

East Central University  
Department of Nursing

RN to BSN Fast Track Option  
Guide for the Registered Nurse  
Student



Revised: October, 2011

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## Policy on Advanced Placement and Progression of the RN to BSN Students in the Nursing Program

### I. Advanced Placement and Progression of RN to BSN Students through the Nursing Program

The East Central University Department of Nursing recognizes Registered Nurses as self-motivated adult learners who possess a base of knowledge and experience upon which to build additional knowledge. The Nursing Department is dedicated to helping RN's to further their education by building upon this foundation, rather than repeating skills and learning they have already acquired. Consistent with the needs of the independent and motivated adult learner, the course presentations incorporate a relatively large percentage of web assignments thus reducing classroom time while maintaining the quality of learning. Up to 34 hours of nursing credits may be earned through direct transfer of credit and credit validation.

East Central University Department of Nursing participates in the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education plan for ADN to BSN Articulation. According to this plan, all baccalaureate nursing programs will accept the same courses as prerequisites for admission and facilitate articulation. In order to provide better accessibility to the students of East Central University's RN to BSN Program, the nursing courses can be attended via ITV OneNet at the following locations: East Central University's home campus in Ada, McCurtain County Higher Education Center in Idabel, Higher Education Center in Ardmore, Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Eastern Oklahoma State College in McAlester, and Choctaw Nation Health Care Center in Talihina, OK.

ECU nursing faculty is dedicated to helping RN students achieve their academic and professional goals. The Department of Nursing has designed its program to meet the needs of RN to BSN students and will offer courses every year with a new cycle starting in January. Questions concerning the RN to BSN Fast Track Option may be directed to East Central's Nursing Department, by calling (580) 559-5434 or by emailing carlada@ecok.edu. In order to facilitate progress towards the degree, the following policy has been adopted:

1. RN students must complete a total of 124 credit hours and must earn a minimum of 60 hours of nursing course work to receive the Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing degree. The nursing credits are earned as follows:
  - a. 6 hours-transfer credit (lower division)
  - b. 29 hours-validation (upper division)
  - c. 25 hours-earned nursing course credit (upper division)Total.....60 nursing credit hours
  
2. Registered nurses who are graduates of approved associate or diploma nursing programs and have been admitted to the ECU nursing program are eligible to receive transfer credit for 6 hours of **lower division** nursing course work:

- a. NRS 1142 Introduction to Professional Nursing (2 credit hours)
  - b. NRS 2104 Nursing Process (4 credit hours)
3. Registered nurse students may enroll in the first two courses, NRS 3333 (Contemporary Professional Nursing) and NRS 3883 (Nursing Research) during the Spring semester prior to submission of an official application to the program.
  4. Registered nurse students must submit an official application to the program by the end of the Spring semester in which they are taking NRS 3333 and NRS 3883.
  5. Students who submit a completed application, meet the admission criteria, are admitted to the clinical component of the program and are currently enrolled on the East Central University campus or enrolled at a distant education site and have designated East Central University as their institution of record (meaning they have indicated that they plan to receive their degree from ECU) are eligible to have **upper division** credit validated for the following courses:
    - a. NRS 3192 Pharmacology I (2 credit hours)
    - b. NRS 3118 Child-Adult Nursing I (8 credit hours)
    - c. NRS 3392 Pharmacology II (2 credit hours)
    - d. NRS 3218 Child-Adult Nursing II (8 credit hours)
    - e. NRS 4165 The Childbearing Family (5 credit hours)
    - f. NRS 4214 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (4 credit hours)  
(for a total of 29 hours of nursing course work)

These 29 hours of nursing course credit will be held in escrow until the student has demonstrated clinical and cognitive competency of prior knowledge by completing NRS 2223, NRS 3333 and NRS 3883 with a minimum grade of “C” in each course. After completion of the required courses and completion of the “**Advanced Standing Application,**” the credits will be recorded on the student’s record. Advanced standing credits are assessed by the Registry Office at a fee of \$5.00 per credit hour. For 29 hours of course work, the fee is \$145.00 **payable at the last day of class in NRS 2223 by check or money order made out to East Central University.**

6. The Registered Nurse student is required to take the following ECU nursing courses:
  - a. NRS 2223 Physical Assessment
  - b. NRS 3333 Contemporary Professional Nursing
  - c. NRS 3883 Nursing Research
  - d. NRS 4617 Advanced Nursing Concepts I
  - e. NRS 4629 Advanced Nursing Concepts II  
(for a total of 25 credit hours)
  - f. NRS 4985: Seminar in Nursing may be taken with departmental approval

7. The **Regents for Higher Education** and East Central University maintain the following requirements in order to graduate from ECU with a BS in nursing:
  - a. students must complete **60 hours** in an accredited **four-year senior** institution (validated credit hours do count towards this total) (**NOTE:** Taking just the required nursing courses, seminar in nursing plus the validated courses will give students only **59** credit hours from a four year senior institution. The student will need one **(1) additional credit hour** in any subject from a four (4) year institution.
  - b. students must earn a minimum of **40 hours** of upper division credit hours (3000 and/or 4000 level courses in any subject matter - validated credit hours do count towards this total)
  - c. students must have a minimum of **30 hours of residence credit** (i.e. credit hours from ECU (**NOTE:** required ECU nursing courses only provide 25 hours - validated hours **do not** count towards this total) (A five credit hour “Seminar In Nursing” is available for students who cannot otherwise meet this requirement).
  - d. students must complete at least 15 of the last 30 hours of course work from ECU or have at least 50% of the hours required by the institution in the Nursing major completed from ECU.
  
8. RN to BSN students who have previously completed nursing courses through ECU Department of Nursing program will be evaluated on an individual basis.
  
9. All nursing students who attend clinical rotations at Oklahoma Hospitals must have a criminal back ground and sex offenders registry searches completed no more than three (3) months prior to beginning clinical rotations. Because NRSG 4617 Advanced Nursing Concepts I is the first course with a clinical rotation, RN to BSN Completion students will be required to have the check completed during the spring semester prior to the beginning of the course. Failure to have a satisfactory check will result in withdrawal from the course and program. (See *Nursing Student Handbook*, “Policy on Criminal Background and Sex Registry Offenders Search” for specific details).
  
10. Students may check to see if courses they have taken will equate to ECU courses by accessing the “Transfer Matrix” on the ECU Web Page. Please follow the directions below to use this service:
  - a. Go to the Home ECU web page, [www.ecok.edu](http://www.ecok.edu)
  - b. Click on “**Future Students**” on the top bar
  - c. Click on “**I’m transferring from another university or college**”
  - d. Click on “**Transfer Matrix**” on the left side of the page
  - e. Click on “**ECU Transfer Matrix**”

- f. The first page will give you all the colleges that have equated courses with ECU. Scroll down through the colleges listed until you find the one where you want to check on a course (e.g. **Murray State College**) - Highlight it then click

Next

- g. The second page will give you all the courses from that college. Find the course you want to check on (e.g. **CIS 1113 Compu Concepts**) - Highlight it then click

Next

- h. The third page will tell you if the course is equated to an ECU course and which course it is equated to (e.g. CIS 1113 Computer Concepts is equated to the ECU course **CMPSC 1513** Computer Literacy). Because the matrix does not tell you the *name* of the ECU course, you may have to look it up on the General Education Sheet or the ECU Catalog.
- i. If it does not give you a course number, or just a 0000, it means that that particular course has never been equated to an ECU course. A course substitution needs to be done, although there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to substitute it for the ECU course. Check with your advisor on how to fill out a Course Substitution Form.

## II. Guidelines for RN to BSN students earning a Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Nursing through East Central University.

The Department of Nursing established policies regarding admission and progression of RN to BSN students through the nursing program. Students must adhere to the policies of the State Regents for Higher Education and East Central University regarding admission to the program and progression to graduation. The following policies must be observed:

### 1. Requirements for admission to the Nursing Program:

The following documents must be provided to the Department of Nursing:

- a. Proof of graduation from an ADN or Diploma nursing program accredited by a United States Department of Education recognized accrediting agency
- b. Completed and signed three (3) page “**Application for ADN to BSN Program**” form
- c. Proof of licensure as registered nurse in Oklahoma
- d. Proof of malpractice insurance (student malpractice insurance is required **before** clinical courses and covers students only when in the student role)
- e. Proof of Level "C" or basic CPR Certification (CPR Card)
- f. Proof of immunizations

- g. A letter verifying safety and competency in nursing practice signed by an immediate supervisor/administrator
- h. A completed and satisfactory Criminal Background and Sex Offenders Registry Search.
- i. An official transcript verifying completion of the following “support courses” with "C" or higher:
  1. English Composition I (3 hrs)
  2. English Composition II (3 hrs)
  3. General Chemistry (4 hrs)
  4. Biology/Zoology with lab (4 hrs)
  5. Anatomy and Physiology (8 hrs)
  6. Microbiology or epidemiology (4-5 hrs)
  7. Human nutrition (3 hrs)
  8. Developmental psychology including infant and child content (3 hrs)
  9. Mathematics (Survey of Math or College Algebra) (3 hrs)
  10. Physical Assessment (3 hrs)
  11. Computer Literacy or equivalent computer course (3hrs)
  12. Basic statistics course (3 hrs)

(Note: With the approval of a nursing faculty advisor, some of the above listed courses may be completed later in the program)
- j. Up to 21 credit hours of general education courses may be required depending on the type of degree and previous courses taken by the student. Transcripts and degrees are evaluated on an individual basis. Please contact the Nursing Department to schedule a meeting by calling (580) 559-5434 or emailing at [carlada@ecok.edu](mailto:carlada@ecok.edu).
- k. Students with “Associate of Science” or “Associate of Arts” degrees from Oklahoma community colleges have met the general education requirements of ECU and are not required to take additional general education courses except those that are required by the nursing program as prerequisites.
- l. Students with “Associate In **Applied Science** In Nursing” degrees have **NOT** met the general education requirements of ECU. Students with this degree are required to take 3 hours of western humanities (G<sub>1</sub>), 3 hours of non-western humanities (G<sub>2</sub>), history, government, a language or speech, and other courses they may be lacking. Check the last page of your transcript for the type of degree you have and then check the ECU Webpage ([www.ecok.edu](http://www.ecok.edu)) for required courses.

2. Approval for admission to the program by the Admissions, Progression and Retention Committee.
3. Licensed Practical Nurses, Corpsmen, Medics, EMT's, Paramedics and Graduate Nurses are not permitted to receive advanced standing credit from courses in these programs for nursing courses at East Central University by Regent's policies.
4. Individuals who are licensed as Registered Nurses in foreign countries will be considered on an individual basis after analysis of official transcripts from schools of nursing in the license issuing country. All Oklahoma Board of Nursing - Nurse Practice Act and Rules and Regulations apply to the status and progression of nurses from foreign countries. Generally, the OBN requires that nurses from foreign countries pass an English proficiency exam and the American NCLEX - RN, CAT examination before they can practice as registered nurses.

### Schedule of Nursing Courses for RN to BSN Students

Spring	Spring/Summer Intersession	Summer	Fall	Spring (if needed)
<b>NRS 3333 Contemporary Professional Nursing</b> (3 credit hours)[meets every other Monday 4:25p-7:20 p after 1 <sup>st</sup> 3 weeks of class] Mondays	<b>NRS 2223 Physical Assessment</b> (3 credit hours) [primarily online] plus 1 - 8 hr on campus lab in Ada [meets 1 time at Ada campus on a Saturday, 9a-5p]	<b>NRS 4617 Advanced Nursing Concepts I</b> (7 credit hours) [meets every Monday evening, occasional Wednesday evening] plus web assignments and clinical	<b>NRS 4629 Advanced Nursing Concepts II</b> (9 credit hours) [meets every Monday, 4:25p-9p] plus web assignments and clinical	<b>NRS 4985 Seminar in Nursing</b> (5 credit hours for students not meeting ECU residency requirements [meets once a week]
<b>NRS 3883 Nursing Research</b> (3 credit hours) [meets every Wednesday, 4:25p-7:00p]				

## EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY - DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

<b><i>RN to BSN Student Anticipated Fees and Estimated Costs</i></b>	
<p><i>Tuition For Required Nursing Courses varies by residency (<b>Oklahoma resident</b>, <b>Non-Resident</b>).</i></p> <p><i>(25 Credit hours X <b>\$170.56</b> or X <b>\$391.61/credit hour</b>)</i></p>	<p><b>\$4264.00 for Oklahoma Resident.</b></p> <p><b>\$9790.25 for Non-Resident.</b></p> <p><b>*Distant Site Fees Vary</b></p>
<p><i>Pre-requisite/Gen-Ed courses at ECU</i></p> <p><i><b>(\$153.61 per credit hour - on campus)</b></i></p>	<p><i>Cost variable depending on student needs - may be able to get courses at a lower rate from Community Colleges</i></p>
<p><i>Text Books/Scantron Sheets/Work Books</i></p>	<p><i>\$300.00-\$400.00 per semester</i></p>
<p><i>Validation 29 Credit Hours of previous nursing courses (\$5.00 per credit hour)</i></p>	<p><i>\$145.00 (due by the end of the summer session)</i></p>
<p><i>Criminal Background and Sex Offenders Registry search to be done online by Validity</i></p>	<p><i>\$35.50 payable by MasterCard, Visa, PayPal, Discover, American Express, bank transfers, Money Order, and/or Cashier's Check</i></p>
<p><i>Liability/Malpractice Insurance</i></p>	<p><i>\$20.00 per year: mandatory for all students in clinical course.</i></p>
<p><i>Annual ONA Convention: (Fall Semester)</i></p> <p><i>Registration</i></p> <p><i>Hotel (2 nights)</i></p>	<p><i>\$140.00</i></p> <p><i>\$99.00 per night</i></p>
<p><i>Travel to Clinical Sites</i></p>	<p><i>\$150.00-\$200.00 per year</i></p>
<p><i>EKG Calipers</i></p>	<p><i>\$8.50 one time - Fall semester</i></p>
<p><i>ECU Graduation Fee</i></p>	<p><i>\$50.00 one time</i></p>