

RN to MS Program Admission and Program Requirements

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for the RN-MS program generally are the same as for the master's degree program in nursing with the exception of the requirement for a bachelor's degree. The requirements for admission to the RN-MS program are:

- A current license to practice nursing in the state of Texas
- A basic statistics course (included in the required pre-requisite coursework)
- A minimum of B average on all prerequisites for admission to the program
- A minimum grade of C in anatomy and physiology and microbiology
- A minimum B average on all required nursing courses for the associate degree or the diploma in nursing.
- Prior to enrollment in the first clinical course at the master's level, the student must have completed the equivalent of one year of full-time experience as a registered nurse.

All students will be accepted provisionally into the RN-MS program until the bachelor's requirements have been met and the BS with a major in nursing is conferred.

Prerequisite Requirements for admission into the program:

English (Composition).....	6
Literature or Philosophy.....	3
US History***	6
Government (US & Texas)***	6
Introduction to Psychology	3
Growth and Development (Life-Span)***	3
Quantitative Approach to Introductory Mathematics	3
Chemistry with lab***	4
Microbiology with lab***	4
Human Anatomy & Physiology with labs***	8
Statistics***	3
Nutrition***#	3
Visual or Performing Arts	3
Electives	2
**Multicultural Women's Studies	<u>3</u>
	60

#Course may be challenged for credit.

**Courses may be taken before or after admission to upper division nursing courses.

***Courses required for nurses who have previously earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited public college or university in the state of Texas since 1999.

Core Curriculum Transfer Policy

The TWU.EDU, Academic Affairs, Core Curriculum web site provides a listing of courses approved for Core Curriculum. In accordance with the Texas Education Code, students who have satisfactorily completed a 42 hour core curriculum at an institution of higher learning in Texas are not required to complete the core curriculum at TWU.

Core Competencies

According to the TWU General Catalog 2007 – 2009 (page 78), each student must pass a 1) computer science course (CSCI 1403, CSCI 2433 or CSCI 3002) or a competency examination in computer literacy, and 2) pass a speech course (SPCH 1013, BUS 3513, DRAM 3493, or NURS 4614) or document successful completion of two or more evaluated oral presentation.

Credit Awarded

Twenty-eight semester hours of credit will be awarded to those individuals who are licensed to practice in Texas as a registered nurse and who have met the criteria for admission to the College of Nursing. Credit is awarded for NURS 3025 Women's Health and Family Role Competencies, NURS 3035 Adult Health Competencies I, NURS 3813 Pharmacology, NURS 4045 Adult Health Competencies II, NURS 4055 Child Health Competencies, and NURS 4615 Mental Health Competencies.

University Admission

1. Complete both an Undergraduate and Graduate University Application. If both applications are mailed at the same time, a fee of \$30.00 (\$50.00 for International Students) must be mailed with the applications. If the applications are mailed separately, two fees are required (\$30.00 for the Undergraduate Application and \$30.00 for the Graduate Application, or for International Students, \$50.00 for the Undergraduate Application and \$50.00 for the Graduate Application).
2. Attach the application fees to the application. The application will not be processed without receipt of the fees.
3. Send the Undergraduate Application, Graduate Application, fee, and all official transcripts to: Student Records Processing Texas woman's University P.O. Box 425649 Denton, TX 76204
4. Send the RN to MS Program Nursing Application for Admission to Upper Division Nursing to the campus or center in which the student wants to be considered for admission (Denton Campus, Dallas Center, or Houston Center). The College of Nursing addresses are located on the back of the application.
5. The Undergraduate and Graduate Applications for admission to the University and all official transcripts should be submitted as far in advance as possible. Please note the deadlines.

International Students

International Students should contact the International Education Office at (940) 898-3338 for information on admission to the University. International student admissions are processed by this office. The University Application, \$50.00 application fee, and all official transcripts are to be sent to:

International Education Office Texas Woman's University P.O. Box 425827 Denton, TX 76204

Deadlines

Deadlines are as follows:

- September 1 for Spring semester entry
- February 1 for Summer semester entry
- May 1 for Fall semester entry

Graduation Honors Recognition

Graduating seniors whose cumulative grade point average (GPA) reflects excellent scholarship are awarded their degree cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude. A minimum of 45 semester credit hours must be earned at TWU to qualify for this recognition. The cumulative GPA ranges for these graduation honors designations are listed below.

Summa Cum Laude	3.900 and above
Magna Cum Laude	3.700-3.8999
Cum Laude	3.500-3.6999

Graduation honors recognition at the commencement ceremony is based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the semester prior to the final semester. Graduation honors recognition as recorded on the diploma or posted to the official transcript is based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the final semester.

For more information please contact one of the following:

Denton Campus

Dr. Stoerm Anderson
RN-BS/MS Program Coordinator
(940) 898-2415 or stoerm.anderson@twu.edu

Dallas Center

Dr. Gloria Byrd
RN-BS/MS Program Coordinator
(214) 689-6650 or gbyrd@twu.edu

Houston Center

Ms. Betty Henderson
RN-BS/MS Program Coordinator
(713) 794-2139 or bhenderson@twu.edu

RN-BS/MS Program Sample Program Plan

The plan will vary depending upon campus location and clinical specialty. The program plan presented here is a **sample program plan** for the RN-MS student pursuing the Family Nurse Practitioner track.

Semester I	credit hours
NURS 3643 The RN Baccalaureate Nursing Experience	3
NURS 4612 Promoting Wellness in the Aging Family	2
NURS 4803 The Nursing Leadership and Management Experience	3
BIOL 5333 Pathophysiology	4

Semester II	credit hours
NURS 3804 The RN Experience with Families & Groups	4
NURS 4614 The Nursing Experience with Communities	4
NURS 5644 Advanced Assessment/Differential Diagnosis	4
NURS 5023 Research in Nursing	3

Semester III	credit hours
NURS 4813 The RN High Acuity Nursing Experience	3
NURS 4823 The RN Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing	3
* Multicultural Women's Studies	3

*multicultural women's studies completed by semester III, if not already taken

Semester IV	credit hours
NURS 5663 Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 5003 Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities	3
NURS 5625 Family Health Nursing I	5

Semester V	credit hours
NURS 5605 Family Health Nursing II	5
NURS 5002 Advanced Nursing Practice Role	2
NURS 5013 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3

Semester VI	credit hours
NURS 5001 Role Seminar for Advanced Nursing Practice	5
NURS 5615 Family Health Nursing III	2
NURS 5973 or 5983 Professional Paper or Thesis	3

Semester VII	credit hours
NURS 5683 Nurse Preceptorship I	3
NURS 5693 Nurse Preceptorship II	3
NURS 5993 Thesis	3

**Texas Woman's University
College of Nursing
RN to MS Program**

Process for applying to the RN to MS Program:

1. Complete both an Undergraduate and Graduate University Application. If both applications are submitted at the same time a fee of \$30.00 (\$50.00 for International Students) must be submitted with the applications. If the applications are submitted separately, two fees are required (\$30.00 for the Undergraduate Application and \$30.00 for the Graduate Application or for International Students \$50.00 for the Undergraduate Application and \$50.00 for the Graduate Application).
The application will not be processed without receipt of the fees.
2. Submit the Undergraduate Application, Graduate Application, fee, and all official transcripts to:
Student Records Processing
Texas Woman's University
P.O. Box 425649
Denton, TX 76204
3. Send the *RN to MS Program Nursing Application for Admission to Upper Division Nursing* to the campus/center at which you want to enroll. There is **no** College of Nursing application fee for the RN BS MS Program.

Dr. Stoerm Anderson, EdD, M.S., R.N.
College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
P.O. Box 425498
Denton, Texas 76204-5498
(940)898-2401

Dr. Gloria L. Byrd, Ph.D., R.N.
College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
1810 Inwood Road
Dallas, TX 75235-7299
(214)689-6650

Mrs. Betty Henderson, M.N., R.N.
College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
6700 Fannin Street
Houston, Texas 77030-2897
(713)794-2100

4. Request that scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) be sent to Texas Woman's University, Graduate School.
5. The Undergraduate and Graduate Applications for admission to the University and all official transcripts should be submitted as far in advance as possible. Please note the deadlines:

*May 1
September 15
February 1*

*for the Fall semester.
for the Spring semester.
for the Summer semester.*

RN to MS Program

Instructions

Applicants must be provisionally admitted to TWU's Graduate School prior to admission to the College of Nursing, Upper Division. The University Application and official transcripts of all previously attended colleges and universities must be sent to TWU Office of Graduate Admissions and Student Record Processing prior to the deadline date for filing the College of Nursing Upper Division Application.

1. Please review the requirements for application for admission to upper division nursing courses. The applicant must meet the minimum requirements which include:
 - a. provisional admission to the Graduate School at Texas Woman's University;
 - b. ability to complete the required prerequisite courses before beginning the nursing courses;
 - c. a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the lower division required prerequisite courses required in the degree plan;
 - d. a grade of C in microbiology and anatomy and physiology;
 - e. a grade point average of at least 3.0 in nursing courses from the Associate Degree or Diploma Program;
 - f. current licensure in the State of Texas; and
 - g. completion of the equivalent of one year of full time experience as a Registered Nurse before enrollment in the first clinical course at the master's level.
 - h. Effective January 1, 2001, a student may not repeat a course more than twice. This means a student can take a course a total of three times (original plus two repeats). The grade used to compute the student's GPA is the most recent grade earned in the course.

2. At the time of enrollment in the clinical nursing courses, the student must provide proof of:
 - a. current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (one person, two person, infant, child, adult, choking, and one way valve mask breathing).
 - b. liability insurance purchased through a Texas Woman's University student professional liability group policy; and
 - c. current immunizations (information on immunizations will be sent with the acceptance letter).

3. Application to enter upper division nursing courses must be sent to the College of Nursing by the following deadlines.

May 1	for the Fall semester.
September 15	for the Spring semester.
February 1	for the Summer semester.

Return completed application to the center at which you want to enroll.

College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
P.O. Box 425498
Denton, Texas 76204-5498
(940)898-2401

College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
1810 Inwood Road
Dallas, TX 75235-7299
(214)689-6650

College of Nursing
Texas Woman's University
6700 Fannin Street
Houston, Texas 77030-2897
(713)794-2100

Student Signature

Date

*In accordance with Leg. House Bill 1922, an individual is entitled to: request to be informed about the information collected about them; receive and review their information; and correct any incorrect information.

TWU University Policy Manual (excerpt)

Policy Name:	Student Drug Testing and Criminal Background Screening/College of Nursing
Policy Number:	1.11
Date Passed:	June 2000
Date Reviewed:	April 2003
Review Next By:	April 2005
Signed By:	Chancellor and President

It is the policy of Texas Woman's University College of Nursing to adhere to all policies of clinical facilities with which the College affiliates for student clinical learning experiences. Many clinical facilities and school districts require drug testing and criminal background screening of all students. The College of Nursing abides by the Community Standards for Drug Testing and Background Screening.

The College of Nursing will designate the company(ies) selected to do the drug testing and criminal background screening. The College of Nursing will not accept drug and criminal background screening results from any company other than the one designated by the College of Nursing. The student will pay the cost of the drug and criminal background screening at the time of the testing.

Drug Screening

If a student has a positive drug screen s/he will not be allowed to participate in the clinical component of the course at the assigned clinical agency or any other clinical agency. The student will be required to withdraw passing from all clinical courses. The student will then be required to complete, at the student's cost, chemical dependency evaluation and treatment, if recommended by the drug assessment.

Any student with a positive drug screen shall be suspended for a minimum of one calendar year from all clinical courses with the stipulation that the student receive treatment and provide proof of treatment to the associate dean. Students may apply to the associate dean for earlier reinstatement if warranted by individual circumstances. The student may continue in lecture courses if proof is provided that the student is currently receiving treatment. The student must meet prerequisites and co-requisites of any courses taken. Random drug screens will be required as a component of the recovering process by the agency providing treatment, with results being conveyed to the associate dean.

Texas Woman's University encourages impaired students to seek assistance voluntarily and assume responsibility for their personal and professional conduct. The student will be required to provide documentation of successful treatment, after the minimum one-year suspension, prior to being readmitted to courses that have a clinical experience component. If readmitted to clinical courses, the student must be retested by the College of Nursing approved laboratory and have a negative drug screen. This testing is at the student's expense.

Criminal Background Screen

Standards for criminal background screening are those commonly required of employees of hospitals. Criminal background checks must review a person's criminal history seven (7) years back from the date of application. The check must include all cities and counties of known residence for the 7-year period. The following histories will disqualify an individual for consideration for a clinical rotation.

- felony convictions
- misdemeanor convictions, probated sentences, or felony deferred adjudications involving crimes against persons (including physical or sexual abuse)
- misdemeanor convictions related to moral turpitude (including prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, theft, etc.)
- felony probated sentences or deferred adjudications for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances
- registered sex offenders.

Individuals with any of the above histories will not be eligible to enroll in the nursing program, and if the history is discovered or a conviction occurs after enrollment the student will be required to withdraw from the program. A student who is convicted of a criminal offense while enrolled in the program must report the conviction to the associate dean within three days of the conviction. The term conviction for these purposes includes probated sentences and deferred adjudications.

A student may be considered for readmission to the program if the Texas Board of Nursing issues a Declaratory Order stating the individual is eligible for initial licensure or license renewal or determines that the individual is eligible to return to practice.

College of Nursing and Clinical Agency Duty

As stated in the Nurse Practice Act, Sec.301.402. Duty of Registered Nurse to Report and Sec.301.404. Duty of Nursing Educational Program to Report both the clinical agency and the College of Nursing are required to report to the Texas Board of Nursing if it is believed that the professional nursing student is impaired by chemical dependency. The registered nurse (clinical agency) may make the report required in the Nurse Practice Act to the professional nursing educational program in which the student is enrolled instead of reporting to the Board.

Student's signature of acknowledgement and date required, next page.

**Texas Woman's University
College of Nursing**

Policy for Required Drug Testing and Criminal Background Screening

My signature below indicates that I have read the above policy on Drug Testing and Criminal Background Screening and have been provided a copy of it. This form provides my irrevocable consent for the results of drug screening and criminal background checks to be released to TWU College of Nursing officials.

My signature below certifies that I do not have any criminal history as listed in the policy that would disqualify me for consideration for a clinical rotation or for enrollment in the nursing program.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

*In accordance with Leg. House Bill 1922, an individual is entitled to: request to be informed about the information collected about them; receive and review their information; and correct any incorrect information.

Revised 03/03