

Admission to the Graduate Program

Admission to the graduate programs is based on the applicant's academic record, evidence of scholastic ability, and interest in the goals of the College. Admission will be offered to applicants who are, in the view of the College, best qualified.

Admission to the MSN Program

Applications for the Nurse Practitioner tracks will be reviewed each year beginning on February 15.

A rolling admission process is used for the Nurse Educator, Executive Practice & Healthcare Leadership, Clinical Nurse Leader and the RN-MSN tracks.

Application is made through submission of a completed application packet through NursingCAS, www.nursingCAS.org. A completed application packet includes all official transcripts and references as well as a résumé and personal essay. For questions related to the NursingCAS application, please contact NursingCAS support directly by phone at 617-612-2880 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm Eastern or by email at nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org.

Official transcripts must show completion of a B.S.N. degree from a regionally accredited college of university (I or Diploma for RN-MSN students).

Three (3) references are required. Two references should be from the employer and the third from either the employer or from the baccalaureate program. New graduates can use two from the baccalaureate program.

Admission Eligibility

Regular Admission for the M.S.N. tracks

1. Possess a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from a NLNAC or CCNE accredited nursing program with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher on a four-point scale.
2. Or if applying for the RN- MSN track, must possess an Associate Degree in Nursing or a diploma from a NLNAC or CCNE accredited nursing program with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher on a four-point scale.
3. Possess current licensure as a registered nurse (RN).

Admission Process

After the application packet is completed through NursingCAS the admission committee will review each file and notify the applicant of the next step.

Admissions decisions are made on a competitive basis and the applicant's complete profile will be considered. The profile includes previous academic work, nursing experience, and professional references. Admission to the Nurse Practitioner tracks requires an interview with Nurse Practitioner faculty. Faculty in other tracks may request an interview for admission; students should expect a phone consultation with the track coordinator as a part of the admission process.

Each applicant will be notified in writing regarding the admission decision. Graduate students applicants will be accepted, accepted with probationary admission, accepted with provisional admission, accepted with conditional admission or denied.

Probationary Admission for M.S.N. tracks for students with less than 3.0 Grade Point Average

Applicants meeting all of the above eligibility requirements except a 3.0 cumulative grade point average may be granted Probationary Admission. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in the first six hours of graduate credit is required for full admission.

Provisional Admission for A.D.N. or B.S.N. graduates who are not licensed as a Registered Nurse

Provisional admission is a term reserved for applicants who hold an A.D.N. or a B.S.N. but who are not yet licensed as a registered nurse. Provisional admission is applicable only for the first semester of enrollment. Individuals who are provisionally admitted may **not** enroll in any courses with clinical/practicum components.

Applicants who have earned an A.D.N. or a B.S.N. and are not yet licensed as a Registered Nurse may be provisionally admitted to the graduate program for one semester provided that they complete the application process stated above and:

1. Possess an Associate Degree in Nursing or a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from a NLNAC or CCNE accredited nursing program with a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher on a four-point scale.

2. Complete the NCLEX-RN examination during the semester immediately following graduation.

The student who successfully completes the NCLEX-RN examination will be fully admitted to the graduate program upon verification of RN licensure.

Individuals who do not demonstrate successful completion of the NCLEX-RN examination will be considered in an unclassified status and are not eligible for federal financial aid.

Conditional Admission for individuals who are within six months of completing an A.D.N. or B.S.N. degree are eligible to be admitted and enroll if they:

1. Complete the application process and meet the admission criteria.
2. Successfully complete their A.D.N. or B.S.N. with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and pass the NCLEX licensure exam.
3. These stipulations must be met within one semester of graduation to maintain conditional admission status.

Unclassified Status

A student may complete an application to enroll in a course in an unclassified status. This status is intended for students who are non-degree seeking or enrolling for a limited period until the admission process can be completed. Unclassified students are expected to meet all course prerequisites and will be enrolled on a space available basis as determined by the Dean of Nursing.

Unclassified students are not guaranteed admission to the graduate program and credit earned as an unclassified student is not guaranteed to meet degree requirements.

- Current RCN students taking graduate courses while in a RCN undergraduate program may complete a maximum of nine (9) credit hours as an unclassified student.
- Students not currently enrolled in a RCN undergraduate program may take a maximum of three (3) credit hours as an unclassified student.

Unclassified students must be fully admitted into the graduate program before requesting that any transfer courses be accepted for degree credit.

Transfer Credit

A maximum of nine (9) hours of graduate credit completed at another institution within the last five (5) years may be accepted as fulfilling the requirements of the tracks. Only courses in which a grade of B or better was earned may be accepted for graduate credit.