

USC Aiken School of Nursing at the Union Campus

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the minimum GPA required for application to the School of Nursing?

To be eligible for consideration, all interested persons are required to have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the prerequisite core courses. Applicants with a GPA lower than 3.0 for these courses are not considered for admission to the School of Nursing.

The Admissions Committee also gives additional consideration to a subset of the prerequisite core courses GPA, looking closely at applicants' performance in the science courses.

In some situations, the School of Nursing will consider applications of students who do not have the required minimum GPA because of previous academic missteps. These students have since demonstrated their academic ability and, in some circumstances, may be eligible to apply. Students who are interested in exploring this possibility should contact [Courtney Pinnell](#)

2. How many students are accepted during each admission cycle?

Each year 16 students begin their studies in the School of Nursing. Typically, the School of Nursing considers 25-50 applications during each admission cycle. USC System transfer students must do a change of campus for the semester they wish to begin nursing. You must be accepted to USC Union by the application deadline.

3. For students admitted to the School of Nursing, what is the average GPA for prerequisite core courses?

This GPA varies from one admission cycle to the next. Because admission is a competitive process, applicants need to demonstrate academic excellence. All applicants are required to have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for consideration.

4. Am I eligible to apply to the School of Nursing if I fail a required science course?

Only one failed science course may be repeated. Students with 2 or more failures of required science courses are not eligible to apply.

5. When is the deadline for submission of the application?

Applications consist of several parts: completed application form, responses to essay questions, 2 references, and TEAS results. All parts of the application must be submitted to the School of Nursing by 5:00pm on the deadline date. If elements of the application are missing by the deadline, the application is considered incomplete and will not be considered during that admission cycle.

The School of Nursing does not notify applicants if portions of the application are missing. Applicants are encouraged to contact the [School of Nursing](#) for confirmation that all portions of the application are present.



6. When are applicants notified about the Admissions Committee's decision?

All applicants receive notification within 4 weeks of the application deadline. Applicants receive notification of 1 of 3 outcomes of the application process.

Accepted: Students accepted to the School of Nursing will receive a notification letter. With this letter, students are expected to confirm or deny their intent to begin nursing courses in the next semester.

Waiting List: If an admitted student declines the opportunity to study in the USC Aiken School of Nursing at Union Campus, a student on the waiting list will be substituted. Because some students on the waiting list have been notified of their admission to the program as close as 1 day prior to the start of the semester, students on the waiting list should be prepared to begin studies up until the first day of class.

Denial: Students who were not admitted to the School of Nursing will receive a notification letter.

7. Can I apply if I was not admitted to the school of nursing?

Students who were not accepted are welcome to reapply. A new application must be initiated, but only some components need to be resubmitted:

- Application Form: A new application form is required for each application attempt.
- References (good for one year):
First 2 admission attempts: References do not need to be re-submitted unless applicants have identified other references.
More than 2 admission attempts: New references are required after they have been reviewed on 2 previous admission attempts.

8. Can I apply if I was unable to complete or was not successful in another nursing program (ADN or BSN)?

In most situations, students who were not able to complete another nursing program are ineligible to apply to this program.

On rare occasions, students who experienced extenuating circumstances may be considered for application. Email the [Student Services Program Coordinator](#) for an assessment of your eligibility. Students may be required to provide a letter of reference from the previous school as part of the consideration process.

9. What is required for me to become licensed to practice as a registered nurse?

- Completion of an accredited nursing program (USC Aiken is accredited by the **Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education**).
- Endorsement to take the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) (provided by the Dean of the UofSC Aiken School of Nursing).
- Successful score on the NCLEX-RN.
- Approved application by the designated state of licensure.