



Cincinnati State Nursing (NUR) and LPN-to-RN (NURP) Selective Admission FAQs

A student is eligible to apply for selective admission to the Nursing clinical courses (courses with the 'NUR' prefix) who:

1. Has completed the admissions process and is admitted to Cincinnati State with a Nursing major.
Note: admission to the nursing program is a two-step process. Step 1 is admission to the college, and Step 2 is admission to the nursing courses.
2. Is listed on the Ohio Nurse Aide Registry in active status as a State Tested Nurse Aide or holds an active, unencumbered LPN license (or was a military corpsman within the past two years, with proof of attending corps school).
3. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher at Cincinnati State or the most recent institution (if no established Cincinnati State GPA).
4. Has met the prerequisites for Anatomy & Physiology 1 (BIO 151) (see below for more details).
5. Has taken the TEAS within two years of the application date and scored minimum required scores.

A student is eligible to apply for selective admission to the NURP (LPN to RN Bridge Program) clinical courses (courses with the 'NUR' prefix) who:

1. Has completed the admissions process and is admitted to Cincinnati State with the NURP major.
Note: admission to the nursing program is a two-step process. Step 1 is admission to the college, and Step 2 is admission to the nursing courses.
2. Holds an active, unencumbered LPN license. Note: Ohio is a Compact State
3. Has completed all non-nursing nursing courses listed in the first semester of the published NURP curriculum. NUR 150 is not required in the first semester. Students will receive credit for NUR 150 after completing NUR105 and NUR 106 with a "C" or better.
4. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher at Cincinnati State or the most recent institution (if no established Cincinnati State GPA) is required.
5. Has taken the TEAS and scored minimum required scores within two years of application.

How do I know if I have met the pre-req to enter BIO 151 - Anatomy and Physiology 1?

- You have met the Biology requirement if you completed one of these criteria **within the past five years**:
 - You completed high school Biology and Chemistry courses with a "C" or higher grade.
 - You have completed Biology and Chemistry courses at Cincinnati State or have transfer credit for Biology and Chemistry courses with a "C" or better.
 - You completed BIO 100 at Cincinnati State with at least a "C" grade; BIO 100 satisfies the pre-req for BOTH Biology and Chemistry.

How do I document my current cumulative GPA at Cincinnati State?

- Your cumulative GPA will be reflected on your printed degree audit/academic evaluation (available in your My Services account) or an official Cincinnati State transcript.
- To view/print your degree audit/academic evaluation, log in to My Services and choose "My Academic Evaluation (Degree Audit)" under the "Academic Planning" section.

If I have not taken any courses at Cincinnati State, how is my GPA established?

- If you have no established GPA at Cincinnati State, your GPA from the most recently attended college will be used to satisfy this requirement. The official transcript must be on file at Cincinnati State, and the college must be regionally accredited.
- Transfer credits are NOT calculated into the Cincinnati State cumulative GPA.
- Please consult with one of the nursing advisors.

How do I document my standing on the Nurse Aide Registry?

- A web printout of active standing is required for application and is available from the Registry website <https://nurseaideregistry.odh.ohio.gov/Public/PublicNurseAideSearch>
- Students currently employed as PCAs and who are expired on the Nurse Aide Registry must update to active status by providing information to the Registry at the address below. The information must include:
 - Name
 - Registry number or Social Security number
 - Documentation from a supervisor on company letterhead, including date employment started, date employment ended, job title, and either description of job duties (i.e., personal care, bathing, toileting, ambulating, feeding, vital signs, etc.) or a copy of the job description.
 - Students currently employed as PCAs who are expired on the Nurse Aide Registry should consult a Nursing advisor.

Must I be Nurse Aide certified in Ohio?

- Yes, you must be on the Ohio Nurse Aide Registry. Students who are listed as an STNA in another state may apply for reciprocity through the Ohio Department of Health: <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/nurse-aide-registry/resources/nusreaiderequestforreciprocity>
- Questions can be directed to the Ohio Nurse Aide Registry. Phone 1-800-582-5908
Ohio Department of Health
Bureau of Regulatory Operations, Ohio Nurse Aide Registry
246 N. High St.
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0188
- Telephone:
(800) 582-5908 (in-state)
(614) 752-9500 (out-of-state)
Fax: (614) 564-2461
- E-mail: NAR@odh.ohio.gov

How do I document a current LPN license?

- Web verification of license can be located at: https://elicense.ohio.gov/OH_HomePage

I am an LPN in another state—is that acceptable?

- Active, unencumbered LPN licenses from other states are accepted.

Must I document my experience?

- Documented experience as an LPN is not required for application; however, students can earn extra points for Selective Admission by documenting healthcare work experience, as described in the application packet.

How do I document the military experience with an Honorable discharge?

- You must provide a copy of form DD214.

What is the TEAS test?

- The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) from ATI is a standardized test that measures academic readiness to begin Nursing classes. It is a multiple-choice test measuring Reading, Math, Science, and English/Language skills—content learned in high school.

When and where can I take the TEAS test?

- Students may register to take the TEAS when ready (students are encouraged to prepare for the test beforehand). Completing practice tests before taking the TEAS will be a good indicator of readiness.

- The TEAS is offered each semester
- Students may register to take the TEAS in person or remotely
- The TEAS can be taken at Cincinnati State or elsewhere. Students may register for the test on the ATI website: www.atitesting.com or from the Cincinnati State website: <https://www.cincinnati-state.edu/admission/health-and-public-safety-selective-admission/>

I have already taken the TEAS test. Must I retake it? Is there a time limit?

- TEAS scores must be at a specified level (see the Nursing Application/Selective Admission Worksheet) and dated within 2 years.
- TEAS information is available on the NUR Organization link on MyCState.

Is test preparation material available?

- Test prep material can be obtained from the ATI website. <https://www.atitesting.com/teas-prep>
- These study manuals and practice tests must be purchased, so you should determine which products will meet your needs for the best price.

I take my course tests in the Disability Services Office. How can I do this with TEAS?

- You will need to make arrangements through both the TEAS Coordinator and Disability Services **well ahead of time.**
- Please contact Debra Lierl at Cincinnati State (debra.lierl@cincinnati-state.edu) before you register to take the TEAS.

May I retake the TEAS test to improve my score and be eligible for more Selective Admission points?

- The TEAS may be taken twice per calendar year. Students are encouraged to remediate prior to retaking the TEAS, using feedback data from the earlier test attempt. When re-testing, you must take the entire test. Only one set of scores may be submitted with an application you cannot pick and choose scores from multiple attempts.

How do I document recent healthcare work experience for Selective Admission points?

- Written documentation of at least 1000 hours of direct patient care experience within the past three years is required. These jobs are eligible: STNA, hospital PCA, LPN, Medical Corpsman in the military, Medical Assistant, EMT or Paramedic, or Surgical Technologist or Technician. See advisor regarding other patient care experience.
- The student must obtain and submit a letter from their immediate supervisor (not Human Resources or Payroll) on company letterhead, with a signature and contact information. The letter must verify the position, the minimum of 1000 hours worked within the past three years, and that job performance was at least satisfactory. A copy of your pay stub is NOT acceptable.
- A Medical Corpsman must provide a copy of DD214, a list of work assignments as a corpsman in the past three years, and training records indicating which corpsman school was attended.

How do I document my participation in the Honors Program?

- A letter from the Chair of the Honors Program must be submitted indicating active participation in Honors Program activities and listing Honors section classes completed. Note that being a participant in the Cincinnati State Honors Program is NOT the same as being on the “Dean’s List” or being invited to join an academic honor society.

What type of criminal background check is required for my application to the Nursing program?

- Do not initiate a background check until directed to do so. It is no longer part of the admission process. You will be directed to complete an FBI and BCI&I background check through Castlebranch, an online service that assists us in managing background checks and health records.

What past charges or criminal activity are likely to be a problem?

- Certain prior convictions can DISQUALIFY individuals from licensure and participation in clinical laboratory experiences, which are part of required course activities.
- **These issues are most likely to be problematic:**
 - Any felony conviction
 - Violent offenses, including assault and domestic violence
 - Drug offenses
 - Theft offenses

Note that in our experience, within Ohio, background checks will often show offenses that were supposedly sealed in Juvenile Court, offenses that were expunged, as well as charges that were later dismissed (but the background check won't say that).

What if I do have something in my criminal background?

- If there is ANY CHANCE that issues will be revealed on your criminal background checks, you should initiate the background check process ASAP, and you MUST talk with the Associate Dean, Dr. Bonnie Smith (bonnie.smith@cincinnatiastate.edu), and explain your background check issue as clearly and concisely as possible, with the relevant date(s).

Where do I obtain an application for the Nursing Selective Admission process?

- Application information may be downloaded from the Cincinnati State Nursing web page: <https://www.cincinnatiastate.edu/academics/degree-certificate/nursing-nur/> or from the Nursing Organization Blackboard site (located under the 'College Community tab' on Blackboard)

When is the next application deadline?

- Application dates for Selective Admission packets are posted on the Cincinnati State Nursing web page by clicking on the **'NUR & NURP selective admission process calendar** link.
- The link to the 'NUR & NURP selective admission process calendar link is also found on the NUR Organization site in Blackboard (if you do not have access to this page, please contact a health advisor).

When will I be notified of acceptance?

- Decisions on admission to the clinical (NUR) sequence will be made no later than three weeks after the application deadline, as posted. Students will be notified of the results via College email.

If I am accepted, what other requirements are necessary?

- Students will be required to attend an orientation session.
- Students will also be asked to submit other documentation (Castlebranch subscription, Health Forms, required immunizations, background checks, CPR certification, health insurance, etc.). They must meet established deadlines for completion of requirements.

If I am not accepted, may I reapply?

- Students who are not accepted will be eligible to reapply during the next application period. There is no application fee, and there is no penalty for re-applying. Background checks are valid for one year.
- A student who is re-applying is encouraged to take steps to have more points rather than simply "rolling over" the original application. Increasing your points will increase the probability of being accepted.

What about the other courses in the Nursing curriculum?

- Some students choose to complete as many non-NUR courses as possible before starting the clinical (NUR) courses. Nursing courses are very time-consuming, and lightening their load helps some students increase their success.
- Remember that courses must be completed by the semester they are listed in the curriculum.