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## ACCELERATED NURSING

### Information specific for January 2023 Start Date

Metropolitan State University of Denver's Accelerated Nursing Option (ANO) is a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. Students complete prerequisite courses before applying to the ANO. This is a very competitive program. Students accepted into the ANO, complete only nursing courses in seventeen months. Graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. (NCLEX-RN)

## WHAT YOU NEED TO HAVE!

### MULTICULTURAL REQUIREMENT

To be awarded a bachelor's degree from MSU Denver, all students are required to complete a Multicultural course. Multicultural coursework examines the interactions of values, beliefs, traditions, identities, and contributions of one or more of the following four groups of color in the United States: African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American, which may include the characteristics of gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability within these groups. This may be a MSU Denver course or transferred with approval.

- completed a non-nursing baccalaureate degree in any field **prior** to application deadline. (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>)
- completed all pre-requisite courses by the start of the Nursing program. Students can take these courses in the fall semester, if needed. *Please do not take late start courses.* If the course is in progress at the time of application, students must give permission to the course professor to send via email the mid-term grade to the MSU Denver Nursing Department by October 15. The GPA criteria is calculated using the mid-term grade and confirmed with the final grade.
- completed the HESI Nursing Admission Assessment Exam (HESI A2) within 24 months of the application deadline. Applicants can take the exam a maximum of two times in the 12 months prior to the application deadline. The HESI Exam is available on campus through the Office of Testing Services. Students must make an appointment in advance. The subject areas tested are Reading Comprehension, Math and Anatomy & Physiology. If the HESI exam is taken at another testing center, please use school code #200867.
- transcript documentation of successful completion of prerequisite courses and prior bachelor's degree.

Applications missing criteria by the application deadline are incomplete and not reviewed. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit all required documentation.

**Meeting the admission requirements does not guarantee admission.**

# MSU PREREQUISITE COURSES

*To enhance student success in the program, we recommend all prerequisite courses have been completed within 5-7 years.*

- **BIO 2310: Anatomy and Physiology I with lab\* (4 credits)** - This is the first of two courses addressing the structure and function of the human body. Topics include tissues, anatomy, the musculoskeletal system, and neurophysiology. (pre-req BIO 1080/1090)
  - **BIO 2320: Anatomy and Physiology II with lab\* (4 credits)** - This is the second of two courses addressing the structure and function of the human body. Topics include endocrinology; circulation; and the respiratory, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems. (pre-req BIO 2310)
  - **ITP 4600: Clinical Pathophysiology (4 credits)** - This course is designed to familiarize the student with the nature of human pathophysiology using major conceptual areas. Pertinent biochemical and metabolic derangements are correlated with the cellular structure by applying systems theory. The course focuses on the effects of the disease process on all of the major bodily systems, pathogenesis, and related clinical manifestations. (pre-req BIO 2320)
  - **PSY 2210: Human Growth and Development (3 credits)** - This course presents the development of behavior from conception through maturity and death and is intended to help the student understand the developmental characteristics of different age groups and the determinants of their individual and collective behaviors. (pre-req PSY 1001) Often referred to as Psychology over the Lifespan.
  - **NUT 2040: Introduction to Nutrition (3 credits)** - This course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the fundamental concepts of human nutrition, including digestion, absorption, metabolism, and function of nutrients as they relate to human health and disease.
  - **CHE 1100/1150: Principles of Chemistry (5 credits)** - This course is a study of the fundamentals of chemistry. A survey of atomic structure, periodicity, bonding, nomenclature, stoichiometry, gas laws, and solution chemistry is provided for those students with no background in these areas. Plus lab (pre-req MTH 1110 or higher)  
**or CHE 1800/1801: General Chemistry I (5 credits)** - A comprehensive study of the facts, concepts, and laws of chemistry. This course meets the requirements of students majoring in chemistry, medicine, medical technology, biology, physics and other fields requiring a strong background in chemistry. Students enrolling in this course should have successfully completed high school chemistry or equivalent coursework. Plus lab (pre-req MTH 1110)
  - **MTH 1210: Introductory Statistics Course (4 credits)** - This course is an introduction to the principles and techniques of descriptive statistics, probability, regression analysis, and statistical inference (estimation and tests of hypotheses). Students will work with data on problems related to their own interest or field of study. (pre-req appropriate test score)  
**or PSY 2310: Introduction to Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 credits)** - This course applies basic statistics to measurement, analysis, and interpretation in psychology as well as other social and behavioral sciences covering distributions, probability, central tendency, variability, sampling distributions, and hypothesis testing.
  - **BIO 2400: General Microbiology with lab\* (5 credits)** - This is a one-semester introduction to the microbial world, including discussions of bacteria, Cyanobacteria, fungi, protozoans and viruses. (pre-req BIO 1080/1090, BIO 1081/1091, CHE 1100/1150)  
**or BIO 2000: Intro to Microbiology for Nursing\* (4 credits)** - This course is a non-majors introductory microbiology course specifically for pre-nursing. It will not count toward a biology major or minor. This course emphasizes the interplay between microorganisms and humans including infectious diseases and the immune system and has an emphasis on the control of microbial growth, spread of microorganisms, and their ability to cause disease and circumvent the immune system and antimicrobials. (pre-req BIO 1080/1090, CHE 1100/1150)
- \* MSU Denver Biology department will accept during this COVID situation online lab courses.  
In some cases, additional courses may needed prior to the required prerequisite courses.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> THINGS 1<sup>ST</sup>

### Application to Metropolitan State University of Denver

Interested students must apply and be accepted to the University. This requires an online application and **official** transcript(s) of all previous college level courses including AP scores. Send the material to the Admission Office at MSU Denver- NOT to the Nursing Department. Please apply as a degree-seeking student with a major of pre- Nursing. Once accepted to MSU, eligible students must apply to the Nursing Program through the Department's website. Note: the application opens July 1<sup>st</sup> and closes September 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm.

<https://msudenver.edu/nursing/>

## TRANSFER COURSES

It is the student's responsibility to verify the equivalence of any transfer course brought into the University.

If a course is not equivalent to the required prerequisite, students must submit a syllabus of the course to the Nursing Department for approval. **Do NOT assume courses are the same.** Be proactive by getting courses pre-approved. Contact MSU Denver Transfer Services Office at 303-556-3991 for additional questions.

## INTERNATIONAL TRANSCRIPTS/CREDENTIALS

Students who have graduated from an institution outside of the U.S. are required to submit Official Transcripts with a "certified translation" into English. The Office of Admissions at MSU Denver recommends Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) for official translations ([www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org)). Please reference the MSU Denver guidelines for admission of International Students and/or the transfer of foreign credentials.

## HESI EXAM

The HESI A2 exam is required to apply to the program. For this exam, students take three sections: Reading Comprehension, Math and Anatomy & Physiology. The exam can be taken twice in a given 12-month period. This exam is available at the MSU Testing Center. Testing is also available at a Prometric Testing Center with the school code: 200867. If taken somewhere else, please make sure in advance that the three required sections for MSU are available. If the exam is taken twice, the top scores from each section will be used. Both official score sheets need to be uploaded into the MSU Nursing application. The score of the exam is available directly after completing it. We encourage studying for the exam using one or more of the various study guides. Check options online.

## APPLICATION TO NURSING PROGRAM

Once accepted at MSU, students need to apply online through the Nursing Department website at <https://msudenver.edu/nursing/>

The application requires reporting all previous letter grades for the 8 pre-requisite courses including retakes from the past three years (Spring 2019-present). Then reporting the HESI score and uploading the HESI scores sheet(s).

There is no charge for the MSU Nursing Program application.

The Application opens July 1<sup>st</sup> and closes on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm. Applications are not accepted after the deadline.

For the Accelerated Nursing Option, a cohort of 48 students are accepted.

# CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE

## Conditional Acceptance

Applicants must successfully pass a criminal background check and drug screen prior to admission. The drug screen will test for controlled substances, including marijuana and marijuana derivatives. There is no re-testing. If students fail the drug test or background check, their conditional acceptance is negated. Admitted students must attend a required orientation with the Department of Nursing before beginning nursing courses. In addition to the academic requirements, the Department of Nursing requires other information for students offered admission. These include immunization records, and CPR certification. Candidates must be able to meet the rigorous physical, mental, emotional, and academic standards required to become a professional nurse. **Please refer to the website for additional program information:** <https://www.msudenver.edu/nursing/programinformation/>

The admission process does not discriminate based on age, race, religion, creed, gender, national origin, disability or veteran status.

## PROGRAM COST

The estimated cost of the ANO is approximately \$44,500, which includes tuition, MSU Denver student fees, health insurance, uniforms, books, and supplies. Please note that program costs are subject to change. This program receives no state funding, so the cost is the same for in-state and out-of-state students.

## FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships, stipends, and loan forgiveness programs may be available to help students with their educational expenses. Students may apply for scholarships after acceptance into the ANO through the MSU Denver Financial Aid Office and other scholarship opportunities.

# NURSING CURRICULUM

## Nursing Curriculum

The curriculum for the ANO is extremely rigorous and completed in 17 months. Students start nursing courses in the spring and continue through the summer, fall and spring semesters. The program is set-up as a cohort so students will only be doing nursing courses. Students are required to attend classes, complete laboratory experiences and fulfill clinical requirements. Students must be available for day, evening, and night assignments seven days a week. Typically classes are held during the week between 7 am – 7 pm. See sample schedule below.

## GRADUATION

To earn a Bachelor of Science degree, students must satisfy all university graduation requirements, plus any others stipulated for the degree for which a student is a candidate. Please refer to the Academic Policies and Procedures in the Metropolitan State University of Denver catalog.

## ACCREDITATION

The Colorado State Board of Nursing approves the Accelerated Nursing program.

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing  
(ACEN)

3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA  
30326

T: 404-975-5000 F: 404-975-5020

Web Site: [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org)

# ADMISSION RANKING - 3 CRITERIA ONLY

**Valid for the Spring 2023 Start - Applications submitted from July 1 - September 1, 2022 at 5 p.m.**

**1. GPA Point Value 4 points maximum award**

When multiple attempts are made in pre-requisite courses, all graded attempts in the last nine semesters (since Spring 2019) will be included in the GPA calculation. Mid-term grades will be used to determine this criterion if completing any of the courses in the Fall 2022 semester. Do not take late start courses. Final grades will be used to confirm admission. Pre-requisite courses:

A&P I, A&P II, Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Nutrition, Human Growth & Development, Chemistry and Statistics

3.75 - 4.0 = 4 points

3.5 - 3.74 = 3 points

3.25 - 3.49 = 2 points

3.00 - 3.24 = 1 points

\*3.0 minimum is required to apply to the Nursing program

**2. Average Cumulative HESI Nursing Admissions Assessment Score 4 points maximum award**

HESI scores are rounded to nearest whole number

HESI exam includes: Reading Comprehension, Math and Anatomy & Physiology

HESI exam is valid for 24 months from August 31, 2019 - Sept 1, 2021

95 - 100 = 4 points

90 - 94 = 3 points

85 - 89 = 2 points

80 - 84 = 1 point

\*80 combined minimum is required to apply to the Nursing program

HESI exam is available on-campus at MSU Testing Center. Cost \$75.00 as of 9/1/2020. Call 303.615.1700 for appt.  
<https://www.msudenver.edu/testing>  
Exam may be taken twice in 12-months.

**3. Credits taken at MSU Denver 2-point maximum award**

24+ credits = 2 points

12-23 credits = 1 point

0-11 credits = 0 points

**Criteria Total Points:** (GPA of pre-requisites, HESI exam & MSU credits)

**TOTAL SCORE:** 10 points

*The Accelerated Nursing Option accepts 48 students based on these criteria. This is a very competitive program.*

**TIE BREAKER**

HESI exam score is the determining factor to rank candidates who share the same total score.

Cumulative HESI score = 100 maximum points.

Applicants should check the nursing website for the most current changes in admission criteria.

For additional information, please access the Metropolitan State University of Denver Department of Nursing's website: <https://msudenver.edu/nursing/>

# NURSING CURRICULUM PLAN

Students who are accepted to the ANO program will start in the spring semester. MSU starts spring semester the day after MLK Day in January. This is a rigorous program. Please note this curriculum is subject to change.

***If accepted Spring semester start***

**Nursing Program Curriculum**

<b>Spring</b>	
NURA 3020 - Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice	6
NURA 3150 - Introduction to Gerontology Nursing	3
NURA 3700 - Health Assessment	3
NURA 3410 - Clinical Pharmacology	4
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Summer</b>	
NURA 3400 - Evidence-Based Practice Through Nursing Research	3
NURA 3500 - Mental Health Nursing	5
NURA 3810 - Medical Surgical Nursing Care I	6
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Fall</b>	
NURA 4030 - Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	5
NURA 4110 - Medical Surgical Nursing Care II	6
NURA 4150 - Ethics and Professional Nursing Practice	3
NURA 4300 - Leadership and Management in Professional Nursing Practice	3
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
NUR 4000 - Community Health Nursing	6
NURA 4200 - Child and Family Health Nursing	5
NURA 4850 - Nursing Senior Experience	5
<b>Total Semester Credits</b>	<b>16</b>

**TOTAL: 123 credits**

*MSU Denver requires that students have at least 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree. The Nursing Program does not require a minor.*

