East Central UNIVERSITY

Nursing Program

Frequently Asked Questions 09.25.25

Do I need to apply to East Central University or be an ECU student before I can apply to the nursing program?

No – but please be sure NOT to confuse the ECU application for the application to the nursing program. They are two completely separate applications.

How do I apply to ECU?

You can find all the ECU application information and materials on the **Apply to ECU** webpage. International student information and application materials can be found on the **Office of International Student Services** webpage.

When do I need to have my ECU application and materials submitted?

All ECU applications must be completed/submitted with all required documentation to the portal in time for you to be accepted to ECU by the designated cutoff date (see below):

For fall semesters: May 1st

For spring semesters: November 1st

If you have not been accepted to ECU by the deadlines listed above, your nursing application will be forfeited.

How much does it cost to attend ECU and the nursing program?

You can find the most current tuition, fees, housing/meal plan, and course specific fee information on the **Office of the Bursar** webpage. Scholarship and Financial Aid information and application may be found at **Academic Scholarships**, and **Financial Aid** webpages.

Where can I find out if my courses will transfer to ECU?

You can use the **Transfer Credit Matrix** webpage.

Who is my official nursing advisor?

Advisers are assigned by last name. You can find this information on Colleague Self- Service, as well as the Advisor List on the **Major in Nursing** webpage

When can I apply to the Nursing Program?

We accept applications twice a year. Accreditation information and application materials can be found **on** our web page **View ECU's School of Nursing**

For **fall semesters:** The application cycle opens on **October 1st and closes March 1st.** All nursing application materials and transcripts must be submitted no later than **5pm on March 1st.**

For **spring semesters:** The application cycle opens on **April 1st and closes on September 1st.** All nursing application materials and transcripts must be submitted no later than **5pm on September 1st.**

When will I be notified if I was accepted to Nursing?

Admission decision letters are sent out via email within four weeks from the application cycle closing date. If not accepted to ECU by that time, your acceptance to nursing will be dependent upon your acceptance to the university by the **NURSING** deadline.

Do I need to send transcripts to the School of Nursing?

You **MUST** send in at least unofficial transcripts from each university/college you have attended with your nursing application. Applications received without transcripts will not be processed.

Are Letters of Recommendation required?

Yes – you will need to submit a minimum of **two (2) letters of recommendation** by the cycle closing date. One (1) **MUST** be professional in nature (i.e., from an instructor or employer), the other **MUST** be personal in nature (cannot be from an instructor or employer). Any additional letters you choose to submit may be of either nature.

Do I have to take a pre-entrance exam as part of my application to the nursing program?

Yes, you are required to take the designated portions of the HESI A2 pre-entrance exam**.** Details concerning the pre-entrance exam will be included in the application packet and posted on the ECU School of Nursing webpage, updated with pertinent information for each application cycle. ***NOTE – Applicants that do not benchmark on the Math portion of the exam on the first attempt will be required to take a Medical Math course in the first semester.**

What are the requirements I need to be eligible/considered for acceptance to the nursing program?

a. Minimum Grad Retention GPA & Program GPA of 2.7/4.0 on all course work completed at the time of application
b. A minimum of 24 hours of Gen Eds/Required Related Work courses, or the equivalent thereof completed at the time of application, or that will be completed prior to the start of the admission term.
c. Required Gen Eds/Required Related Work courses require a final grade of "C" or higher
d. Take all the designated portions of the HESI A2 entrance exam
e. Meet all admission requirements and be accepted to ECU by the **nursing program** stated deadlines **(spring – November 1st; Fall – May 1st)**
f. Once admitted to the nursing program, complete all remaining requirements related to clinical, attestations, and accreditation by the deadlines. Failure to complete or submit something by the deadline will forfeit the application.

What program and clinical requirements will I need? (Additional detail is provided on the application to the nursing program)

a. Background Check (done after being accepted)
b. Drug Screen (done after being accepted)
c. CPR – must be American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers

d. Immunizations/Vaccinations: (list may not be all-inclusive)
    a. Annual Influenza – for the current flu season
    b. Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap) – given within the last 10 years
    c. Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)
    d. Varicella (Chicken Pox)
    e. Hepatitis B
    f. COVID-19: evidence of approved vaccine
    g. Tuberculin (TB/PPD) Skin Test – 2-step for initial and then annual OR QuantiFERON gold blood test, OR Negative TSpot blood test
        i. If previous or current positive test results, a Clearance of Public Contact from the Health Department
        ii. 1-step, blood tests, or Clearance required annually to follow

This list is subject to change if/as the requirements of our clinical sites change. A detailed list can be found as part of the application packet.

Failure to complete all requirements by the due dates may result in the forfeiture of your seat in the program. Please begin working on these things NOW as some of them require some time to complete. Please feel free to call the nursing office if you have any questions or concerns about these requirements.

Where can I see the courses needed for the degree?

The course catalog can be found on the **View the Course Catalog** webpage.

What Required Gen Eds/Required Related Work courses do I need, & when do I need to have them completed by?

1. The courses below must be completed **prior to beginning the first semester** of the program with a grade of "C" or higher: NOTE: these-do not have to be completed to apply, but must be completed before you can begin the program. If you are currently taking any of these courses at the time of your application, you **MUST** include a course schedule, or a transcript that shows they are in progress or you are enrolled.
    a. English Composition I
    b. English Composition II
    c. Functions & Modeling OR College Algebra
    d. Chemical Principles OR General Chemistry (must have a lab)
    e. General Biology (must have a lab)
    f. Human Anatomy (must have a lab)
    g. Basic Nutrition
    h. General Psychology
2. All additional required related work, listed below, must be completed **prior to beginning the third semester** of the program, with a grade of "C" or higher. NOTE: Again, if you are currently taking any of these courses at the time of your application, you MUST include a course schedule or a transcript that shows they are in progress.
    a. General Microbiology OR Epidemiology (must have a lab)
    b. Human Physiology (must have a lab)

c. Developmental Psychology
d. Basic Computer Course
e. Basic Statistics

***NOTE – If any of the courses are NOT completed by the required semester, you cannot start/progress in the program.**

How are admission decision made?

The application scoring rubric itself is not published. Applications are scored based on points that may include, but are not limited to: GPA (program and grad retention), Required Related Work course grades, ECU Residency and completed college credits, entrance exam scores, prior degrees, relative experience, licensures and certifications, and letters of recommendation.

Where will the clinical rotations be, and will I have to commute?

Our clinical coordinator will request information from you during your first semester to assist in clinical placement for the semesters to follow. You will need to ensure you list if you are an athlete, etc., as well as any other pertinent information.

While we always work at placing you where your commute is not long, and at the location , day, and time you would prefer, please understand – you may NOT get the location and/or day you want, for a number of reasons.

The expectation is that **you will have a reliable method of transportation, and the ability to get yourself to your clinical site.** For example - **We cannot base placement on someone's need to ride with a friend**. While the request to be placed with a friend may be made, there is no guarantee that it will happen.

Are there options of days/times available for the nursing courses and first semester labs?

There are not options available for when you can take your courses, and they cannot be taken out of sequence. For example – you cannot take Pharmacology I in your first semester of the program. Labs for the first semester are determined by a number of factors and will be added to your course plan. These lab days will not be changed unless there are extenuating circumstances, approved by the Director.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

If the question is pertinent to nursing, please email **nurse_sec@ecok.edu** or call 580-559-5434 OR 5933. If you are a current ECU student and have been working with a nursing advisor, you can always reach out to them.

If your questions are pertinent to being admitted to ECU as either a new or transfer student, please email the Admissions Office at **admissions@ecok.edu** or call 580-559-5628.

If the question is pertinent to international requirements, university applications, status, your questions MUST be directed to the International Student Services office at **intlstu@ecok.edu** or 580-559- 5669.