

UTEP RN-to-BSN Frequently Asked Questions

(FAQ)

Nursing Phase 1 and 2 Questions:

How do I apply to UTEP?

You are considered a transfer student if you have 12 or more transferable credits from another college or university and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

1. Go to <https://www.applytexas.org> and complete an application.
2. Request to have your official transcripts sent to UTEP (see instructions [here](#)).
3. If you are an international student, pay the \$65 application fee.
4. [Arrange to take tests](#) if needed.

What are the phases of the RN-to-BSN program?

Phase 1: Includes the [University Core Curriculum](#) and free electives. The University Core Curriculum courses are: Communication (6 credit hours), Language, Philosophy & Culture (3 credit hours), Creative Arts (3 credit hours), History (6 credit hours), Political Science (6 credit hours), Social and Behavioral Science (3 credit hours), and Component Area Option (6 credit hours).

Phase 2: Phase 2 (2.5 semesters)

RN-to-BSN Semester 1

NURS 4402 RN-to-BSN Role Transition

NURS 4303 Nursing Informatics & Technology

RN-to-BSN Semester 2

NURS 4414 Evidence Based Research

NURS 4502 Nursing Leadership & Management (mentorship)

RN-to-BSN Semester 3

NURS 4503 Nursing In the Community (mentorship)

If I live outside of Texas, can I apply to the RN-to-BSN Program at UTEP?

Only students living in authorized states are eligible to enroll in the UTEP RN-to-BSN Program. Click [here](#) to view the states authorized to participate in UTEP's online courses and programs.

Does the RN-to-BSN Program require a mentorship?

Yes. Students will be selecting a mentor within their place of employment that will mentor them through the practicum assignments. This requirement will require the students to meet with their mentor once a week and work together to create a project pertaining to their assignment/course.

As a Phase 1 RN-to-BSN student, where do I get advised?

Phase 1 RN-to-BSN students are advised online through UTEP Connect. This office can be reached through email at utepconnect@utep.edu or by phone by calling 1-800-684-UTEP.

As a Phase 2 RN-to-BSN student, where do I get advised?

Phase 2 RN-to-BSN students are advised online by the School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs advisors:

Leslie Ross lmross@utep.edu

Vianney Sosa vasosa@utep.edu

Claudia Valdiviezo cavaldivezo@utep.edu

What are the pre-requisites to begin the Phase 2 nursing professional courses?

Students need an active, unencumbered RN license, completion of the Phase 1 University Core Curriculum and/or elective courses (9 hours must be completed at UTEP), and a minimum overall GPA of 2.50 to begin the Phase 2 nursing professional courses.

Are there any time limits on the University Core Curriculum courses?

There are no time limits.

Can I take the Phase 1 pre-requisites at EPCC?

Yes. The Phase 1 pre-requisite courses may be taken at EPCC. However, the minimum requirements for completion of the RN-to-BSN online degree are a total of 30 hours at UTEP, which must include 21 hours of RN-to-BSN nursing courses and an additional 9 hours to meet minimum residency requirements for graduation. The 9 hours can be met by taking University Core Curriculum courses at UTEP.

Can I repeat University Core Curriculum courses for higher grades?

If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy. The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course. The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

If a student passes the course with a grade of "C" or better, the student will not be able to repeat the course.

Do I get credit for my work or life experience?

No. UTEP does not award university credit for non-academic professional certificate or life experience.

Can I use graduate-level coursework for the BSN degree?

No. Graduate-level coursework is not transferrable as undergraduate credit.

How can I determine what credits will transfer to UTEP?

Visit the Office of Admissions [online transfer credit equivalency](#) feature where students can have access to transfer equivalencies from various institutions in order to help them determine what transfer credit they can expect to receive upon entry to UTEP. The equivalencies listed are the most current articulations established and may be subject to change.

What if I fail a Phase 2 nursing course? Can I take the course the following semester?

Yes. You may contact your Phase 2 Academic Advisor to request to retake the course the following semester. All students have a maximum of 2 attempts to take a Phase 2 nursing course.

What if I fail two Phase 2 nursing courses?

A student is dismissed from the RN-to-BSN Program after 2 failures or if a nursing course is not successfully completed in two attempts. A withdrawal counts as an attempt. The student will not be eligible to return to the RN-to-BSN Program at UTEP.

When does Phase 2 begin?

Phase 2 begins the semester after completing Phase 1. Phase 2 courses are offered three times a year (Fall, Spring, Summer).

How do I drop a Phase 2 nursing course?

To drop a course, e-mail records@utep.edu from your Miners e-mail and copy nursing@utep.edu with the following information (you must use your Miners e-mail address; requests from other e-mail addresses will not be processed):

- Your name and student ID number
- Course's information (e.g. CRN#11111 NURS 4303) (you may find this information on your Goldmine account)
- Brief statement about why you are dropping

Is the undergraduate UTEP School of Nursing program accredited?

Yes. The nursing program is accredited by the [Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education \(CCNE\)](#) and approved by the [Texas Board of Nursing](#).

Do I have to attend an orientation for the RN-to-BSN program?

No. Students are not required to attend an orientation, but will be required to sign for the Undergraduate RN-to-BSN handbook.

How do you specialize?

The decision to specialize and advance professionally is a commitment that generally requires a Master's degree in nursing. Click [here](#) to access the Masters of Science in Nursing & Post-graduate APRN Certification Student Handbook.

Do you accept nursing courses from other nursing programs?

No. All professional nursing courses must be taken at UTEP.

When do I apply for graduation?

You must submit your [graduation application](#) to the Nursing Office of Students Affairs in your second semester of Phase 2. An e-mail will be sent to your Miners e-mail address with the graduation application and payment deadline. Degrees will not be awarded to students who do not submit a graduation application.

Where can I go for more information?

You may visit the UTEP Connect or School of Nursing websites at <https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/> and <https://www.utep.edu/nursing/>.