



Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (A.B.S.N.)

Frequently Asked Questions

HOW LONG IS YOUR PROGRAM AND WHEN DOES IT START?

The Accelerated B.S.N. (A.B.S.N.) program begins every January and runs for four semesters: spring, summer, fall, and spring. It takes 16 months to complete. The schedule is coordinated with the University Undergraduate Academic Calendar, available on-line.

WHAT ARE THE PREREQUISITES FOR THE A.B.S.N. PROGRAM? DO I NEED TO TAKE THEM FROM A CERTAIN SCHOOL?

The A.B.S.N. program is designed for students who have a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing program and have completed the required prerequisites. The prerequisites may be taken at any accredited college or university. They are as follows:

- Anatomy and Physiology I with lab
- Anatomy and Physiology II with lab
- Microbiology with lab
- Chemistry with lab
- Human Growth and Development/Lifespan
- Nutrition
- Statistics

All prerequisites must have been completed within the past five years.

WHAT GPA DO I NEED TO BE ACCEPTED?

We recommend a 3.2 GPA in your prior degree. We look at every application individually to make admission decisions. We expect that all prerequisite science courses will be at the B- or above level.

WHAT ARE THE ADMISSION DEADLINES FOR THE A.B.S.N. PROGRAM AND HOW DO I APPLY?

All applications must be completed through www.nursingcas.org. The applications become available on April 15 and are reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis until October 15 of the year of admission or until we fill a qualified class.

I WON'T BE ABLE TO FINISH MY PREREQUISITES BY THE ADMISSION DEADLINE – DOES THAT MEAN I NEED TO WAIT A YEAR TO APPLY?

If you have one or two classes that you are taking in the summer or fall prior to the start of the program, you may still apply. If you are offered admission, it will be contingent on successful completion of these classes. If you have more than two classes to take in the fall, we recommend waiting to apply until the following year.

DO I NEED TO COMPLETE ESSAY OR SUBMIT REFERENCES AND GRE SCORES?

There is an essay included in the application. Two references are required and may be submitted through NursingCAS. GREs are not required.

I AM NOT SURE IF I AM A STRONG ENOUGH CANDIDATE FOR THIS PROGRAM. CAN YOU PLEASE REVIEW MY TRANSCRIPTS AND LET ME KNOW IF YOU THINK I WILL BE ACCEPTED?

No. We do not do individual transcript reviews. All of your transcripts and your application must be submitted through NursingCAS. If you have a specific question about a course or the transfer of (a) course(s), you may contact Pete Heeley: pheelley@une.edu, director of Transfer Admissions.

WHAT IS THE COST OF THE PROGRAM? IS FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Students who are admitted may qualify for a merit award and are encouraged to submit the FAFSA for additional funds.





IF I AM ACCEPTED, WHAT TYPES OF REQUIREMENTS WILL I NEED TO COMPLETE BEFORE STARTING THE PROGRAM?

Certain immunizations, a CPR course from the American Heart Association at the level of Basic Life Support, a criminal background check and drug testing are all required prior to beginning your clinical rotations. Information about this will be sent to you when you make your decision to attend UNE.

DURING MY FIRST DEGREE, I WAS ABLE TO TAKE TESTS UNTIMED AND/OR HAD OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A DISABILITY. WILL I HAVE THOSE SAME ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND?

The University of New England, through our Student Access Center and in conjunction with federal and state laws, adheres to reasonable accommodations for qualified students.

IS THERE CAMPUS HOUSING? WILL I NEED A CAR?

The University of New England Portland Campus has no campus housing. If you are looking for housing in the area, please visit the Off Campus Student Services webpage for more information. There is also a Roommate Survey if you are looking to live with someone else. Clinical times may be during the day, evening, weekends or nights. We do not guarantee clinical placements with classmates or roommates and, therefore, it is important to have your own vehicle.

CAN I WORK WHILE DOING THIS PROGRAM?

While we do not have any specific requirements about work or outside commitments, we find that for students to be successful they need to dedicate their time to the rigorous nature of the program. Classes and clinical times vary each semester, and it is not possible to predict "free" time from semester to semester. We recommend that students do not plan for more than a few hours a week of outside work, if any.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES CAN I EXPECT AS A STUDENT IN THE A.B.S.N. PROGRAM AT UNE?

- Clinical Simulation Experiences, allowing students to safely practice patient care in state-of-the-art Simulation Labs.
- Interprofessional Education as value-added. Starting with your first class in the Westbrook College of Health Professions, you will learn and work with other members of the health care team, building skills you will use every day in your own practice. On the Portland Campus students have the opportunity for case based learning with other health professions.
- Service Learning Programs. Work with other UNE students and faculty on community-based service teams in local shelters, county jail projects, immigrant community centers, rural Maine immersions and other locations.
- Professional Involvement from day one. The UNE Student Nurse Association is affiliated with the National Student Nurse Association. Be a member, run for office, organize service activities, or attend a national conference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact Pete Heeley, director of Transfer Admissions, at (207) 602-2385 or pheeley@une.edu.

