Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

Advising and Information Session

UTEP School of Nursing – Office of Student Affairs
Phone: (915) 747-8337
Website: www.utep.edu/nursing
Location: HSSN Bldg. Room 200

The UTEP Traditional BSN Degree Plan consists of:

- **Phase 1** – *Core Curriculum and Pre-Professional Courses*
- **Phase 2** – *Nursing Courses* – 1 semester, requires acceptance
- **Phase 3** – *Nursing Professional Courses* – 4 semesters, requires acceptance

- **Recommended average Pre-Professional Courses GPA** for acceptance into Phase 2: **3.77**
  (average PPC GPA of students who gain acceptance into Phase 2, according to the most recent rankings)

- **Minimum Overall GPA** for eligibility to apply for Phase 2 and/or Phase 3: **3.00**

About the BSN:

The UTEP Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offers students a dynamic course of study that is both theoretical and practical. The program prepares graduates to work in a wide variety of clinical settings and provides the necessary foundation for masters and doctoral degrees in nursing. Graduates of the BSN program will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) with the Texas Board of Nursing.

BSN coursework emphasizes critical thinking and clinical judgment, integration of knowledge from nursing, biological and behavioral sciences, and the humanities in the planning, implementing, and evaluating of nursing care, application of research findings to demonstrate evidence-based nursing practice, and nursing leadership, and offers a variety of hospital and community settings for clinical experiences. Admission into Phase 2 and Phase 3 is highly competitive.

GO MINERS!
### Start PHASE 1

**UTEP Core Curriculum + Pre-Professional Courses**

- Approx. 4 – 5 semesters for full-time students (12 credit hours +)
- Achieve the *highest possible grades* in all course requirements
- Get ADVISED and INFORMED before every registration period
- Plan far ahead for Phase 2—submit application + pass TEAS exam
- Make sure your LAST SEMESTER of PHASE 1 is completed at UTEP
- A background check is coming up soon - please keep your record clean

**Pre-Professional Courses:**

MATH 1320, BIOL 1305/1107, BIOL 2311/2111, BIOL 2313/2113, MICR 2330, HSCI 2302, PSYC 1301 & CHEM 1407 or CHEM 1305/1105

### Get accepted into PHASE 2

**Phase 2 Nursing Courses**

- 1 semester—3 courses taken together
- Achieve *highest possible grades* in all Phase 2 Nursing Courses in order to have the best chances of acceptance to the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.
- Pass Criminal Background Check for TX Board of Nursing. (You will be guided through this process during Phase 2)

**Phase 2 Nursing Courses:**

- NURS 2303—Introduction to Nurs. Practice
- NURS 2407—Pharmacology for Nursing
- NURS 2402—Pathophysiology

*Phase 1 is a pre-requisite to Phase 2*

### Get accepted into PHASE 3

**Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses**

- Pass drug screening & complete all compliance requirements
- 4 semesters (between 15—24 months)
- Gain approx. 900 hours of clinical experience
- Become fully prepared to take and pass the NCLEX RN licensing exam

*Phase 2 is a pre-requisite to Phase 3*
Student Name

Phase 1 Core Curriculum & Pre-Professional Courses
All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a 'C' or better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Core Curriculum</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication (Select 6 hours)</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 1611, ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312, RWS 1301, RWS 1302, RWS 1601</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life and Physical Sciences (Select 6 hours)</td>
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<td>Language, Philosophy, &amp; Culture (Select 3 hours)</td>
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<td>BUSN 1301, COMM 1301, COMM 1302, CS 1310, CS 1320, SCI 1301, UNIV 1301</td>
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TOTAL 42

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<tr>
<th>Pre-Professional Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 1301 Introduction to Psychology</td>
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TOTAL 28

** Application must be submitted to be considered for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses

Phase 2 Nursing Courses

| NURS 2303 Introduction to Nursing Practice | 3   |       |
| NURS 2407 Pharmacology for Nursing | 4   |       |
| NURS 2402 Pathophysiology | 4   |       |

TOTAL 11

** Students are ranked for selection based on:
1) Competitive pre-professional courses GPA
2) Competitive cumulative GPA (3.00 or higher)
3) Successful completion of the TEAS test (62% or higher)

Application must be submitted to be considered for the nursing program—Traditional Option

Students are ranked for selection based on:
1) Competitive Phase 2 nursing courses GPA
2) Competitive pre-professional courses GPA
3) Competitive cumulative GPA (3.00 or higher)
4) Successful completion of the TEAS test (62% or higher)
5) Cleared criminal background check from the Texas Board of Nursing

Required Clearances: Health, Clinical and Background/Drug Screening Check
(Feature to comply with requirements will result in administrative withdrawal of semester courses.)

Grade Requirement: All Nursing courses must be passed with a C [ ≥ 75 ] or better
Effective with students accepted Summer 2006 or later:
Two failures in Nursing courses will result in dismissal from the School of Nursing. Dismissal also occurs if a NURS class is not successfully completed in two attempts - a W counts as an attempt. ACADEMIC DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM IS FINAL

Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses</th>
<th>Hrs</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Sem/Yr</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3205 Nursing Informatics and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3401 Health Assessment</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3604 Fundamentals of Nursing Practice</td>
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Semester Total Credit Hours 12

5th Semester

6th Semester

7th Semester

8th Semester--FINAL SEMESTER

Semester Total Credit Hours 13

Total Program Credit Hours 51

Total Degree Plan Credit Hours 120

Keep track of your progress with your own degree evaluation:
Access Goldmine
Student Records>Degree Evaluation>Select Current Semester>
>Generate New Evaluation>Program: Nursing>Generate Request

www.utep.edu/nursing

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
2018-2019

Phase 1 Core Curriculum & Pre-Professional Courses

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Phase 1 Pre-Professional Courses and Pre-requisite Information

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<td>Course or test; Math 0311 or higher with minimum grade of &quot;C&quot;; may NOT be taken concurrently</td>
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<td>BIOL 2313-2113</td>
<td>BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of &quot;C&quot;; may NOT be taken concurrently</td>
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<td>CHEM 1407</td>
<td>Math 0311 or higher; may be taken concurrently</td>
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<td>CHEM 1305-1105</td>
<td>Math 1508 or higher; may be taken concurrently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICR 2330</td>
<td>BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of &quot;C&quot;; may NOT be taken concurrently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSCI 2302</td>
<td>BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of &quot;C&quot;; may NOT be taken concurrently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 1301</td>
<td>-</td>
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UTEP Policies on Repeating Courses

- Repetition of most courses (D/F Repeat for all 1000 and 2000 level courses):
  - 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.

  When a course is D/F repeated, the following procedure occurs:
  1. The original grade is disregarded for the purpose of determining the overall UTEP GPA, it is marked as excluded (E) in the semester that the student originally took the course.
  2. The original grade is not deleted from the student's permanent record.
  3. The second grade is entered on the student's transcript and marked as included (I) in the semester that the course was repeated.

- Repetition of Pre-Professional Courses in which a grade of “C” was earned:
  - Repeating a Pre-Professional course (with the exception of PSYC 1301) in which a grade of “C” was earned requires approval by the School of Nursing, Office of Student Affairs. See nursing advisor for details.
  - Departments may restrict the repetition of a course; however, if the course is approved to retake, then a “C Grade Override” will be entered on the student’s record.
  - Failure to get departmental approval for a repeated course will result in a withdrawal/drop from the course.
  - All attempts are used in determining the cumulative UTEP GPA.
  - RANKING: For individual ranking calculations only, the School of Nursing will use the highest grade earned per Pre-Professional course in the calculation of the Pre-Professional Courses GPA. This is the first criterion used for ranking for the Phase 2 Nursing Courses.
Repeating Phase 2 Nursing Courses

Phase 2 nursing courses may be repeated for credit if students are selected after the ranking process takes place. The following rules apply:

- Only **10% of the overall seats** will be reserved for students interested in retaking one or more of the Phase 2 nursing courses.

- Students must either submit the Phase 2 Nursing Courses application online or submit a Course Repeat Form to the School of Nursing (SoN) Office of Student Affairs (HSSN room 200).

- Ranking will take place the week of finals after the ranking for Phase 3 takes place.

- Ranking criteria for repeating one or more of the Phase 2 courses will be done in a **2 Tier Ranking System**.

  **Tier 1**  
  Students who completed all 3 Phase 2 courses with a grade of “C” or better will be ranked first using the following criteria.  
  1. Phase 2 GPA  
  2. PPC GPA  
  3. Minimum overall GPA to apply—3.00  
  4. Minimum TEAS score to apply—62%

  **Tier 2**  
  If open seats remain after Tier 1 ranking takes place then the School of Nursing will conduct a lottery for the remaining seats. A School of Nursing faculty/staff member will draw name(s) from the remaining pool of qualified applicants. Students who withdrew or failed one or more of the Phase 2 courses will be included in the lottery. All students must meet the minimum overall GPA (3.00) and minimum composite TEAS score (62%) to be eligible for the lottery.

- When a course is D/F repeated, the following procedure occurs:  
  1. When retaking a course, the student must enroll in it for the same number of credits originally taken.  
  2. The grade replacement only applies to 1000 and 2000 level courses.  
  3. The original grade is disregarded for the purpose of determining the overall GPA, it is marked as excluded (E) in the semester that the student originally took the course.  
  4. The original grade is not deleted from the student’s permanent record.  
  5. The second grade is entered on the student’s transcript and marked included (I) in the semester that the course was repeated.

- Phase 2 nursing courses may only be **attempted twice**.

- The highest grade earned for each Phase 2 course will be used in the calculation of the Phase 2 GPA when ranking for Phase 3 with the exception of the D/F repeated course(s) with the same credit hours.
Lapse in Enrollment

Students who have satisfactorily completed Phase 2 in the undergraduate traditional nursing program, have not been accepted to Phase 3, and experience a lapse in enrollment for two years or more in nursing courses, must reapply to the School of Nursing Phase 2 courses as new students and meet all admission criteria. Students with Phase 2 courses completed (includes transfer credits) 2 or more years ago will not be eligible to rank for Phase 3.

Compliance Requirements for Phase 2

Criminal background checks are performed on all applicants interested in applying to Phase 3 of the nursing undergraduate program. Students accepted into the Phase 2 courses are required to submit a Criminal Background Check (CBC) Information Form to the School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs. The form requires the student’s social security number to be submitted to the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON). In addition, students will be required to schedule a fingerprint appointment with an approved TBON location.

All applicants must be cleared by the Texas Board of Nursing to be eligible to rank for Phase 3. Students will be required to submit a copy of the blue card or Operations outcome letter to the UTEP School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs. The Texas Board of Nursing is responsible for mailing the blue card or Operations outcome letter directly to the student.
# EPCC/UTEP Transfer Guide

## Core Curriculum

Courses indicated with an asterisk * dual fulfill for some Pre-professional course requirements.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Mathematics (3 credit hours)*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UTEP</strong></td>
<td><strong>Math 1320</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWS 1301</td>
<td>ENGL 1301</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWS 1302</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWS 1601</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences (3 credit hours)*</th>
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<tr>
<td>UTEP</td>
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<td>PSYC 1301</td>
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**Important:**

1. All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. This also applies to courses transferred from another institution.
2. It is highly recommended that POLS be completed at EPCC then transferred to UTEP or both be completed at UTEP.
3. No substitutions will be allowed in the Core Curriculum.
Pre-Professional Courses

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<tr>
<td>Math 1320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1305-1107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2311-2111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 2313-2113</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICR 2330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSCI 2302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 1301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Select 4 credit hours from:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 1305-1105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pharmacology Course:

*RNSG 1301 is no longer an equivalent to the UTEP Phase 2 nursing course, NURS 2307.*

- **ALL** Phase 2 Nursing courses must be completed at UTEP.
- **Phase 2 Nursing courses will not be accepted from other institutions.**
- Fall 2016 is the **last semester** RNSG 1301 will transfer to UTEP.
- NURS 2307 changes to NURS 2407 in Spring 2017.
Application Windows & Deadlines

Application website: [www.utep.edu/nursing](http://www.utep.edu/nursing)

**Phase 2 Nursing Courses application:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Application Window</th>
<th>TEAS Requirement</th>
<th>Ranking Takes Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FALL</strong></td>
<td>January 2—February 28</td>
<td>TEAS must be completed with passing score (62%) by May 31st</td>
<td>JUNE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong></td>
<td>August 1—September 30</td>
<td>TEAS must be completed with passing score (62%) by October 31st</td>
<td>NOV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUMMER</strong></td>
<td>December 1—January 31</td>
<td>TEAS must be completed with passing score (62%) by March 1st</td>
<td>APRIL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phase 3 Professional Nursing Courses application:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Application Window</th>
<th>Ranking Takes Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FALL</strong></td>
<td>January 2—February 28</td>
<td>August (finals week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong></td>
<td>August 1—September 30</td>
<td>December (finals week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUMMER</strong></td>
<td>December 1—January 31</td>
<td>May (finals week)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ATI TEAS SmartPrep**

The School of Nursing will be offering an online ATI TEAS SmartPrep course to UTEP nursing majors who have attended one or more semesters at UTEP since Fall 2017. This course is being paid for by the School of Nursing for each student who qualifies, and will not be offered for college credit.

Students will be required to apply to the ATI TEAS prep course by picking up and submitting an application to the Nursing Office of Student Affairs in HSSN room 200. See below for application deadlines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>January 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>June 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>November 1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Important Ranking Information

**Phase 2 Nursing Courses ranking eligibility:**
Phase 1 courses must be either previously completed or student must be in the process of completion (last semester of Phase 1) at UTEP. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted if a student is in the process of completing of Phase 1 at another institution.

- Students are ranked for selection into the Phase 2 Nursing courses based on:
  1. Competitive Phase 1 Pre-Professional Courses GPA (Average for accepted students: 3.77)
  2. Competitive Cumulative GPA (Minimum of 3.00 required to apply - DO NOT apply if below minimum)
  3. Passing overall ATI-TEAS score of 62% or higher [pass/fail] (subject to change)

**Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses ranking eligibility:**
Phase 2 courses must either be previously completed or student must be in the process of completion of Phase 2 at UTEP. Students must also pass the TX BoN Criminal Background Check during Phase 2.

- Students are ranked for selection into the Phase 3 Professional Nursing courses based on:
  1. Competitive Phase 2 nursing courses GPA (highest grade earned per Phase 2 nursing course will be used for the calculation of the Phase 2 GPA)
  2. Competitive Phase 1 Pre-Professional Courses GPA (Average for accepted students: 3.77)
  3. Competitive Cumulative GPA (Minimum of 3.00 required to apply - DO NOT apply if below minimum)
  4. Passing overall ATI-TEAS score of 62% or higher [pass/fail] (subject to change)

Having a previous Bachelor’s, Master’s, and/or Doctoral degree(s) DOES NOT guarantee a seat in either the Phase 2 Nursing Courses/Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses and is not considered a ranking factor.

Meeting the minimum criteria for ranking does not guarantee selection to the Phase 2 Nursing Courses. Acceptance to the Phase 2 Nursing Courses does not automatically guarantee a seat in the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.

Students are responsible for transferring all Phase 1 courses in a timely manner. Transfer credits must be officially posted on your UTEP transcript by the application deadline.

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE:** If selected, a notice of acceptance will be sent via the student’s UTEP e-mail account with deadline and registration information. Failure to register by the deadline will result in forfeiture of the seat. Only students who are accepted may register and students cannot register until receiving acceptance.

The Texas Board of Nursing (TX BoN) will be conducting a Criminal Background Check (CBC) for every student enrolled in the Phase 2 Nursing Courses (at the student’s expense). Failure to comply and/or pass the CBC will result in not being ranked for the Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.

**Students will not be ranked if:** the student’s academic record is incomplete (missing Phase 1 or Phase 2 courses), Cumulative GPA is below 3.00, ATI-TEAS exam score is below 62%, and/or CBC not cleared by the TX BON.
What is the ATI-TEAS?

The TEAS is an internet-based, multiple-choice, exam that assesses a student’s abilities in four essential subject areas:

**Reading** (approx. 48 questions, 58 minutes) – section includes questions regarding paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.

**Math** (approx. 34 items, 51 minutes) – section includes questions regarding whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions, decimals, algebraic equations, percentages, and ratio/proportion. *A calculator is embedded in the exam.*

**Science** (approx. 54 items, 66 minutes) – section includes questions regarding science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, basic physical principles, and general science

**English and Language Usage** (approx. 34 items, 34 minutes) – section includes questions regarding punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, contextual words, and spelling.

**PLEASE SCHEDULE 4 HOURS TO TAKE THE EXAM.**

Your final scores will be shown *immediately* on the screen following the exam.

How do I register?

**Step 1: Determine if you need to take the exam**

All students who are applying to Phase 2 Nursing Courses of the BSN degree plan must take the TEAS.

**Step 2: Payment Procedures**

Make sure you have a credit card ready and go to [http://www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com). Phone registration is also available by calling (800) 667-7531.

**THE TEST FEE IS $90 PLUS TAX (SUBJECT TO CHANGE), NON-REFUNDABLE, AND NON-TRANSFERABLE**

**Step 3: Register for a test session**

1. Select “Register for the TEAS” in the lower right-hand corner.
2. Select city and state. Click “next”.
3. Choose the test session that is most convenient for you and select “register”.
   - Click “check out” on the bottom right hand-corner.
   - Next, you must create a user name and password (or use the one you already have, if so).
4. Once you’ve logged in, fill in the account information and then use your credit card to pay.

**MAKE SURE TO ENTER YOUR UTEP ID DURING REGISTRATION**

Where do I take the TEAS exam at UTEP?

**Step 4: On the day of the test**

- Report to the UTEP Student Assessment & Testing Center, below.
- Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in. If you arrive late, you will not be admitted.
- Present your identification: you will be required to present an acceptable form of identification (such as an original, current and valid ID used by a city/state/federal government agency).
- Electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, MP3 players) are not allowed. However, two #2 pencils are allowed.

**NO ID—NO TEST**

**UTEP ASSESSMENT & TESTING CENTER**

Academic Advising Center Building — Hawthorne Street, 1st floor
What are the rules for the TEAS at UTEP?

1. A passing TEAS score is valid for 2 years.
2. There is a 30 day waiting period to re-take the TEAS (30 days in between each attempt).
3. The TEAS exam may be taken three (3) times within a 12 month cycle. Only three (3) attempts will be considered, regardless as to where the TEAS is taken.
4. Each UTEP Phase 2 Nursing Courses application window has its own TEAS deadline. Please see Application Windows handout or nursing website for more information.

What do my results mean and how does UTEP get my scores?

- Official TEAS exam results are available immediately after the exam on the computer screen—a copy of the scores will not be issued, but your official results are available by logging into the ATI website: www.atitesting.com.
- Students can view and print a copy of their test scores anytime at the above website using the username and password that was created to register for the TEAS.
- If you entered in your correct UTEP ID number when registering, the UTEP School of Nursing will usually have immediate access to view your TEAS scores, as well.
- The UTEP School of Nursing recommends that applicants have a CURRENT, valid score at the “Proficient” level (62.0%) or above, in order to be eligible to apply and rank for Phase 2 and/or Phase 3 Nursing Professional Courses.

*MINIMUM SCORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAS- Proctored Assessment</th>
<th>OVERALL (150)items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scores</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td>&lt; 41.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proficient</strong></td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>78.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exemplary</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How can I transfer my score?

To send your score to another school or to transfer your score to UTEP:

2. Look for “ATI TEAS EXAM”.
3. Click on the “TEAS Transcript” link.
4. LOG IN to the ATI website, then simply select your TEAS transcript to add to your cart and purchase.

There is a $27 charge to transfer the score and it is typically received at UTEP within 48 hours.

IMPORTANT: If you are transferring your score to UTEP, please ensure the UTEP School of Nursing receives your score(s) by verifying with a UTEP nursing academic advisor: http://www.utep.edu/nursing/resources/academic-advising.html

How do I study for the TEAS?

- Students may also purchase TEAS online practice assessments for a fee through the ATI website.
- The ATI TEAS Exam Prep 2016 (Pocket Prep) app is available for iPhone and/or Android phones in your App Store.
Nursing Phase 1 and 2 Questions:

What are the 3 phases of nursing?

**Phase 1:** Includes the University Core Curriculum and the pre-professional courses. The pre-professional courses includes Math 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, BIOL 2313-2113, MICR 2330, CHEM 1407 or CHEM 1305-1107, HSCI 2302, and PSYC 1301.

**Phase 2:** 1 semester of NURS 2303, NURS 2402, NURS 2407.

**Phase 3:** 4 semester of the nursing professional upper-division courses.

As a Phase 1 nursing student, where do I get advised?

Students with 0-29 credit hours will be required to get advised in the Academic Advising Center. Students with 30+ credit hours will be required to attend an information session and advising at the School of Nursing (HSN room 200P). Students must call (915) 747-8337 or visit the Office of Student Affairs in HSN room 200 to sign up for a session.

How do I apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

Click here to visit the School of Nursing (SoN) application windows. This link will take you to the UTEP online application process for the School of Nursing where you will also find the deadlines for each application window.

Can I have someone in the SoN Office of Student Affairs review my transcript(s) before I apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

No. The School of Nursing does not offer transcript evaluation. However, after your credits have been officially evaluated by the Office of Admissions, the School of Nursing will create a degree evaluation for you.

Do I need to take an admission examination to apply to Phase 2?

Yes. Students are required to take the ATI-TEAS exam. This examination may be taken for a maximum of 2 times in a 12 month period. There is a deadline set for each application window.

Do I need to pass the ATI-TEAS exam before I can submit an application for the Phase 2 nursing courses?

No. Please refer to the Application Windows for each TEAS deadline.

Do I have to disclose any criminal charges or arrests to the Texas Board of Nursing before I start Phase 3?

Yes. In Phase 2, you will be required to submit a Criminal Background Check (CBC) information form to the Office of Student Affairs. The School of Nursing will submit a roster to the Texas Board of Nursing and a criminal background check will be performed on all Phase 2 students. Blue cards will be sent to students whose CBC was clear and a letter will be sent to students with incident(s) in their record. Students who receive a letter from the Texas Board of Nursing will be required to submit a Declaratory Order along with a letter of explanation and necessary documentation specified on the letter. All students cleared by the Texas Board of Nursing will be eligible to rank for Phase 3.

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

Students must complete the Phase 1 University Core Curriculum, the pre-professional courses, and the TEAS test to be eligible to rank for the Phase 2 nursing courses. NOTE: Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee a seat in the Phase 2 Pre-nursing courses.
What is the ranking criteria to apply to the Phase 2 nursing courses?

1. Pre-professional courses GPA
2. Cumulative GPA (must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00)
3. TEAS exam (must meet minimum score of 62%)

Are there any time limits on the Pre-professional courses for the nursing program?
There is no time limit on the pre-professional courses.

Can I take the Phase 1 pre-requisites at EPCC?
Yes. The Phase 1 pre-requisite courses may be taken at EPCC. However, we require students attend the last semester of Phase 1 at UTEP, due to the timing of the ranking. All courses must be accounted for on your UTEP transcript at the time your application is processed, including courses in progress at UTEP.

Can I repeat Pre-professional courses for higher grades?
Course failed: 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.

Course previously passed: If a student earns a “C” or better in a Pre-professional course and wishes to retake for a higher grade, they must get approval from the Nursing Office of Student Affairs. If they choose to repeat a “passed” course, both grades for the course will be posted on the transcript and will be used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA. Please see a nursing advisor for instructions on how to get permission to retake any pre-professional course at UTEP.

Please follow these guidelines for re-taking courses at UTEP:
- For MATH 1320, BIOL 1305/1107, BIOL 2311/2111, BIOL 2313/2113, CHEM 1407, CHEM 1305/1105, and MICR 2330: can only be re-taken at UTEP if a student has a current grade of “C”. Grades of “B” cannot be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.
- Students must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 and a minimum PPC GPA of 3.20 to be eligible to retake a pre-professional science course in which a C was earned.
- For HSCI 2302, “B”s or “C”s are currently allowed to be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.
- PSYC 1301 cannot be re-taken at UTEP at all.

The School of Nursing will accept transferred course grades (for example, from EPCC) for re-takes, as well.

Please note that for ranking purposes only, the School of Nursing will use the highest grade earned per pre-professional course in the calculation of the pre-professional courses (PPC) GPA.

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.

When does ranking take place for the Phase 2 nursing courses?
Please refer to the application windows on our website.

Can I take some of the requirements for Phase 1 online?
Yes. UTEP offers many of the requirements for Phase 1 100% online. In addition, students are permitted to choose online courses with UT institutions as an option to expand their educational opportunities. You may click here to visit the University of Texas System Online Consortium.

What if I fail a Phase 2 nursing course? Can I take the course the following semester?
All students have a maximum of 2 attempts to take a Phase 2 nursing course. However, you must submit an application by the applicable deadline to be considered and ranked for the following semester. There are limited seats for repeaters.

Phase 3 Questions:

When does the nursing program begin?
The program begins three times a year (Fall, Spring, Summer) for the Traditional BSN and the RN to BSN options.

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.

How long does it take to complete Phase 3?
After you are admitted to Phase 3, it will take 15 to 24 months to complete. Phase 3 is 4 semesters and attending the summer term is optional.

Can I enter directly into Phase 3?
No. You must first complete Phase 1 and 2 and be ranked into Phase 3. Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee a seat in Phase 3.

When do you rank for Phase 3?
Please refer to the application windows on our website.

Do I have to attend an orientation for Phase 3?
Yes. All selected students are required to attend the Red Carpet Orientation before the start of the semester. Important information such as compliance, the UG student handbook, required uniform/supplies, clinicals and required coursework will be presented at the orientation.

What is the ranking criteria to apply to Phase 3?
1. Phase 2 nursing courses GPA (highest grade per course will be used to calculate the Phase 2 GPA)
2. Pre-professional courses GPA
3. Cumulative GPA (must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00)
4. Teas test (must meet minimum score of 62%)
What if I decline my seat for Phase 3? Will my admission be valid for future semesters?
No. Each ranking is independent; if a student declines their acceptance, they must re-apply for a future semester and will be ranked with that applicant pool.

If I am not accepted, do I have to re-apply the next semester?
Yes. Applications are not transferrable to the next semester. You must resubmit a new nursing application by the applicable deadline if you wish to be considered for another semester.

What is required for an RN license?
To obtain a RN license, the individual must have graduated from a nursing program approved by a state board of nursing, meet all the requirements to sit for the licensure examination (including no felony convictions), and successfully pass the examination.

How do you specialize?
Upon graduation, students are prepared to be generalists. Although they can work in any number of settings, true specialization requires advanced graduate education.

Do you accept nursing courses from other nursing programs?
No. All professional nursing courses must be taken at UTEP.

If I was dismissed from another nursing program, can I apply to the Traditional BSN program?
No. Students dismissed from another nursing program may not apply to the UTEP Traditional BSN Program.

Where can I go for more information?
You may visit our website at https://www.utep.edu/nursing/ or you may sign up for an Advising and Information Session by calling (915) 747-8337.
Petition for Declaratory Order (DO)

➔ If any of the following information applies to your background, you must complete the Declaratory Order in Phase 2.

➔ The Texas Board of Nursing strongly advises students petition the Board in Phase 2 BEFORE enrolling into Phase 3 of the nursing program if the student has potential eligibility issues.

Petitions for Declaratory Order (DO) are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are processed in the order that they are received. In addition, providing incomplete information may result in the Board delaying or denying the approval of the DO. You will receive an Operations outcome letter if the DO is approved. Students who are denied have the option of re-petitioning the Board or may request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

Criminal background checks will be completed on all applicants accepted to the program. The following histories will disqualify an individual from consideration for clinical rotations:

- Felony convictions
- Misdemeanor convictions or felony deferred adjudications involving crimes against persons (physical or sexual abuse, etc.)
- Misdemeanor convictions related to moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.)
- Felony deferred adjudications for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances, and
- Registered sex offenders

You will need to submit a Declaratory Order of Eligibility to the Texas Board of Nursing for any criminal offense including those pending appeal if you have:

- been convicted of a misdemeanor
- been convicted of a felony
- pled non contendere, no contest or guilty
- received deferred adjudication
- been placed on community supervision or court ordered probation
- been sentenced to serve in jail or prison or court ordered confinement
- been granted pretrial diversion
- been arrested or have any pending criminal charges
- been cited or charged with any violation of the law (excluding minor traffic tickets)
- been subject to court martial

Conditions requiring you to complete the Petition for Declaratory Order of Eligibility as outlined above include: Within the last 5 years, a diagnosis, treatment or hospitalization for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.

The Declaratory Order of Eligibility form can be found at:
https://www.bon.state.tx.us/forms_declaratory_order.asp