GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE

REGISTERED NURSE

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in our Associate Degree Nursing Program. The need for registered nurses in the community and nationwide has remained constant. Salaries for staff RNs in Florida average approximately $72,000 depending upon education, experience, and location. The Gulf Coast State College Associate Degree Nursing Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc.*****

As identified in the packet and brochure, GCSC's registered nursing program is a **72-credit-hour** program that encompasses on-campus classroom and laboratory hours and clinical experience in a variety of local hospitals and facilities. Once selected, students should complete the full-time nursing program in two years. Required general education courses can be completed prior to program entry or during the program in compliance with the table demonstrated on the curriculum page in this packet. Upon graduation, students receive an Associate of Science Degree in Nursing (A.D.N.) and are eligible to sit for the national exam to obtain a Registered Nurse (R.N.) license.

An Associate in Science Degree in Nursing is the first step in professional nursing. Nurses may seek advanced education and additional certifications to progress in their profession with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (available here at GCSC or through university programs), a Registered Nurse First Assistant Advanced Technical Certificate (also available at GCSC), a Master's Degree in Nursing, or a Doctoral Degree.

Attached is the program information packet. It includes information you will need to read if you would like to begin the online application process. Current estimated expense sheets for the ADN program are available online by clicking on the cost sheet link at http://www.gulfcoast.edu/current-students/academic-divisions/health-sciences/nursing/registered-nursing/index.html. Applicants desiring admission into the RN program, who have failed to achieve a "C" or better or whose transcripts reveal withdrawals in **ANY** two nursing courses, in any registered nursing program(s) attended, will not be considered for admission. Students who have been readmitted one time to **ANY** RN program are not eligible for admission. Failure to disclose previous enrollment in a nursing program (or courses) may render the student ineligible for admission.

Please read through the attached information. Should questions arise, please contact the program's Senior Administrative Assistant, Lisa Tyus, at 850.872.3829, or contact the Academic Program Specialist, Connie Pimentel, at 850.913.3311 or HealthSciencesGCSC@gulfcoast.edu. Additional nursing program information is also available on our website at http://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/programs/nursing-as/index.html.

ADMISSION APPLICATION DEADLINES: Two classes are admitted each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The deadlines for applications to be submitted with all checklist items completed are by the last working day in **FEBRUARY** (for fall class) and the last working day in **SEPTEMBER** (for spring class). Applications are held for one year after being received. If the applicant has not been assigned to a Nursing advisor by then, students will need to re-apply.

Good luck with your educational plans.

Dr. Martha Ruder
Coordinator of Nursing

*Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc, can be contacted at 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, Georgia 30326, or 404.975.5000.

(Updated Mar. 26, 2024)

Associate Degree Nursing Program
Tracks for Entering

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING:
This program is for the student who enters without prior nursing core courses and intends to complete all the required nursing core courses at Gulf Coast State College. Only offered at the Panama City campus. (This option requires this packet).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT INTO THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM:
The program is for the student who has completed any portion of a Registered Nursing Program's core courses at another College or University and wishes to transfer credit into Gulf Coast State College's Associate Degree Nursing Program. Depending upon a transcript evaluation, the student may be allowed to enter the program with advanced placement if the coursework in nursing is less than two years old. The student must complete a minimum of eighteen credit hours at Gulf Coast State College to be eligible for graduation.
(This option requires this packet as well as an additional checklist).

LPN to ADN ARTICULATION – TRADITIONAL OPTION:
The student is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and wishes to enter with advanced standing into the Associate Degree Nursing Program Weekday Option at Gulf Coast State College at the Panama City campus. Classes are full-time, Monday through Thursday.
(This option requires a different application packet).

LPN to ADN ARTICULATION – WEEKEND OPTION:
The student is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and wishes to enter with advanced standing into the Associate Degree Nursing Program Weekend Option at the Gulf Coast State College Gulf Franklin campus. Classes are on Friday for 6 hours, and clinical meets on Saturday *OR* Sunday for 12½ hours. (This option requires a different application packet).

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING
CHECKLIST FOR ADMISSION TO THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING

NOTE: Students who have ever been admitted to any Registered Nursing Program previously must produce a Letter of Recommendation from the previous Nursing Dean / Director. A student whose transcripts reveal withdrawals or failures to achieve a "C" or better in **ANY** two nursing core courses, in any RN nursing program(s) attended, will not be considered for admission. Students who have been readmitted one time to **ANY** RN program are not eligible for admission.

Students should complete the following five checklist items as soon as possible to receive a permanent Nursing Advisor assignment.

_____ 1. **APPLY FOR GENERAL ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE**
Failure to declare the correct major can result in lengthy evaluation delays. Visit GCSC Enrollment Services in person or on the web at **www.gulfcoast.edu/admissions/** to obtain information on the college admissions process, including **the College application fee.**
Returning students who have not taken classes at GCSC in the last year must re-apply for admission.

While working on admission to this program, you may choose the Nursing Option, Liberal Arts A.A., as your major only if you intend to complete that separate degree either before or after this limited access program. To request a major change, visit https://www.gulfcoast.edu/admissions/forms.html. Students declaring an unintended major for the sole purpose of receiving financial aid may be subject to penalties, including repayment of any financial aid received. Some support courses listed in the General Nursing Option, Liberal Arts A.A. are not required for A.D.N. Program.

_____ 2. **PROVIDE OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL, VOCATIONAL SCHOOL & COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS**
An **official** transcript is a transcript that is sent directly from the granting school/institution to **GCSC Enrollment Services**. Transcripts that have been in the student's possession (regardless of whether they are "sealed," stamped, or in a sealed envelope) are not considered official and will not be accepted. Transcripts must be submitted from ALL post-secondary educational colleges or universities attended and must display all periods of enrollment and/or degrees earned. **The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all college transcripts are evaluated prior to the application deadline for which they are hoping to be chosen as an incoming program student.** Evaluations can sometimes take weeks to be completed. Applicants should check their online GCSC academic transcript to see when the evaluation has been completed and to check courses for accuracy.

_____ 3. **COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING APPLICATION ONLINE**
Preferably at the *beginning* of your academic career, a current application should be completed and submitted online at https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/academic-division/nursing/registered-nursing/index.html.

_____ 4. **OBTAIN A NURSING FACULTY ADVISOR** *(Students should reach this point as quickly as possible).*
After ALL of the above criteria (items 1 thru 3) are met, the student **MUST** contact the Academic Program Specialist. Once minimum requirements have been met then you will be eligible to be assigned to a Nursing Faculty Advisor. The Academic Program Specialist can be reached at 850.913.3311 or **HealthSciencesGCSC@gulfcoast.edu**.

NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS: It is the **RESPONSIBILITY** of the **STUDENT** to **MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION WITH** the **ACADEMIC PROGRAM SPECIALIST and/or ADVISOR** to ensure that their application folder is complete and up-to-date with current admission requirements. Check the Academic Program Specialist and/or Advisor's schedule ~ Nursing faculty may not be on campus Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays (due to clinical assignments) or during summer months.

To be considered for **ADMISSION** into the Nursing Program, the applicant's folder **MUST BE COMPLETED WITH ALL CHECKLIST REQUIREMENTS BY THE DEADLINE DATES PUBLISHED BELOW.**

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION PROCESS:

_____ 1. **APPOINTMENT WITH ASSIGNED NURSING FACULTY ADVISOR TO DISCUSS DESIRED START DATE AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The applicant **MUST** contact his / her assigned Nursing Faculty Advisor to review the application folder for completeness. **Failure to communicate with assigned advisor can delay your start date**. Advisors may be contacted by phone or e-mail.

Application folders are not automatically submitted to the Admissions Committee; the student must meet with their assigned Nursing Faculty Advisor and request submission.

Call 850.769.1551 and dial the appropriate extension listed below:

Donlan	jdonlan@gulfcoast.edu	# 5817		Kelly	rkelly@gulfcoast.edu	# 5838
Giles	agiles3@gulfcoast.edu	# 5841		Kirksey	jkirksey@gulfcoast.edu	# 5833
Gombio	kgombio@gulfcoast.edu	# 3238		Pendergrass	mpendergr@gulfcoast.edu	# 5830
Hanson	ahanson2@gulfcoast.edu	# 3360		Ruder	mruder@gulfcoast.edu	# 3314
Hobbs	mhobbs2@gulfcoast.edu	# 5843		Spriggs	kspriggs@gulfcoast.edu	# 6102
Katzberger	ckatzberg@gulfcoast.edu	# 5840				

_____ 2.   **COMPLETION OF ENC 1101 (COMPOSITION I).**
A minimum grade of "C" or higher must be achieved <u>prior</u> to the desired application deadline.

_____ 3.   **COMPLETION OF BSC 2085 & 2085L (ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I WITH LAB).**
A minimum grade of "C" or higher must be achieved <u>prior</u> to the desired application deadline.

_____ 4.   **COMPLETION OF MATH REQUIREMENT**
Completion of a 3-credit math course with the prefix MAC, MGF, or STA with a minimum grade of "C" must be achieved <u>prior</u> to the desired application deadline.

NOTE: Students who desire to **improve their probability of program selection and success** in ALL NURSING COURSES **are encouraged to enroll** in **MTB 1371 (previously MTB 0375 – Math for Health-Related Professions)** and **HSC 1531 - Medical Terminology**.
These courses are designed to improve understanding of core nursing concepts, not to reduce the length or number of credits in the Nursing Program.

_____ 5.   **TOTAL, OVERALL, UNDERGRADUATE, COLLEGE CREDIT (INCLUDING TRANSFER CREDITS) GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) OF 2.5 (MINIMUM)**

_____ 6.   **COMPLETION OF ATI TEAS 7 ADMISSION ASSESSMENT TEST / GCSC NURSING PROGRAM RECEIPT OF <u>OFFICIAL TEAS SCORES</u>** *(see last section, page 13)*

- Applicants must successfully complete the TEAS 7 Pre-Admission Exam (The Test of Essential Academic Skills)

   This is exam is specifically designed to assess the academic preparedness of prospective students entering health science fields.

- **The TEAS 7 Exam may be taken no more than twice per selection period. Selection periods are defined as October 1 through the end of February, and March 1 through the end of September. Scores are valid for a period of 2 years. The most recent score will be used for admissions.**

- Included in this packet is information on the exam, the study guide, and how to register to take the exam.

ADMISSION APPLICATION DEADLINES: Two classes are admitted each year, one in spring and one in fall. The initial deadlines for application to be complete (with all checklist requirements completed) are by the last working day in **FEBRUARY** *(for fall class)* and the last working day in **SEPTEMBER** *(for spring class)*.

Advanced Placement: This option is for the student who has completed any portion of a Registered Nursing Program's core courses at another college or University. Applicants will be considered for acceptance contingent upon successful completion of the Advanced Placement checklist (in addition to this application). Students' application folders will be considered at the last nursing faculty meeting of each semester.

NOTE TO ALL STUDENTS: Admission to the program is **competitive in nature** and **is not guaranteed**. A selection committee ranks all applications and admission is granted to the most qualified applicants. Applicants can improve their chances of admission by maintaining a high GPA, completing pre & co-requisite courses and scoring high on the TEAS 7 entrance exam. **It should be understood that satisfactorily meeting minimum requirements <u>does not</u> automatically guarantee admission.**

UPON ACCEPTANCE INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE REQUIRED:

_____ 1.   **CURRENT PPD** or **TB TEST** or **DECLINATION WITH X-RAY RESULTS**
_____ 2.   **MEDICAL EXAMINATION** - With Satisfactory Results
_____ 3.   **SATISFACTORY FINGERPRINT / CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**
_____ 4.   **CURRENT CPR CARD** - American Heart Association (BCLS-C) for Healthcare Provider (Basic Cardiac Life Support) is the only certification accepted.
_____ 5.   **10-PANEL DRUG SCREENING** – With Satisfactory Results

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING
COURSE REQUIREMENTS & CURRICULUM PLAN

Prerequisite Courses:	Successfully completed with a grade of "C" or higher prior to acceptance into the Nursing Program		
BSC 2085	Human Anatomy & Physiology	3 Credits	Pre-Requisite Course Before Entering the Program
BSC 2085L	Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1 Credit	Pre-Requisite Course Before Entering the Program
ENC 1101	English Composition I	3 Credits	Pre-Requisite Course Beginning Spring 2025 or by graduation if in progress prior to Spring 2025
Math course with prefix: MAC, MGF, or STA		3 Credits	Pre-Requisite Course Before Entering the Program

Courses that may be taken prior to entering OR during the nursing program and must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher are indicated below. (Students are <u>strongly encouraged</u> to take as many of these courses as possible *prior* to entering the Nursing Program.)

DEP 2004	Developmental Psychology	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
HUN 1201	Principles of Nutrition	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
BSC 2086	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
BSC 2086L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1 Credit	Before Entering Semester 2 of the Program
MCB 2004	Microbiology	3 Credits	Before Entering Semester 4 of the Program
MCB 2004L	Microbiology Lab	1 Credit	Before Entering Semester 4 of the Program
Core Humanities	Humanities I, II, or III (designated by • in College Catalog)	3 Credits	By the End of Semester 4 of the Program
AMH 2020 or POS 2041 & Competency	US History II or American National Government	3 Credits	By the End of Semester 4 of the Program

NURSING CORE COURSES

The following required nursing courses are taken on campus in sequence over 4 semesters (2 fall and 2 spring) after acceptance into the Nursing Program. Classes are held Monday through Thursday; class and clinical times vary semester-to-semester, and even within a semester.

Semester	Course Number	Course Name		Credits
Semester 1:	NUR 1022C	Foundations of Nursing Practice*	(1st 8-week course)	3
	NUR 1210C	Basic Care of the Adult	(2nd 8-week course)	4
	NUR 1142	Introduction to Pharmacology	(15-week course	2
Semester 2:	NUR 1213C	Intermediate Adult Care	(15-week course)	10
Semester 3:	NUR 2420C	Maternal-Infant Nursing	(5-week course)	4
	NUR 2310C	Nursing Care of the Child	(5-week course)	4
	NUR 2520C	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	(5-week course)	4
Semester 4:	NUR 2214C	Advanced Adult Care	(15-week course)	11

Reminder: Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 to begin the nursing program. All courses must be completed with a "C" or higher, GPA 2.0, for continuation in the nursing program.

GULF COAST STATE COLLEGE - ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING
TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

TECHNICAL STANDARD	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (Not All Inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	• Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations • Develop nursing care plans • Make rapid decisions under pressure • Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations • Assist with problem solving
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, educational, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	• Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues • Cope effectively with high levels of stress • Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm manner • Cope with confrontation • Demonstrate high degree of patience
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	• Explain treatment procedures • Initiate client education • Document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, to maneuver in small spaces and to perform procedures necessary for emergency intervention	• Move around in patient's rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas • Administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation procedures • Walk the equivalent of 5 miles per day • Remain on one's feet in upright position at a workstation without moving about • Climb stairs • Remain in seated position
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care	• Calibrate and use equipment • Position patients/clients • Perform repetitive tasks • Able to grip • Bend at knee and squat. • Reach above shoulder level • Lift and carry 25 pounds • Exert 20-50 pounds of force (pushing/pulling)
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	• Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, and cries for help • Hear tape recorded transcriptions • Hear telephone interactions
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care	• Observe patient/client responses • Identify and distinguish colors
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	• Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertion of a catheter
Environmental	Ability to tolerate environmental stressors	• Adapt to shift work • Work with chemicals and detergents • Tolerate exposure to fumes and odors • Work in areas that are close and crowded • Tolerate the use and wearing of personal protective equipment such as masks, face shields, gloves, and gowns as necessary for your shift (1-12 hours)

SOURCES:

1. Red Alert: The Americans with Disabilities Act Implications for Nursing Education Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression Framework. Southern Regional Education Board, Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing, March 1993.

2. Dictionary of Occupations and Professions, Vol. II, 4th ed. 1991, Nurse, General Duty.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR BACKGROUND

Applicants to the Nursing Programs in the Nursing Division of Gulf Coast State College work very hard to meet the entry requirements for selection. Our programs make every effort to accept as many academically qualified students as possible. In addition to meeting basic entry requirements, however, applicants must also consider how their personal history and background may affect their ability to meet admission and clinical requirements, sit for various state licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment.

Criminal Background Checks

As part of your provisional acceptance into the nursing program, an acceptable background check (including Level II fingerprinting) and drug screening must be completed prior to final acceptance into the program. Gulf Coast State College utilizes our Public Safety Division for this service. Criminal background checks performed through other agencies will not be accepted. The student must also be aware that clinical agencies may require an additional background check prior to clinical access.

It is possible to graduate from a program at GCSC but be denied the opportunity for licensure because of an unfavorable background check. An applicant must consider how his / her personal history may affect the ability to meet clinical requirements, sit for various licensure exams, and ultimately gain employment. Most healthcare boards in the State of Florida make decisions about licensure on an individual basis. You may visit the Florida Department of Health website (**www.doh.state.fl.us**/) for more information regarding licensure. We offer this information so that you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

Student applicants DO NOT complete background checks until directed to when provisionally accepted into the Nursing Program. Information and instructions on how to complete the background check will be sent by the program coordinator.

Please read the following information carefully: Any student who has been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere, or guilty to, any offense under the provision of 456.0635 (see below) may be **disqualified** from admission to any Nursing program. In addition to these specific convictions, there are other crimes which may disqualify applicants from entering into the Nursing programs and/or clinical rotations. The statute listed below can also be found online: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0456/Sections/0456.0635.html

456.0635   Health care fraud; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration.
(1)   Health care fraud in the practice of a health care profession is prohibited.
(2)   Each board within the jurisdiction of the department, or the department if there is no board, shall refuse to admit a candidate to any examination and refuse to issue a license, certificate, or registration to any applicant if the candidate or applicant or any principal, officer, agent, managing employee, or affiliated person of the applicant:
(a)   Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under chapter 409, chapter 817, or chapter 893, or a similar felony offense committed in another state or jurisdiction, unless the candidate or applicant has successfully completed a drug court program for that felony and provides proof that the plea has been withdrawn or the charges have been dismissed. Any such conviction or plea shall exclude the applicant or candidate from licensure, examination, certification, or registration unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended:
1.   For felonies of the first or second degree, more than 15 years before the date of application.
2.   For felonies of the third degree, more than 10 years before the date of application, except for felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a).
3.   For felonies of the third degree under s. 893.13(6)(a), more than 5 years before the date of application;
(b)   Has been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a felony under 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970, or 42 U.S.C. ss. 1395-1396, unless the sentence and any subsequent period of probation for such conviction or plea ended more than 15 years before the date of the application;
(c)   Has been terminated for cause from the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to s. 409.913, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with the Florida Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years;
(d)   Has been terminated for cause, pursuant to the appeals procedures established by the state, from any other state Medicaid program, unless the candidate or applicant has been in good standing with a state Medicaid program for the most recent 5 years and the termination occurred at least 20 years before the date of the application; or
(e)   Is currently listed on the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General's List of Excluded Individuals and Entities.

Rick Scott
Governor

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH

John H. Armstrong, MD
State Surgeon General

July 1, 2012

Individuals who are considering entering the nursing profession and who have a criminal history often ask about potential barriers to licensure following successful completion of an approved nursing program. While it would be nice to know this prior to making a decision to enter the program, obtaining that information is not possible under current Florida law.

The Board of Nursing makes decisions about licensure based upon a number of questions on the application and on an individual basis. The application (or the background screening) that indicates a criminal history is considered a non-routine application and must be reviewed by the board staff and possibly referred to the Board of Nursing for action.

Each application is reviewed on its own merit. The Board of Nursing has created guidelines for specific offenses to be cleared in the board office; however, the staff cannot make determinations in advance as laws and rules change over time. Applications that involve violent crimes and repeat offenses are required to be presented to the Board of Nursing for review. Evidence of rehabilitation is important to the Board Members when making licensure decisions.

The Board may issue a license under conditions such as placing the license on probation with supervision, requiring additional education, or the Board may deny your application. If drugs or alcohol are a concern, the board may require the applicant to undergo an evaluation and possibly to sign a contract with the Intervention Project for Nurses (800-840-2720).

Each nursing program makes independent decisions about admissions into the program and may require a criminal background screening as part of that process. Clinical facilities may limit or prohibit students with criminal histories from participating in clinical experiences. Other options may not exist for students to complete the required clinical hours in order to obtain a nursing degree; therefore making such a student ineligible for licensure in Florida.

The licensure application requires disclosure of any criminal history and the disposition of all cases prior to board review. Entry into the nursing education program is the prospective student's decision based upon the knowledge that he/she may, or may not, be granted a nursing license. All of the above factors should be taken into consideration prior to making a decision about a nursing career.

Important Notice for Initial Licensure Applicants and Renewals:

Pursuant to Section 456.0635, Florida Statutes, you are being notified that effective July 1, 2012, health care boards or the department shall refuse to renew a license, certificate or registration, issue a license, certificate or registration and shall refuse to admit a candidate for examination if the applicant has been:

1. Convicted or plead guilty or nolo contendre, regardless of adjudication, to a felony violation of: chapters 409, 817, or 893, Florida Statutes; or 21 U.S.C. ss. 801-970 or 42 U.S.C. ss 1395-1396, or similar offenses in other state. unless the sentence and any probation or pleas ended more than 15 years prior to the application for 1st and 2nd degree felony; 10 years prior to the application for 3rd degree felony; and 5 years prior to the application for 3rd degree felony under Section 893.13(6)(a).

2. Terminated for cause from Florida Medicaid Program (unless the applicant has been in good standing for the most recent 5 years).

3. Terminated for cause by any other State Medicaid Program or the Medicare Program (unless the termination was at least 20 years prior to the date of the application and the applicant has been in good standing with the program for the most recent 5 years).

The Florida Board of Nursing receives numerous questions from applicants regarding prior criminal offenses. The following are the most frequently asked questions:

Question: What types of crimes must be reported on the application?

Answer: All convictions, guilty pleas and nolo contendere pleas must be reported, except for minor traffic violations not related to the use of drugs or alcohol. This includes misdemeanors, felonies, "driving while intoxicated (DWI)" and "driving under the influence "(DUI)." Crimes must be reported even if they are a suspended sentence.

Question: Can a person obtain a license as a nurse if they have a misdemeanor or felony crime on their record?

Answer: Each application is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The Board of Nursing considers the nature, severity, and recency of offenses, rehabilitation and other factors. The Board cannot make a determination for approval or denial of licensure without evaluating the entire application and supporting documentation.

Question: Do I have to report charges if I completed a period of probation and the charges were dismissed or closed?

Answer: Yes. Offenses must be reported to the Board even if you received a suspended sentence and the record is now considered closed.

Question: What types of documentation do I need to submit in support of my application if I have a prior criminal record or license discipline?

Answer:

- Official court document(s) regarding each of your criminal offenses, showing the date(s) and circumstance(s) surrounding your arrest(s), sections of the law violated, and disposition of the case. This includes the complaint or indictment, the judgment, order of probation, docket sheet or other documents showing the disposition of your case(s). You may obtain these documents at the clerk of court where the offense(s) occurred.

- Copies of documents regarding disciplinary action taken against any healthcare license. The documents must come from the agency that took the disciplinary action.

- A detailed description in your own words of the circumstances surrounding your criminal record or disciplinary action. Include a description of the changes in your lifestyle since the time of the offense(s) which would enable you to avoid future incidents. List factors in your life, which you feel, may have contributed to your crime or disciplinary action and what you have learned.

Note: The burden of proof lies with the applicant to demonstrate evidence of positive lifestyle changes. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Documented evidence of professional treatment and counseling you have completed. Provide a discharge summary, if available.

- Letters of professional recommendation on official letterhead from employers, nursing program administrators, nursing instructors, health professionals, professional counselors, support group sponsors, parole or probation officers, or other individuals in positions of authority.

- Proof of community service, education and self-improvement.

- Court-issued certificate(s) of expungement, proof of compliance with criminal probation or parole.

Applicants with previous arrest(s) or disciplinary action on a license will not be authorized to practice nursing until all documentation is cleared by staff or reviewed by the Board.

TEAS TEST REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Step # 1: Schedule your TEAS TEST date and time **through the GCSC Testing Center using Register Blast**. Instructions for using Register Blast are located at:
https://www.gulfcoast.edu/academics/academic-support-tutoring/testing/gcsc-faculty-page.html.

Step # 2: Pay for your exam at the Business Office window on the first floor of the Administration Building.
- Inform them you are paying for the TEAS Pre-Admission Test. Show them your student ID and confirmation of your Register Blast test session date. You may pay the exam fee. with cash, check, or credit card. (**$70 for current GCSC students**, $**100 for non-GCSC students**)
- The Business Office will give you two copies of your transaction receipt.
- On or near the same day, bring one receipt to the Senior Administrative Assistant's office located in the Health Sciences Building, Room 229. You will be required to present the other receipt to the testing center on the day of your exam.

Step # 3: **Create an ATI Student Account:** The directions on **How to Create a NEW ATI Account for TEAS at Institution Exams** are located outside the door HS 229 (on the left side).

Step # 4: Exam Preparation: ATI offers a variety of test preparation options, ranging from a free TEAS Test Prep Mobile App to a comprehensive online study package with a GCSC discount code (see handout outside of HS 229 for further information).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Students must register with Testing Center on RegisterBlast a minimum of 72 hours in advance of taking the exams to secure their seats and provide time for testing. TEAS testing sessions are generally offered twice per week with limited seating. For optimal testing sessions, students are encouraged to register well in advance of application deadlines.

- **The Testing Center is located in Student Union West, Room 80.**
- **Students should arrive at the testing site thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled testing time.**
- **You MUST bring a copy of your exam receipt and TWO forms of identification to the testing center; one must be a current photo ID.**
- **If you cannot take the exam at the scheduled time, please notify the testing center and the Senior Administrative Assistant, Lisa Tyus, at 850.872.3829. You will need to reschedule your exam through Register Blast.**
- **The TEAS TEST may NOT be taken any more than twice per selection period. Selection periods are defined as October 1 through the end of the last working day of February, and March 1 through the end of the last working day of September.**
- **The most recent TEAS TEST score will be considered for admission.**

If you are a student with a disability and wish to apply for accommodations for the TEAS TEST, you must contact the GCSC Student Accessibility Resources (SAR) Office at 850.747.3243 or email sar@gulfcoast.edu to inquire about the accommodation process at least 2 weeks prior to your intended test date.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE TAKEN THE TEAS TEST AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS:

Students may transfer TEAS exam scores taken at another institution or testing center, you must log into your ATI Student Account and send/manage your transcripts under the MY RESULTS TAB. TEAS test scores are considered valid within 2 years of the application deadline.

After completion of the exam, your test results will be sent electronically to the e-mail you provided when you created your ATI testing account. The official copy of the results will be forwarded to the Nursing program.

TEAS TEST SCHEDULE 2024-2025

Applicants to the Associate Degree Nursing program must complete a computer-based entrance exam called the TEAS TEST. It is comprised of exams to assess the academic and personal readiness of prospective students for higher education.

The test includes Reading, Mathematics (numbers and algebra, measurement, and data, Sciences (Human Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, Chemistry Scientific Reasoning), and English and Language usage. Question types include multiple choice, multiple select (select all that apply) fill-in-the-blank, ordered response, and hot spots. Students are encouraged to prepare for this examination. See the ATI website for further information.