

Chattanooga State



Registered Nursing
Day Program

Your Guide

Day Nursing Program

Important information: Registered Nursing Program at Chattanooga State

Cynthia Swafford, Program Director
Office: HSC Room 1080 • Phone: (423) 493-8721
E-mail: cynthia.swafford@chattanoogaastate.edu

Location:
Registered Nursing Program
Health Science Center (HSC) First Floor
4501 Amnicola Hwy
Chattanooga, TN 37406

Division Office:
HSC Room 1088

Phone:
(423) 493-8740 • Fax: (423) 493-8750

Application Coordinator:
Marcia Sivley
marcia.sivley@chattanoogaastate.edu
(423) 697-2504
Fax: (423) 697-2628

N/AH Advisor:
Anna Kent
anna.kent@chattanoogaastate.edu
(423) 697-4782
(call for appointment to set up
your academic plan)

*All forms and important information can be found on the RN Web site:
<http://www.chattanoogaastate.edu/nursing>*

Purpose

Transform individual student's lives by preparing them to be competent nurses who will help meet the current and emerging needs of the workplace for registered nurses. Graduates of the program are prepared to write the NCLEX-RN licensure examination to obtain the title of registered nurse (RN).

Goals

The Chattanooga State Nursing Program prepares individuals to assume the roles of the associate degree nurse: provider of care, manager of care and member of the nursing discipline. Graduates of the program use a clinical decision-making process as the basis for providing care to diverse individuals across the lifespan.

Program Options

Day Program: Sequence of four clinical nursing courses that can be completed in four semesters over two academic years. A new day class is accepted each fall.

Night Program: Sequence of five clinical nursing courses that can be completed in five semesters over two and one-half years. A new night class is accepted in the fall of each odd year. Next classes enroll in fall 2011 and 2013.

Transition Programs: Accelerated curriculum track for currently licensed practical nurses or paramedics who wish to pursue RN licensure for upgrading degree and professional skills.

Online RODP-AASN Program: A state-wide collaborative nursing program offering a combination of online theory and on-ground clinical practice. For information refer to www.RODP.org.

Upon completion of the nursing program, an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing will be conferred. Graduates are eligible to write the NCLEX-RN state licensing examination.

Location

All nursing classes as well as the nursing program offices are located on the first floor of the Health Sciences Center (HSC) on the Amnicola Highway campus.

Chattanooga State is affiliated with most hospitals, extended care facilities and a variety of community agencies as sites for clinical practice. Students must provide their own transportation to these facilities.

Work Settings

Nurses provide and manage care in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, extended care facilities, community agencies, public and private schools, health maintenance organizations, outpatient care facilities, doctors' offices, businesses and industries, overseas and in the Armed Forces.

Approved by:

Tennessee Board of Nursing
227 French Landing, Suite 300
Heritage Place, Metro Center
Nashville, TN 37243

Accredited by:

National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission
3343 Peachtree Rd., NE
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000
<http://www.nlnac.org>

Day Nursing Program Content

Summary of Required Hours

Prerequisites

Transitional studies courses, if applicable
CHEM 1010 or equivalent

Freshman Year

Course #	Course Title	Semester Hrs		
		FALL	SPR	SU
BIOL 2010, 2020	Human Anatomy & Physiology I,II	4	4	
BIOL 1430	Nutrition	3		
NS 119	Nursing I	9		
NS 128	Nursing II		9	
PY 101	General Psychology I		3	
PY 217	Human Growth & Development	3		
ENGL 1010	Composition I			3
	Math Elective *			
		$\overline{19}$	$\overline{16}$	$\overline{6}$

Sophomore Year

BIOL 2230	Microbiology	4		
NS 238	Nursing III	9		
NS 249	Nursing IV		9	
	Humanities Elective **		3	
		$\overline{13}$	$\overline{12}$	

Total Hours = 66

* Recommended: MATH 1010 (Contemporary Math), MATH 1530 (Introductory Statistics) or MATH 1710 (Pre-calculus), MATH 1410 not acceptable for Nursing/Allied Health programs.

** Humanities electives may include:

ART 1010, 1020	ENGL 2410, 2420	PHIL 2230
ART 1030	HUM 1010, 1020	RELS 2030
ENGL 2110, 2120	HUM 2130	THEA 1030
ENGL 2140	MUS 1030	
ENGL 2210, 2220	PHIL 1030	

Prerequisites and Enrollment Requirements

To be eligible for enrollment into the day nursing program, the student must have met the following prerequisites prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

- Chemistry - A grade of “B” or better in high school chemistry, a grade of “C” or better in college chemistry, or CHEM 1010 at Chattanooga State, or equivalent.
- Transitional studies course requirements, if applicable, based on placement testing.

If some of the prerequisites have not been completed at the time of class selection decisions, a conditional acceptance may be made. All prerequisites must be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

Academic Advising Information

As a pre-nursing student scheduling classes, take the following into consideration:

- Since all nursing program prerequisites must be met prior to enrollment in the first nursing courses, complete the prerequisites first. Do not postpone taking chemistry and transitional studies courses until the summer before entering nursing, if possible.
- Because of the demanding nature of the nursing curriculum, students are encouraged to complete general education courses prior to entering the sequence of nursing courses. This will lighten the credit hour load while in nursing.
- A minimum grade of “C” is required for all general education and nursing curriculum courses to graduate.
- Anatomy & Physiology and Microbiology must have been taken within five years of enrollment in the first nursing course.
- PY 101 (General Psychology) must be completed prior to PY 217 (Growth and Development), if taken prior to entering nursing.
- A sample semester-by-semester plan of the curriculum spread over three years is as follows for the day program:

PRENURSING

<i>Fall</i>	<i>Spring</i>	<i>Summer</i>
CHEM 1010	BIOL 1430	BIOL 2230
BIOL 2010	BIOL 2020	
PY 101	PY 217	

FIRST YEAR NURSING

<i>Fall</i>	<i>Spring</i>	<i>Summer</i>
NS 119	NS 128	MATH elective
HU elective	ENGL 1010	

SECOND YEAR NURSING

<i>Fall</i>	<i>Spring</i>
NS 238	NS 249

Application Procedures

1. Attend a nursing program information session.
2. Complete admissions procedure to Chattanooga State.
 - Submit application to Admissions Office (\$15 non-refundable fee).
 - Submit official high school transcript or GED transcript, if required.
 - Submit official transcripts from any college(s) attended.
- Note to applicants: It is your responsibility to:
 - verify with the Records Office the receipt of any transcript and/or transfer credit.
 - request evaluation of transfer credits by the Records Office. Transcripts will be evaluated for transfer credits only after all transcripts are received and admission requirements are complete.

- points in the selection process will not be awarded for courses if the transcript is received after the March 15 deadline.
 - Take ACT, SAT or COMPASS entrance/placement test.
3. Complete nursing program application—Available on the Internet at <http://www.chattanoogaastate.edu/nursing> or mailed on request.
- Submit application form to the nursing program office or Allied Health Division Office no later than March 15.
 - Students must designate a preference for either the day or the night nursing program. Students indicating both programs will be considered for the day program only.
 - Students are encouraged to submit applications early, but must be submitted prior to taking the TEAS test.
 - Attach a copy of high school transcript(s) to the nursing application if needed to verify the chemistry prerequisite.
 - Attach a copy of college transcript(s), other than Chattanooga State. The transcript(s) can be unofficial copies.

It is the student's responsibility to see that all application materials for admission to the college, the nursing program application, transcripts and the results of the TEAS are on file prior to March 15.

Selection

Admission into the nursing program is a competitive process utilizing an objective point system. Selection into the program is based on a comparative evaluation of test scores and transcript information.

Points are awarded for:

- Completion of general education courses included in the nursing curriculum.
- GPA for nursing curriculum courses
- TEAS test score

To be included in the applicant pool students must have:

- Nursing GPA of at least 2.5.
- Minimum overall college GPA of at least 2.0.

Detailed information regarding the points calculation is available at an information session, on the nursing program Web site or via mail.

Since the application deadline is March 15, the admissions committee only considers courses completed up to and including the fall semester and TEAS test scores submitted prior to the March deadline. Composition of the class will reflect diversity based on age, gender and race.

The TEAS Test

The TEAS test provides a common basis for the evaluation of academic abilities of individuals interested in the nursing and allied health career programs. The TEAS test score is factored into the selection point system for the associate degree registered nursing program, as well as other allied health career programs.

What is on the test?

The TEAS test is a computer-based test that includes 85 scored multiple choice questions:

- Reading - comprehension and inference/conclusion (40 items)
- Math - whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions, decimals, algebraic equations, percentages and ratio/proportion (45 items)

The adjusted individual scores on the reading and math test sections are averaged together into a composite score that is used in the selection process.

How do I prepare to take the TEAS?

- The TEAS Study Manual and TEAS Online Practice assessment are available to guide your review and provide feedback about your study progress. The manual includes a review of material, practice exercises and sample tests. The online practice assessment is designed to give you a sense of what to expect in both content and the computer format of the TEAS test.
- Available online at <http://www.atesting.com/global/students/teas.aspx>
- The Study Manual is also available in the Chattanooga State Bookstore or on reserve in the Chattanooga State Library
- Other sources of test review materials include the reading comprehension and mathematics (basic math up to intermediate algebra) section of any GED, ACT, or SAT prep manual. The NET/HOBET prep books will also contain similar information.

Important Information

- The TEAS test must be taken on or before the program's priority application deadline date.
- To be current, the test must have been taken within 2 years of the application deadline.
- There must be at least 6 months between repeat tests.
- Advanced registration is required.
- Calculators are not allowed. The computer provides a drop down calculator.
- The test is taken on the computer. There is no paper and pencil option.
- Registration information and form are available in the nursing office.

Detailed information and registration forms can be obtain on the nursing program or allied health website and program offices.

Transfer Students

Applicants seeking to transfer from an accredited nursing program should be aware that such requests are considered on an individual, space-available basis. To be considered for transfer:

- Submit a nursing and allied health application form.
- Submit official transcript and nursing course descriptions from the previous nursing program to the nursing program director.
- Submit a letter of recommendation from the director of the previous nursing program.
- Granting of transfer credit for any nursing course will be considered on an individual basis.
- Students who received failing grades in two nursing courses in another nursing program are not eligible for transfer, except on an individual basis through "academic fresh start."
- Any student transferring into the nursing program after receiving one failing grade in a nursing course from another nursing program will not be allowed to repeat any nursing course. The failure in the previous nursing program counts as the first failure.

Additional Requirements and Expectations for Nursing Students

Nursing Course Schedule

Students enrolled in the day nursing program will register for a nine credit hour course each of the four semesters in the program. Each course includes both a class/theory and clinical practice component. Students can expect to have nursing class/clinicals scheduled three days each week.

Computer Requirement

Because of the integration of computers in education, nursing students must have access to a computer with Internet service to meet program requirements. Students must check the eLearn course Web page at least 3-4 times each week for course updates, submit written assignments and monitor examination and other course grades.

CPR Certification Requirement

Following acceptance into a nursing class, students must provide proof of current American Heart Association CPR certification for health professionals. This must be maintained throughout the nursing program. American Red Cross courses or the AHA basic community CPR course do not meet program requirements.

Health Verification

Prior to entering the first nursing class, students must provide evidence through a health verification form and all required tests, including a drug screen, that they are in good health and free from communicable diseases. Because nursing involves the direct care of clients, it is strongly recommended that students receive the Hepatitis B vaccination series.

Criminal Background Check

Following acceptance and prior to entering the first nursing course, each student must undergo a criminal background check in order to comply with policies of affiliating clinical practice agencies. It shall be the student's responsibility to comply with instructions provided upon acceptance and provide the results from a designated vendor by a designated date. The check will be at the expense of the student. This is a requirement of the clinical agencies, not Chattanooga State. Students who do not meet this requirement in a timely manner or whose background does not meet agency standards will not be able to complete the clinical requirements of nursing courses. Additionally, a criminal background may preclude licensure or employment. Individuals with a question concerning this should schedule an appointment with the nursing program director.

General Expectations

Because the College seeks to provide, inasmuch as possible, a reasonably safe environment for its students and clients in the clinical practice setting, students may be required during the course of the program to demonstrate their physical and/or emotional fitness to meet the essential requirements of the program. Such requirements may include freedom from communicable diseases, the ability to perform certain physical tasks and suitable emotional fitness.

Americans With Disabilities

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students must be, with reasonable accommodation, physically and mentally capable of performing the essential functions of the program.

The Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression developed by the Southern Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing and adopted by all nursing programs in the Tennessee Board of Regents system include:

- A. Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgement.
- B. Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups.

- C. Communication abilities sufficient to interact with others in verbal and written form.
- D. Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.
- E. Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.
- F. Auditory abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.
- G. Visual abilities sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.
- H. Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.

If a student has a disability which may require assistance or accommodations or wishes to file a complaint regarding ADA compliance, he/she should contact the Disabilities Support Services Office, S-113, phone: 423-697-4452.

Estimated Program Costs

The total cost of registration, uniforms, nursing textbooks, liability insurance, school pin, licensing examination fee, physical, drug screen and membership in the Student Nurses' Association is approximately \$6,500. The greatest expense can be expected in the first and last semesters.

The costs quoted are only estimated costs and subject to change without notice.

Pre-Admission Costs

Chattanooga State application fee	\$15.00
Nursing admission test (TEAS)	30.00
CPR certification course	25.00
Physical examination and required tests	185.00
Hepatitis B, recommended, but optional	Optional \$150.00
Criminal Background Check	50.00

Program Costs

Maintenance/tuition & fees/(9 hrs/semester) approx.	\$1100.00
Nursing fees/semester	\$150.00
Required textbooks	1,200.00
Uniform	\$150 - 200.00

Other expenses

Nursing lab kit	\$85.00
Student liability insurance/year	15.00
Application for graduation	25.00
NCLEX-RN test application fee	200.00
TN Board of Nursing – licensure application fee	100.00
TN Board of Nursing – background check	50.00
Class composite photo (includes state board picture)	15.00
School pin	\$35-130.00

Note: The maintenance and other related enrollment fees are based on 2009-2010. The listed expenses are for nursing courses and nursing related expenses only. The estimated cost of books and supplies for the required general education and support courses will be approximately an additional \$1,500, depending on the choice of course sections and electives.

Financial Aid Notes

Students wishing to receive financial aid should pay special attention to the satisfactory academic progress regulations regarding maximum time frame. This policy states, "A student may attempt up to 102 credit hours, plus up to 30 transitional studies hours, before he/she becomes ineligible for financial aid.

The time frame for students seeking a SECOND associate degree is also determined by the 102 credit hour limit plus transitional studies credit hours. Credit hours from the FIRST degree WILL be counted toward the second degree program."

Admission Checklist

It is the student's responsibility to read the program information booklet carefully and be sure that each of the items listed on the checklist has been completed in order to successfully complete the program's admission process. The student should also follow-up to make sure that their file is complete and includes all program forms, transcripts, etc. before the application deadline.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to notify the application coordinator of any changes to ensure the applicant's file is accurate and up-to-date. This includes changes in name, address, phone number, etc.

Chattanooga State Application Checklist (if not a current student):

- Submit application to the college
- Provide official transcripts to the admissions office and request evaluation for transfer credits

Note: It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify with the Admissions Office the receipt of any transcripts and to request evaluation of transfer credits by the Admissions Office.

- Take the ACT, SAT or COMPASS test, if applicable

Registered Nursing Program Application Checklist

THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ONE PACKET:

- Nursing Program application form
- Transcripts (copies are acceptable)

Any college or university previously attended. Transcripts from Chattanooga State are not necessary.

Note: only courses completed up to and including the fall semester prior to the program deadline are included in the points calculation.

High school transcript if needed to document completion of high school chemistry with a grade of "B" or better

Application and transcripts must be mailed together to:

Chattanooga State Community College
Marcia Sivley, N/AH Application Coordinator
4501 Amnicola Hwy
Chattanooga, TN 37406

- Take TEAS test by the March 15 deadline

A National Leader in Technology



Nursing/Allied Health

Registered Nursing Day Program

4501 Amnicola Hwy.

Chattanooga, TN 37406-1097

www.chattanoogaastate.edu

423-493-8740

Chattanooga State Community College is a Tennessee Board of Regents institution and an EOE/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Sections 504/ADA employer. Pub. No. 11-68-204109-3-9/09/bap • 1,000 copies