MUST READ INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS TO THE BSN TRADITIONAL PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Traditional program in the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing (PACSON) at California State University, Los Angeles (Cal State LA). This is a wonderful time to be entering nursing as the need for professionally prepared nurses is great, and there are increasing opportunities for practice in many areas.

The Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing’s BSN Traditional Program takes an average of three (3) years to complete. Most students spend two (2) years completing prerequisite courses for a total of five (5) years. The program combines general education with theoretical and clinical nursing courses. **120 semester units** are required to graduate. The University accepts up to **70 transfer units** from a community college. Upon completion of the program, you will be awarded a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and will be eligible for licensure as a Registered Nurse. Courses are offered at variable days and times and involve travel to clinical sites in different areas of Los Angeles County. The BSN Traditional program is an impacted, demanding, full-time program, and is not compatible with a heavy outside workload.

There is only one applicant pool annually for the BSN Traditional program from which students are selected to start the program the following Fall semester (August). Effective October 1, 2019, applicants can only apply once to the Cal State LA BSN Traditional program.

Approximately 1,000 – 1,400 students apply each year to the BSN Traditional program. **Seventy (70) candidates are accepted from this very competitive pool of applicants.** Applicants are rated by the cumulative GPA; GPA in prerequisite courses; TEAS exam scores; employment in the health care field or volunteer hours performed; and local admission status.

Second baccalaureate students and LVN’s may apply to the BSN Traditional Program.

APPLICATION TO THE BSN TRADITIONAL PROGRAM

The application filing period is from October 1st through the second Friday in January.

The current application cycle (October 1, 2019 – January 10, 2020) is the last cycle that continuing Cal State LA students in a major other than pre-Nursing may submit an application to the BSN Traditional program. After May 15, 2020, only those Cal State LA students admitted to the Pre-Nursing program as an entering freshman may apply to the nursing program ([http://www.calstatela.edu/registrar/major-specific-declaration-requirements](http://www.calstatela.edu/registrar/major-specific-declaration-requirements)).

For non-Cal State LA students, application to the BSN Traditional Nursing program requires two applications: one to the University and the second one to PACSON through NursingCAS.
1. **Application to the University**: The University application is online at [www.calstate.edu/apply](http://www.calstate.edu/apply).
   
a. The application filing period for Fall 2020 begins October 1, 2019; **the deadline is November 30, 2019**.
   
b. You will need to submit a complete set of transcripts to the University from all the universities and colleges you have attended. The Cal State LA Admissions Office will request these transcripts. (See the Transcripts section below for more information.)
   
c. Go to [http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions](http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions) for application details.
   
d. Cal State LA’s application filing fee is $55 nonrefundable.
   
e. For information on an application fee waiver, visit [https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/paying-for-college/Pages/fee-waiver.aspx](https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/paying-for-college/Pages/fee-waiver.aspx)

2. **Application to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing**: Application to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing is made through NursingCAS, a centralized application service for Nursing programs. Applicants should go to the NursingCAS website [https://nursingcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux](https://nursingcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux) to set up an account, and then upload the required application documents.
   
a. The application filing period for Fall 2020 begins October 1, 2019; **the deadline to apply through NursingCAS is January 10, 2020 by 8:59 pm Pacific Standard Time (PST)**.
   
b. Please note that there is typically a fee for requesting and sending transcripts when applying through NursingCAS. NursingCAS fees for the undergraduate programs are $50.00 for the first program applying to and an additional $35.00 for each program afterwards.
   
c. **Nursing CAS offers a Fee Assistance Program.** This fee assistance program is on a first come basis and **is only determined by NursingCAS.** See Nursing CAS’s Applicant Help Center for more information. [https://help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS_Applicant_Help_Center](https://help.liaisonedu.com/NursingCAS_Applicant_Help_Center)

   **If you have any questions about the NursingCAS application, please call NursingCAS at (617) 612-2880.**

**Note:** Applicants must apply one year in advance to both Cal State LA and the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing (PACSON). It is important that you abide by both the Cal State LA and the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing application deadlines or your application will be invalid.

**TRANSCRIPTS**

Applicants will need **two sets of official transcripts** and **one set of unofficial transcripts**.

1. **One set of official transcripts** should be sent electronically or by sealed envelope directly from the initial college/university attended to Nursing CAS only. Opened envelopes are considered unofficial transcripts. (See complete instructions for transcript submission in Nursing CAS “Need Help”.) [https://www.nursingcas.org/resource/help-with-transcripts/](https://www.nursingcas.org/resource/help-with-transcripts/)
   
a. NursingCAS will upload the official transcript(s) with the date received and then they will verify courses taken. **The Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing recognizes the “verified date” as the date**
the transcript was received. Transcripts verified after the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing submission date are considered as long as the application was submitted by the due date and time. All inquiries, about transcript submissions should be made with NursingCAS at (617.612.2880).

b. Official transcripts must be received by NursingCAS no later than January 31, 2020 to be considered for FALL 2020 admission.

2. The second set of official transcripts should be sent to Cal State LA’s Admissions Office at their request http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/submitting-documents.

3. The set of unofficial transcripts should be uploaded to NursingCAS by the applicant in the Documents “Other” section.

Current Cal State LA students can retrieve their unofficial transcripts from “GET” after Fall Grades are posted. Please check the Academic Calendar for dates http://www.calstatela.edu/academicresources/academic-calendar.

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE BSN TRADITIONAL NURSING PROGRAM

1. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)

The cumulative GPA for all college and university level work completed is reviewed and must be a 3.25 GPA or better to be considered for admission to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing BSN Traditional program.

2. Grade Point Average (GPA) in Prerequisites:

The minimum acceptable GPA for the prerequisite courses is 3.25. A minimum grade of “B” on the first attempt is required for all prerequisite courses.

Prerequisites have no time limits of when they were taken prior to applying to the nursing program.

Withdrawal from courses with a “W” grade are not considered in grade point computation.

The GPA in the following courses are reviewed for eligibility into PACSON. The courses must be completed by December 31, 2019:

- BIOL 2010 Human Anatomy with Lab (4 semester units)
- BIOL 2020 Physiology with Lab (4 semester units)
- CHEM 1010 Fundamentals of Chemistry with Lab (4 semester units)
- ENGL 1010 English/ Accelerated College Writing (3 semester units)
- COMM 1100 Public Speaking or Oral Communication (3 semester units)
- Cal State LA Assist Listed GE A3 Critical Thinking course (3 semester units)
The following courses are prerequisites to the program, but are not considered as part of the admission review:

- Completion of one upper or lower division Statistics course (3 semester units) (must include Inferential Statistics) (Must be completed by December 31, 2019)
- MICR 2010 Microbiology for Health Related Sciences (3 semester units) (Must be completed by the end of Spring semester 2020)
- MICR 2020 Microbiology Laboratory for Health Related Sciences (1 semester units) (Must be completed by the end of Spring semester 2020)

3. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

TEAS Testing: The Assessment Technologies Incorporated (ATI) TEAS (Test of Essential Academics Skills) is a four (4) part exam that measures the student’s knowledge of Math, Reading, Science, and English. This test is mandatory. The test is approximately five (5) hours long (includes check-in and instruction). A study guide may be purchased from ATI at https://www.atitesting.com/teas.

A minimal acceptable percentile for the TEAS is 40% or above on Individual Performance scores. Applicants whose ATI scores are below the minimum acceptable 40th percentile will not be eligible for admission to the Cal State LA nursing program.

An applicant may retake the proctored test to improve their scores. The higher test score may be used for evaluation. You must retake the entire exam. NOTE: the proctored test can only be taken twice a year with at least a three week time period between test taking dates.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to select the highest test score and upload that proctored TEAS scores in the “Standardized Test” Section prior to the deadline. Submission of the TEAS to NursingCAS must be submitted no later than the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing application deadline date in NursingCAS. https://nursingcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux

The TEAS proctored score is only valid from, January 1, 2019-until the PACSON’s application final deadline date/time, January 10, 2020, 8:59 p.m. (PST).
- You may take the proctored TEAS no more than two (2) times during the year, with at least three (3) weeks apart.
- Practice test(s) do not count as a proctored test.

It is not necessary to pay an additional fee to have your TEAS results uploaded into Nursing CAS. You can download your results from ATI TEAS “My Report”, scan the copy and upload both the “Individual Performance Profile” report and the “Proctored and Practice Assessment Report” into NursingCAS. These reports can be added in the two available sections for the “TEAS Score Reports” in NursingCAS.
Examples of the TEAS reports needed are shown below:

**Individual Performance Profile**

- **Individual Name:** [Redacted]
- **Institution:** [Redacted]
- **Program Type:** BSN
- **Test Date:** 5/8/2018
- **Attempt:** 1 of 2
- **Days Since Last Attempt:** 0

**Scores**

- **Total Score:** 85.3%
- **Academic Preparedness Level:** Advanced
  - National Mean: 65.6%
  - All BSN Programs Mean: 70.4%

**Percentile Rank**

- **Percentile Rank:** 95% of students scored at or below your score
- **Percentile Rank:** 91% of students scored at or below your score

**Reading Score:** 91.5%

**Math Score:** 98.9%

**Science Score:** 78.7%

**English and Language Usage Score:** 66.7%

- **Content areas do not add up to the total score**

**Transcript for [Redacted]**

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<th>Individual Score</th>
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**Practice Assessment**

**Continuing Education Credits** - Earned as of 11/22/2018

- Course Completed and Completed Date
- Course Not Completed and Due Date

**Tutorials** - Earned as of 11/22/2018

Used to verify number of proctored attempts (2 allowed) and time between proctored attempts (minimum 3 weeks)
4. **WORK/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

The applicant may also include their current work experiences, health-related experiences, or volunteer/community enrichment.

- **The applicant may only submit one specific work or volunteer experience in which they have directly worked with patients with 100 or more hours of service within the last 2 years:**
  - **As an employee** – Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), Respiratory Therapist (RT), Psychiatric Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Medical Assistant (MA), Lab Technician, or Pharm Tech are examples.
  - **As health related experience** – Regional Occupational Program (ROP) or Career Technical Education (CTE program)
  - **As volunteer/community enrichment**
    - Acceptable locations for volunteer/community enrichment hours are hospital, clinics, dentist office, in-home support, and the like.
    - Acceptable responsibilities are feeding patients, dressing patients, assisting patients by wheelchair or physically, making beds, and the like.
    - Volunteer hours are accepted from the last 2 years only and can increase the probability of being admitted but the hours are not mandatory.

5. **LOCAL PREFERENCE for Cal State LA/Transfer Students/Military:**

- **Cal State LA students** receive local preference.
- **Transfer Students**: As a commitment to the local community and social upward mobility transfer students are given local preference for attending specific community colleges. To check to see if your community college is on the list go to [http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/local-preference-transfers](http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/local-preference-transfers)
- **Military Students**: As a commitment to provide access to veterans, Cal State LA gives ‘Local Preference’ to all military veterans regardless of their school of origin. This Veterans category includes active-duty, reservists, and National Guard. [http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/veteran-admission](http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/veteran-admission)

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE TO NURSING PROGRAM**

Applicants will be notified of their admission status at the end of April 2020 by an email issued from the University’s Admissions Office.

**Please do not call or email the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing for the status of your application at any time during the application cycle.**

1. A PACSON selection committee will review all NursingCAS applications and provide the names of the top-ranked students to the University’s Admissions Office.
2. Cal State LA’s Admissions Office will send transfer students an “Offer Made” email indicating that an applicant has been selected or not selected for the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing Program. An
accepting email will state, “Congratulations you have been accepted to Cal State LA in Nursing.” If your email does not state this, you may be admitted to Cal State LA, but not into the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing Program.

3. If selected, please follow the instructions requested from Cal State LA’s email. Your admittance is conditional until all requirements have been completed for admissions by the deadlines.

4. If you want to appeal a decision, submit your appeal by email to Yvette Richardson at yrichar@calstatela.edu. In the subject line enter: Appeal for “Your Name” -
   a. Explain the basis for the appeal, i.e., how you met the requirement, how an extenuating circumstance prevented you from meeting a deadline, or other.
   b. The appeal must be made no later than 15 business days after your denial email notification.
   c. Responses to an appeal will be made in the order of the appeal receipt date. Please do not contact the Nursing office for the status of the appeal.

Additional Information

1. You will receive a combined welcome letter and orientation package to the Nursing school, in email format, in June. At that time you will be notified of the dates to attend a mandatory two day orientation, which will secure your admittance to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing. At the day of orientation expect fees to be paid for parking, lab coats, laboratory fees, and more.

2. While in the Nursing program, you will take courses in pathophysiology (the study of disease), physical assessment, basic nursing skills, medical/surgical nursing, pediatrics, maternal/child nursing, psychiatric nursing, public health, leadership and others. Most of these courses will have a theory (lecture) component and a practice (clinical) component where you will be accompanied by faculty to various health care facilities in the LA area to care for patients.

3. In addition to the required nursing courses, students must meet the Cal State LA requirements for both lower and upper division general education. These requirements are clearly outlined in the University Catalog found online. Additional classes required by the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing include:
   a. Sociology 2010- Principles of Sociology (3 semester units)
   b. Nutrition 2500– Human Nutrition (3 semester units)
   c. Psychology 1500 – Psychology of Developing Person (minimum 3 semester units)

4. Students in the Nursing program must carry university liability insurance, personal health insurance and a valid California driver’s license. NOTE: The California Board of Registered Nursing requires possession of either a Social Security number or taxpayer ID to apply for licensure.

5. Nursing students must have a cleared background check to be acceptable to clinical agencies. Since the California State Board of Nursing makes the final determination on eligibility for licensure, receiving a background check that has positive check may be a barrier to licensure, certification, and employment.

6. “Drug screening that is consistent with California Board of Registered Nursing guidelines for safe nursing practice” is required annually. Clinical agencies are requiring students be drug-free and you may be subject to random drug testing, in addition to an annual drug testing.

7. It is necessary to take the National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX) to qualify as a Registered Nurse (RN). The Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing prepares you to take this exam. In the past five (5) years 95% or more of our graduates have passed this exam on their first attempt.
BENEFITS OF GRADUATING FROM THE BSN TRADITIONAL PROGRAM

The possibilities are almost endless! You can work in a hospital in any specialty area. You might work in in the operating room, the emergency department, or an intensive care unit caring for infants, children and/or adults. You can join the military and work as a commissioned officer. You might decide to do public health nursing, home health nursing or work in a clinic. You can come back to graduate school at Cal State LA and become a nurse practitioner, or a nurse educator.

The average Registered Nurse’s Salary in California (CA) is $102,700 which is well above the national average for RN’s. There are approximately 282,290 Registered Nurses employed in California within a range of industries. (source www.nursesalaryguide.net)

TRANSFERABILITY OF COURSES

1. http://www.assist.org is the official transfer and articulation system for California’s public colleges and universities. Go to their website to check the transferability of California Community College prerequisite courses to Cal State LA. Contact ASSIST at 949.824.4385 or email at help@assist.org for questions generated or not generated by the Assist program.


INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students need to take the TOFEL exam. All applicants, regardless of citizenship, whose preparatory education was principally in a language other than English, must demonstrate competence in English. Test scores are to be turned in to the international admissions office and must be no more than two (2) years old. The University International Admissions office evaluates the transcripts first. For additional information, contact International Programs - 323.343.3170, http://www.calstatela.edu/international/request-advising-appointment

FINANCIAL AID

Applicants interested in information regarding financial loans, scholarships, state and federal grants should contact the Financial Aid Department at their website. http://www.calstatela.edu/financialaid
PATRICIA A. CHIN SCHOOL OF NURSING CONTACT

The Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing Administrative office is located in Simpson Tower Room 417.

For PACSON application inquiries, contact:

Yvette Richardson, 323-343-4700
  o  Available hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  o  Days Available: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.
  o  Email: yrichar@calstatela.edu.