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# Nursing Prerequisite Guide

***This resource represents the recommended coursework for nursing school preparation. Individual schools may expect additional coursework.***

AP and proficiency credits are not always accepted by nursing schools to fulfill prerequisite requirements

Prerequisite Area	MINIMUM RECOMMENDATION	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Course Number(s)
<b>Communication</b>		
	Varies by program	May include: composition, public speaking
<b>Life Sciences</b>		
Anatomy & Physiology	2 Lectures/2 Labs	MCB 244/MCB 245, MCB 246/MCB 247
Microbiology	1 Lecture/1 Lab	MCB 100 OR MCB 300 (level depends on school)
<b>Physical Sciences</b>		
General Chemistry	2 Lectures/2 Labs	CHEM 102/CHEM 103, CHEM 104/CHEM 105*
<b>Mathematics/Statistics</b>		
	Varies by program	May include: calculus, statistics
<b>Humanities</b>		
	Varies by program	May include: history, philosophy, religion, literature
<b>Social/Behavioral Sciences</b>		
Nutrition	1 Lecture	FSHN 120
Life Span Development	1 Lecture	HDFS 105
Psychology	1 Lecture	PSYC 100
Sociology	1 Lecture	SOC 100

## NURSING PATHWAYS

Certification of Practice	Education/Credential	Type of Program
Registered Nurse (RN)	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)	4 year BSN, LPN to BSN, RN to BSN, Second Degree/Accelerated BSN
Advanced Practice Nurse (APN)	Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)	BSN to MSN, RN to MSN, Direct Entry MSN
Doctoral Level Nurses	Doctorate in Nursing	Doctoral Programs (PhD, DNSc, DNP, DrNP)

For more information visit: [www.discovernursing.com](http://www.discovernursing.com)

Notes: \*Some Nursing programs may not have a Chemistry requirement

Students should determine if an admission exam is required: **HESI A2** <https://evolve.elsevier.com/studentlife/hesi.html>

**GRE** <http://www.ets.org/gre/>

# Preparation Timeline

**Directions:**

1. Write the academic years of your preparation.
2. Write in prerequisite courses AND out-of-classroom preparation activities you plan to complete each term.
3. Write in when you plan to take your admissions test and apply to health professional school.
4. Review timeline periodically by your academic advisor & a health professions advisor at The Career Center and make revisions as needed.

**Keep In Mind:**

Plan to take, on average, 2-3 science courses (6-8 credit hours) per semester. During your first semester on campus, it's okay to take only 1 science course.

Plan for more than one term in advance. Check that courses will be offered the semester that you want to take them.

Note that AP and community college credits are not always accepted by health professional programs.

Plan to take most of your prerequisite courses at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign during the fall or spring semester.

Out-of-classroom preparation (volunteering, shadowing, research, etc.) should happen throughout the academic year—not just during breaks and summers.

Plan to take most prerequisite courses before you apply or take your admissions test.

The application process can take more than a year. Since most health professions begin the application process in the summer, plan to take to take your admissions test (MCAT, DAT, OAT, PCAT, etc.) by the spring. *For example: If you*

Academic Year	Fall	Spring	Summer