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		Effective Date:	3/13/2025
		Reviewed/Amended Date:	3/13/2025

Policy:	<p><b>Pre-Licensure Traditional BSN Admission Criteria</b></p> <p>Applicants must be accepted into Valdosta State University as undergraduate students prior to application submission. Please note that acceptance to the nursing program is separate from, and conditional to, acceptance to Valdosta State University.</p> <p>1. Minimum Nursing GPA of 3.0 based on prerequisite course required for the nursing major. Nursing GPA is calculated based on courses listed on the core curriculum worksheet. If a course is repeated, the highest grade achieved will be used to calculate GPA.</p> <p>ENGL 1101- Composition 1, ENGL 1102 _ Composition II, and Accepted Math course from IMPACTS</p> <p>BIOL 2251 K– Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I* BIOL 2252K – Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II* BIOL 2260K–Foundations in Microbiology</p> <p>MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics NURS 2700 – Pathophysiology* PSYC 2103 – Human Growth and Development</p> <p>CHEM 1151K – Survey of Chemistry I*</p> <p>CHEM 1152K – Survey of Chemistry II*</p> <p>Or</p> <p>CHEM 1211 &amp; 1211L – Principles of Chemistry I &amp; Lab*</p> <p>CHEM 1212 &amp; 1212L – Principles of Chemistry II &amp; Lab*</p> <p>Or</p> <p>BIOL 1010 &amp; 1020L – Introduction to Biology: The Evolution and Diversity of Life &amp; Biodiversity Lab*</p> <p>BIOL 1030 &amp; 1040L – Introduction to Biology: Organismal Biology &amp; Organismal Biology Lab*</p> <p>Or</p>
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	<p>BIOL 1107/1107L and BIOL 1108/1108L</p> <p>3. Minimum of 'C' in each Nursing GPA course. NURS 2700 is considered as a science requirement. Math and science courses in the Core IMPACTS STEM domain and Field of Study domain may not be repeated more than one time. Field of Study courses older than 5 years at the time of program application deadline must be retaken for consideration into the program.</p> <p>4. The HESI Admission Assessment Exam (HESI A2) is required for admission to the Valdosta State University nursing programs. To be eligible for admission into the VSU nursing programs, students must earn a 75 or higher in the following areas:</p> <p><i>Reading Comprehension</i>  <i>Vocabulary</i>  <i>Grammar</i>  <i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</i>  <i>Math</i></p> <p>The entrance exam may be repeated only once during any admission cycle (from application deadline to application deadline). Scores submitted for the entrance exam must reflect a test date no more than 12 months prior to application to the nursing program. Students taking the exam at an institution other than VSU are responsible for contacting the testing agency to have the results submitted directly to VSU.</p> <p>Important Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants who have attended a nursing program within one year must petition the undergraduate nursing program's ad hoc Admissions &amp; Progressions Committee for eligibility consideration into the program.</li> <li>• Any nursing student who fails to disclose previous exclusions from a previous program is subject to immediate dismissal from the current program.</li> <li>• Students are considered for admission based on academic performance in required pre- nursing core curriculum, performance on a standardized entrance test, and clinical placement availability.</li> <li>• Meeting minimum admission standards does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Admission decisions are based on a COMPETITIVE process using a Nursing GPA calculation based on the student's prerequisite coursework.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer grades from other colleges and universities that meet the criteria for the required nursing Core Curriculum courses will be used in the computation of nursing GPA for the School of Nursing.</li> </ul> <p>There are three types of admission:</p> <p><u>Full acceptance</u> is offered when all criteria are met, and a seat is available. Students who meet all admission criteria, but for whom there is not an available seat, will be notified and their applications will be held active until after the first week of classes in which the cohort begins the upper division nursing program. If seats become available students will be notified immediately. It is therefore critical that applicants keep the School of Nursing updated with current address, email and phone number.</p> <p><u>Contingent acceptance</u> is predicated upon successful completion of unmet criteria.</p> <p><u>Probationary acceptance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing GPA 2.8-2.99 or HESI score 70-74 in two or less of the required HESI areas (Reading Comprehension, Anatomy &amp; Physiology, or Math)</li> <li>• Probationary admission is given for the Junior 1 semester only.</li> <li>• Probationary slots are limited and meeting eligibility requirements for probationary acceptance does not guarantee probationary admission</li> <li>• To progress once admitted on probationary acceptance, successful completion of all Junior 1 level courses is required within 1 semester.</li> <li>• A student admitted under probationary acceptance is required to develop a plan for success in collaboration with the SPARC Director</li> </ul> <p>Applicants not selected for admission who wish to be considered for future cohorts will need to complete the entire admission process again for the next available cohort. This process includes submission of a new application prior to the next application deadline as well as the completion of academic and applicant advising. An applicant will not be considered an active applicant if he or she does not complete the entire application process. All applications are subject to admission criteria in place at time of application, which may be different from previous application periods.</p>
	<p><b>Prelicensure Accelerated BSN Admission Criteria (ABSN):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All criteria under Pre-Licensure Traditional BSN Admission Criteria must be met for admission to the ABSN program.</li> <li>2. Additionally, students applying to the ABSN program must have completed a</li> </ol>

	<p>bachelor's degree in another area <b>OR</b> have been active in a health profession for a minimum of three years. Those applicants without a prior bachelor's degree will be reviewed by the ad hoc admissions and progressions committee of the VSU SON.</p> <p>There are three types of admission.</p> <p><u>Full acceptance</u> is offered when all criteria are met, and a seat is available. Students who meet all admission criteria, but for whom there is not an available seat, will be notified, and their applications will be held active until after the first week of classes in which the cohort begins the upper division nursing program. If seats become available students will be notified immediately. It is therefore critical that applicants keep the School of Nursing updated with current address, email and phone number.</p> <p><u>Contingent acceptance</u> is predicated upon successful completion of unmet criteria.</p> <p><u>Probationary acceptance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing GPA 2.8-2.99 or HESI score 70-74 in two or less of the required HESI areas (Reading Comprehension, Anatomy &amp; Physiology, or Math)</li> <li>• Probationary admission is given for the Junior 1 semester only.</li> <li>• Probationary slots are limited and are meeting eligibility requirements for probationary acceptance does not guarantee probationary admission</li> <li>• To progress once admitted on probationary acceptance, successful completion of all Junior 1 level courses is required within 1 semester.</li> <li>• A student admitted under probationary acceptance is required to develop a plan for success in collaboration with the SPARC Director</li> </ul>
Policy:	<p><b>BSN to DNP Admission:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graduated from a NLNAC-accredited or CCNE-accredited Bachelor of Science in Nursing program</li> <li>2. A GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0-point scale</li> <li>3. Evidence of valid (current unencumbered) licensure as a registered nurse</li> <li>4. Three letters of recommendation from persons whose observations of the applicant's character and abilities are current. Letters of recommendation must be accompanied by the required General Graduate Recommendation Form.</li> <li>5. Career Goal Statement: A one- to two-page paper addressing career goals related to advanced practice nursing and the attainment of the D.N.P.</li> </ol>

6. Current Vitae or Resume: Including education, work experience and professional development, professional and/or community activities, and research and publications.

7. VSU Medical Form: The form must be completed and signed by the student/applicant. This form must be received prior to enrollment, NOT prior to admission. Applicants who are currently enrolled, and those who attended VSU in the past, are not required to resubmit the Medical Form

8. Interview: All applicants will be required to participate in an interview with a standardized rubric-based evaluation tool. The department will contact applicants for interview information.

9. Verification of Lawful Presence: (For applicants who believe they qualify for in-state tuition or a residency waiver.) This is not required for individuals who do not qualify for in-state tuition or a residency waiver. This must be received prior to enrollment (if applicable), NOT prior to admission. Citizenship documentation is needed for any applicant who wishes to be considered for in-state tuition. Complete list of accepted documents and [information on residency](#). *Unless otherwise indicated above, all required documents must be received on or before the admission deadline for your file to be reviewed. It is the applicant's responsibility to allow adequate time for document delivery and to ensure receipt of documents. Please allow at least 7-10 days for delivery by mail.*

10. International Applicants: This is a partially web-based program. Student visas cannot be issued for programs that are partially online. Please review the information below for specific information and guidelines for students who were educated outside the U.S. or whose native language is not English.

[Test of English as a Foreign Language \(TOEFL\) Exam](#) – Applicants whose native language is not English (based on country of citizenship) must submit official scores on the TOEFL exam with a minimum of 79 on the internet-based test, 213 on the computer-based test, or 550 on the paper-based test. International applicants whose first language is not English but who have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. institution may be exempt from the TOEFL requirement. Evaluation of International Transcripts - Official international transcripts must have a course-by-course credential evaluation by an independent evaluation service that is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

#### **MSN Admission**

1. Graduated from a NLNAC-accredited or CCNE-accredited Bachelor of Science in Nursing program
2. A GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0-point scale
3. Evidence of valid (current unencumbered) licensure as a registered nurse

4. Three letters of recommendation from persons whose observations of the applicant's character and abilities are current. Letters of recommendation must be accompanied by the required General Graduate Recommendation Form.
5. VSU Medical Form

#### **Post-Master's Admission**

In addition to the MSN admission criteria listed above, applicants who have a master's degree in nursing and graduated with at least a 3.0 GPA may be admitted to the department's Nurse Practitioner (FNP or FPMHNP) Post-Masters Certificate Program. Because these certification programs utilize past learning experience to satisfy some course requirements, programs of study are highly individualized and tailored to the needs of the students. Therefore, the applicant must meet with the School of Nursing's Graduate Nursing Program Director/track coordinators to complete a gap analysis and design a program of study for post-master's requirements. Out-of-state applicants should become familiar with their state's regulations governing distance accessible programs.

#### **DNP Admission**

1. Graduated from a NLNAC-accredited or CCNE-accredited Master of Science in Nursing program
2. Official Transcript from your MSN Degree-Granting School and from any graduate coursework: Transcripts of coursework completed in-residence at VSU will be obtained by the Graduate School. Must hold a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from a regionally accredited institution. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale from a master's degree in nursing program is required.
3. Official international transcripts must have a course-by-course credential evaluation by an independent evaluation service that is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). Transcripts from undergraduate institutions are not required.
4. Evidence of valid (current unencumbered) licensure as a registered nurse and as an APRN: Must have current advanced practice nurse certification as a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, or certified nurse midwife. Must be actively practicing as an APRN with an unencumbered APRN license.
5. Three letters of recommendation from persons whose observations of the applicant's character and abilities are current. Letters of recommendation must be accompanied by the required General Graduate Recommendation Form.

	<p>6. Career Goal Statement: A one- to two-page paper addressing career goals related to advanced practice nursing and the attainment of the D.N.P.</p> <p>7. Current Vitae or Resume: Including education, work experience and professional development, professional and/or community activities, and research and publications.</p> <p>8. Clinical Hour Certification: <a href="#">Required Verification of Graduate Clinical and Practice Hours for MSN-DNP students</a>. Your Master's program must complete the linked document to certify the number of clinical hours completed (500 hours minimum required).</p> <p>9. VSU Medical Form: The form must be completed and signed by the student/applicant. This form must be received prior to enrollment, NOT prior to admission. Applicants who are currently enrolled, and those who attended VSU in the past, are not required to resubmit the Medical Form.</p> <p>10. Distance Learning Exemption of VSU Medical Form: The form must be completed and signed by the student/applicant. This form must be received prior to enrollment, NOT prior to admission. Applicants who are currently enrolled, and those who attended VSU in the past, are not required to resubmit the Medical Form.</p> <p>11. Interview: All applicants will be required to participate in an interview with a standardized rubric-based evaluation tool. The department will contact applicants for interview information.</p> <p>12. Verification of Lawful Presence: (For applicants who believe they qualify for in-state tuition or a residency waiver.) This is not required for individuals who do not qualify for in-state tuition or a residency waiver. This must be received prior to enrollment (if applicable), NOT prior to admission. Citizenship documentation is needed for any applicant who wishes to be considered for in-state tuition. Complete list of accepted documents and <a href="#">information on residency</a>. <i>Unless otherwise indicated above, all required documents must be received on or before the admission deadline for your file to be reviewed. It is the applicant's responsibility to allow adequate time for document delivery and to ensure receipt of documents. Please allow at least 7-10 days for delivery by mail.</i></p> <p>13. International Applicants: This is a fully web-based program. Student visas cannot be issued for programs that are fully online. Please review the information below for specific information and guidelines for students who were educated outside the U.S. or whose native language is not English. <a href="#">Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Exam</a> – Applicants whose native language is not English (based on country of citizenship) must submit official scores on the TOEFL exam with a minimum of 79 on the internet-based test, 213 on the computer-based test, or 550 on the paper-based test. International applicants whose first language is not English but who have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. institution may be exempt from</p>
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