So, you want to get into nursing school.

Are you sure you want to be a nurse?

- Do you want to help people?
- Can you deal with blood?
- Vomit?
- Hurting people?
- Can you work with medical doctors?
- Patients’ families?
- Helping people survive?
- Can you work in an environment that includes death?
- Do you like to problem solve?
- Or, is it great money that has sparked your interest?
Have you done your research?

Registered Nurses
(SOC Code: 29-1111)
in California

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required. Include advanced practice nurses such as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Advanced practice nursing is practiced by RNs who have specialized formal, post-basic education and who function in highly autonomous and specialized roles.

Employers are usually looking for candidates with a Associate degree.

View a Career Video for this occupation from America's Career InfoNet (requires Windows Media Player)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Hourly Mean</th>
<th>Hourly by Percentile</th>
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<th>Employment Change Percent</th>
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Here is information about what nurses do, the pay, the working conditions, and the employment outlook.

http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerQSDetail\s.asp?searchCriteria=nursing&careerID=&menuChoice=&geogArea=060100000&soccode=291111&search=Explore+Occupation
Have you decided where you want to go to school?

- Here is a list of programs in California. [http://www.rn.ca.gov/schools/rnprograms.shtml](http://www.rn.ca.gov/schools/rnprograms.shtml)

- You can get an Associate’s degree in nursing (ADN) or a Bachelor’s degree in nursing (BSN). With either program you will take a state exam (NCLEX) at the end. If you pass the state exam, you will be a registered nurse. Here is a good article about ADN vs. BSN [http://nursinglink.monster.com/education/articles/534-adn-vs-bsn-which-should-you-choose](http://nursinglink.monster.com/education/articles/534-adn-vs-bsn-which-should-you-choose)
What do you need to do to get into a nursing program?

It depends on the program. It is very important to research the program(s) you want to apply to. Look for the following:

• Prerequisite classes
• Grade point average required
• Experience needed
• Additional graduation requirements
• Preference for special populations and skills, such as veterans and bilingualism
• Letters of recommendation or reference needed
• Application deadlines
• Additional documentation to include with application, such as transcripts
• Whether classes can be in-progress
• Is the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) required?
Sierra College Nursing Program Requirements

Nursing program prerequisites:

These classes must be completed (not in progress) before applying to the program.

- **Anatomy** (BIOL 5 or 7A and 7B)*
- **Physiology** (BIOL 6)* (Requires CHEM 2A as a prerequisite.)
- **Microbiology** (BIOL 4 or 8A and 8B)*
- **General Principals of Psychology** (PSYC 100)
- **Nutrition** (NUTF 10)*
- **Introduction to Composition** (ENGL 1A)
- **Human (Lifespan) Development** (HDEV 1)
- **Math** – 2 years of high school algebra or Elementary or intermediate algebra (MATH A or D) or College Algebra (MATH 12) or Calculus or pre-calculus (MATH 16A, 29, 30, or 42)

**Reading competency**

* Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, and Nutrition need to be completed within 7 years of applying to the nursing program

Also, **CHEM 2A** is one of the required prerequisites for BIOL 6, but is not a required course to apply to our nursing program.

- At least a 62% on the TEAS V.
- At least an 84% on the Chancellor’s predictor of success formula.

This formula will be a calculation using your grades in anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and English, along with your overall grade point average, and the number of times anatomy, physiology, and microbiology have been repeated.

More information about this on the next slide.
Chancellor’s Predictor of Success Formula

• Need at least an 84% to be eligible for the Sierra College Nursing Program

• This formula uses your:
  • Overall grade point average of the colleges where prerequisites were completed
  • Anatomy, physiology, and microbiology grade point average
  • English composition grade
  • Number of times anatomy, physiology, and/or microbiology were repeated. This includes “W”s and repeats to get better grades. This does not include repeats for the 7 year recency.

• Here is the formula – if you have the information above ready, you can put your information in and see where you are.
  
Can I get into the Sierra College nursing program if I have a “C” in one of my science classes? Here are some examples of the Chancellor’s formula:

**Student A:**
- Microbiology: B
- Anatomy: A
- Physiology: C
- English: A
- Overall GPA: 3.0
- No science repeats
- Their score is: 84%

**Student B:**
- Microbiology: A
- Anatomy: B
- Physiology: A
- English: A
- Overall GPA: 2.8
- 1 science repeat
- Their score is: 81%
So, what do I need to be sure that I get good enough grades to be eligible to apply?

- **Be realistic about how many units you can successfully complete each semester.** The average 3-unit class requires about 6 hours of homework per week. The average science class may require up to 15 or 20 hours per week of study outside of class. It would be difficult to be successful in science classes if you cannot spend the amount of time needed to study.

- **Slow and steady wins the race.** It is better to take it slowly, with one science class per semester, and take the time to get good grades. Students who try and rush through the prerequisite classes find that they finish faster, but don’t have the grades needed to get into a nursing program.

- **Be sure to take any prerequisite classes needed for the nursing prerequisite classes first.** For example, physiology and microbiology have a chemistry prerequisite. Chemistry has a math prerequisite. Anatomy has a reading prerequisite. It’s important to make sure you are fully prepared before signing up for classes.

- **Get help if you need it.** Speak with your instructors or your counselor if you are having difficulties in your classes. Use the campus resources, such as the tutoring and math centers. Put together study groups.

- Continued…
So, what do I need to be sure that I get good enough grades to be eligible to apply, continued…

• If you cannot get into the impacted science classes that you need, you might consider taking some recommended courses to help you to succeed in those difficult classes. Here are some to consider:
  • BIOL 55 is a very good class to take before taking BIOL 5 and 6.
  • CHEM A is a good preparation for CHEM 2A.
  • CHEM 2A is one of the required prerequisite for BIOL 6.
Here is a sample plan for a student who has placed into MATH A, ENGL A, and ENGL 50

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<td>CHEM A</td>
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<th>Can now apply to the nursing program.</th>
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How does the application process work?

Each college may have a different process. Be sure to check each program you want to apply to.

For Sierra College:

• All of the nursing program prerequisite classes must be completed before applying.
• Applications are accepted from February 1 through April 15 for the nursing program starting each fall.
• After April 15, applications are randomly selected (lottery).
• Then, each randomly selected application is reviewed for completeness and eligibility starting with number one.
• Once 50 qualified applicants (40 for the program and 10 alternates) are found, they are notified.
Application process continued…

• The applicants that were not selected or were not eligible are not contacted.
• No preferential acceptance is given. Every qualified applicant has an equal chance of being accepted to the Sierra College nursing program.
Now, for a short quiz...

Push here to get started.
Can you have nursing program prerequisite courses in-progress when applying to the SC nursing program?

- **Yes, as long as you are enrolled in the last classes needed to apply.**
- **No, all classes need to be completed before applying.**
- **Yes, as long as you complete the classes before the nursing program begins.**
Sorry

You are incorrect
All of your nursing prerequisite classes need to be complete before applying to the program.
Correct. Let’s move on.
Does it count against me if I withdrew from my anatomy class because I was not going to pass?

No, as long as you repeated it and received a passing grade, it will not count against you.

No, only if you completed it with a bad grade would it count against you.

Yes, if you received a “W” for the class, that will count as a repeat and will count against you in the Chancellor’s formula.
Sorry

If you receive a “W”, “D”, or “F” for a science class and then repeat it, it will count against you for the Chancellor’s Predictor of Success formula.

Try Again?
Correct. Let’s move on.
What is the TEAS V?

The TEAS V is the Test of Essential Academic Skills. It consists of 170 multiple choice questions covering math, English, science and language.

There are practice tests and a study manual available to help you prepare.

It must be completed prior to, and within one year of, applying to the program.

Students must achieve a cumulative score of 62% to be accepted into the program.
Other nursing programs to apply to in this area:

- American River College – uses a point system based on having an AA degree or higher; currently licensed in a health care field; GPA in the science classes; GPA in English, psychology, and nutrition; life experience or special circumstances; veteran status; foreign language competency; and TEAS score.

- Sacramento City College – also uses the criteria above.

- Yuba College – also uses the criteria above and will no longer have a waiting list.

- CSU Sacramento – uses a point system based on GPA of the prerequisite courses, TEAS test score, second language proficiency, health related work experience, economic background, and environmental background.
Are there other careers similar to nursing that I should consider?

• Here is a list of health occupations and education programs at Community Colleges in Northern California
  http://ca-hwi.org/ccchealth/programs.cfm

• Some other careers to consider would be:
  - Nutritionist or Dietician
  - Physical Therapist or Physical Therapy Assistant
  - Community Health Educator
  - Physician Assistant
  - Occupational Therapist
  - Speech Therapist or Speech Therapy Assistant
  - Social Worker
  - Dental Hygienist
  - Respiratory Therapist
  - Radiological Technologist
  - CNA
What can I do while waiting to get into a nursing program?

• Take the co-requisite courses - cultural anthropology or sociology, public speaking
• Take the additional degree requirements – art or humanities, intermediate algebra
• See what you need to get an AS degree in Natural Science
• Take additional classes toward the BSN. There would be additional classes needed for transfer such as chemistry, critical thinking, and math.
• Get training to be a CNA or EMT or Medical Assistant
• Take classes in a second language
• Research additional programs
• Volunteer
I’m ready to apply to the Sierra College nursing program. What do I do?

The application is available here from February 1 through April 15th.

• Please follow the directions carefully.
• If you have attended other college, please use this grid to see equivalent courses from our local colleges.
• Only submit one application.
• Be sure to fill out the application completely.
• Be sure to submit official transcripts from all colleges attended, including Sierra College.
• Be sure to include course descriptions, if applicable.
What are my chances for getting in to the Sierra College nursing program?

We receive approximately 400 applications each year. 40 students are accepted into the program. Our application process is based on random selection. So, each applicant has an equal chance of being selected. To increase your chances of getting into our program, be sure that your application is complete, all transcripts are included, that you have completed all prerequisite courses, and that you have at least an 84% on the Chancellor’s predictor of success formula. To increase your chances of getting into a nursing program, apply to as many programs as you can.
I applied, but didn’t get in. Now, what should I do?

Here are some recommendations from our counselors:

• Be sure you are only submitted a completed application. It may be that you were chosen for random selection, but had submitted an incomplete application. Check to see that you have included everything required from the list on the application.

• Be sure you have received at least a 84% on the Chancellors formula. If not, your most recent English composition grade is weighted heavily in the Chancellor’s formula. If you did not receive an “A” in this class, you might consider taking an additional English composition class. Also, check to see if you have any bad grades that may be bringing down your overall grade point average. Then, if you are eligible, request academic renewal.

• Apply again next time.

• Apply to additional nursing programs.

• Take the additional classes needed to transfer to a Bachelor’s degree nursing program.

• Consider other health related occupations.

• Get training to be an EMT or CNA or do volunteer work while waiting to apply again.
You’ve completed the nursing information workshop. If you have additional questions that are not answered on our website Sierra College Registered Nursing Information then you may use our online counseling for assistance Online Counseling Center or, you may call the counseling office at (916) 660-7400 to schedule an appointment to meet with a counselor.

You will need to provide the following special code to show that you have completed this information workshop when you call to schedule the appointment. Be sure to have it ready.

Get your nursing workshop confirmation code here
Your code is: sc9001
Thank you for viewing the Sierra College Nursing Program information workshop.