


Associate Degree Nursing (RN) Program

INFORMATION SESSION

March 15, 2021 6 pm – 8 pm

Marcia Scott, Director of Nursing
 Danny Lynch, Nursing Counselor
 Jean Reade, Program Specialist



AGENDA

- Is nursing for you?
- RN program overview
- RN licensure
- ADN & BSN degrees
- Class selection
- Point system
- Prepare to be successful
- Application instructions
- Application requirements
- Prerequisite coursework
- Background & drug screen information
- Physical exam & immunization information
- Enrollment statistics



Learn the Nursing Role Before Starting Pathway

- Talk with nurses
- Observe nurses
- Work with nurses



[A Day in The Life of a Nurse Video 2 minutes](#)

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Do you have what it takes to be a nurse?

- ✓ Caring
- ✓ Emotionally strong
- ✓ Responsible, accountable, with professional presence
- ✓ Physical endurance
- ✓ Activities of daily living/hygiene
- ✓ Ability to multitask
- ✓ Science and math
- ✓ Lifelong learning

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Cuesta College RN Program

- Began in 1967
- Strong reputation
- Proven curriculum
- Experienced faculty
- Sim and Skills lab
- Community support
- NCLEX pass rate
- Employment rate



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RN Program Time Commitment

- Time Commitment
 - 2 years = 4 semesters with summer off
 - Full time program
 - Monday through Friday
 - Clinical sites from Arroyo Grande, SLO to Templeton
 - Clinicals are completed in long term care, hospitals & clinics

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RN Program Degree and Licensure

- Earns Associate Degree in Registered Nursing in 2 years (**ADN**)
- Approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (**BRN**)
- Prepares graduates to take the RN Licensure Exam (**NCLEX**)
- Graduates apply to the BRN to take NCLEX
- NCLEX testing occurs following graduation
- RN licensure issued by BRN *after* passing the NCLEX
- RN employment begins
- Continued education required every two years to renew



BSN Degree

- Bachelor's Degree in Nursing (**BSN**)
 Expected degree for career advancement
 Not enough pure BSN programs exist to meet this demand
 ADN to BSN programs provide efficient pathways
- Many hybrid and online programs exist
 - CSU Monterey Bay - Cuesta College Collaborative Program
 - Local -- all classes in SLO
 - BSN 12 months after ADN
 - Work while taking classes



RN Program Website

www.cuesta.edu → Academics → Registered Nursing
 Most Current Info & Application Instructions Found Here



RN Program Website
www.cuesta.edu → Academics → Registered Nursing



RN Program Website
www.cuesta.edu → Academics → Registered Nursing



Application Instructions

Found on the RN program website:

- Step by step instructions on how to prepare to apply and when to apply
- Requirements may change from year to year
- Be sure to verify you have the current year application to avoid disappointment
 - Your computer cache may store prior applications
 - Applications from previous years won't be recognized in the applicant pool

THINGS ARE CHANGING WITH THIS APPLICATION !!

Check the website to see changes and not miss a deadline:

- Submit in September!
- TEAS test in October!
- Appeals, work and volunteer experience opportunities to review throughout year
- Application workshops will be scheduled to help scan and attach documents
- When in doubt email nursingadmissions@cuesta.edu or contact the counseling department and tell them your are seeking nursing program guidance



General Application & Program Timeline

- **June/July:** Application instructions and requirements posted on website
- **August 31:** Deadline to complete prerequisite coursework
- **September:** Online application available on program website and accepted through end of month
- **October:** Complimentary assessment testing at Cuesta
- **November 1/early November:** deadline to submit assessment test if taken elsewhere
- *Continued on next page ...*

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General Application & Program Timeline

- **Dec/January:** Notification of eligibility and points with deadlines to dispute
- **February/March of the following year:** Notification of admission status with Intent to Enroll forms due from selected applicants
- **April-July of the following year:** Admit off alternate list if selected applicant declines
- **June:** Mandatory orientation for admitted applicants
- **July 31:** Additionally BRN and degree coursework deadline
- **August:** program begins

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Important Dates found on Page 1 of the Appl. Instructions !

IMPORTANT DATES	
April 01, 2020	Deadline to complete prerequisite courses
October 1 - 31, 2020	Online application accepted for Fall 2021 admission
November 01/05	Deadline for ATI TEAS testing for eligible applicants
December 1, 2020	Deadline to submit ATI TEAS assessment score
January 6, 2021	Notification of appeal decisions
January 18, 2021	Final, irrevocable, and language panel notifications
February 28, 2021	Deadline to provide work, volunteer and/or language panel documentation
February 2, 2021	Notification of eligibility status and post admission oriented to all applicants
February 18, 2021	Deadline to provide final post admission or eligibility status
February 28, 2021	Notification of admission status
July 01, 2021	Deadline for additional GPH & Radiologic Degree required coursework
August 18, 2021	RN Class of 2022 Program begins

Example Only



Program Eligibility Requirements

1. Prerequisite coursework
2. Assessment test (ATI TEAS)
3. Official transcripts from all colleges attended
4. Additional BRN and Cuesta associate degree coursework
5. Final admission criteria (for admitted students only) will be required after notification of admission status

Explained in detail on next slides...



RN Prerequisite Requirements

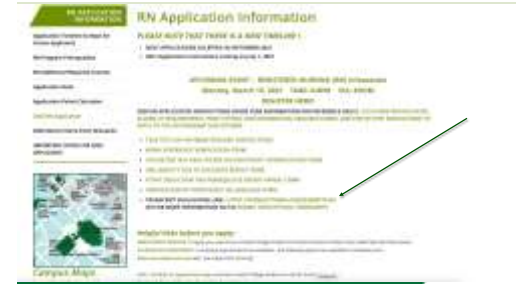
BIO 204 Microbiology with Lab	BIO 205 Human Anatomy with Lab	BIO 206 Human Physiology with Lab	ENGL 201 English Composition
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- Online science labs cannot be accepted Exception: COVID semesters
- No recency requirement exists at Cuesta College
- Grades must be C or higher
- 3 or more repeats with grades C- or lower result in ineligibility
- ENGLISH is 201A or English Composition. Not critical Thinking/CSU Area A3
- A combined science gpa of 2.5 or higher is required - competitive gpa's are typically 3.6 or higher
- If your combined science gpa is < 2.5 see a nursing counselor to consider ways to become eligible, become competitive, or if need be discuss other options such as the LPN to RN pathway



Prerequisite Equivalency Evaluation of External Courses (Courses NOT taken at Cuesta)

- Consult the [RN Prerequisite Course Equivalencies Chart](#)
- If your course is not on the chart, submit your transcript to the Cuesta College Records Department
- Then request evaluation of these transcripts using one of the two pathways on the next slides
- If you have questions make an appointment with a counselor online or call **805-546-3138** (SLO) or **805-591-6225** (NCC)



Assessment Test Score – ATI TEAS Test

- Test of Essential Academic Skills
- Score of 62% or higher is required for eligibility, however competitive scores are typically above 80%
- Must test, or retest, with each application cycle
- Only the first test in 12 months can be accepted
- One complimentary test is offered at Cuesta College for eligible applicants
 - Testing this year will take place during the month of **October**
 - A link to register for your test date will arrive *after* submitting your application
 - Contact nursingadmissions@cuesta.edu within 2 days if you do not receive this link
 - Don't wait! We won't be able to help you based on timelines and deadlines



Assessment Test Score - ATI TEAS Test

- If you test at Cuesta, we receive your scores
- If you do not test at Cuesta, request ATI to submit your TEAS transcripts to Cuesta College.
 - We cannot do this for you!
- Remediation is required for scores below 62%
 - Email nursingsuccess@cuesta.edu if this pertains to you
- TEAS Assessment Test Policy and Test Day Information
 - Cuesta College specific information is on our nursing website
 - ATI specific information can be found on their website under What is the ATI TEAS?



Transcripts

- Transcripts are required from all colleges attended
 - If courses were taken at Cuesta College, you do not need to submit
 - Courses must be from a regionally accredited US college or university
 - Foreign transcripts must be evaluated
- Submit official transcripts to the Cuesta College Records Office:
 - Request electronic delivery by asking the other institution to send directly to Cuesta College
 - Or by US mail in original sealed school envelope to the Cuesta College Records Office
 - The envelope must arrive unopened to be official
 - Do not send to the nursing office



Additional BRN and Associate Degree Coursework

BRN required:

- 1. General psychology
- 2. Introduction to sociology or cultural anthropology
- 3. Speech/communication (Public Speaking Z01 and Small Group Comm Z10) (Interpersonal Comm Z30 will not fill CSU Area A1 for a BSN)

Associate degree required:

- 1. History/Pol Science (American Institutions)
- 2. Arts/Humanities
- 3. Intermediate Algebra or higher - Stats is recommended
- Stats is required enrolling in a CSU BSN program



BSN Transfer Information

To matriculate into the CSUMB – Cuesta Collaborative Program the following CSU GE requirements Must Be Completed

- A1: Oral Communication
- A2: Written Communication
- A3: Critical Thinking
- B4: Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning

*To graduate from a CSU with a BSN, the CSU GE pattern must be complete.

Please meet with the nursing counselor while completing your prerequisites and general education requirements.



Final Admission Criteria (for admitted students only)

Instructions & forms will be provided at an Incoming Student Orientation All requirements will be due in July prior to admission

- Physical Examination
- Proof of Immunity
 - ✓ Lab titers and/or documentation of MMR x 2, Varicella x 2, Hep B, Tdap
 - ✓ TB screening
 - ✓ Influenza vaccination required during Fall semester
- Background Check & Drug Screen
- AHA Healthcare Provider CPR Card



Estimated Costs & Financial Aid Tips

- Cost estimated at \$6000
 - ✓ Includes tuition, books & supplies, parking permits, uniform, etc.
 - ✓ Estimated costs per semester can be found on the program website.
- Financial Aid is available!
 - ✓ Contact the Financial Aid office.
 - ✓ Apply for scholarships *even if you don't think you would receive*
- Helpful tips
 - ✓ Apply for Financial Aid before admission notifications are sent
 - ✓ Reliable transportation to the San Luis Obispo campus and clinical sites will be necessary
 - ✓ Lots of computer paper and ink will be used



Student Selection



Multi-Criteria Selection Process

- Follows California Education Code 78261
- Points are awarded in:
 - academic preparation
 - work or volunteer experience
 - proficiency in a language other than English
 - life experiences or special circumstances
 - diagnostic assessment test



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Degree, license or certificate in healthcare
MAX = 10 point

Degree, License or Certificate	
Associate Degree or higher	10 points
Licensed Health Care Worker (LVN, Psych Tech, Paramedic...)	8 points
Certified Nurse Assistant Certification PLUS CNA work experience (500 hours in past 2 years*)	8 points
Certificated Health Care Worker (Nurse Asst., Medical Asst., EMT...)	6 points

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Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Combined Science Prerequisite GPA
MAX = 40 points

- Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology
- GPA of 2.50 or higher is required (no rounding)
- Calculate points by multiplying combined GPA by 10
- Points are rounded to the nearest tenth
- For example: a combined GPA of $3.64 \times 10 = 36.4$ pts

If <2.50 see a nursing counselor to consider possibilities to become eligible

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Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Combined English and Math GPA
MAX = 10 points

- Calculate points by multiplying *combined* GPA by 2.50
- Points are rounded to the nearest tenth
- Example: a combined GPA of $3.64 \times 2.5 = 9.1$ pts
- Must have **both** courses to earn points in this category
- AP tests may satisfy requirements

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Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Repeats in Science or English prerequisite courses

- 1 repeat = 5 point deduction
- 2 repeats = 10 point deduction
- 3 repeats = **Not eligible**
- Repeats include grades of C-, D, F, I, U, W, FW

Applicants with individual extenuating circumstances may choose to:

1. Appeal point deductions for 1 or 2 repeats OR
2. Appeal their ineligible status for 3 or more repeats
3. Reference instructions on program website
4. *New! An opportunity to submit before applying will be announced on the website*



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Work Experience in Healthcare

1. points

- Points are awarded for work experience that will help you succeed in nursing such as:
 - Observation of the RN role
 - Practice of basic nursing care (vital signs, hygiene, etc.)
 - Gain a basic understanding of patient assessments and patient care
 - Become comfortable in the nursing environment.
- A minimum of 200 hours is required within the most recent two years
- Supervisor verification & job description required
- Employment with a company or business (not a private caregiving arrangement)
- Work experience forms are found on website—look at them early
- *New! An opportunity to submit work experience before applying will be announced on the program website*



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Volunteer Experience in Healthcare or Non-Profit Organization

5. points

- Points are awarded for unpaid volunteer hours that:
 - make a meaningful contribution to better our healthcare community
 - Are completed in healthcare or non-profit organizations
 - Examples: hospital or health clinic, senior organizations, Hospice, Alzheimer's, Special Olympics, Family Care Network, BBBS,
- Need a minimum of 200 hours within the most recent two years
- Reference criteria, instructions, and form on website
 - **Take the form with you each time and have supervisor sign**
 - Multiple pages will likely be needed
 - *New! An opportunity to submit before applying will be announced on the website*



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Life Experiences or Circumstances
MAX = 2.5 points

- Disabilities (i.e. DSPS)
- Family income
- First generation to attend college
- Need to work while completing prerequisites
- Disadvantaged social or educational environment
- Difficult personal and family situation
- Veteran
- Refugee status



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Proficiency in language other than English
5. points

- Ability to speak, interpret, and write at a conversational level
- Translate during a medical emergency
- The person verifying language ability may not be a family member or relative
- You may be asked to verify proficiency through assessment testing
- Coursework alone will not meet this requirement



Selection Criteria & Point Allocation

Diagnostic Assessment Tool: ATI TEAS
MAX = 30 points

- 62% is the minimum accepted score.
- Subtract 62 from Overall Score to calculate points,
Example - Overall Score of 90% = 28 points (90- 62=28)
- Overall Score between 62% and 65% will receive the minimum score of 3 points
- Overall Score between 62% and 65% will receive the minimum score of 3 points
- Overall Score between 62% and 65% will receive the minimum score of 3 points
- Overall scores below 62% will become ineligible and must complete a remediation plan to become eligible to apply in a future application cycle
- Must test with each application cycle
- Only the first TEAS score in 12 months can be accepted



Persistence Bonus Points

Applicants receive persistence points for 4th eligible application within 5 years
8 points

- Keep your letters!
- Eligible alternate pool letters from each year you applied and were not selected are required documentation that will be uploaded in future applications
- We are not able keep, retrieve, or track eligible alternate pool letters for you.



Check Your myCuesta Email Regularly

Time Sensitive Information will be sent to your myCuesta email

- Your **myCuesta email** address will arrive after you apply to Cuesta
- It is the responsibility of each applicant to check their myCuesta email for applicant notifications
 - do not rely on email forwarding to another account
 - adjust junk and spam filters to receive our emails
- Put the expected dates on a calendar and look for the emails
- Notify nursingadmissions@cuesta.edu within 48 hours if you do not receive the email
- Missed deadlines due to not receiving the emails cannot be appealed and your application will become ineligible



Ineligible Applicant Situations

- Combined GPA less than 2.5 in science prerequisites
- Three or more repeats in prerequisite coursework due to grades of C- or below, withdrawing, incomplete, or dropping a course
- Not submitting all transcripts from all schools attended
- Transcripts are not from regionally accredited college or university
- Not meeting assessment test requirements
- Not meeting deadlines
- Hold on Cuesta College student account; eligible if removed before deadlines



Plan For Success!

1) Get Experience!

Get first hand experience of the nursing field/expectations of nursing school



Plan For Success!

2) Plan your budget now.

Talk to family members. Be realistic about the demands of a full-time nursing program.

- Need to work
- Financial issues
- Transportation issues
- Access to computer/other tech devices
- Lack of family and/or peer support
- Family responsibilities



Plan For Success!

Prepare now to be a successful nursing student:

3) Go to the Cuesta College Student Success Center and get help now!

- Stress management
- Time management
- Study skills



Begin Your Journey

- Enroll to be a student at Cuesta College
- Make an appointment with the Counseling Department online or by calling 805-546-3138 (SLO) or 805-591-6225 (NCC)
- Create an academic plan
 - ✓ Evaluate coursework taken so far
 - ✓ Determine remaining pre-program requirements
 - ✓ Plan when to take remaining requirements
- Phone or zoom appointments are available
- College transcripts & course descriptions will be needed



Enrollment Statistics

Class of 2019

- Applied 216
- Admitted 43
- Point range: 78-96
 - Average 87
- Average science gpa: 3.6
- Average English & math gpa: 3.52
- Average TEAS 87
- Alternates accepted: 5

Class of 2020

- Applied 262
- Admitted 43
- Point range: 83.2 – 97
 - Average 88
- Average science gpa: 3.69
- Average English & Math gpa: 3.62
- Average TEAS score: 88
- Alternates accepted:

Class of 2021

- Applied 283
- Admitted 43
- Point range: 87 – 97.5
 - Average 91.28
- Average science gpa: 3.8
- Average English & math gpa: 3.57
- Average TEAS: 89 (82 – 96)
- Alternates accepted: 3

Class of 2022

- Coming



Thank you for being with us today!
Do you have Nursing in your future?