

30 March 2000

TO: Members, University Senate

FROM: University Senate Council

RE: AGENDA ITEM: University Senate Meeting, Monday 10 April 2000.
Proposal to revise the Admission Requirements for the Bachelor of
Science in Nursing Degree , University Senate Rules, Section IV

Proposal: (Bold sections added; delete strikeouts)

4.2.2.1 Admission to College of Nursing: (US:4/12/82; US:3/10/86; US:10/14/91; US:2/13/95) The College of Nursing (**CON**) enrollment will be composed of four-year students, associate degree nursing graduates and diploma nursing school graduates. Admission to the University does not guarantee admission to the College of Nursing. Preference will be given to Kentucky residents.

Applicants must be in a state of good health enabling them to carry out the functions of the professional nurse. Routinely, each student will be required to obtain a rubella and rubella titers, and have an annual tuberculin test or chest x-ray.

Progression to upper division courses is regulated so that the total number of full time equivalents at the beginning of the junior year does not exceed 120. Admission criteria for five types of students are presented below:

1. **Criteria for admission to the 4-year BSN program include** (US 4/13/98)
 - A. Freshman students
Students will be admitted as freshman to a prenursing curriculum based on the following criteria:
 - a. high school grade point average of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale
 - b. meeting criteria for selective admission to the University of Kentucky as established by Rule 4.2.1.1
 - ~~c. ability to articulate reasons for choosing nursing as a career, as evidenced in an essay written according to criteria established by CON~~
 - ~~d. one letter of reference from an individual who can assess potential for success (e.g., teacher, employer, etc.)~~

B. Admission to the nursing curriculum will occur at the sophomore level for ~~students in the prenursing category only if the student~~ **all students based on evaluation of the following criteria:**

- a. ~~maintains a minimum~~ **maintains a minimum** cumulative grade point average of 2.5 ~~or greater;~~
- b. ~~received a grade of "C" or better in all required prenursing courses; and~~
- c. ~~completes a certificate from an approved certified nursing assistant program.~~
- d. **An essay which articulates reasons for choosing nursing as a career, with criteria established by the CON; and**
- e. **One letter of reference from an individual who can assess potential for success (e.g. teacher, employer)**

2. **Criteria for admission to the 4-year BSN program for transfer students include:**
(US: 4/13/98)

- a. for transfer students with less than 24 hours of college credit, meeting the criteria for entering freshman and maintaining a grade point average of 2.5 on all college work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions;
- b. for transfer students with more than 24 hours of college credit, maintaining a grade point average of 2.5 on all college work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions;
- c. grades of "C" or better in all courses required for CON curriculum;
- d. ability to articulate reasons for choosing nursing as a career, as evidenced in an essay written according to criteria established by CON;
- e. one letter of reference from an individual who can assess potential for success (e.g., teacher, employer, etc.); and
- f. completion of an approved certified nursing assistant program.

3. Students will be eligible **to apply** for readmission the College of Nursing after suspension from the College when they meet criteria as stated in Section 2 a and b of this policy.

4. ~~A student who is eligible to take the examination for licensure (NCLEX-RN) and who wishes to be considered for admission to upper division courses in the nursing program must meet the following requirements:~~

- a. ~~The applicant must be a graduate of or enrolled in the final semester of an associate degree nursing program in a college accredited by one of the six regional academic accrediting associations, OR the applicant must be a graduate of or enrolled in the final semester of a diploma program and have earned a minimum of 60 college credits which include:~~

English	6 semester credits
Natural Sciences	6 semester credits
Social Sciences	6 semester credits
Humanities	6 semester credits
Nursing ^o	28 semester credits

~~^oNursing credits may be earned from regionally accredited colleges by taking the courses or by taking the ACT-PEP tests. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact the Office of Student Services in the College of~~

~~Nursing regarding the approved nursing ACT-PEP credits. All nursing courses taken in associate degree or diploma programs are considered lower division courses and are not equivalent to upper division courses in this program.~~

- ~~b. For automatic acceptance, the applicant in this category must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above on a scale of 4.0 in all college course work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions.~~

~~Applicants with a GPA between 2.35 and 2.49 will be considered for admission on an individual basis. Such actions are recommended by the Undergraduate Student Admission and Progression Committee and approved by the Dean of the College of Nursing.~~

- ~~c. An applicant admitted in this category must hold a valid Kentucky license to practice as a registered nurse prior to beginning the first clinical course.~~

4.5. A student who is a registered nurse and who wishes to will be considered for admission to upper division courses in the nursing program based on the following criteria: must meet the following requirements:

- a. The applicant must be a registered nurse licensed to practice in Kentucky.
- b. ~~The applicant with an Associate Degree in Nursing from a college accredited by one of the six regional academic accrediting associations will be automatically accepted if the applicant has at least with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 on all course work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions.~~

~~Applicants with a GPA between 2.35 and 2.49 will be considered for admission on an individual basis. Such actions are recommended by the Undergraduate Student Admission and Progression Committee and approved by the Dean of the College of Nursing.~~

- c. **A statement of academic and professional goals; and**
- d. **A letter of reference from a supervisor**

- * The registered nurse who is a graduate of a diploma program will be **considered** ~~automatically accepted~~ for admission after earning a minimum of 60 college credits which include:

English	6 semester credits
Natural Sciences	6 semester credits
Social Sciences	6 semester credits
Humanities	6 semester credits
Nursing**	28 semester credits

**Nursing credits may be earned from regionally accredited colleges by taking the courses or by taking the ACT-PEP tests. It is strongly recommended that applicants contact the Office of Student Services in the College of Nursing regarding the approved nursing ACT-PEP credits. All nursing courses taken in associate degree or diploma programs are considered lower division courses and are not equivalent to upper division courses in this program.

The applicant must have at least a GPA of 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 on all college course work attempted as computed by the Office of Admissions, and must have satisfactorily completed the ACT-PEP tests which establish the nursing credits.

The application deadline for admission to the Nursing program **for all categories of students** is ~~February~~ **May** 1st. (SC: 4/24/95)

Background and Rationale; The changes in requirements for four-year students reflect the desire to eliminate freshmen admission to Nursing and have an open pool for all interested students. The selection will be at the point of entry to professional NUR courses much the way other professional colleges make their selections.

The changes for the RN/BSN applicants are an attempt to align with the RN/MSN requirements so that the information available on all applicants is comparable.

The changes have been approved by the faculty of the College of Nursing, the Senate's Committee on Admissions and Academic Standards and the University Senate Council.

Implementation: Fall Semester, 2000

US Agenda Item: Nursing Admissions 4.10.00.doc