



Prospective Nursing Student Advising Checklist

Applicant Name: _____

Email: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

- ☐ Introductions
- ☐ Explanation of application process
- ☐ Prerequisite Courses
- ☐ Application Requirements
- ☐ Course and Clinical Hour Requirements
- ☐ Service-Learning Hour Requirements
- ☐ Provisional Acceptance
- ☐ Clinical Clearance Requirements
- ☐ NMSU – Alamogordo Nursing Program Application
- ☐ Sign and submit **Prospective Nursing Student Advising Checklist** form
(p.1) to the Health Sciences Department Administrative Assistant
- ☐ Student keeps p. 3-11
- ☐ Provide student with PN/AASN MAP and HESI A2 testing dates

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Advised by: _____



Nursing Program Application

New Mexico State University-Alamogordo

Thank you for your interest in applying to the New Mexico State University-Alamogordo Nursing Program. NMSU-A offers the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree (AASN) and the Practical Nursing (PN) Certificate. The application process for entry into the AASN degree pathway and PN certificate pathway is the same.

Limited seats are available in the NMSU-A Nursing Program each application period. Submission of an application package does not guarantee placement in the program. Admission is competitive and based on the applicant's application package score and available program seats.

NMSU-A Nursing Program applications will not be processed until all components of the application package have been submitted.

The application package components are listed below:

- ☐ NMSU-Alamogordo Nursing Program Application
- ☐ All official transcripts, ordered and reviewed by NMSU Admissions
- ☐ Admission Essay
- ☐ HESI Admission Assessment (A2) Exam

Application packages must be submitted to the Health Sciences Department no later than **April 15th at 5:00 PM of each application period**. If April 15th falls on a holiday, weekend, or scheduled school closure, the applicant is responsible for submitting the completed application package before the closure.



Associate of Applied Science in Nursing

This career ladder program prepares students for employment as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) and/or a registered nurse (RN). Upon successful completion of the 3rd semester, the student has met the requirements and eligibility to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN®). Upon successful completion of the 4th semester, the student has met the requirements and eligibility to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN®).

For questions regarding prior nursing coursework or detailed program policies, please refer to the NMSU–Alamogordo Nursing Program Student Handbook, available on the NMSU–Alamogordo website. For additional information, students may request a copy of the handbook or schedule an appointment with a Health Sciences Faculty Advisor. To request a handbook or arrange an appointment, contact Health Sciences Administrative Assistant John Washington at johnwash@nmsu.edu.

Course and Clinical Hour Requirements

Didactic and laboratory courses are generally scheduled Monday through Thursday during evening hours, such as 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Required on-site clinical experiences are completed in addition to scheduled classroom and laboratory courses. Clinical assignments may occur on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and/or Sunday during afternoon or evening hours, such as 12:00 to 10:00 p.m., and each clinical day may range from 8 to 12 hours. Travel to and from an assigned clinical site may be required based on site availability, and some clinical sites may be located outside of Alamogordo.

Service-Learning Hour Requirements

The student will complete **6** service-learning hours each semester. Students are responsible for identifying service-learning opportunities related to community health.



Activities must promote health and/or assist underserved populations. A schedule of known service-learning opportunities is distributed prior to the start of each semester.

Prerequisite Courses

- ☐ **ENGL 1110G:** Composition I
- ☐ **BIOL 2210:** Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- ☐ **BIOL 2225:** Human Anatomy and Physiology II

Important Note: Anatomy and Physiology I and II courses taken longer than 7 years ago must be repeated for credit. The student is responsible for knowing and understanding all of the information learned in the Anatomy and Physiology I and II courses, regardless of how many years have elapsed.

- ☐ **CHEM 1120G:** Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory or higher ☐ **MATH 1220G:** College Algebra or **MATH 1130G:** Survey of Mathematics

Additional Required Courses

The following courses are not required for admission to the New Mexico State University Alamogordo Nursing program but are required for successful completion of the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree (AASN). It is recommended that the applicant successfully complete these courses prior to beginning the program. Courses that have not been completed must be taken concurrently with nursing courses.

- ☐ **PSYCH 1110G:** Introduction to Psychology
- ☐ **CEPY 1120G:** Human Growth and Behavior



Application Requirements

Admission is competitive and based on completion of application requirements, applicant ranking (formulated based on cumulative GPA, HESI® score, and essay submission), program seat availability, and the student's ability to meet all clinical clearance requirements.

- ☐ **Admission to NMSU-Alamogordo.**
- ☐ **Cumulative college GPA of 2.75 or greater.**
- ☐ **Meet with an NMSU-Alamogordo Academic Advisor.**
- ☐ **Meet with a Health Sciences Faculty Advisor**
- ☐ **or attend a Health Sciences Information Night session.**
- ☐ **Submit all official college transcripts to NMSU Admissions for review.**
- ☐ **Submit an NMSU-Alamogordo Nursing Program Application.**
- ☐ **Submit an Admission Essay.**
- ☐ Applicants must submit a two- to three-page essay addressing the topic, “Why I Want to Be a Nurse.” The essay must be double-spaced, use an 11- or 12-point font, and follow APA formatting, including a title page.
- ☐ **Complete the HESI® Admission Assessment (A2) Exam.**
- ☐ Applicants must earn a minimum score of 75% in each required HESI® Admission Assessment (A2) category, including Anatomy and Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, Grammar, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, and Math. The overall composite score must also be 75% or higher. The HESI® A2 must be completed as one comprehensive exam through the group testing sessions offered on campus. Applicants are responsible for all associated testing costs and may take the exam more than once. When reviewing the application package, the highest submitted score in each required category will be used. Testing dates will become available during the fall semester.



Provisional Acceptance

If an applicant is selected, provisional acceptance will be granted pending the completion and results of the following items:

- Submission of required clinical clearance documentation, including all required immunizations or titers, a current Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR card or evidence of enrollment in an approved upcoming course, such as EMSS 1116: BLS Clinical Preparations, a negative TB test, and a negative 10-panel urine drug screen.
- The New Mexico Department of Health Caregivers Criminal History Screening Program (DOH CCHSP) Background Check and Fingerprinting. Past or current criminal violations may prevent a student from completing the degree and gaining a nursing license or employment in the field. Applicants with questions are encouraged to reach out to the New Mexico State Board of Nursing for guidance.

Full Acceptance

All clinical clearance requirements must be completed and uploaded to Canvas before a student may be granted **full acceptance** into the NMSU-Alamogordo Nursing Program. Students who are unable to meet all clinical clearance requirements will be advised to withdraw from the program. Clinical clearance exemption requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and acceptance is at the discretion of the Director of Health Sciences and each clinical site.



Clinical Clearance Requirements

Hepatitis B

Students must provide documentation of three Hepatitis B immunizations or a laboratory titer demonstrating immunity. The traditional **three-dose series** generally includes at least 28 days between the first and second doses and approximately five months between the second and third doses. Students must begin the series and receive at least the first two doses before they may be eligible to attend clinical, with the remaining dose completed according to the recommended schedule.

Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR)

Students must provide documentation of two MMR immunizations or individual laboratory titers demonstrating immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella. When the immunization series is used, the two doses must be administered at least 28 days apart. When titers are used, the laboratory report must provide separate results for all three diseases.

Varicella

Students must provide documentation of two varicella immunizations or a laboratory titer demonstrating immunity. The two immunization doses must be administered at least 28 days apart. A personal history of chickenpox alone does not meet the requirement unless it is supported by acceptable medical documentation or confirmed immunity testing.

Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (TD/TDaP)

Students must provide documentation of a TD or TDaP immunization received **within the previous 10 years**. The immunization must remain current through the end of the applicable semester. Students whose immunization will expire during the semester may be required to receive an updated dose before beginning or continuing clinical participation.



Tuberculosis Screening

Students must complete tuberculosis screening at the frequency required by their course or program.

- A **two-step tuberculin skin test** includes two separate skin tests, with each test read within the timeframe directed by the healthcare provider, generally 48 to 72 hours after placement. The second test is generally placed approximately one week after the first test is read, and the full two-step process **must be completed within 21 days**.
- A **QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus blood test** may also be accepted, although some clinical agencies require the two-step skin test. Students with a positive result must provide additional medical documentation, which may include a negative chest Xray report and annual symptom screening.

Seasonal Influenza Immunization

Students must receive one current seasonal influenza immunization each year during flu season, generally October through May. Fall-semester students may be advised to wait until the current seasonal vaccine becomes available, typically in late September or October. Students beginning clinical during the spring semester must have documentation of the current seasonal vaccine unless they already received that season's vaccine during the preceding fall semester.

10-Panel Urine Drug Screen

Students must complete a **10-panel urine drug screen** at the frequency required by their course or program. Students enrolled in a one-semester course may be required to complete testing at the beginning of each fall and spring semester, while students enrolled in a multi-course program may complete testing annually. Nursing students generally complete the requirement at the beginning of



Levels 1 and 3. Clinical participation is contingent upon results that meet departmental and clinical agency requirements, and students are responsible for the cost of testing.

Medical Exemptions

Students who are medically unable to receive a required immunization must provide documentation from a licensed physician or other qualified healthcare practitioner. Exemption requests are reviewed individually by the Health Sciences Department and applicable clinical agencies. Approval by the department does not guarantee that a clinical agency will accept the exemption or provide a clinical placement.

Document Submission

The Health Sciences Department does not collect or retain paper copies of clinical clearance documents. Once accepted, students will be invited to the appropriate Canvas course and will upload all required documentation as instructed.



NMSU-A Nursing Program Application

AGGIE ID

DATE OF BIRTH

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

MIDDLE NAME

MAIDEN NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

NMSU-A EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL or G.E.D.

DATE OF GRADUATION OR G.E.D.

By signing below, I certify all the above information and statements are correct and complete.

SIGNATURE

DATE

NMSU-A Nursing program applications will not be processed until all components of the application packet have been submitted, including the required high school and college transcripts. If you have ever been convicted of a felony or declared mentally incompetent, please contact the New Mexico State Board of Nursing for further information prior to submitting the NMSU-A Nursing program application for admission.