) All transferable college-level work (overall) or in the last 60 academic units. If a Cum GPA for college-level work does not compute to a minimum of 3.0 GPA overall, a recalculation using the applicant's last 60 academic units will be conducted to determine if a minimum of 3.0 can be reached.
- b) All eight nursing prerequisites, once completed.
- c) The two science courses and the two foundation courses selected for points.

If an applicant receives a failing grade in a required course, the course must be repeated for a passing grade, and cannot be in-progress at the time of application.

10) Verification of Academic Renewal and Grade Forgiveness

Because the NursingCAS system does not account for failed courses repeated for forgiveness, applicants with forgiveness whose Cum GPA compiled by NursingCAS is negatively affected, may request that the CSUC SON override the NursingCAS GPA calculation and accept the Cum GPA identified on the official transcript. **NEW! EFFECTIVE WITH THE SPRING 2019 APPLICATION, if the official transcript GPA is 3.25 or above, the applicant may be awarded the appropriate level of cumulative GPA points. To be considered for the GPA points, applicants with forgiveness must submit official verification (for example, written letter on college letterhead) from their institution(s) of record identifying which course grades were forgiven, and upload it to the documents section on their NursingCAS application. This documentation is in addition to the official transcript submitted to NursingCAS.**

11) Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

The ATI TEAS (Version VI) is the required entrance exam used for admission to CSU, Chico School of Nursing.

- a) To be eligible to apply, applicants must achieve a minimum **Adjusted Individual Total Score** of 80% on the test (please do not send TEAS results of 79.9 or below to the School of Nursing).
- b) Though some nursing schools or testing sites may limit the number of times you can take the TEAS, the CSU, Chico School of Nursing does not enforce a limit. The TEAS can be taken any number of times, at any testing facility.
- c) TEAS Results must be ordered from ATI and e-mailed by ATI directly to the CSU, Chico School of Nursing. Results must reach the School of Nursing by the specified deadline.
- d) TEAS results are accepted for two years from the date taken.
- e) Previous applicants need not resubmit TEAS scores they have already submitted to the School of Nursing.

More information on the ATI TEAS and testing locations can be found at <https://www.atitesting.com>.

12) Emotional Requirements

The student must have sufficient emotional stability to perform under stress produced by both academic study and the necessity of performing nursing care in real patient situations while being observed by the instructors and other healthcare personnel.

13) Physical Requirements

In order to participate in CSU, Chico's Nursing Program, students are required to travel to agencies and hospitals, and to homes with unpredictable environments. Students need to have the endurance to adapt to a physically and emotionally demanding program. The following physical requirements are necessary to participate in the clinical application courses in nursing:

- a) Strength: Sufficient strength to lift, move and transfer most patients; to restrain and carry children; to move and carry equipment; and to perform CPR, which requires sufficient body weight and adequate lung expansion.
- b) Mobility: Sufficient to bend, stoop, get down on the floor; combination of strength, dexterity, mobility and coordination to assist patients; ability to move around rapidly.
- c) Fine Motor Movements: Necessary to manipulate syringes and IVs; to assist patients with feeding and hygiene; to write in charts; to perform sterile procedures and other skilled procedures.
- d) Speech: Ability to speak clearly in order to communicate with staff, physicians and patients; needs to be understood on the telephone.
- e) Vision: Sufficient to make physical assessments of patients and equipment; able to read.
- f) Hearing: Sufficient to accurately hear when using the telephone, to be able to hear through the stethoscope to discriminate sounds.
- g) Touch: Ability to palpate both superficially and deeply and to discriminate tactile sensations.
- h) Health: Nursing is considered to be a high-risk profession for exposure to Hepatitis B and other contagious diseases. Immunizations required by the School of Nursing reduce this risk for nursing students, but do not eliminate it entirely. Pregnant students need to be evaluated by their obstetrical health care provider to determine what if any immunizations are contraindicated during the pregnancy as well as any other limitations which should be put in place for the student to participate in the nursing program during the pregnancy. Students with impaired or deficient immune systems may be at risk for contracting serious diseases. Such students must have physician approval for participation in clinical courses, and must discuss their situation with the clinical instructor.