

EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY  
Department of Nursing

**6.3 Policy on Admission: Criteria, Procedures and Requirements for Admitted students**

Students are admitted to the university as nursing majors via the general admissions process. The application for admission to the university asks the applicant's age, sex, citizenship/visa status, and marital status. No interview is required. Letters of reference are required. Student Life requires a photo.

All students admitted to the university and declaring nursing as a major are listed as nursing majors. In addition, students who declare nursing as a major must also enter an admissions process to enter the *clinical level of* the nursing program.

**A. Criteria for admission to the nursing program**

(See Policy on Prerequisite Courses/Transfer for acceptable substitute courses):

1. Completion of the following prerequisites (or their equivalents):
  - a.. Chemistry course: college, high school (two-years, AP or advanced course) or EMU placement exam]
  - a. Developmental Psychology
  - b. A Sociology course (see Policy on Prerequisite Courses/Transfer) for additional courses that meet this requirement
  - c. Human Anatomy and Physiology (5 or more SH)
  - d. Nutrition Course
  - e. Microbiology
  - f. Human Biochemistry (unless have an 8 hour Anatomy and Physiology sequence or Molecules, Genes and Cells).
  - g. Foundations of Math, unless under BRCC or Hesston Transfer Agreements or transferring into EMU as a Level 1 student.
2. A grade of C- or above in all the above named prerequisites.
3. Students cannot repeat more than one of the courses in which a C- or above is required. A single course may not be repeated more than once.  
*The one exception for this is the performance of a first year student during the first semester in college. First semester forgiveness will apply only to nursing prerequisites that were not completed with at least a C- during the first semester of college. Subsequent successful completion of these courses will be required for the student to be eligible for the nursing program. A cumulative gpa of 2.8 will be required (see A4). To be eligible for freshman forgiveness, the student's advisor must write an appeal letter and the student will request a separate letter of support from a non-nursing faculty member on the EMU campus.*
4. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.8 at the time of application.

**B. Procedure for admission**

1. Student will complete an application form the year before desiring to enter the program. The deadline for this form is February 15 for August admission and June 1 for January admission.
2. Applicants must have met all admissions criteria except completion of prerequisites. Acceptance assumes all criteria will be maintained and all prerequisites completed prior to the start of the nursing program.

3. The Student Affairs Committee meets following the application deadline to approve students for admission to the nursing major. Following the meeting, all applicants will receive a memo of confirmation of their admission status. The status includes admission, wait listed or denied.
4. Prioritization is given to EMU students who have completed 12 semester hours, and have met the requirements for application as stated in A 1-4. EMU students will be admitted within one year of their submitted application.
5. Per our agreement under the Guaranteed Admission Agreement with Hesston and Blue Ridge Community College, once available spots have been filled by EMU students, Hesston students who meet the requirements as stated in A 1-4 will be admitted, followed by BRCC students who meet the criteria as stated in A 1-4.
6. Information related to personal adjustment or performance may be requested as needed in specific situations as deemed appropriate by the Student Affairs Committee. Any data having a bearing on probable success in the program may be utilized.
7. Should there be unusual circumstances, students with high GPAs are occasionally permitted to complete one or more prerequisites concurrently with nursing courses at the discretion of the department head. These exceptions are reported to the Student Affairs Committee.
8. When more students apply than positions are available, the following priority order is followed  
*Note: \*To be considered an EMU student, you must have completed 12 semester hours at the time of application.*
  - a. EMU student who declared nursing upon entry to EMU (*guaranteed a space if A 1-4 above are met.*) as first year students.
  - b. EMU transfer into nursing (major changed to nursing)
  - c. Freshman/Sophomore transfer to EMU from another institution with at least 12 SH at EMU at time of application. Preference will be given to those applicants who have maintained a GPA of 2.8 or higher at the time of applying.
  - d. For junior transfer students or second degree students the point system outlined in Number 9 below will be used to determine admission priority during the February and June admissions meetings.
9. When more students apply than positions are available at any point in the above priority order except for # 8 a-c., a point system will be employed to determine entry.

a. GPA	3.5-4.0	10 points
	3.0-3.49	5 points
	2.8-2.99	2 points
b. Membership in a supporting constituent church		5 points
c. Second Degree		3 points
d. Parent is an alumnus of EMU		3 points
10. Admitted students must make a deposit by May 1 for fall admissions and October 1 for spring admissions to hold their place in the class.
11. Students who have applied by the deadline and are eligible, but those students that there is no room for in the program will be placed on a waiting list in order of their points.

11. If spaces become available by persons not meeting the criteria or not making the deposit by the deadline, eligible students on the waiting list will receive first priority.
12. As students inquire and apply to EMU from outside the university, applicants will be told that admission decisions will be made as outlined in 1-10 above.
13. RN Students already holding licensure are admitted to the program when they are ready.

### C. Requirements for admitted students

1. Students accepted into the nursing program receive information regarding the following requirements:
  - a. Physical examination. A physical examination is required by the health care agencies with which the nursing program affiliates for student clinical experiences. It may be completed by a physician or nurse practitioner of the student's choice.
  - b. Professional level CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) certification. This includes one man and two man adult CPR, infant, and child
  - c. HBV (either obtain the vaccine or sign a declination form). This also is required by the clinical affiliates.
2. Evidence of completion of all items in *CIa-c* must be forwarded to the Nursing Dept Office Coordinator prior to enrollment in the Nursing courses.
3. HIV status assessment is not required. The Department of Nursing's Policy on AIDS and Other Diseases Transmitted by Blood, Body Fluids and Human Tissue, found in the Student Handbook, clearly defines expectations for students who are HIV positive.
4. Students will also receive a copy of the Core Performance Standards. These standards describe the physical and mental capacities expected for program completion. They serve as an objective measure upon which an informal decision can be made regarding whether the student is "qualified" to succeed in the program. The standards also serve to assist the student in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary.
5. It is the student's responsibility to identify whether a disability exists and if there is a need for some accommodation. If the student believes that he or she can not meet one or more of the standards without accommodations or modifications, the student will meet with the Student Affairs Committee within the Nursing Department to determine whether accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made. The American Disabilities Act has defined reasonable accommodation to include:
  - a. Making existing facilities ... readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities; and
  - b. Job restructuring; part time or modified work schedules...; acquisition or modification of equipment or devices; appropriate adjustment or modifications of examinations, training materials, or policies; the provision of qualified readers or interpreters; and other similar accommodations for individuals with disabilities.
6. Any student admitted to the program must present for the first day of classes. If a student fails to appear the first day, he or she will need to reapply to the program.

### D. Progression Criteria for Students Conditionally Admitted to Clinical Level One

1. Conditionally admitted students are defined as:
  1. A repeat of a required nursing pre-requisite
  2. C- in the majority of grades on prerequisite courses.
  3. Students who left the program due to poor academic success and have re-applied.

2. Conditionally admitted students will need to withdraw from the nursing program if they meet any two of the following at any time during the semester:
  1. A final is failed on the second try.
  2. Do not pass 70% of tests on the first try. OR
  3. If they fail more than one course within an academic year.
  
3. Once a conditionally admitted level one student completes a semester in the nursing program successfully, he or she will be taken off of conditional status. At that point the Policy on Student Progression, Retention, and Readmission (6.14.1) will apply.

**Core Performance Standards**

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Standard</u>
Gross Motor Skills	Gross motor skill sufficient to provide the full range of safe and effective nursing care activities, such as moving within confined spaces reaching above shoulders, reaching below waist, standing and maintaining balance.
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor skills sufficient to perform psychomotor skills, such as grasping small objects with hands, keying/typing, pinching, picking, twisting, and squeezing with fingers.
Physical Endurance	Physical stamina sufficient to perform client care activities for entire length of work role, such as standing during surgical or therapeutic procedures or performing CPR.
Physical Strength	Physical strength sufficient to perform full range of required client care activities, such as pushing and pulling 25 pounds, supporting and lifting 25 pounds, moving objects weighing up to 50 pounds, and squeezing with hands to operate a fire extinguisher.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from place to place in a quick manner and maneuver by twisting, squatting, climbing, and walking.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of client health care needs, which includes hearing faint body sounds, faint voices, hearing in situations when not able to see lips, and hearing auditory alarms.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for accurate observation and performance of nursing care, which includes seeing objects up to 20 inches away and 20 feet away, depth perception, peripheral vision, and ability to distinguish color and color intensity.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of health care needs, which includes feeling vibrations, detecting temperature, and feeling differences in surface characteristics, sizes, and shapes.
Smell	Olfactory ability sufficient to detect significant environmental and client odors.
Reading	Reading ability sufficient to comprehend the written word at a minimum of a tenth grade level and read at 10 font.

Arithmetic	Arithmetic ability sufficient to do computations at a minimum of an eighth grade level which includes reading and understanding columns of writing, reading graphic printouts and digital displays, calibrating equipment converting numbers to and/or from the Metric System, measuring time, counting rates, using measuring tools, reading measurement marks, computing fractions, and using a calculator.
Emotional Stability	Emotional stability sufficient to assume responsibility/accountability for actions, which includes establishing therapeutic boundaries, dealing with the unexpected, adapting to changing environment/stress, focusing attention on a task, performing multiple responsibilities concurrently, and handling strong emotion.
Analytical Thinking	Reasoning skills sufficient to perform deductive and inductive thinking for nursing decisions, which includes transferring knowledge from one situation to another, processing information, problem solving, evaluating outcomes, prioritizing tasks, and using short term and long term memory
Critical Thinking Skill	Critical thinking skill sufficient to exercise sound nursing judgment, which includes identifying cause-effect relationships, planning/controlling activities for others, synthesizing knowledge and skills, and sequencing information.
Interpersonal Skills	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups respecting social, cultural and spiritual diversity.
Communication Skills	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in written and oral form, which includes teaching, explaining procedures, giving oral reports, and conveying information through writing.