

Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing
Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing - ABSN Program
(formerly known as Entry Level Master's in Nursing - ELMN)
Summer 2024 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 2023 or earlier, in order to apply). Students admitted to the ABSN summer 2024 program will begin classes on Monday, June 3rd, 2024. A BSN degree will be awarded upon successful completion of this 15-month program.

ABSN students who are interested in our MSN program must have successfully completed the ABSN program prior to the start of this graduate program, and have successfully passed the NCLEX-RN exam before the start of their second semester of the MSN program. MSN applicants will be *considered* for this graduate program if an application to *Cal State Apply* is submitted during the required time period, and they have participated in the MSN program interview process. MSN faculty option coordinators will make the final decisions for admittance into this graduate nursing program.

For the 2024 cycle we are transitioning to a digital application process utilizing the nursing CAS website for documentation submission.

DO NOT BRING YOUR ABSN APPLICATION MATERIALS IN PERSON.

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

Our application cycle will open on Wednesdays, November 1, 2023 and will close on Tuesday, January 09, 2024.

- **Step One:** Submission of the following ABSN application materials (electronic) to NURSING CAS: Two letters of recommendation, personal essay, a resume outlining health care experience both paid and volunteer and **ONE** official/sealed transcripts from *each* college attended, even if our ABSN program does not require the coursework. One set of these official transcripts must show proof of an awarded baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing. If you are taking any college courses during fall 2023, include one unofficial transcript from the fall semester.

Please note that the earliest date that you can order official transcripts is June 1, 2023.

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- Regardless of U.S. 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 January 09, 2024 to Nursing CAS. 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-U.S./foreign college/university that 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 <https://www.atanet.org/> and access the ATA search directory. A letter grade for all classes and a cumulative grade point average (GPA) using a 4.0 scale is needed.
- **Step Two:** Applicants for the ABSN program at Cal State LA submit their university application at a different time than other prospective students. The ABSN program at Cal State LA is one of several programs offered through the College of Professional and Global Education (PaGE). Only those students who have met the ABSN program's academic eligibility requirements will be contacted and instructed by PaGE representatives on **how and when** to apply to the University using *Cal State Apply*: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply>. **This Cal State Apply application process will take place during February 2024** not in november. Applications to the University that are submitted outside of the designated timeframe will be considered *invalid*, and the Cal State Apply application fee will not be refunded. **Please do not apply through Cal State Apply unless you are directed to do so.**
- **Step Three:** If you are interested in requesting financial aid, applicants must complete an application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the applicable academic year at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. The application process for FAFSA is best done between October 2023 and the beginning of March 2024 for priority processing. All applicants are strongly urged to complete the FAFSA form as scholarships are also tied to this application.
- **Step Four:** The ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) must be taken from June 1, 2023 through January 09, 2024, and may only be taken once during this timeframe. **Applicants are responsible** for Submitting their ATI TEAS test results to the Nursing CAS website. The score report that we require is titled, "individual performance profile, and contains a bar graph with your national and program rank percentile scores". Do not rely on ATI to send your test results to our school of nursing. You may download your results and include it in your ABSN application on Nursing CAS. The ABSN Program Coordinator must receive your test results by the deadline date of **Tuesday, January 09, 2024**.

Test results received after January 09 will be considered invalid and the applicant will not be considered for our ABSN 2024 program.

NOTE: The ABSN program is administered on a self-support basis by the College of Professional and Global Education (PaGE). ABSN Summer 2024 course fees will be \$595.00 per semester unit (53 units for the program). The total tuition cost of the ABSN portion will be approximately \$32,000.00. If students are 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 statewide 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. This includes 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.

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 at least a “B” grade or higher, in order to be considered as an eligible ABSN applicant:**

- **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)
- **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)

- Each prerequisite course may only be repeated **once**, and the course grades from both attempts will be averaged. **All four sciences with lab prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of the fall 2023 quarter/semester** in order to apply for the ABSN summer 2024 program.

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- Prerequisite equivalency will be evaluated based on two factors: 1) the number of units, each course must meet the minimum units as it's CSULA equivalent 4 semester units or six quarter units. 2) The course description and syllabus must fulfill similar course learning objectives ie. Biology will not meet the Microbiology requirement.
- **Any other prerequisites aside from the sciences that have not been completed by the end of fall 2023 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. Successful completion of the remaining pre-requisite(s) must be before May 1, 2024. Two expedited official transcript copies must be requested and sent to the ABSN program coordinator. Priority for admission may be granted to those who have already completed all of their required courses and have submitted all of their official transcripts.
- **** The following three courses are required for Graduation. It is **highly recommended** that they be completed prior to the start of the program as they are not part of the ABSN course work and the student will have to take them in addition to Current ABSN course work.*
 - **Human Growth and Development** (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 NTRS 3170 - 3 semester units, Cal State LA or Equivalent)
- All applicants are required to be computer literate, and must be able to use word processing (Word, PPT), 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 school of nursing summer 2024 application form.
- We expect to admit up to 30 students once each year, who begin their program at the start of summer. A **mandatory orientation day** for those admitted to the ABSN summer 2024 program will take place on either Saturday, April 20 2024. ABSN applicants should keep this date available.

- The ABSN summer 2024 program will begin Monday, June 3. Prior to starting the program, accepted students will be given instructions as to our required background check process. Admitted individuals should be ready to provide an American Heart Association BLS health care provider (CPR) certification card, documentation of their immunization records, and proof of driver's license, car insurance and health insurance.
- Students accepted into this program will be able to apply for an annual Federal Direct Loan in the amount of \$12,500 twice during the initial pre-licensure (ABSN) portion of the program. Students who need to supplement these loan amounts may want to consider obtaining a private loan.
- 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 enables the student to be considered for 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.

Important ABSN Summer 2024 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 the specific standardized examination (ATI TEAS- Test of Essential Academic Skills) is required (**we do not accept the GRE**). Information about the exam itself can be found on the organization's website www.atitesting.com. **Due to the current pandemic, we are allowing our ABSN summer 2024 applicants to take the ATI TEAS on a remote basis.** Cal State LA serves as a test site but arrangements may be made to take the exam at any authorized ATI testing location or at a PSI testing center. **It is the*

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applicant's responsibility to download, print and mail the ATI TEAS results directly to Cal State LA's School of Nursing/ABSN Program Coordinator. Your national percentile rank score must be 70% or higher in each of the four categories, in order to be considered an eligible applicant. For the ABSN summer 2023 program, the **ATI TEAS exam may only be taken ONCE, between June 1, 2023 and January 09, 2024**. If the applicant has taken the ATI TEAS prior to June 1, 2021, they must wait *a minimum of six months (180 days)* before taking the ATI TEAS for Cal State LA's ABSN program. An ATI TEAS test taken before June 1, 2023 *will not* count.

- A typed essay (**NO** more than two pages, double-spaced) 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 letterform for the ABSN program**). 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 this program and the nursing profession.
- Non-RN health care experience is strongly encouraged in order to be a competitive applicant (e.g. CNA, MA or EMT certification/work experience, hospital volunteer experience that includes direct patient care, paid researcher or college research assistant, college teaching assistant in the sciences, medical missions, and other community service/volunteer experience related to healthcare).
- Based upon the quality of their application materials, the most competitive applicants will be invited for an interview on zoom. ABSN program admission decisions by the school of nursing will be communicated to all applicants via their e-mail address on or before Friday, March 29, 2024. 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.