Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing
Accelerated Baccalaureate in Science Nursing - ABSN Program
(formerly known as Entry Level Master's in Nursing - ELMN)
Summer 2018 Application Procedure

The ABSN program is for non-RN students who have a bachelor’s degree in a field other than nursing (this degree must have been obtained by the end of fall 2017 or earlier, in order to apply). Students admitted to the ABSN summer 2018 program will begin classes on Monday, June 4, 2018. A BSN degree will be awarded upon successful completion of this 15-month program. ABSN students will be considered for the MSN program if an application to Cal State Apply is submitted during the required time period and have participated in the MSN program interview process. Final decisions for admittance into this graduate nursing program will be made by the MSN faculty option coordinators. Students must have successfully completed the ABSN program prior to the start of the graduate program and have successfully passed the NCLEX-RN exam before the end of their first semester of the MSN program.

The application procedure for the ABSN program is a five step process:

- **Step One:** Submission of ABSN application materials (non-electronic) to the School of Nursing - Attention: ABSN Program, beginning Monday, November 13, 2017 through Wednesday, January 10, 2018 (ABSN Summer 2018 application, two letters of recommendation, essay, TWO copies of ALL college transcripts (official/sealed) including verification of an awarded baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing, and any completed ABSN prerequisite coursework). The earliest date that official transcript order requests can be made is July 2017. One transcript copy will be kept by the School of Nursing and the school of nursing will deliver the second copy to the university’s office of admissions. The absolute deadline for the ABSN application packet to be received by the School of Nursing office is Wednesday, January 10, 2018 by 5PM or postmarked January 10, 2018 (If postmarked January 10th, the application must be RECEIVED by the school of nursing office no later than Thursday, January 18, 2018) in order to be considered for the ABSN Summer 2018 program*.
  - Regardless of US residency, if your undergraduate (or advanced) degree was not awarded by an institution where English is the principal language of instruction, you must submit your qualifying English Language Proficiency Exam scores by 1/10/2018 to the school of nursing ABSN program coordinator. Results must be from exams taken within two years of the program’s start date. For more information about this requirement and minimum qualifying scores, visit www.calstatela.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency.
  - If you attended a non-US/foreign college/university which does not issue official transcripts in English, please plan to also submit a certified English mirror/direct, word-for-word translation (not interpretation) with the official transcript. To find a certified translator, visit www.atanet.org, and access the ATA search directory.

http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters
• **Step Two:** Two official/sealed transcripts for coursework completed fall 2017 must be received by the School of Nursing/ABSN Program Coordinator by Monday, January 22, 2018.

• **Step Three:** The ABSN program at Cal State LA is one of several programs offered through the College of Professional and Global Education (PaGE). Students who have met the ABSN program’s academic requirements will be contacted and instructed by PaGE representatives on how & when to apply to the university itself using Cal State Apply: [https://www2.calstate.edu/apply](https://www2.calstate.edu/apply). This Cal State Apply application process will take place during February 2018. Applications to the university that are submitted outside of the designated timeframe will be invalid and there will be no refunds for the Cal State Apply application fee. **Please do not apply through Cal State Apply until you are directed to do so.**

• **Step Four:** If you are interested in requesting financial aid, applicants need to complete an application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the applicable academic year at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The application process for FAFSA is best done between October of 2017 and the beginning of March 2018 for priority processing. We strongly urge all applicants to complete the FAFSA form as scholarships are also tied to this application.

• **Step Five:** The ATI TEAS exam (version 6) must be taken by Monday, January 15, 2018. **Applicants are responsible** for either emailing, mailing or hand delivering their ATI TEAS test scores to the School of Nursing/ABSN Program Coordinator. Exam scores must be received by the ABSN Program Coordinator by the deadline date of January 22, 2018. **Scores received after January 22nd will be invalid and the applicant will no longer be considered as an eligible candidate for the program.**

**NOTE:** The ABSN program is administered on a self-support basis by the College of Professional and Global Education (PaGE). ABSN Summer 2018 course fees will be $595.00 per semester unit (there are a total of 53 units). The total tuition cost of the ABSN portion will be approximately $32,000.00. If students are directly admitted into the MSN program, the tuition for that program will be at the university’s traditional full-time graduate student rate.

Students who qualify for the Cal-Vet Fee Waiver should note that it only waives state-wide mandated fees. Self-support (extension) fees are not waived. Therefore, the Cal-Vet Fee Waiver cannot be used for any program or courses offered by the College of Professional and Global Education, including the ABSN program and Open University. Contact the Cal State LA Veterans Resource Office at (323) 343-5080 to inquire about educational programs that qualify under the Cal-Vet fee waiver program at Cal State LA.

**Application Deadlines:** The ABSN Program begins Summer Semester only (the application period to the School of Nursing is from Monday, November 13, 2017 through Wednesday, January 10, 2018 for our ABSN Summer 2018 program. **Applications received or postmarked after January 10, 2018 will NOT be accepted.** *If postmarked January 10th, the application must be RECEIVED by the school of nursing office no later than Thursday, January 18, 2018*).

[http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters](http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters)
All ABSN applicants must have completed the following prerequisites (or their equivalents as determined by the ABSN program coordinator) with at least a “C” grade or higher, with the exception of the four science with lab courses which must be completed with a “B” grade or higher in order to be considered for the program:

- **Human Anatomy with lab and Physiology with lab I & II** (BIOL 2010, 4 semester units & BIOL 2020, 4 semester units, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- **Microbiology with lab** (MICRO 2010, 3 semester units & 2020, 1 semester unit, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- **Chemistry with lab** (CHEM 1010, 4 semester units, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- **Lifespan Psychology** (PSY 1600, 3 semester units, Cal State LA – Lifespan psychology course covering birth to later life or Equivalent)
- **Intro to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology** (SOC 2010, 3 semester units or ANTH 1500, 3 semester units, Cal State LA, or Equivalent)
- **Human Nutrition** (NTRS 2500 or 3170, 3 semester units, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- **Inferential Statistics** (MATH 2740, 3 semester units, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- **Critical Thinking** (COMM 1200, ENGL 1050, 3 semester units Cal State LA or Equivalent)

Prerequisite courses may only be repeated once, and the two course grades will be averaged. **All four sciences with lab prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of the preceding fall quarter/semester** in order to apply for that summer’s ABSN program.

Any other prerequisites aside from the sciences that are NOT completed by the end of fall must be discussed with the ABSN program coordinator. If an approval to apply is granted by the ABSN program coordinator, proof of concurrent enrollment of the remaining pre-requisite(s) will be required. Documentation of successful completion of the remaining pre-requisite(s) must be received before the beginning of May 2018. Priority for admission may be granted to those who have already completed all of their required courses.

- All applicants are required to be computer literate, and must be able to use word processing, email, and data search programs.
- The main vehicle of communication will be via email. Applicants will receive verification that their application materials have been received by the school of nursing- ABSN program via the email address listed on his or her ABSN Summer 2018 application form.
- We expect to admit up to 30 students each summer. A mandatory orientation day for those admitted to the ABSN summer 2018 program will take place on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at Cal State LA. Accepted students will be expected to provide an American Heart Association BLS health care provider CPR certification card, documentation of their immunization records, proof of driver’s license, car insurance, health insurance, and background check prior to starting the program. The summer 2018 ABSN program will begin Monday, June 4th.
- The ABSN program requires full-time study. For each regular school term and the two summer sessions, there will typically be two or more lecture courses and one or two
laboratory courses. The program additionally has a required course during the winter intersession. An overall GPA of 3.0 or higher must be maintained while in the ABSN program to remain in good academic standing, with no course grade lower than a "C".

- Successful completion of the ABSN program in good academic standing enable the student to be considered for direct entry into the MSN program if they apply to Cal State Apply during the required time period and participate in the MSN program interview process. MSN option coordinators will make the final admittance decisions for the graduate nursing program based upon the interviews and student application materials. ABSN students who enter the MSN program must pass the NCLEX-RN licensure exam in order to continue into the second semester of the program. They will not be allowed to register for the spring semester until they have done so.

- Students accepted into this program will be able to apply for an annual Federal Direct Loan in the amount of $12,500 during the initial pre-licensure (ABSN) portion of the program. Students may apply for an annual Federal Direct Loan in the amount of $20,000 once in the MSN portion of the program. Students who need to supplement these loan amounts may want to consider obtaining a private loan.

**Important ABSN Summer 2018 application requirements:**

- An official transcript awarding a Bachelor’s degree in a field other than nursing with a preferred GPA of 3.0 or higher. Transcripts must also show a strong academic record with a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the last 90 quarter units or 60 semester units. In addition, a grade of “B” or higher is required in all four sciences with lab pre-requisite courses.

- Completion of entrance examination-ATI TEAS- Test of Essential Academic Skills Version VI is required (we do not accept the GRE). Taking this exam is a required part of the ABSN application process. Information about the exam itself can be found on the organization’s website [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com). Cal State LA serves as a test site but arrangements may be made to take the exam at any authorized ATI testing location. You should be able to access your test results online, within one week after taking the exam. *It is the applicant’s responsibility to download, print and deliver or email the ATI TEAS results directly to Cal State LA’s School of Nursing/ABSN Program Coordinator. Your national percentile rank score must be 75% or higher in each of the four categories in order to be considered an eligible applicant. For the summer 2018 ABSN program, the ATI TEAS exam may only be taken between July 1, 2017 and January 15, 2018. The exam may only be taken a maximum of two times, and there must be at least a three month (90 day) time period between test taking dates.*

- A typed essay (NO more than two double-spaced pages) highlighting professional goals, including your reason for entering the nursing profession and qualifications to do so.

- Two letters of recommendation written within the past year on official company letterhead ([there is no designated recommendation letter form for the ABSN program](http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters)). Recommendation letters should be work, academic, or healthcare experience related (e.g. from an employer, supervisor, or college professor). The writer should address your academic ability, and characteristics that qualify you for the program and the nursing profession.

- Non-RN health care experience is strongly encouraged to be a competitive applicant (e.g. CNA or EMT certification/work experience, college level research/teaching experience in [http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters](http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/applications-absn-formerly-entry-level-masters))
the sciences, medical missions, community service/volunteer experience related to healthcare).

- Top ranking applicants will be invited to the campus for an interview and an on-site writing sample. ABSN program admission decisions by the school of nursing will be communicated to all applicants via their e-mail address by Friday, March 30, 2018.

- Admission to the school of nursing/ABSN program is also dependent on acceptance to the university itself. Final admission decisions will be made based upon this staged review process.