1. What do I need to know about the BSN program?

   a. The nursing application will be available each September, through [www.nursingcas.org](http://www.nursingcas.org). **NOTE:** You will need to apply no more than one year in advance. It is important that you abide by University and Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing deadlines or your application will be invalid.
      i. Go to the following website for deadlines, [www.calstatela.edu/admissions/deadlines](http://www.calstatela.edu/admissions/deadlines)
   b. There are two steps to the application process. The applicant must apply to Cal State L.A. University and separately to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing.
      i. **Admission to the University:** You must apply to the California State University, Los Angeles, unless you are currently enrolled as a student. Admission to the university is online at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu) and is time specific.
      ii. **Admission to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing:** Admission to the School of Nursing requires you to apply to Nursing CAS. [www.nursingcas.org](http://www.nursingcas.org)
   c. There as many as 500-600 students that may apply each year to the nursing program. The School of Nursing accepts **seventy (70) applicants from this pool of students.** The applicants are rated by their overall GPA, GPA in selected prerequisites courses, TEAS exam scores, and experience in the health care field and/or volunteer efforts. The top-ranked students will be sent an Offer Made (email) and once accepted by the applicant, a Letter of Acceptance is sent to the applicant.
      
      Students on the waitlist who are not accepted to the program during the application cycle must reapply to the School of Nursing the following year.
   d. Second baccalaureate students and LVN’s can apply to the BSN Basic (Generic) Program.
   e. The Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing program BSN (Generic) Program takes an average of three (3) years to completed prior to becoming eligible to graduate with a BSN. Most students spend two (2) years completing their prerequisites courses which are a total of five (5) years.
   f. To graduate it is necessary to have **120 semester units.** The university accepts up to **70 units** from a community college.
2. What are the required pre-requisite courses for admission to the Nursing major?

   a. Human Anatomy with Lab
   b. Physiology I with Lab
   c. Fundamentals of Chemistry
   d. English 101
   e. Public Speaking or Oral Communication
   f. Critical Thinking course
   g. Statistics (Inferential)
   h. Microbiology with Lab

Courses a-f must be completed by application deadline for consideration. The g and h courses must be completed by June 30.

   a. Prerequisites have no limits on the time period taken to the time applying to the program. Prerequisites courses can be repeated but the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing will not recognize the repetition of a course when the original grade was a C or better. A C-(minus) grade in any required courses is not acceptable. If prerequisites courses a-f have not been taken prior to the application deadline, it is best to wait to the following year to apply.

   b. These courses in addition to other GE courses must be taken at a community college or Cal State LA before applying for the nursing major. A 2.75 grade point or better in these courses is required to be considered for the Nursing major.

   c. Check www.assist.org for college articulation of pre-requisite courses.

3. What other requirements are there to apply to the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing?

   a. The Assessment Technologies Incorporated (ATI) TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) is a four (4) parts exam that measures the student knowledge of Math, Reading, Science, and English. **This test is mandatory for all applicants.** The test is approximately five (5) hours long (includes check-in and instruction). A study guide can be purchased from ATI at www.atitesting.com.

      i. An acceptable percentile for the TEAS scores is 40% or above the national average. **Applicants whose ATI scores are below the minimum acceptable 40th percentile for the “Individual Percentile Rank National Score” in any area will not be eligible for admission to the Cal State LA nursing program.**

      ii. An applicant can retake the test to improve their scores if below the 40 percentile. The higher test score will be used for scoring. You must retake the entire exam. **NOTE: the test can only be taken twice a year with at least a three week time period between test taking dates.** Submission of the TEAS to Nursing CAS must be submitted no later than the School of Nursing application deadline date. www.nursingcas.org

      iii. The current TEAS scores (January of the previous year through January of the current year when applying) should be submitted to Nursing CAS and will be the only scores considered.

   b. Volunteering or working in a hospital or other health-related facility where applicant is working directly with patients/clients increases probability of being admitted.

   c. Students will need two set of official transcripts. Official transcripts are given to the student from the initial college/university attended in a sealed envelope. Opened envelopes are considered unofficial transcripts. Students must have the attended college mail their official transcript(s) to Nursing CAS.
Once received, Nursing CAS will upload the transcript(s) the day received and then verify courses taken. *The Patricia A. School of Nursing recognizes the “verified date” as the date of when the transcript has been submitted.* Transcripts verified after the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing submission date are considered late. All inquiries should be made with Nursing CAS about document submissions.

i. The second set of transcripts is to be delivered to Cal State LA admission office within one year of the documents’ issuing/pricing date (within two years for international transcripts (or they will be considered invalid.) This document can be hand delivered to the University’s Admission Office.

d. Military applicants: In Accordance with SB 1348 that governs military admission procedures, the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing will admit by exception, and given priority to military service members and veterans. Veterans who are California (CA) residents may be able to apply their military experience and training towards licensure requirements. Veterans need only meet the following minimum admission eligibility requirements for Basic Pre-Licensure or RN to BSN transfer:

I. Admission to the University
II. A minimum 2.75 GPA in all transferable classes and in pre-requisite courses
III. A 40 percentile or better on the TEAS exam in all 4 areas: English, Reading, Math, and Science (Basic Pre-licensure only)
IV. Active California RN license (RN to BSN Transfer only).

e. 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. Once the criteria are met the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing is able to accept the international students.

4. What can I do to better my chances if I am not accepted at this time?

a. You can apply again or change your major. You can take the following courses at Cal State L.A. for University and School of Nursing Requirements. They are as follows: Nutrition, Sociology, Psychology, Upper Division GE Courses (3 courses)
b. Apply to another nursing program

c. Applications are kept for one (1) year then shredded at the end of the following application window
d. Get a job working directly with clients in the healthcare field, such as being a certified nursing assistant (CNA)

5. I have been accepted by the School of Nursing, what is expected from me?

a. 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, case management and others. Most of these courses will have a theory (lecture) component and a
practice (clinical) component where you will go to various health care facilities in the LA area to care for patients under supervision.

b. In addition to the required nursing courses, students must meet the Cal State L.A. requirements for both lower and upper division education. These requirements are clearly outlined in the university catalog or class schedule. These can be picked up in the Cal State L.A. bookstore or found online. Additional classes required by the School of Nursing include:

   i. Sociology 2010- Principles of Sociology (minimum 4 semester units)
   ii. Nutrition 2500 or 3170 – Human Nutrition (minimum 4 semester units)
   iii. Psychology 1500 – Psychology of Developing Person (minimum 4 semester units)

c. Students in the nursing program must carry university liability insurance, personal insurance and 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.

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

e. Clinical agencies are requiring students be drug-free and you may be subject to random drug testing.

f. It is necessary to take National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX) to qualify as a Registered Nurse (RN). The School of Nursing prepares you to take this exam. In the past ten (10) years 90% or more of our graduates have passed this exam in their first attempt.

6. What are the benefits of becoming a BSN graduate?

   a. The possibilities are almost endless! You can work in a hospital in any of the specialty areas. You might work 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 an Army, Air Force, or Navy nurse. 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 L.A. and become a nurse practitioner, educator in nursing or an administrator.

   b. The average Registered Nurse Salary in California (CA) is $94,120 which is well above the national average for RN’s. There are approximately 250,000 Registered Nurses employed in the state of California across a range of industries. (source www.nursesalaryguide.net)