

MASTER OF SCIENCE FOR ENTRY TO THE PROFESSION OF NURSING (MEPN)

ADMISSION GUIDE

DEADLINES

January 15

Application date to start the program in the **summer term** in the MEPN professional program.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

- **Prerequisite Grade Point Average (GPA) for Nursing**

- 35%, weighted value of the overall admission score
- A combined minimum GPA of 3.0 is required
- A grade of 'C' or better is required in all prerequisites
- All courses must be complete at the time of application
- A non-nursing bachelor-level degree or higher must be complete at the time of application

- **Last 60 Grade Point Average (GPA)**

- 20%, weighted value of the overall admission score
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required – for all graded post-secondary coursework

- **HESI Admissions Assessment Exam (HESI A2)**

- 25%, weighted value of the overall admission score
- Minimum score of 75 is required
- Required sections: Math, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, and Grammar
- Testing locations through [UA Testing Center](#) and [Prometric Testing](#)

- **Behavioral Interview**

- 20%, weighted value of the overall admission score
- Minimum score of 70% is required

ADMISSION SCALE

Criteria	Weight
Prerequisite GPA	35%
Last 60 GPA	20%
HESI A2 Exam	25%
Behavioral Interview	20%
Total	100%

PREREQUISITE COURSES

- General Chemistry - lectures (2 semesters) and a lab (1 lab minimum)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology – lectures (2 semesters) and labs (2 semesters)
- Microbiology – lecture (1 semester)
- Statistics (1 semester)
- Lifespan Development (1 semester)
- Nutrition (1 semester)



APPLICATION STEPS

1. Apply to the University: Graduate College

- a. As an applicant, you must also apply to the university as a graduate degree seeking student through the University of Arizona [Graduate College](#) by January 15.

2. Apply through the College of Nursing

- a. Next, you must complete the [College of Nursing application](#) for the MEPN program by January 15.

ADMISSION DETAILS

It is your (applicant's) responsibility to verify all required documentation is received by the appropriate deadlines. Please contact the Office of Student Affairs in Nursing to update any changes in your information. Incomplete applications will not be considered for admission.

Admission

Admission to the University of Arizona – Graduate Admissions

You must have an application on file in order to interview. Only students fully admitted to the University of Arizona are eligible to start the MEPN program. Unofficial transcripts from every post-secondary institution you have attended must be uploaded into the Graduate College application. International students, please see the International section.

Nursing Competitive Admission Process

The College of Nursing admits candidates by competitive ranking based on the combined scores of the Nursing Admission Criteria. As an applicant, you will be scored on the four elements for admission and ranked among all other applicants. We will admit the top candidates based on program capacity and offer a few students alternate positions. Alternates are not guaranteed a spot, however they are eligible to be admitted if a space should become available.

Nursing Admission Criteria

HESI Admissions Assessment

Your highest score earned for the combined four sections taken in a single attempt will be utilized. The test must be taken by the date of application and any scores are valid for one year. One attempt every 45 days is allowed – if an additional exam is taken during the 45 day period only the first attempt will be allowed.

GPA Calculations

Grade Point Average (GPA) calculations only include letter grades (A, B, C, D, E or F). Calculations exclude pass/fail coursework and any courses taken as part of a professional degree such as JD, MD, DO, DDS, etc. All attempts at courses you take are calculated into cumulative GPA calculations unless they are removed through an official grade replacement process. For Prerequisite GPA calculation we utilize the highest grade earned. All courses must be from regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

Last 60 GPA Calculations

The last 60 units taken is based on the grades earned in your most recent 60 semester-equivalent units of college or graduate level coursework taken at regionally accredited institutions. To calculate this, start with your most recent coursework and count backwards to the equivalent of 60 semester units of graded coursework (A, B, C, D, E, or F); if 60 units are in the middle of a term, include the entire term in which you reached 60 units. Withdrawal, pass/fail, and other non-graded coursework does not count in the GPA calculation.

Interviews

You will be invited to a Behavioral Interview if your combined admission score from the Prerequisite GPA, Cumulative GPA and HESI Admissions Assessment places you in the top ranked candidates. Interviews are



conducted primarily in Tucson, AZ; however limited accommodations may be approved to conduct interviews via video chat if you are unable to attend on-campus. Final admission is determined by ranking candidate total scores in all admission requirements.

Coursework and Degree Completion

All required courses must be completed with a grade of 'C' or better and students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in both the last 60 and prerequisite areas by the time of application. No in-progress coursework will be accepted. A bachelor level degree or higher must be complete at the time of application.

UA In-Progress Degree

If you are a student who is currently attending the University of Arizona and are completing a degree in the spring term, you may apply with degree in progress at the time of application. **All prerequisite coursework must be completed prior the application deadline**, however completion of bachelor-level degree may be completed by the end of the spring term with MEPN start immediately in the Summer term. Please see the In-Progress Degree form for requirements.

Official Transcripts

Domestic Transcripts

Official transcripts from every post-secondary institution you have attended are required to be sent to the College of Nursing once an offer of admission has been extended. Instructions will be sent with this offer, do not send official transcripts to our office unless requested.

International Transcripts

Official transcript from any international institution you attended must be available for the Graduate College to view. An unofficial copy will be uploaded to your Graduate College application but if you are offered admission you must show the physical official transcript. It will be returned to you once their review is complete, more information can be found on their [Transcripts and Degree](#) page.

Transfer Students

Transfer Courses and Evaluations

When transferring from another institution, you must have semester equivalent coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

To view applicable courses for in-state coursework from public universities and community colleges please visit [AZtransfer.com](#)'s Course Equivalency Guide. Please see the Nursing prerequisites page for your program to review additional requirements of the prerequisite coursework.

Quarter System Courses

If you attended an institution on the quarter system, you will need to multiply the quarter hours by .667 to convert to semester hours.

- 5 Quarter Hours = 3.33 Semester Hours – acceptable for any 4 Semester Hour course
- 4 Quarter Hours = 2.66 Semester Hours – acceptable for any 3 Semester Hour course

Prior Nursing Program Disclosure

If you have attend, but not graduated, from another nursing professional program a letter from the Nursing program administration must be included in the application. This includes attendance at any associates, nursing assistant, licensed profession nursing, bachelor's or master's pre-licensure programs. The letter must include all of the following information: institution, program name/type, dates of attendance, reason for non-completion and a statement indicating if there were any behavioral or clinical safe practice concerns.

International Students

International Admission

When applying to the university as an international student, you will need to review the admission requirements and obtain admission through [the Graduate College](#).

International Coursework Evaluation

Coursework taken outside the United States must be evaluated and translated by a NACES member. Please see the [International Admissions page](#) for additional details. As the course evaluation process can take additional time, we recommend you begin the evaluation process and secure international transcripts as early as possible.

Other

Fingerprint Clearance Card

An Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (FCC) will be required. In order to interview, a copy of your completed application or a physical card will be required. FCC cards can be obtained from the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#). If you do not currently have a FCC, we highly recommend applying for a card immediately.

