

**California State University, Los Angeles**  
**School of Nursing**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What degree options are available for a student with an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)?

California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) has one option for students with an ADN. This option takes 3 or more semesters to complete and results in a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) when the student finishes all required course work for this degree.

2. What are the prerequisites for applying for the BSN program at CSULA?

All students wishing to begin the BSN program at CSULA must have completed the following courses (or equivalent) with a grade of 'C' or better.

- Human Anatomy (with lab component)
- Human Physiology (with lab component)
- English Composition I
- Microbiology (with lab component)
- Oral Communication (Public Speaking)
- Critical Thinking
- Chemistry (with lab component)
- Statistics-Inferential Statistics

In addition to the course work, students in the traditional track must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 in the last 90 units attempted or higher, The final requirement is that the student must hold a current license as a registered nurse to practice in the state of California.

3. How do I apply to the program?

**Application to Nursing is a 2 Step Process:**

- **Admission to the University:** Unless you are currently enrolled at CSULA, you must APPLY for ADMISSIONS to the university online at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu). Note: You must adhere to the POSTED DEADLINES FOR APPLYING to the university. Please check the above website for the deadlines. You will need to send a separate complete set of transcripts to the University of all the universities and community colleges you have attended.
- **Admission to the School of Nursing:** This requires a second supplementary application that can be downloaded at the following site:  
[http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/hhs/nursing/BSN\\_ADN\\_adm.php](http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/hhs/nursing/BSN_ADN_adm.php)

4. How many units do I need to graduate with a BSN?

To graduate with a BSN degree the student must complete 120 units. The university accepts up to 84 units from a community college.

5. Other than nursing classes, what other classes do I have to take to receive a BSN degree?

In addition to the required nursing courses, students must meet the CSULA graduation 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 CSULA bookstore or found online. Additional classes required by the School of Nursing include:

- a. Sociology 2010-Introduction to Sociology
- b. Psychology 1500-Introductory Psychology
- c. Nutrition-Human Nutrition

6. What are elective classes and how many will I need?

Elective classes are classes that are needed by students who do not have enough units to meet the 120 unit graduation requirement. We encourage students to take their elective units through the School of Nursing, but it is not required.

Please note that if students need to meet lower division GE requirements, those units will count toward the elective unit number.

7. How many times per year do you accept students into your BSN program?

The CSULA School of Nursing accepts students once per year starting fall semester.

8. How do I know if the classes I took at the community college I attended are equivalent to the ones required at CSULA?

One can easily determine if the classes one took at the community college will be accepted at CSULA by using the Assist option on the CSULA homepage. That page can be accessed at the following web address: <http://www.calstatela.edu> or on assist.org. After accessing the main page click on Attend Cal State LA and again on Transfer Student Services. This will bring up the Assist website: click on the assist image. Under Institution, click on the drop down box and find Cal State LA and click on that. When you see agreements with other campuses, click on the drop down box and find the community college you attended and select that college. After identifying this you can click on department and locate the class you wish to compare. A table will appear that shows you which class at CSULA articulates with the class you took at the community college you attended. If you are an international student, you must have your transcripts

reviewed by the International Student Admissions department before you meet with an advisor.

9. How long will it take me to complete the RN-BSN?

The program is 2 years.

10. What is the difference between the unofficial and official transcript?

Students will have to pay for their official transcripts from the universities they attended, and they are in seal envelopes. Once you open the official transcript then it will become unofficial. You can also print your unofficial transcript in the school/university website that you attended or currently attending.

11. When can I apply to the School of Nursing?

The nursing application will be on line in October. It will be on the School of Nursing website.

12. I won't have all of my prerequisites completed by the application deadline. Can I still apply to the nursing program?

If you will not have your prerequisites due on time, then you should wait to apply for the following year.

13. Are there any time limits of the prerequisite courses for the nursing program?

We do not have time limits for our prerequisite courses.

14. Is C- (minus) a passing grade at CSULA School of Nursing?

A C- (minus) grade in any required courses is not acceptable.

15. Does CSULA School of Nursing accept international students? Do international students need to take the TOFEL exam?

Yes. The School of Nursing does not require the TOFEL exam for international student. The TOFEL exam is a university requirement.

16. When entering to the nursing program what documents will students need?

Students in the nursing program must carry university liability insurance, personal insurance, current RN license, and valid California driver's license.

17. Does the CSULA SON require students to do a background check before they begin the Nursing program?

Nursing students must have a cleared background check that is acceptable to clinical agencies after acceptance to the School of Nursing.

18. Does the CSULA's nursing program have a waiting list?

Yes.

19. I am a LVN; do I apply for the RN-BSN program?

No, you will apply to the BSN Basic Nursing Program.

20. Does the CSULA SON accept second baccalaureate students?

Yes

21. Once I am admitted to CSULA, am I accepted into nursing program?

No, it is a 2-step process. Both the University and the SON will have to accept your application before you can begin the nursing program.