

Provost and Academic Vice President



TO: David J. Silva, Provost and Academic Vice President, Academic Affairs
FROM: Amy Smith, Chair, All-University Committee
RE: Request for Change of Policy, School of Nursing
DATE: May 17, 2019

Enclosed for your review and approval is the request for change in policy, School of Nursing Admission and Transfer Policy, School of Nursing

This request has been recommended by the School of Nursing, the Academic Policies Committee, and the All-University Committee. All Contractual obligations have been met. The effective date is June 1, 2019.

I also recommend approval.

Approve:

David J. Silva

David J. Silva
Provost and Academic Vice President

Disapprove:

5/17/2019

Date

Comments, if any:

Requires expedited processing. Thank you!
-DJS

Distribution:
Registrar

AS/vsr

Proposal # 19:379

Approved by:
APC _____
ACC _____

Salem State University Undergraduate Governance
Academic Policy Proposal Form

Title: School of Nursing Admission and Transfer Policies
(please give your request a brief descriptive title)

New Policy

Description of policy as it would appear in the catalog:

Please indicate where the new policy should appear in the undergraduate catalog:

Rationale for new policy:



× **Change to an Existing Policy**

Existing Policy as it currently appears in the catalog:

Admissions Policy

The School of Nursing follows the Salem State University Admission policy. This policy is publicly accessible, non-discriminatory, and consistently applied. Differences are justified by program outcomes.

1. BSN Program:

Traditional first year students:

- i) Per the Salem State University first-year student requirements, with a High School GPA of 3.3 or greater.
- ii) High school or secondary school transcript is required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation.
- iii) The SAT or ACT is required. The minimum combined SAT score is 1030, and the minimum ACT is 20. Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

Non-traditional first year students:

- i) Non-traditional first year students are defined in the Salem State University Course Catalog.
- ii) High school or secondary school transcript with an overall GPA of 3.3 or greater is required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation, diploma, or GED.
- iii). All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

Transfer students:

- i) High school or secondary school transcript documenting graduation or equivalency test (GED) is required at time of application.
- ii) College GPA of 3.3 or greater.
- iii) 30 credits of college-level work completed, with a C grade or greater in science courses (Anatomy & Physiology I & II, Chemistry, and Statistics are recommended but not required for acceptance into the program).
- iv) TEAS test is required
- v) All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

2. LPN to BSN Program:

- a. LPN license valid in the United States.
- b. High school or post-secondary school transcript documenting graduation or equivalency test (GED) is required at the time of application.
- c. Official transcript from the accredited LPN program attended with a GPA of 3.3 or greater, and official transcript(s) from all other colleges attended with a GPA of 3.3 or greater.
- d. TEAS test is required with a minimum passing score in each of the four categories: Reading = 69%, English =70%, Math = 73%, and Science = 60.4% or higher. Please review specific information pertaining to the TEAS test requirement.
- e. Current resume.
- f. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

× **Change to an Existing Policy (continued from above)**

Existing Policy as it currently appears in the catalog:

3. RN to BSN Program:

- a. RN license valid in the United States.
- b. Official transcript from the accredited RN program attended with a GPA of 2.74, and official transcript(s) from all other colleges attended with a GPA of 2.7.
- c. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

4. Accelerated BSN Program:

- a. Completed bachelor's degree with a suggested GPA of 3.5 or greater.
- b. Graduates from a non-U.S. college or university are eligible to apply if the following two conditions are met:

Submit a complete, official transcript documenting the award of a bachelor's degree. All transcripts from institutions outside of the United States must have an approved agency's evaluation of courses, grades, academic degrees, and grade point averages. Four approved agencies include the Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, Inc., North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators.

Completion of the MASS Transfer Block at a Massachusetts Community College with the official stamped transcript on or before the start of Summer Session I (May 1) of the year in which you are enrolling (suggested GPA 3.5 or greater).

- c. Completion of the following pre-requisite courses with a grade of B- or higher: Anatomy and Physiology I and II (with labs), Microbiology (with lab), Chemistry (with lab), Statistics, and Developmental Psychology (childhood through adulthood).

Applicants must have all prerequisites completed by the beginning of Summer Session I. However, an applicant may be enrolled in up to two prerequisite courses at the time of the application deadline. Completed transcripts must be submitted prior to the start of the program in May.

All science prerequisite courses completed within the last seven years. Most online science courses, including Biolog do not transfer.

All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science Students before enrolling.

Proposed New Policy (as it would appear in the catalog):

Admission policies for the BSN program for traditional first year, non-traditional, LPN to BSN, transfer, RN to BSN, and accelerated BSN applicants are as follows:

Traditional first year Applicants:

1. Minimum recalculated (based upon the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education admissions standards for state universities and University of Massachusetts system) high school GPA of 3.0.
2. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
3. A minimum SAT score of 990 (19 on the ACT) is required.
4. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment to Salem State University.

Non-traditional Applicants: (applicants who have been out of high school for greater than 3 years and/or who hold a GED)

1. Minimum high school or equivalent GPA of 3.0.
2. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
3. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment at Salem State University.
4. Non-traditional applicants should contact the admissions office at Salem State University to request additional information about specific requirements.

Transfer Applicants:

1. 12 credits of college-level work completed with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
2. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. Transcripts from a college or university outside the U.S. must be validated by an approved agency.
3. Two required science courses (BIO105, CHE117, BIO200, BIO201, and BIO304 or equivalent) completed with a minimum C grade.
4. The TEAS test version 6.0 is required. Applicants must score at the proficient level in all four categories: Math, English, Science and Reading.
5. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation, GED or equivalent. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
6. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment at Salem State University.

Proposed New Policy (as it would appear in the catalog): (continued from above)

LPN to BSN Program Applicants:

1. An unencumbered LPN license.
2. Official transcript from an accredited LPN program attended with a minimum GPA of 3.0/ \geq 80%.
3. 12 credits of college-level work completed with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Transcripts from a college or university outside the U.S. must be validated by an approved agency.
4. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
5. Two required science courses completed with a minimum C grade.
7. The TEAS test version 6.0 is required. Applicants must score at the proficient level, or higher, in all four required categories: Math, English, Science, and Reading.
6. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation, GED or equivalent. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
7. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment to Salem State University.

RN to BSN Program Applicants

1. An unencumbered RN license.
2. Official transcript from an accredited RN program and any other college transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. A minimum GPA of a 2.7 across all coursework is required.
3. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation, GED or equivalent. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
4. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment at Salem State University.

Accelerated BSN Program Applicants

1. A completed bachelor's degree from a U. S. college or university with a minimum GPA of 3.0. For students with degree from outside the U. S. please see below.
2. High school or secondary school transcript are required at time of application. All admitted students will be required to submit final transcripts documenting graduation, GED or equivalent. Verification for any non U.S. based secondary education must be validated by an approved agency. Four approved agencies include: Center for Educational Documentation, World Education Services, North American Educational Group, or Educational Credential Evaluators
3. An applicant may be enrolled in up to two prerequisite courses at the time of the application deadline. Applicants must have all prerequisites completed prior to enrollment. Completed transcripts must be submitted prior to the start of the program in May.
4. Completion of the following pre-requisite courses with a minimum grade of B-: Anatomy and Physiology I and II (with a lab), Microbiology (with lab), Chemistry (with lab), Statistics, and Developmental Psychology (childhood through adulthood).
5. All applicants to the nursing program must provide evidence of adherence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Immunization Requirements for Health Science students upon enrollment at Salem State University.
6. Graduates of a non-U.S. college or university are eligible to apply if the following two conditions are met:
 1. Submit a complete, official transcript documenting the award of a bachelor's degree. All transcripts from institutions outside of the United States must have an evaluation from an approved agency of all courses completed, final grades, academic degree (s) earned, and grade point averages.
 2. Completion of the MASS Transfer Block at a Massachusetts Community College with the official stamped transcript on or before the start of Summer Session I (May 1) of the year in which enrollment begins. Please see the Salem State University for information pertaining to the MASS Transfer Block: Salem State University Catalog

Rationale for change to existing policy:

Mandated compliance with MA Board of Nursing: (CMR 6.04 (1) (d)) and CMR 6.04 (3) (a) (2) at the March 2019 MA Board on Nursing monthly meeting the current SSU SON Admissions policy was found not in compliance.

Additional language was added to the existing revised policy to provide clarity.

Admissions and Transfer Policies # 1

Proposed effective date: June 1, 2019

Submitter: Joanne Carlson

Department: School of Nursing

Date Submitted: 5/3/19