



BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Process for Admission to the Nursing Program

**And FAQ's
(Frequently Asked Questions)**

2010

I. Getting Started:

1. Fill out application (on line or in person) [on line applications apply only to subsequent admission period] i.e. If applying in spring, application is for fall admission.
2. Check out admission requirements on the college website, www.bergen.edu .(They differ for day and evening programs). *On college homepage, click on academics on the top toolbar; click on catalogs; click on current catalog; scroll to "Minimum Entrance Requirements for Health Professions"*.
3. Submit an official High School, College, and any other transcript(s) to the Office of Admissions.
4. **If currently enrolled at the college and wish to change your curriculum to the Nursing Program:**
Apply through admission office and complete a **change of curriculum paper application** (Be sure to keep a copy).
5. The BCC Testing Center will invite you to **take the Basic Skills Tests of Math and English proficiency**. You may obtain a waiver for these tests by submitting proof of College English and Math courses completed with a C grade or higher or SAT Scores of 1200 in English and 530 in Math.
6. Attend a New Student Academic Advising Session. This session will provide advice about program course requirements and teach you how to use Web advisor to select and register for courses.

I. Application Reviewed:

1. If admission and Basic Skills requirements have been successfully met, you will receive a letter advising you to submit to a **criminal history Background check**. You must attend to this matter promptly. Deadline dates are clearly delineated and adhered to. If you have lived in several states the clearance process takes longer.

II. Entrance Exam:

Once background clearance has been received you will receive another letter informing you to register with **Prometrics** the official testing site. The letter will guide you to the appropriate website and inform you of which parts of the entrance exam to take, testing location sites, and appropriate tutorials . The test must be taken within a set period of time. Dates are clearly delineated in the letter. **No exceptions are made.**

III. Acceptance letters:

1. Letters indicating acceptance or ineligibility to the program are not sent out until the testing period is completed and all applicant scores are received.
2. Student composite scores are ranked from highest to lowest. We do not have a "cut off" score.
3. Students are then selected from the highest rank on down. Students will be selected until the number of students determined for the incoming freshman class is reached.
4. Accepted students are asked to return notice to the admissions office with the decision to accept or decline admission within a designated time frame.

- Letters will then be sent out with further requirements which must be met to begin the program (CPR, Malpractice insurance, Health Requirements). Students must comply by a set date but may register for courses during this period.

If denied entrance to the Nursing Program, applicants are advised to consult Academic Advisement for further assistance.

FAQ's

- What kind of Nursing Program does Bergen Community College have?** Graduates of the Nursing Program earn an Associate in Applied Science degree and are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN (national licensing examination). The Program is fully accredited by the (NLNAC) National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.
- When can I apply?** BCC has a day and evening nursing program. The day program begins in the Fall semester and the evening program begins in the Spring semester. Listed below are the dates for applying.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Application Date</u>	<u>Admission Date</u>
Day	by March 1st	September
Evening	by October 1st	January

- I see that there are several pre-requisite courses required. What can you tell me about them?** The courses are listed in the BCC Catalog. Each Prerequisite course must be passed with a **C grade or higher. Science courses must have an on campus lab component and be completed within the ten years prior to application to the program.** The College substitute courses for prerequisites are listed in the BCC Catalog. H.S. Bio with Lab (BIO 109), H.S. Chemistry with lab (CHM 100). Algebra with MAT 035 or MAT 031/032. **Please note that on-line science courses without an on campus lab class will not be accepted for transfer.**
- I graduated from College 8 years ago. Can I transfer some courses?** Sciences will only be transferred if taken within the last 10 years, and a C grade or better was received. There is no expiration time for algebra or other courses.
- Can I enroll in the Nursing Program part-time?** Pre-requisite and general education courses may be taken on a part-time schedule. Once you have enrolled and have been accepted into the Nursing Program you must take the NUR courses in the order listed. Level I has 3 courses which are taken simultaneously; NUR 181, NUR 182 and NUR 183. **You must register for the same section in all of the courses.**

Level II – has 2 courses NUR 281 and 282. These courses are taken consecutively so you need to register for opposing sections. For example if you register for NUR 281 section 001, you must register for NUR 282 section 002 and vice versa. Level III has 2 consecutive courses as does Level IV.
- Which college courses may I transfer to Bergen?** You will need to make an appointment with a transfer counselor. You should bring your transcript and catalog description of the courses you wish to transfer to the appointment.

- **Can you describe the clinical component to the courses?** All nursing courses (except for NUR 181 & 182) have a clinical component as part of the course. The clinical component may take place in the college lab, a community health facility and/or a hospital. In Level I students learn new skills in the college lab and go out in the community / hospital after a few weeks. In all other levels students go into the community/hospitals in the beginning of the course. Students must comply with the health care facility requirements prior to attending clinical.
- **Where will I go for my clinical practice? Do I have a choice as to where to go? Is it the same place throughout the program?** The program uses a variety of clinical agencies in various counties. Students are assigned to clinical agencies based on curriculum needs. Students are never guaranteed where they will be assigned.
- **What are the days and times for clinical practice?** Day program students can be assigned a one or two day clinical. Evening program students are usually assigned to clinical practice on Wednesdays and Thursdays. However, due to the number of schools competing for clinical sites alternate days and times are often utilized, including weekends and one day clinical. Students will be advised of these alternate schedules in advance.
- **Do I need a car to go to clinical practice?**
Students are expected to arrange for their own transportation. Keep in mind that you may be assigned to a facility which does not have access to convenient public transportation.
- **Do I have to take an exam at the completion of the Program?** Students are required to take and pass an exit exam at the completion of Level IV prior to taking the NCLEX exam.

We welcome all eligible individuals interested in pursuing this rigorous profession to apply. Please note that an important aspect of successfully completing the Nursing Program is a student's ability to follow directions and meet strict guidelines.