



Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

Advising and Information Session

UTEP School of Nursing – Office of Student Affairs

Phone: (915) 747-8337

Website: www.utep.edu/nursing

Location: HSSN Bldg. Room 200

The UTEP Traditional BSN Degree Plan consists of:

- **Phase 1** – Core Curriculum and Pre-Professional Courses
 - **Phase 2** – Nursing Courses – 1 semester, requires acceptance
 - **Phase 3** – Nursing Professional Courses – 4 semesters, requires acceptance
- **Recommended average Pre-Professional Courses GPA** for acceptance into Phase 2: **3.77**
(average PPC GPA of students who gain acceptance into Phase 2, according to the most recent rankings)
- **Minimum Overall GPA** for eligibility to apply for Phase 2 and/or Phase 3: **2.50**
(Note: Effective Spring 2018, the minimum overall GPA to apply to Phase 2 & Phase 3 will be a **3.00**)

About the BSN:

The UTEP Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offers students a dynamic course of study that is both theoretical and practical. The program prepares graduates to work in a wide variety of clinical settings and provides the necessary foundation for masters and doctoral degrees in nursing. Graduates of the BSN program will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) with the Texas Board of Nursing.

BSN coursework emphasizes critical thinking and clinical judgment, integration of knowledge from nursing, biological and behavioral sciences, and the humanities in the planning, implementing, and evaluating of nursing care, application of research findings to demonstrate evidence-based nursing practice, and nursing leadership, and offers a variety of hospital and community settings for clinical experiences. Admission into Phase 2 and Phase 3 is **highly competitive**.

GO MINERS!

ROADMAP



into the UTEP Traditional BSN Program

STEP #1: Gain **ADMISSION** to UTEP as a New Student or Transfer Student

Start PHASE 1

UTEP Core Curriculum + Pre-Professional Courses

- Approx. 4 – 5 semesters for full-time students (12 credit hours +)
- Achieve the *highest possible grades* in all course requirements
- Get ADVISED and INFORMED before every registration period
- Plan far ahead for Phase 2—submit application + pass TEAS exam
- Make sure your LAST SEMESTER of PHASE 1 is completed at UTEP
- A background check is coming up soon - please keep your record clean

Pre-Professional Courses:

MATH 1320, BIOL 1305/1107, BIOL 2311/2111, BIOL 2313/2113, MICR 2330, HSCI 2302, PSYC 1301 & CHEM 1407 or CHEM 1305/1105

Get accepted into PHASE 2

Phase 2 Nursing Courses

- 1 semester—3 courses taken together
- Achieve *highest possible grades* in all Phase 2 Nursing Courses in order to have the best chances of acceptance to the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.
- Pass Criminal Background Check for TX Board of Nursing. (You will be guided through this process during Phase 2)

Phase 2 Nursing Courses:

- ◇ NURS 2303—Introduction to Nurs. Practice
- ◇ NURS 2407—Pharmacology for Nursing
- ◇ NURS 2402—Pathophysiology

Get accepted into PHASE 3

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses

- Pass drug screening & complete all compliance requirements
- 4 semesters (between 15—24 months)
- Gain approx. 900 hours of clinical experience
- Become fully prepared to take and pass the NCLEX RN licensing exam



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

2017-2018

www.utep.edu/nursing

Student Name

Phase 1 Core Curriculum & Pre-Professional Courses

All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a 'C' or better.

University Core Curriculum	Hrs	Grade
Communication (Select 6 hours) COMM 1611, ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312, RWS 1301, RWS 1302, RWS 1601	6	
* Math 1320	3	
* Life and Physical Sciences (Select 6 hours) BIOL 1305, BIOL 1107, BIOL 2311, BIOL 2111, BIOL 2313, BIOL 2113, CHEM 1407, CHEM 1305, CHEM 1105	6	
Language, Philosophy, & Culture (Select 3 hours) ENGL 2311, ENGL 2312, ENGL 2313, ENGL 2314, ENGL 2318, Fren 2322, HIST 2301, HIST 2302, PHIL 1301, PHIL 2306, RS 1301, SPAN 2340, WS 2300, WS 2350	3	
Creative Arts (Select one 3 hour course) ART 1300, ARTH 1305, ARTH 1306, DANC 1304, FILM 1390, MUSL 1321, MUSL 1324, MUSL 1327, THEA 1313	3	
HIST 1301 AND HIST 1302	6	
POLS 2310 AND POLS 2311	6	
* PSYC 1301	3	
Component Area Option (Select 6 hours) BUSN 1301, COMM 1301, COMM 1302, CS 1310, CS 1320, SCI 1301, UNIV 1301	6	
TOTAL	42	

* **Dual fulfills with Pre-Professional Courses**

Pre-Professional Courses	Hrs	Grade
Math 1320 Math for Social Sciences I	3	
BIOL 1305-1107 General Biology with lab	4	
BIOL 2311-2111 Anatomy/Physiology with lab	4	
BIOL 2313/2113 Anatomy/Physiology II with Lab	4	
CHEM 1407 OR 1305/1105	4	
MICR 2330 Microorganisms and Disease	3	
HSCI 2302 Fundamentals of Nutrition	3	
PSYC 1301 Introduction to Psychology	3	
TOTAL	28	

** **Application must be submitted to be considered for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses**

Phase 2 Nursing Courses

** NURS 2303 Foundations of Nursing Practice	3	
** NURS 2407 Pharmacology for Nursing	4	
** NURS 2402 Pathophysiology	4	
TOTAL	11	

** **Students are ranked for selection based on:**

Competitive pre-professional courses GPA
Competitive cumulative GPA
Completion or in the last semester of completing Phase 1
Successful completion of the TEAS test

UTEP ID#

Application must be submitted to be considered for the nursing program--Traditional Option

Students are ranked for selection based on:

Competitive pre-nursing courses GPA
Competitive pre-professional courses GPA
Competitive cumulative GPA
Completion or in the last semester of completing Phase 2
Successful completion of the TEAS test

Required Clearances: Health, Clinical and Background/Drug Screening Check (Failure to comply with requirements will result in administrative withdrawal of semester courses.)

Grade Requirement: All Nursing courses must be passed with a C [≥ 75] or better
Effective with students accepted Summer 2006 or later: Two failures in Nursing courses will result in dismissal from the School of Nursing. Dismissal also occurs if a NURS class is not successfully completed in two attempts - a W counts as an attempt.
ACADEMIC DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM IS FINAL

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses	Hrs	Grade	Sem/Yr
5th Semester			
NURS 3205 Nursing Informatics and Technology	2		
NURS 3401 Health Assessment	4		
NURS 3604 Fundamentals of Nursing Practice	6		
Semester Total Credit Hours	12		
6th Semester			
NURS 3300 Mental Behavioral Health Nursing	3		
NURS 3314 Evidence-based Research	3		
NURS 3709 Adult Health Nursing I	7		
Semester Total Credit Hours	13		
7th Semester			
NURS 4714 Adult Health Nursing II	7		
NURS 4608 Nursing Care of Childbearing and Childrearing Families	6		
Semester Total Credit Hours	13		
8th Semester--FINAL SEMESTER			
NURS 4407 Transition to Professional Nursing Practice	4		
NURS 4511 Population-Focused Care	5		
NURS 4412 Senior Practicum	4		
Semester Total Credit Hours	13		

Total Program Credit Hours 51

Total Degree Plan Credit Hours 120

Keep track of your progress with your own degree evaluation:

Access Goldmine
Student Records>Degree Evaluation>Select Current Semester>
>Generate New Evaluation>Program: Nursing>Generate Request

Phase 1 Pre-Professional Courses and Pre-requisite Information

Course	Pre-requisite
Math 1320	Course or test; Math 0311 or higher with minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 1305-1107	Math 0311 or higher with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
CHEM 1407	Math 0311 or higher; may be taken concurrently
CHEM 1305-1105	Math 1508 or higher; may be taken concurrently
MICR 2330	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
HSCI 2302	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
PSYC 1301	-

UTEP Policies on Repeating Courses

➤ **Repetition of most courses** (D/F Repeat for all 1000 and 2000 level courses):

- If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy.
- The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course.
- The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

When a course is D/F repeated, the following procedure occurs:

1. The original grade is disregarded for the purpose of determining the overall UTEP GPA, it is marked as excluded (E) in the semester that the student originally took the course.
2. The original grade is not deleted from the student's permanent record.
3. The second grade is entered on the student's transcript and marked as included (I) in the semester that the course was repeated.

➤ **Repetition of Pre-Professional Courses in which a grade of "C" or better was earned:**

- Repeating a Pre-Professional course in which a grade of "C" or better was earned **requires approval by the School of Nursing, Office of Student Affairs**. See nursing advisor for details.
- Departments may restrict the repetition of a course; however, if the course is approved to retake, then a "C Grade Override" will be entered on the student's record.
- Failure to get departmental approval for a repeated course will result in a withdrawal/drop from the course.
- All attempts are used in determining the cumulative UTEP GPA.
- **RANKING:** For *individual ranking calculations only*, the School of Nursing will use the **highest grade earned per Pre-Professional course** in the calculation of the Pre-Professional Courses GPA. This is the first criterion used for ranking for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses.

EPCC/UTEP TRANSFER GUIDE

Core Curriculum

Courses indicated with an asterisk * dual fulfill for some Pre-professional course requirements.

Communication	
Select 6 semester credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
COMM 1611	No equivalent
ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312	No equivalent
RWS 1301	ENGL 1301
RWS 1302	ENGL 1302
RWS 1601	No equivalent

Life & Physical Sciences*	
Select 6 credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
BIOL 1305-1107	BIOL 1306-1106
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 2401
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 2402
CHEM 1407	CHEM 1306-1106
CHEM 1305-1105	CHEM 1311-1111
MICR 2330	BIOL 2420

Language, Philosophy, & Culture	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
ENGL 2311	ENGL 2322
ENGL 2312	ENGL 2323
ENGL 2313	ENGL 2342
ENGL 2314	ENGL 2372
ENGL 2318	ENGL 2372
FREN 2322	No equivalent
HIST 2301	HIST 2321
HIST 2302	HIST 2322
PHIL 1301	PHIL 1301
PHIL 2306	PHIL 2306
RS 1301	PHIL 1304
SPAN 2340	No equivalent
WS 2300	WMST 1370
WS 2350	No equivalent

Mathematics (3 credit hours)*	
UTEP	EPCC
Math 1320	Math 1324

Social & Behavioral Sciences (3 credit hours)*	
UTEP	EPCC
PSYC 1301	PSYC 2301

Creative Arts	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
Art 1300	ARTS 1301
ARTH 1305	ARTS 1303
ARTH 1306	ARTS 1304
DANC 1304	DANC 2303
FILM 1390	COMM 2366
MUSL 1321	MUSI 1307
MUSL 1324	MUSI 1306
MUSL 1327	MUSI 1310
THEA 1313	DRAM 1310

American History (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	EPCC
HIST 1301	HIST 1301
HIST 1302	HIST 1302

Government/Political Science (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	EPCC
POLS 2310	GOVT 2305
POLS 2311	GOVT 2306

Component Area Option (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	EPCC
BUSN 1301	No equivalent
COMM 1301	SPCH 1315
COMM 1302	SPCH 1321
CS 1310	COSC 1301
CS 1320	No equivalent
SCI 1301	No equivalent
UNIV 1301	EDUC 1300

Important:

1. All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. This also applies to courses transferred from another institution.
2. It is highly recommended that POLS be completed at EPCC then transferred to UTEP or both be completed at UTEP.
3. No substitutions will be allowed in the Core Curriculum.

Pre-Professional Courses

Pre-Professional Courses	
UTEP	EPCC
Math 1320	Math 1324
BIOL 1305-1107	BIOL 1306-1106
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 2401
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 2402
MICR 2330	BIOL 2420
HSCI 2302	HECO 1322
PSYC 1301	PSYC 2301
Select 4 credit hours from:	
CHEM 1407	CHEM 1306-1106
CHEM 1305-1105	CHEM 1311-1111

Pharmacology Course:

RNSG 1301 is no longer an equivalent to the UTEP Phase 2 nursing course, NURS 2307.

- **ALL Phase 2 Nursing courses must be completed at UTEP.**
- **Phase 2 Nursing courses will not be accepted from other institutions.**
- Fall 2016 is the **last semester** RNSG 1301 will transfer to UTEP.
- NURS 2307 changes to NURS 2407 in Spring 2017.

Ranking information:

- Selection for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses is on a ranking system, primarily based on the pre-professional courses GPA, cumulative GPA, ATI-TEAS test score and seats available per course.
- Students are responsible for transferring University Core and Pre-Professional requirements in a timely manner **prior** to the ranking process.
- Students **will not** be ranked if their record is incomplete [missing University Core, pre-professional courses from Phase 1, and/or Phase 2 Nursing Courses (if applying to the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses)], Cumulative GPA is below 2.50, and/or overall TEAS test score is missing or below 58.7%.
- The School of Nursing is not responsible for incomplete student records and inactive UTEP e-mail accounts.
- Selection for the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses is primarily based on the final grades of the Phase 2 Nursing Courses.

*For more information or to attend an **ADVISING & INFORMATION SESSION:**

UTEP School of Nursing - Office of Student Affairs

Location: HSSN Bldg. Room 200

Phone: (915) 747-8337

Website: www.utep.edu/nursing

Application Windows & Deadlines

Application website: www.utep.edu/nursing

Phase 2 Nursing Courses application:

<u>FALL</u>	<u>SPRING</u>	<u>SUMMER</u>
Apply between: January 2—February 28	Apply between: August 1—September 30	Apply between: December 1—January 31
TEAS must be completed with passing score (58.7%) by May 31st	TEAS must be completed with passing score (58.7%) by October 31st	TEAS must be completed with passing score (58.7%) by March 1st
Ranking takes place in JUNE	Ranking takes place in NOV.	Ranking takes place in APRIL

Phase 3 Professional Nursing Courses application:

<u>FALL</u>	<u>SPRING</u>	<u>SUMMER</u>
Apply between: January 2—February 28	Apply between: August 1—September 30	Apply between: December 1—January 31
Ranking takes place in August	Ranking takes place in December	Ranking takes place in May

RANKING

Phase 2 Nursing Courses ranking eligibility:

Phase 1 courses must be either ***previously completed*** or student must be ***in the process of completion (last semester of Phase 1) at UTEP***. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted if a student is in the process of completing of Phase 1 at another institution.

Students are ranked for selection into the Phase 2 Nursing courses based on:

- **Competitive Phase 1 Pre-Professional Courses GPA** (Average for accepted students: **3.77**)
- **Competitive Cumulative GPA** (Minimum of **2.50** required to apply - DO NOT apply if below minimum)
- **Effective Spring 2018, the minimum GPA to apply to Phase 2 and Phase 3 will be 3.00**
- Passing overall ATI-TEAS score of 58.7% or higher [pass/fail] (subject to change)

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses ranking eligibility:

Phase 2 courses must either be ***previously completed*** or student must be ***in the process of completion of Phase 2 at UTEP***. Students must also pass the TX BoN Criminal Background Check during Phase 2.

- Phase 2 Nursing Courses must be completed at UTEP and are not accepted from other institutions.
- The GPA earned in the Phase 2 Nursing Courses is the first criterion used for ranking into the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.
- ***All attempts*** of the Phase 2 Nursing Courses will be used (averaged) in the GPA calculation of the Phase 2 Nursing Courses.

Important Ranking Information

- ◆ Selection for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses and Phase 3 Professional Courses are based on:
Phase 2 Nursing Courses: Pre-professional courses (PPC) GPA, overall GPA, TEAS
Phase 3 Professional Nursing Courses: Phase 2 GPA, PPC GPA, overall GPA, TEAS
The Pre-professional courses include MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2313-2113, CHEM 1407, MICR 2330, HSCI 2302, & PSYC 1301. The Phase 2 Nursing Courses include NURS 2303, NURS 2407, NURS 2402.
The highest grades earned in the Pre-professional courses will be calculated for ranking into Phase 2 (must be on your official UTEP transcript at the time of ranking).
- ◆ **Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50** is required to submit an application. If your cumulative GPA is below the minimum, please do NOT submit an application because you will NOT be ranked.
- ◆ Having a **previous Bachelor's, Master's, and/or Doctoral degree(s)** DOES NOT guarantee a seat in either the Phase 2 Nursing Courses/Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses and is not considered a ranking factor.
- ◆ **Meeting the minimum criteria for ranking does not guarantee selection to the Phase 2 Nursing Courses. Acceptance to the Phase 2 Nursing Courses does not automatically guarantee a seat in the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.**
- ◆ Students are responsible for transferring all Phase 1 courses in a timely manner. Transfer credits must be officially posted on your UTEP transcript by the application deadline.
- ◆ Please review application windows and deadlines.
- ◆ Ranking for the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses will take place during finals week each semester. Check academic calendar on the **UTEP Records & Registration [website](#)** for specific dates.
- ◆ **NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** If selected, a notice of acceptance will be sent **via the student's UTEP e-mail account** with deadline and registration information. Failure to register by the deadline will result in forfeiture of the seat. Only students who are accepted may register and students cannot register until receiving acceptance.
- ◆ The Texas Board of Nursing (TX BoN) will be conducting a Criminal Background Check (CBC) for every student enrolled in the Phase 2 Nursing Courses (at the student's expense). Failure to comply and/or pass the CBC will result in not being ranked for the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.
- ◆ **Students will not be ranked if:** the student's academic record is **incomplete** (missing Phase 1 courses: University Core, Pre-professional courses; missing Phase 2 Nursing Courses for the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses), Cumulative GPA is below 2.50, and/or ATI-TEAS exam score is below 58.7%.
- ◆ It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with all relevant information and to be familiar with their own academic record.

Thank you!

The ATI-TEAS exam is used to evaluate *entry level* skills and abilities of nursing program applicants.

What is the ATI-TEAS?

The TEAS is an internet-based, multiple-choice, exam that assesses a student's abilities in four essential subject areas:

Reading (approx. 48 questions, 58 minutes) – section includes questions regarding paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.

Math (approx. 34 items, 51 minutes) – section includes questions regarding whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions, decimals, algebraic equations, percentages, and ratio/proportion. ***A calculator is embedded in the exam.***

Science (approx. 54 items, 66 minutes) – section includes questions regarding science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, basic physical principles, and general science

English and Language Usage (approx. 34 items, 34 minutes) – section includes questions regarding punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, contextual words, and spelling.

PLEASE SCHEDULE 4 HOURS TO TAKE THE EXAM.

Your final scores will be shown *immediately* on the screen following the exam.

How do I register?

Step 1: Determine if you need to take the exam

All students who are applying to Phase 2 Nursing Courses of the BSN degree plan must take the TEAS.

Step 2: Payment Procedures

Make sure you have a credit card ready and go to <http://www.atitesting.com>

Phone registration is also available by calling (800) 667-7531.

**THE TEST FEE IS \$86 PLUS TAX (SUBJECT TO CHANGE),
NON-REFUNDABLE, AND NON-TRANSFERABLE**

Step 3: Register for a test session

1. Select "Register for the TEAS" in the lower right-hand corner.
2. Select city and state. Click "next".
3. Choose the test session that is most convenient for you and select "register".
Click "check out" on the bottom right hand-corner.
Next, you must create a user name and password (or use the one you already have, if so).
4. Once you've logged in, fill in the account information and then use your credit card to pay.

MAKE SURE TO ENTER YOUR UTEP ID DURING REGISTRATION

Where do I take the TEAS exam at UTEP?

Step 4: On the day of the test

- Report to the **UTEP Student Assessment & Testing Center, below.**
- Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in. If you arrive late, you will not be admitted.
- Present your identification: you will be required to present an acceptable form of identification (such as an original, current and valid ID used by a city/state/federal government agency).
- Electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, MP3 players) are not allowed. However, two #2 pencils are allowed.

NO ID—NO TEST

UTEP ASSESSMENT & TESTING CENTER

Academic Advising Center Building — Hawthorne Street, 1st floor

Personal calculators or any other electronic devices such as phones, laptops, etc., are not allowed in the UTEP Testing Center. A calculator will be provided during the TEAS exam (embedded within the exam).

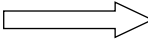
What are the rules for the TEAS at UTEP?

1. A passing TEAS score is valid for 2 years.
2. There is a 30 day waiting period to re-take the TEAS (30 days in between each attempt).
3. The TEAS exam may only be taken twice within a 12 month cycle. Only 2 attempts will be considered, regardless as to where the TEAS is taken.
4. Each UTEP Phase 2 Nursing Courses application window has it's own TEAS deadline. Please see Application Windows handout or nursing website for more information.

What do my results mean and how does UTEP get my scores?

- Official TEAS exam **results are available *immediately after the exam*** on the computer screen—a copy of the scores will not be issued, but your official results are available by logging into the ATI website: www.atitesting.com.
- Students can view and print a copy of their test scores anytime at the above website using the username and password that was created to register for the TEAS.
- If you entered in your correct UTEP ID number when registering, the UTEP School of Nursing will *usually* have immediate access to view your TEAS scores, as well.
- The UTEP School of Nursing recommends that applicants have a *CURRENT*, valid score at the “**Proficient**” level (**58.7%**) or above, in order to be eligible to apply and rank for Phase 2 and/or Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.

***MINIMUM SCORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE ***

TEAS• Proctored Assessment		OVERALL (150)items
Scores 	Developmental	< 41.3%
	Basic	41.3%
	Proficient	58.7%
	Advanced	78.0%
	Exemplary	90.7%

How can I transfer my score?

To send your score to another school or to transfer your score to UTEP:

1. Visit <http://www.utep.edu/nursing/academic-programs/undergraduate/traditional-bsn/how-to-apply.html>
2. Look for “ATI TEAS EXAM”.
3. Click on the “TEAS Transcript” link.
4. LOG IN to the ATI website, then simply select your TEAS transcript to add to your cart and purchase.

There is a \$27 charge to transfer the score and it is typically received at UTEP within 48 hours.

IMPORTANT:

If you are transferring your score to UTEP, please ensure the UTEP School of Nursing receives your score(s) by verifying with a UTEP nursing academic advisor: <http://www.utep.edu/nursing/resources/academic-advising.html>

How do I study for the TEAS?

- ◆ Examinees can purchase an **ATI-TEAS VI Study Guide** at:
https://www.atitesting.com/ati_store/product.aspx?zpid=1483
- ◆ Students may also purchase **TEAS online practice assessments** for a fee through the ATI website.
- ◆ The **ATI TEAS Exam Prep 2016 (Pocket Prep) app** is available for **iPhone and/or Android** phones in your App Store.

UTEP BSN Frequently Asked Questions

(FAQ)

Nursing Phase 1 and 2 Questions:

How do I apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses and/or the Phase 3 nursing professional courses?

[Click here to visit the School of Nursing \(SoN\) application windows.](#) This link will take you to the UTEP online application process for the School of Nursing where you will also find the deadlines for each application window.

Can I have someone in the SoN Office of Student Affairs review my transcript(s) before I apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

No. The School of Nursing does not offer transcript evaluation. However, after your credits have been officially evaluated by the [Office of Admissions](#), the School of Nursing will create a degree evaluation for you.

Do I need to take an admission examination for the nursing program?

Yes. Students are required to take the [ATI-TEAS exam](#). This examination may be taken for a maximum of 2 times in a 12 month period. There is a deadline set for each application window.

Do I need to pass the ATI-TEAS exam *before* I can submit an application for the Phase 2 nursing courses?

No. Please refer to the [Application Windows](#) for each TEAS deadline.

Do I have to disclose any criminal charges or arrests to the Texas Board of Nursing before I start the Phase 3 nursing professional courses?

Yes. The TX Board of Nursing has to be aware of any criminal charges or arrests that you may have had against you in your lifetime. In order to be eligible to take your NCLEX exam and to be accepted into the phase 3 nursing professional courses, you must be cleared by the TX Board of Nursing.

You must declare any outstanding eligibility issue(s) prior to applying to the Phase 2 nursing courses by filing a [Declaratory Order](#) with the Texas Board of Nursing. This process can take anywhere from 3 to 6 months depending on the type of offense and the workflow of the enforcement office.

What are nursing Phase 1 and Phase 2?

Phase 1 includes the [University Core Curriculum](#) and the pre-professional courses. The pre-professional courses includes Math 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, BIOL 2313-2113, MICR 2330, CHEM 1407 or CHEM 1305-1107, HSCI 2302, and PSYC 1301. Phase 2 includes the 3 nursing courses—NURS 2303, NURS 2402, NURS 2407.

What do I need to complete to apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

Students must complete the Phase 1 University Core Curriculum, the pre-professional courses, and the TEAS test to be eligible to rank for the Phase 2 nursing courses. **NOTE:** Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee a seat in the Phase 2 nursing courses.

As a nursing student, where do I get advised?

Students with 0-29 credit hours will be required to get advised in the [Academic Advising Center](#). Students with 30+ credit hours will be required to attend an information session and advising at the School of Nursing (HSN room 200P). Students must call (915) 747-8337 or visit the **Office of Student Affairs in HSN room 200** to sign up for a session.

What are the ranking criteria to apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

Students are ranked on the following criteria:

1. Pre-professional courses GPA
2. Cumulative GPA (must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50) *Effective Spring 2018, the minimum cumulative GPA to apply will be 3.00*
3. TEAS exam (must meet minimum score of 58.7%)

Are there any time limits on the Pre-professional courses for the nursing program?

There is no time limit on the pre-professional courses.

Can I take the Phase 1 pre-requisites at EPCC?

Yes. The Phase 1 pre-requisite courses may be taken at EPCC. However, we require students attend the last semester of Phase 1 at UTEP, due to the timing of the ranking. All courses must be accounted for on your UTEP transcript at the time your application is processed, including courses in progress at UTEP.

Can I repeat Pre-professional courses for higher grades?

Course failed: If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy. The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course. The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

Course previously passed: If a student earns a "C" or better in a Pre-professional course and wishes to retake for a higher grade, they must get approval from the School of Nursing Student Affairs Office. If they choose to repeat a "passed" course, both grades for the course will be posted on the transcript and will be used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA. Please see a nursing advisor for instructions on how to get permission to retake any pre-professional courses at UTEP.

Please follow these guidelines for re-taking courses at UTEP:

- For MATH 1320, BIOL 1305/1107, BIOL 2311/2111, BIOL 2313/1113, CHEM 1407, CHEM 1305/1105, and MICR 2330: can only be re-taken at UTEP if a student has a current grade of "C". Grades of "B" cannot be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.
- For HSCI 2302, "B"s or "C"s are currently allowed to be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.
- PSYC 1301 cannot be re-taken at UTEP at all.

The School of Nursing will accept *transferred* course grades (for example, from EPCC) for re-takes, as well.

Please note that for ranking purposes only, the School of Nursing will use the *highest grade earned* per pre-professional course in the calculation of the pre-professional courses GPA.

Do I get credit for my work or life experience?

No. UTEP does not award university credit for non-academic professional certificate or life experience.

Can I use graduate-level coursework for the BSN degree?

No. Graduate-level coursework is not transferrable as undergraduate credit.

How can I determine what credits will transfer to UTEP?

Visit the Office of Admissions [online transfer credit equivalency](#) feature where students can have access to transfer equivalencies from various institutions in order to help them determine what transfer credit they can expect to receive

upon entry to UTEP. The equivalencies listed are the most current articulations established and may be subject to change.

When does ranking take place for the Phase 2 nursing courses?

Ranking for the Phase 2 nursing courses takes place in March/April for the Summer semester, June for the Fall semester, and November for the Spring semester. Grades for courses in progress will not be included at the time of ranking.

Can I take some of the requirements for Phase 1 online?

Yes. UTEP offers many of the requirements for Phase 1 100% online. In addition, students are permitted to choose online courses with UT institutions as an option to expand their educational opportunities. [You may click here to visit the University of Texas System Online Consortium.](#)

What if I fail a Phase 2 nursing course? Can I take the course the following semester?

All students have a maximum of 2 attempts to take a nursing course. However, you must submit an application by the applicable deadline to be considered and ranked for the following semester. Depending on the application window, this may not be possible for back-to-back semesters. "Just-in-case" applications will not be considered if a student is already enrolled in a Phase 2 nursing course and wants to apply for the following semester, "just in case" a lower grade is earned.

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses Questions:

When do the Phase 3 nursing professional courses begin?

The Phase 3 nursing professional courses, and the RN to BSN option, begin three times a year (Fall, Spring, Summer).

Is the UTEP School of Nursing accredited?

Yes. The nursing program is approved by the [Texas Board of Nursing](#) and the [Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education \(CCNE\)](#).

How long does it take to complete the Phase 3 nursing professional courses?

After you are admitted to Phase 3, it will take 15 to 24 months to complete. Phase 3 is 4 semesters long and attending the summer term is optional.

Can I enter directly into Phase 3?

No. You must first complete Phase 1 and 2 and be ranked to the Phase 3 nursing professional courses. Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee a seat in Phase 3.

When do you rank for the Phase 3 nursing professional courses?

Ranking takes place during finals week in May for the Summer semester, August for the Fall semester, and December for the Spring semester. Phase 2 nursing final grades will be used for ranking.

If selected into the Phase 3 nursing professional courses, do I have to attend an orientation?

Yes. All selected students are **required** to attend the Red Carpet Orientation before the start of the semester. Important information such as compliance, the UG student handbook, required uniform/supplies, clinicals and required coursework will be presented at the orientation.

What are the ranking criteria to apply to the Phase 3 nursing professional courses?

Students are ranked on the following criteria:

1. Phase 2 nursing courses GPA
2. Pre-professional courses GPA
3. Cumulative GPA (must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50) *Effective Spring 2018, the minimum cumulative GPA to apply will be 3.00*
4. Teas VI test (must meet minimum score of 58.7%)

What if I decline my seat for a particular semester? Will my admission be valid for future semesters?

No. Each ranking is independent; if a student declines their acceptance, they must re-apply for a future semester and will be ranked with that applicant pool.

How competitive is UTEP's nursing program?

The UTEP Traditional BSN Program is highly competitive. We typically receive 450 applications each Fall and Spring semesters for the Phase 2 nursing courses (up to 160 seats available) and 250 applications each semester for the Phase 3 nursing professional courses (up to 90 seats available).

Average GPAs of SELECTED applicants:

Phase 2 Nursing Courses (120 - 160 students selected)

Average Pre-professional courses GPA: 3.77

Average Cumulative GPA: 3.45

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses (80-90 students selected)

Average Nursing courses GPA: 3.45

Average Pre-professional courses GPA: 3.65

Average Cumulative GPA: 3.47

If I am not accepted, do I have to re-apply the next semester?

Yes. Applications are not transferrable to the next semester. You must resubmit a new nursing application by the applicable deadline if you wish to be considered for another semester.

What is required for an RN license?

To obtain a RN license, the individual must have graduated from a nursing program approved by a state board of nursing, meet all the requirements to sit for the licensure examination (including no felony convictions), and successfully pass the examination.

How do you specialize?

Upon graduation, students are prepared to be generalists. Although they can work in any number of settings, true specialization requires advanced graduate education.

Do you accept nursing courses from other nursing programs?

No. All Phase 2 and Phase 3 nursing courses must be taken at UTEP.

If I was dismissed from another nursing program, can I apply to the Traditional BSN program?

Students dismissed from another nursing program may not apply to the UTEP Traditional BSN Program.

Where can I go for more information?

You may visit our website at <http://www.utep.edu/nursing/resources/academic-advising.html> or you may sign up for an **Advising and Information Session** by calling (915) 747-8337.

Petition for Declaratory Order (DO)

→ If any of the following information applies to your background, you must complete the Declaratory Order **BEFORE** being accepted into the Phase 2 Nursing courses at UTEP.

→ The Texas Board of Nursing strongly advises students petition the Board **BEFORE** enrolling into a nursing program if the student has potential eligibility issues.

Petitions for Declaratory Order (DO) are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are processed in the order that they are received. In addition, providing incomplete information may result in the Board delaying or denying the approval of the DO. You will receive an Operations outcome letter if the DO is approved. Students who are denied have the option of re-petitioning the Board or may request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

Criminal background checks will be completed on all applicants accepted to the program. The following histories will **disqualify** an individual from consideration for clinical rotations:

- Felony convictions
- Misdemeanor convictions or felony deferred adjudications involving crimes against persons (physical or sexual abuse, etc.)
- Misdemeanor convictions related to moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.)
- Felony deferred adjudications for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances, and
- Registered sex offenders

You will need to submit a **Declaratory Order of Eligibility** to the Texas Board of Nursing for any criminal offense including those pending appeal if you have:

- been convicted of a misdemeanor
- been convicted of a felony
- pled non contendere, no contest or guilty
- received deferred adjudication
- been placed on community supervision or court ordered probation
- been sentenced to serve in jail or prison or court ordered confinement
- been granted pretrial diversion
- been arrested or have any pending criminal charges
- been cited or charged with any violation of the law (excluding minor traffic tickets)
- been subject to court martial

Conditions requiring you to complete the Petition for Declaratory Order of Eligibility as outlined above include: Within the last 5 years, a diagnosis, treatment or hospitalization for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.

The Declaratory Order of Eligibility form can be found at:

https://www.bon.state.tx.us/forms_declaratory_order.asp