

**CSU, Chico School of Nursing**  
**Admission Criteria, Point Distribution and Instructions**  
**Current through December 2023**

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

### **1. Prerequisites**

Four foundation and four science courses are required for admission to the CSU, Chico nursing program. At the time of application, a minimum of two foundation courses and two science courses must be completed. Any remaining prerequisite foundation and/or science courses must show as in-progress on the official transcript submitted to NursingCAS.

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

- These are GE Foundation Area courses (A1, A2, A3, and B4). GE area B4 must be Statistics.

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

- The following types of chemistry courses are acceptable: general, integrated, organic, and inorganic chemistry.
- Science courses must be four semester units or five quarter units.
- Science prerequisites cannot be introductory or survey courses (e.g., General/Organic/Biochemistry courses).

### **2. Co-requisites**

Co-requisite courses can be in-progress at the time of application to the nursing program. Any co-requisite courses in-progress or not taken by time of application, must be satisfactorily completed by the end of the first semester in the nursing program to progress to the next semester.

**Nursing co-requisites:**

- Basic Nutrition
- Child Development or Human Development or Human Life Span Psychology
- Introduction/Principles of Psychology
- Introduction/Principles of Sociology or Cultural Human Diversity

A grade of C or higher is required for all prerequisite and co-requisite courses. Only courses complete at the time of application can be scored for points.

### **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 in Assist, or was taken outside of the California Community College system, email a copy of the catalog course description and course syllabus (if available) to [prenursadvisor@csuchico.edu](mailto:prenursadvisor@csuchico.edu) for evaluation. Be sure to include which college, the course title, number of units, and semester or quarter taken.

#### 4. On-line Courses

Online versions of transferable courses are accepted. For science courses, the theory portion of the course as well as the lab can be online, but they must be taken concurrently.

#### 5. AP Credit

To count AP credit for satisfying a nursing prerequisite or co-requisite course, applicants must upload an unofficial copy of their AP test score report from the College Board to their NursingCAS application. In lieu of the College Board report, currently enrolled Chico State University students may upload a copy of their *Transfer Credit Report* from their student portal account, indicating the AP test subject and score.

#### Scores less than 3 are not accepted.

AP Score	Points
5 (equal to letter grade of A)	4
4 (equal to letter grade of B)	2
3 (equal to letter grade of C)	0

#### 6. Cumulative GPA

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

- All transferable college-level work or in the last 60 academic units.
- All eight nursing prerequisites cumulatively, once completed.
- At least two science courses and two foundation courses, when the four grades are averaged.

#### 7. Course Recency

At the time of application, completion of all science prerequisites, as well as Statistics (including AP Statistics), must be within the last seven years.

#### 8. Averaging Grades

If a prerequisite or co-requisite course has been repeated, all grades for that course will be averaged for determining points. Exceptions:

- Chemistry: If the same type of chemistry course is retaken, the grades will be averaged. For different types of Chemistry courses taken (e.g. general vs. organic) the highest grade will be used for points.
- Critical Thinking: If the same type of critical thinking course is retaken, the grades will be averaged. For different types of critical thinking courses taken (e.g. English vs. Philosophy based), the highest grade will be used for points.
- Oral Communication: Applicants may take either small group or public speaking for completing the oral communication requirement. Where both are taken, the higher grade of the two courses will be counted for points.
- 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. Course Entry, Official Transcript Submission, and Courses In-Progress

- All transferable courses and grades earned must be entered in the NursingCAS application. This includes nursing prerequisite courses in-progress, failed courses repeated with forgiveness, and completed courses not required for nursing.
- Official transcripts for these courses must be ordered from all college(s) attended and received by NursingCAS prior to the nursing application deadline. Exception: At the time of application, courses *in-progress* that are *not nursing* prerequisites or co-requisites, do not require submission of official transcripts to NursingCAS.
- Upon course completion, verification of grades for nursing prerequisite and co-requisite courses in-progress must be provided to the School of Nursing prior to taking a seat in the program.
- If an applicant receives a failed grade in a nursing **prerequisite** 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

The NursingCAS GPA is the official GPA used for determining an applicant's eligibility. Since the NursingCAS system cannot assess forgiveness for failed grades, applicants with failed grades, whose NursingCAS GPA may not calculate to the minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA requirement, must provide an official memo on college letterhead identifying the course grades forgiven. This document must be uploaded to the documents page of the Program Materials section in the NursingCAS application, and will be used to affirm if an eligible cumulative GPA can be identified. This documentation is in addition to the official transcript submitted to NursingCAS.

## 11. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

The ATI TEAS test, Version 7, is the required entrance exam used for admission to CSU, Chico School of Nursing. To be eligible to apply:

- Applicants must achieve a minimum overall score of 80%.
- Only two attempts at the TEAS test within a two-year period will be counted.
- Test scores can be no more than two years old at the time of application. Scores older than two years are no longer counted as an attempt.
- TEAS scores must be electronically delivered from ATI to Chico State (the CA Chico State reference with ATI links directly to the CSU, Chico School of Nursing). Results must be received by the specified nursing application deadline.
- Copies of TEAS results uploaded to the NursingCAS application Program Materials section are not considered. However, self-reporting TEAS results in the Academic History, Standardized Tests section of the NursingCAS application is encouraged.
- Scores will be accepted from any ATI testing site using Version 7.
- Re-applicants need not resubmit TEAS scores, as long as the test date remains within the two-year recency requirement.

More information about the ATI TEAS can be found at <https://www.atitesting.com>.

## 12. Emotional Requirements

Applicants must have sufficient emotional stability to perform under stress produced by both rigorous 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

Students must meet minimum physical requirements to perform safe patient care. Reasonable accommodations will be made whenever possible. For specific concerns, please contact us directly.

### POINTS DISTRIBUTION

There are 89 points possible. All eligible applications are reviewed for points. **Interviews for the Spring 2024 semester application process are cancelled.** The 40 applicants with the highest number of points will be offered seats. A list of alternates will be kept based on point ranking. The alternate list will remain active through the first week of the semester.

#### 1) Local preference (3 points possible)

For eligibility and service area definitions, check the Basic BSN *Program Information and Policies* link at <https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/programs/bsn/info.shtml>.

#### 2) TEAS – The Test of Essential Academic Skills. (20 points possible)

An overall score of 80% is the required minimum to apply. Points are awarded for the highest overall score out of a maximum of two attempts within a two-year period.

TEAS Score	Points
95 and above	20
94-94.9	19
93-93.9	18
92-92.9	17
91-91.9	16
90-90.9	15
89-89.9	14
88-88.9	13
87-87.9	12
86-86.9	11
85-85.9	10

**3) Grades in Foundation, Science, and Co-requisite courses completed.** (48 points possible)

Grades earned in the 12 nursing foundation, science, and co-requisite courses are scored. Grades for repeated courses will be averaged. For exceptions, check *Admission Criteria, Item 8* above.

<b>Grade Earned</b>	<b>Points</b>
Each A	4
Each B	2
Each C	0

**4) Certifications/Licensure for the following categories:** (4 points possible)

Upload to the NursingCAS application a copy of a health-related certification/license for one of the categories below. Must be current/active within the last five years. Military positions must provide military transcript. In addition, the NURS Admissions Committee will consider other health-related professional licenses, requiring higher level certification.

<b>Job Category</b>	<b>Points</b>
Home Health Aide, Phlebotomist (CPT I or II)	1
CNA, EMT, CMA,	2
Paramedic	3
LVN, Respiratory Therapist, Corpsman, Medic	4

**5) Six or more consecutive months of health-related employment within the last five years with current certification/active license.** (4 points possible, in addition to above points).

Must provide proof of current certificate/active license and letter from employer. Military positions must provide military transcript. In addition, committee will consider other health-related professions, requiring higher level certification than listed.

<b>Job Category</b>	<b>Points</b>
Home Health Aide, Phlebotomist (CPT I or II)	1
CNA, EMT, CMA,	2
Paramedic	3
LVN, Respiratory Therapist, Corpsman, Medic	4

**6) Health-related degree.** (2 points possible)

Bachelor's degree earned in a field of Health and Human Services as identified specifically on the CSU, Chico Health and Human Services majors website at <https://www.csuchico.edu/hhs-majors/>.

**7) Community service for either a 501c3 non-profit agency or health-care facility within the past two years.** (3 points possible)

Volunteer hours must be for an established 501c3 non-profit entity. Government programs fall into this non-profit status. Hours cannot involve a requirement for high school graduation, certification, or licensure. An additional point is available when all hours involve an *immersion* in a cultural experience outside applicant's own cultural identity/awareness, and if an underrepresented population. Applicants must use the form linked here to verify hours. [https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/\\_assets/documents/volunteer-hours-certification-form-8-24-21.pdf](https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/_assets/documents/volunteer-hours-certification-form-8-24-21.pdf)

# Hours Served	Points
100-199 documented hours	1
200 or more documented hours	2

- or -

All Hours Multicultural and for Underrepresented	Points
100-199 documented hours	2
200 or more documented hours	3

**8) Second Language Proficiency.** (3 points possible)

Must provide proof by oral evaluation by an instructor of the language or someone trained to evaluate the level of speaking proficiency in the language. Includes American Sign Language with visual evaluation and confirmation. Applicants must use the form linked herewith to verify proficiency level [https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/\\_assets/documents/son-language-certification-form.pdf](https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/_assets/documents/son-language-certification-form.pdf), or attach official certification from <https://www.languagetesting.com/>. Other official certifications considered, but require prior approval from the CSU, Chico School of Nursing prior to application submission.

Level of Speaking Proficiency	Points
Intermediate	2
Fluent	3

**9) Military Service and Preference.** (2 points possible)

Must provide DD-214 noting honorable discharge.

NOTE: In addition to points for military service, veterans also receive priority in point ranking when the number of overall points tie with other applicants. For example, if several applicants each have 60 total points, and one of these is a military veteran, the veteran will be placed at the top of the list of applicants with 60 points.

**Nursing 101: When all else fails, follow instructions.**

Please refer to the following checklist to ensure an eligible application, and that point categories are appropriately documented.

## DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST AND INSTRUCTIONS

**NOTE: All documents must be submitted by the stated deadline for the semester applying.**

As per the point categories listed above:

1. Local Preference. No action necessary. Eligibility status will be confirmed by the School of Nursing.
2. TEAS: Log into your student account at [www.atitest.com](http://www.atitest.com) and follow the instructions for sending your preferred TEAS transcript to CA State University Chico. Must arrive by the stated deadline.
3. Points for Grades: Send official transcripts for all colleges attended to NursingCAS headquarters by logging into your student account with NursingCAS. Access the *Academic History* section, then *Colleges Attended*, and follow the instructions. Be sure to allow time for processing and delivery.
4. Health-Related Certification/License: Upload a copy of your current health-related certification/license based on the list in Category 4 above, by logging into your NursingCAS account. Access the *Program Materials* section, then the *Documents* tab, and follow the instructions. BLS certifications are not counted. Documents must be uploaded by the nursing application deadline.
5. Health-Related Employment: In addition to documentation for Category 4, upload a signed letter from your employer verifying six consecutive months of employment. This can include more than one employer to establish the required number of consecutive months. Letters must be on employer letterhead, dated, verify dates of employment, describe duties, and be officially signed. Electronic signatures are accepted (no typed signatures; not even in fancy font!). For military positions, in place of the letter, veterans must upload a copy of their military transcript indicating health/medical related duties. **Note for all applicants: It is a violation of HIPAA Law to submit documentation containing patient information. Violation of this law, will cause automatic disqualification of your application.**
6. Health-Related Degree: Upload a copy of the *first* page of an official college transcript indicating a *bachelor's degree* in one of the health-related fields listed on the HHS-Majors website linked herewith, by logging into your NursingCAS account. Access the *Program Materials* section, then the *Documents* tab, and follow the instructions. HHS-Majors website: <https://www.csuchico.edu/hhs-majors/departments/index.shtml>.
7. Community Service: You must use the form linked herewith to verify hours. Upload a separate form for each entity you have volunteer hours with, by logging into your NursingCAS account. Access the *Program Materials* section, then the *Documents* tab, and follow the instructions. Volunteer form: [https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/\\_assets/documents/volunteer-hours-certification-form-8-24-21.pdf](https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/_assets/documents/volunteer-hours-certification-form-8-24-21.pdf).
8. Second Language Proficiency. You must use the form linked herewith to verify proficiency level. Log into your NursingCAS account. Access the *Program Materials* section, then the *Documents* tab, and follow the instructions for uploading a completed second language verification form: [https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/\\_assets/documents/son-language-certification-form.pdf](https://www.csuchico.edu/nurs/_assets/documents/son-language-certification-form.pdf). Certifications by Language Testing International <https://www.languagetesting.com/> are accepted in lieu of form.
9. Military Service: Upload a copy of your DD-214 noting honorable discharge.