Admission Process

Admission into the UACCM Practical Nursing (PN) Program is a competitive process. A class of 24 students begins each Spring (January) and Summer (May Intersession) at Morrilton. A class of 8 begins each Spring (January) at Clinton. There are a number of steps which must be completed before a student can be considered for the PN program.

1. Students attempting to enter the PN program must be admitted to the college by March 1 for the Summer class and October 1 for the Spring class.

2. Steps for application to the nursing program:

   (1) Complete the Application for Admission to the Nursing Program and return it to the Division of Health Professions and Natural Sciences Office (Kirk Building, Suite 100 [KB 100]).

   (2) Request an entrance exam date from the Administrative Specialist in KB 100. In order to be eligible to take the exam, students must be eligible and have met all entrance requirements – see Section 3 below. Once eligibility for the program is verified, students must pay for the entrance exam before getting a test date/time.

   (3) Placement test scores must be submitted to the Division of Health Professions and Natural Sciences office (Kirk Building, Suite 100) after the test is completed. Placement scores are determined by the results of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). The TEAS must be taken at UACCM. The TEAS will be offered prior to the application deadline. Students will only be allowed to take the TEAS one time per application period. Previous TEAS scores from UACCM taken within the last three years may be considered. In order for a previous score to be used to determine eligibility, the student must submit a copy of the exam results with the nursing application.

Due to the limited seats and test dates available, students who have applied to the UACCM nursing program will be given priority to the available test appointments. Students applying to other programs and schools may be scheduled to take the TEAS if seats are available.

3. Students must:

   A. Complete the following prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or higher prior to beginning the PN program: BIOL 2004 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, BIOL 2014 Human Anatomy and Physiology II, and NUTR 1503 Nutrition. Students may be enrolled in the prerequisite courses at the time of application to the PN program.

   B. Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 and be in good academic standing in order to be accepted into the Practical Nursing program.
C. Students who score below these placement scores must complete any remedial courses prior to entering the nursing program:

19 – ACT English  
80 – COMPASS Writing  
19 – ACT Reading  
83 – COMPASS Reading  
17 – ACT Mathematics  
27 – COMPASS Alg.

Remedial Courses that may be required are:

ACAD 0303 Basic Composition  
MATH 0803 Basic Alg. or Math 1333 App. Business Math  
ACAD 0213 Reading

4. Students who have been suspended from UACCM for the possession or use of controlled substances, illicit drugs, the unlawful possession and use of alcohol will be ineligible to make application to the Practical Nursing program.

5. Students must submit a Practical Nursing Program Application by March 1 (Morrilton ONLY) for the Summer semester or October 1 (Clinton and Morrilton) for the Spring semester. If the deadline to submit the application is on a Saturday, Sunday and/or Holiday for which the campus is closed, the deadline will be the next business day in which the campus is open.

6. Students who are selected for admission into the PN program must submit to the Division of Health Professions and Natural Sciences office current proof of tuberculosis screening and/or tuberculosis prevention. A mandatory orientation will be held at which time a background check will be initiated; this check must be completed with a satisfactory results. During the first semester, American Heart Healthcare Provider CPR will be taught. Students will be conditionally admitted to the PN program for up to two weeks, pending submittal of all documentation as required. Students failing to submit the required documentation within the prescribed time frame will be removed from the program.

7. Students from Van Buren County and surrounding areas (within a 40 mile radius of Clinton) will be given priority status to the Clinton Campus. If there are not enough students in the Van Buren County area to complete the class of eight meeting the program requirements, students applying to the Morrilton Campus will be given an option to study nursing at the Clinton Campus.

8. Students who are selected for admission into the PN program but decline the position must reapply to the program at the next admission time and compete for readmission.

9. Students who are not selected as a candidate to the Practical Nursing program must submit a new application packet each semester they wish to be considered for admission to the program.

Selection of Candidates

The Practical Nursing Selection Committee is responsible for selecting the best-qualified applicants for admission to the PN program. A Practical Nurse Selection Rating Form will be used to assign points to each applicant according to the TEAS exam and education points. Students must score a minimum of 275 points in order to be eligible for the program. The Practical Nursing Selection Rating Form will be used to tabulate the points for each applicant. After the tabulation of points, the applicants will be ranked from highest to lowest. Students will be selected for admission into the program based upon the number of points received from the selection criteria. In the event of a tie, the students with the same score will be ranked according to the TEAS total points.
UACCM is committed to the elimination of all discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or handicap. The College seeks to comply with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, including those that promote equal protection and equal opportunities for students, employees, and applicants.

**Background Checks Upon Admission**

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing (ASBN) requires a criminal background check for all graduates applying for licensure. Graduating from a nursing program does not assure ASBN’s approval to take the licensure examination. Eligibility to take the licensure examination is dependent on meeting standards in the ASBN Nurse Practice Act and Rules. The student will be required to sign a statement, before beginning the nursing program, that states the student has read and understood ACA §17-87-312 and the specific offenses which, if pleaded guilty, nolo contendre, or found guilty of will make an individual ineligible to receive or hold a license in Arkansas. The information can be accessed at [http://www.arsbn.arkansas.gov/lawsRules/Pages/nursePracticeAct.aspx](http://www.arsbn.arkansas.gov/lawsRules/Pages/nursePracticeAct.aspx)

Students will be required to complete a background check upon selection into the Practical Nursing program. Students will be conditionally admitted to the PN program for up to two weeks pending the receipt of a satisfactory background check. If the student is unsuccessful in obtaining a satisfactory background check, the student will be removed from the PN program. Students may contact the Division of Health Professions and Natural Sciences at 501-977-2152 for additional information.