

COLLEGE OF DUPAGE

Nursing Program

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Spring 2027

Two application cycles per year

Program starts only in the Spring & Fall semester

Program is in-person only and admits approximately 80 students per cycle

**Application Deadline:
November 5, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**

**ALL PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK (INCLUDING CNA COURSE) MUST BE
COMPLETED BY DEADLINE DATE**

Health Science Division Refund Policy

Health Science students acknowledge that program-related expenses are non-refundable if they voluntarily withdraw or are dismissed from the program for any reason. Non-refundable expenses include, but are not limited to, program application costs, tuition, laboratory fees, malpractice insurance, clinical site software account fees, health and clinical compliance requirements, Medical Document tracking software account fees, uniforms/scrubs, textbooks, supplies, and other expenses associated with enrollment or participation in the Health Science Program.

By accepting admission or registering for the program, students acknowledge their financial responsibility for these expenses and understand that withdrawal or dismissal from the program does not constitute grounds for refund of reimbursement.

The Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program at College of DuPage has been approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation/Board of Nursing and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and received reaccreditation in 2023 by The Higher Learning Commission – North Central Association. The ADN program has been awarded continuing accreditation through the Accreditation

Application Checklist for Spring 2027

- **Students interested in the Nursing program will need to complete steps 1-9. All steps must be completed to be considered for admission.**

Decision letters are sent via email approximately 4-6 weeks from the application deadline date.

There will be 2 mandatory orientation days for those accepted into the program, which will occur prior to the start on the program. You will also receive instructions on registering for Nursing courses at orientation.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all materials listed below have been completed and received by the designated office, by the application deadline.

- _____ 1. View the mandatory Nursing [Information Session](#) within the application cycle. **It is required that an applicant view an information session within a 12-month period prior to the application deadline.**
- _____ 2. Health Insurance proof **does not need to be submitted with your application for admission.** Students are expected to provide proof of a **Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan** prior to the start of the program. The comprehensive health insurance plan must cover you **throughout the length of your clinical experience**, which in most cases, consists of the entire length of the program. If you are in need of health insurance, please see important dates below and visit <https://cod.studentbenefitplans.com/bpg-insurance-individual/>.

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 1st through mid-January - Open Enrollment (only option to apply)

When health insurance open enrollment is over, certain life events may qualify you for a special enrollment period. If you are eligible, you can apply for health insurance coverage during the [Special Enrollment Period](#).

While we **cannot** guarantee your official acceptance into the program, you need to be aware that there is short timeframe of when you can purchase a health insurance plan. The purpose of this step is to make you aware that the time to research is **NOW**. Purchasing health insurance outside of this timeframe may take months and prohibit your admittance into the program.

NOTE: Obtaining health insurance is NOT an application requirement so nothing needs to be submitted, but it is a requirement to be in the program.

- _____ 3. If you are not a College of DuPage student, complete the **non-refundable \$20** [College of DuPage General Admissions Application](#) online. **This application is for general admissions to College of DuPage only; it is not an application to the Health Career Selective Enrollment programs.**
- _____ 4. To ensure that all your eligible credits are evaluated towards the admission requirements, turn in **ALL** official transcripts from institutions that you have attended.
 - a. Submit your official transcript(s) to **College of DuPage, [Office of Student Records](#)**. ***If College of DuPage is the only institution you have attended, you do not need to request official transcripts.***
 - b. Verify receipt of your transcript(s). Log into myACCESS account, click on 'myACCESS for Students', select '**My Profile**'. The receipt status of your transcript will be listed under '**Transcript Institutions**'.

NOTE: If you have an international transcript from high school or college, it must first be evaluated. Please visit the following website <https://cod.edu/records/international-transcript-evaluation.aspx> for details.

- _____ 5. Complete the **non-refundable** \$50 [Health Career Selective Enrollment Program Application](#) online by logging into the student portal at <https://inside.cod.edu>
- Click on myACCESS for Students
 - Click on the Health Careers Applications link
 - Select Health Careers Application
 - Select **Nursing Degree** when asked “What selective enrollment program are you applying to?”

NOTE: Once the application is submitted, you may not change the term or program. If you do not have a credit card, you can purchase a prepaid credit card from your local retailer.

- _____ 6. Complete the [College of DuPage Residency Verification form](#) and provide proof of residency to the **Office of Student Registration Services** by emailing to registration@cod.edu by the program application deadline date. You **MUST** send from your @dupage.edu email address.
- **If this residency requirement has not been submitted to Registration by the program application deadline date, you will not be considered for admission.**
 - **Separate Residency Verification Forms must be submitted for each program application.**

- _____ 7. Complete academic coursework **by the admission deadline**. In order to qualify for the Associate Degree in Nursing program the applicant must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in required prerequisite and general education coursework (A-D below) for the Associates Degree of Nursing.

- Courses satisfied by degree, proficiency, and by national examination will not be used in the merit evaluation grade point average calculation.
- Courses with a P (Pass) or S (Satisfaction) will not be accepted.

- A. **ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY:** Anatomy and Physiology 1551/1571 and 1552/1572 or equivalent with a grade of “C” or better. Both courses must be completed between **November 5th, 2021 – November 5th, 2026, for Spring 2027** admission.
- B. **MICROBIOLOGY:** MICRO 1420 or equivalent with a grade of “C” or better
- C. **MATH:** MATH 1102*, or higher with a grade of “C” or better with the exception of Math 1104, 1120 and 1340.

Recommended: Completion of an approved statistics course is recommended if your intentions are to continue your education for a BSN or MSN, i.e. MATH 1635; PSYCH 2280, SOCIO- 2205.

- D. Taking the courses below may help to increase your GPA but are **not** required for admission to the program. Must have a grade of ‘C’ or higher. While these are not required for admission, they are required for the degree (see Program of Study: Nursing on page 7)
 - Psychology 1100
 - English 1101
 - Psychology 2237
 - Speech 1100 or 1120
 - Humanities/Fine Arts

Recommended: Consider taking PHILO 1110. This will meet both the Humanities & Global Multicultural Contemporary Life Skills requirement.

8. Take the Elsevier/Evolve Admission Assessment HESI (A2) exam. Testing information can be obtained at the [College of DuPage Testing Center under Health Program Testing](#). Exams are scheduled by appointment only.

The Elsevier/Evolve Admission Assessment (A2) exam must be taken at the College of DuPage Testing Office (BIC 2A06). Exam must be completed by the admissions deadline date. You must take your exam within 30 days of receiving your payment link from Academic Testing. To verify that your results show in your student record, please log in to your myACCESS account; scores are available under 'Test Summary'. Please allow 3-5 business days for results to be posted to your student record from the date of the exam. If your results are not showing in your student records, please contact the Testing Office at testing@cod.edu or (630) 942-2580.

The Admission Assessment Exam consists of a number of exams. The exams used as a part of the Associate Degree in Nursing program admission are noted below. Also noted is the number of questions per exam, and the estimated testing time. A total of 4 hours is allowed for the exam. Individual scores are provided for each exam. Scores are reported in percent of answers correct.

Applicants must achieve a cumulative score of 75%. A minimum score of 75% in HESI subject areas of **Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy and Physiology** is required. **The minimum of 75% in each HESI exam area and the cumulative score of 75% must be achieved in a single exam. Scores will be taken from the most recent HESI exam.** You will also complete the Learning Style and Personality Profile sections, but these sections will not be awarded merit points.

The admission HESI exam must be taken within 2 years of the application deadline. The **exam, can be taken once every 60 days** (60-days begins with the date after you took the exam); for a total of 3 attempts in one calendar year (January 1 – December 31 current year).

English language:

- **Reading Comprehension** - Provides reading scenarios to measure reading comprehension, identifying the main idea, finding meaning of words in context, passage comprehension, making logical inferences, etc.; **60 items – 60 minutes**.
- **Vocabulary and General Knowledge** - Contains vocabulary terms that are commonly used in both general English-speaking settings and in health care fields; **50 items – 50 minutes**.

Math:

- **Math** - Contains basic math, you will need to understand ratios, percentages, fractions, decimals, military time, roman numerals, and basic algebra. Other questions cover addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. There are also several measurement conversion questions; **50 items – 50 minutes**.

Science:

- **Anatomy & Physiology** - Provides coverage of general terminology and anatomical structures and systems; **25 items – 25 minutes**.

Personality Style:

- **Personality Profile** - Uses concepts related to introversion and extroversion to classify a student's personality style; a printout with study tips is provided to the student; **25 items – 15 minutes**.
- **Learning Style** - Assesses the preferred learning style of the prospective applicant and offers test-taking and study tips suited to that learning style; **15 items – 25 minutes**.

- **Critical Thinking:** This exam is a four-choice multiple-choice test. All answers are correct; however, each choice reflects a different degree of critical thinking. Scores range from 0-1000. The higher you score, the better the ability to think critically in the discipline of nursing.

Elsevier/Evolve Admission Assessment (A2) Exam Information Reference Materials Description

Passing your admission assessment exam is the first step on the journey to becoming a successful health professional. Make sure you're prepared with **Admission Assessment Exam Review, 6th Edition** from the testing experts at HESI! It offers complete content review and nearly 400 practice questions on the topics typically found on admission exams, including math, reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, and physics. However, areas that students should focus on for admission are ***Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Math, and Anatomy and Physiology.***

[Admission Assessment Exam Review book](#)

[e-book](#)

[HESI A2 Test-Guide \(Exam Prep\)](#)

- _____ 9. Proof of completion of an approved Illinois Department of Public Health Certified Nursing Assistant Program. Approved programs can be found on the [Nurse Aide Testing website](#). This documented proof can be provided by ensuring you are registered and certified on the IDPH [Healthcare Worker registry](#) **OR** if you are not listed in the registry, you must submit a transcript or certificate showing proof of Certified Nursing Assistant program completion. Your Certified Nursing Assistant certificate can be submitted to hsadmissions@cod.edu.

Calculate Your Rank Score

Area	Rubric	Score Range
Required Courses	These courses are required with a grade of C or better. - A&P 1551/1571 (4 possible points) - A&P 1552/1572 (4 possible points) *See page 3 for A & P expiration dates - MICRO 1420 (4 possible points) - MATH 1102* or higher (4 possible points) *Math 1104, 1120 and 1340 are not acceptable to meet this requirement per college policy. Letter Grade A = 4 Points B = 3 Points C = 2 Points *Points will be awarded for grades in each course. *A grade of "D" or lower will NOT be accepted.	0 - 16 Points
Elsevier/Evolve A2	A minimum score of 75% in each HESI exam area is required. A cumulative score of 75% is required. A minimum score of 75% in each HESI exam area and the cumulative score of 75% must be achieved in a single test. Scores will not be rounded. Scores will be taken from the most recent HESI exam.	0 - 15 Points
	Points will be awarded for test scores in each HESI subject area listed below. - Reading Comprehension (3 possible points) - Vocabulary and General Knowledge (3 possible points) - Math (3 possible points) - Anatomy and Physiology (3 possible points) - Cumulative (3 possible points) Score 90 - 100% = 3 points Score 80 - 90% = 2 points Score 75 - 80% = 1 point	
GPA of Nursing General Education Courses	Cumulative GPA of general education and required courses must be 2.75 or higher. Gen Ed course are the required courses listed above and: - ENGLI 1101 - PSYCH 1100 - PSYCH 2237 - SPEEC 1100 or 1120, and - Humanities (3 credits)	No Points
Completion of Nursing General Education Courses	Points will be awarded for each completed General Education course of the program, not including "Required Courses." Courses are: English Comprehension, General Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Speech and Humanities. 5 courses completed = 5 Points 4 courses completed = 4 Points 3 courses completed = 3 Points 2 courses completed = 2 Points 1 course completed = 1 Point	0 - 5 Points
Previous Degree Earned	Points are only awarded for the highest degree earned. - Masters or above = 3 Points - Bachelors = 2 Points - Associates = 1 Point	0 - 3 Points

Total Points: (Max Points 39)

Program of Study: Nursing Program - Associate of Applied Science

Pre-Program Courses (Admission Requirements)			Lecture/Lab/Clinical	Credits: Semester/Cumulative
ANAT	1551 or 1571	Anatomy & Physiology I	Lecture/Lab	4
ANAT	1552 or 1572	Anatomy & Physiology II	Lecture/Lab	4
MICRO	1420	Microbiology	Lecture/Lab	4
MATH	MATH 1102 or higher (MATH 1104, 1120 & 1340 not accepted for AAS)	Mathematics for Health Sciences	Lecture	3
Completion of a CNA course		May take at COD or transfer in the course		
Total Credits				15/15
Program Course Sequence			Lecture/Lab/Clinical	Credits: Semester/Cumulative
FIRST SEMESTER				
NURSI	1120 ¹	Role of the Nurse I	Lecture	1
NURSI	1140 ¹	Physical Assessment	Lecture/Lab	2
NURSI	1150 ¹	Pathophysiology	Lecture	3
NURSI	1130 ²	Introduction to Core Concepts	Lecture/Lab/Clinical	4
NURSI	1170 ²	Pharmacology & Disease Process	Lecture	3
PSYCH	1100	General Psychology	Lecture	3
Total Credits				16/31
SECOND SEMESTER				
NURSI	1220 ³	Health and Illness Concepts I	Lecture/Lab/Clinical	5
NURSI	1230 ³	Family Health Concepts I	Lecture/Lab/Clinical	5
ENGLI	1101	English Composition I	Lecture	3
PSYCH	2237	Developmental Psychology: The Life Span	Lecture	3
Total Credits				16/47
THIRD SEMESTER				
NURSI	2120 ³	Health and Illness Concepts II	Lecture/Lab/Clinical	5
NURSI	2130 ³	Family Health Concepts II	Lecture/Lab/Clinical	5
SPEEC	1100 OR 1120	Fundamentals of Speech Communication OR Small Group Communication	Lecture	3
Total Credits				13/60
FOURTH SEMESTER				
NURSI	2320 ⁴	Complex Health Concepts	Lecture/Clinical	4
NURSI	2330 ⁴	Role of the Nurse II	Lecture	1
NURSI	2340 ⁵	Clinical Decision Making Practicum	Clinical Internship	2
Humanities Elective			Lecture	3
Global/Multicul or Contemp Skill			Lecture	2
Total Credits				10-12/70-72
1 - first 8 weeks	2 - second 8 weeks	3 - first or second 8 weeks	4 - first 10 weeks	5 - last 6 weeks

Nursing Essential Functions

If the ability to perform these essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations result in the inability to meet identified student learning outcomes, the student may be at risk of not successfully completing the course and/or program.

Motor Capability:

1. Move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces
2. Squat, crawl, bend/stoop, reach above shoulder level, use standing balance, and climb stairs
3. Lift and carry up to 50 lbs., and exert up to 100 lbs. force or push/pull
4. Use hands repetitively; use manual dexterity; sufficient fine motor function
5. Must be able to walk and stand for extended periods of time
6. Perform CPR
7. Travel to and from academic and clinical sites

Sensory Capability:

1. Coordinate verbal and manual instruction
2. Auditory ability sufficient to hear verbal communication from clients and members of the health team; includes ability to respond to emergency signals
3. Discern soft sounds, such as those associated with taking a blood pressure
4. Visual acuity to acquire information from documents such as charts
5. Comfortable working in close physical proximity to patient

Communication Ability:

1. Communicate effectively in English with patients, families, and other health care providers, both verbally and in writing
2. Effectively adapt communication for intended audience
3. Interact; establish rapport with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds
4. Assume the role of a health care team member
5. Function effectively under supervision
6. Sufficient command of the English language in order to read and retrieve information from lectures, textbooks, as well as understand medical terminology
7. Skills include computer literacy

Problem Solving Ability:

1. Function effectively under stress
2. Respond appropriately to emergencies
3. Adhere to infection control procedures
4. Demonstrate problem-solving skills in patient care (measure, calculate, reason, prioritize, and synthesize data)
5. Use sound judgment and safety precautions
6. Address problems or questions to the appropriate persons at the appropriate time
7. Organize and prioritize job tasks

Behavioral Skills and Professionalism:

1. Follow policies and procedures required by academic and clinical settings
2. Adheres to College of DuPage Academic Honesty Policy (per College Catalog)
3. Adheres to College of DuPage Code of Conduct (per College Catalog)
4. Abides by the guidelines set forth in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA, i.e., the national privacy act)

Priority for Admission

1. In-District applicants which includes:
 - In-District applicants who reside within Community College District 502
 - Applicants who are part of the [CAREER Consortium Agreement](#) (meaning your residing community college does not offer the particular program in which you are applying)
 - Applicants working full-time in-district (proof of in-district employment will be required each semester)
2. Out-of-District applicants (who are NOT part of the CAREER Consortium Agreement)

Nursing Transfer Students

(Students **NOT** previously enrolled in the College of DuPage ADN Program)

1. Student must complete an Application Checklist step 2 – 8 (pg. 2-4)
2. Student must submit all nursing course syllabi to the Nursing Department to directorofnursing@cod.edu for review before applying.
3. Student must submit a letter from the Director of Nursing at their college/university of attendance that states: “The student is eligible for readmission without the need for remedial measures and the student left the nursing program in good standing” to the directorofnursing@cod.edu. This letter is required as part of the admission process prior to the deadline date.
4. Student must meet with a Program Chair for an individual information session after steps 1-3 are completed. Please email a Program Chair to schedule an appointment.

Program Chairs:

Dr. Sarah Born DNP, MSN-Ed, RN, CHSE borns@cod.edu

Dr. Larinda Dixon, Ed.D., MSN, RN dixonl@cod.edu

5. Student will be assessed on a case-by-case basis after a review of completed nursing transcripts have been completed by the Program Chairs and/or the Director of Nursing. Students who have failed out of other Associate Degree or Bachelor’s Degree nursing programs are **not eligible** for advanced placement.

NOTE:

- There is **no option** for LPN transition students to be considered for Advanced Placement.
- “All application documents delivered to the College of DuPage pertaining to a health sciences admissions file become the property of the College of DuPage and **will not** be returned to applicants. This includes but is not limited to transcripts, letters of recommendation, clinical evaluation forms or outside test reports.”
- Requests for admission **are not** automatically carried over to the following cycle. Applicants not accepted for the cycle in which they originally applied are asked to pay the \$50 non-refundable Health Career application fee and submit any/all supporting documents as listed on the Application Checklist of the Application Packet requirements (if applicable).

Other Important Information to Consider

Please review the links below for other important information. Students must be able to meet all requirements in order to participate in the nursing program.

[Clinical Requirements](#) (completed after acceptance into the program and participation in the program orientation)

[Professional Conduct](#)

[Program Coursework/ Curriculum plan](#)

[Estimated Program Costs](#)

Tips/Hints/Clues/Necessary Information

- Make sure your name and contact information, including email and postal addresses are current and correct in myACCESS.
- Official name changes should be processed through the Office of Student Records (SRC 2150).
- Official address changes should be processed through Student Registration Services (SSC 2221).
- You **MUST** also notify the Health Science Admissions Office via email hsadmissions@cod.edu of **any** changes made to your personal information (name, mailing address, email address, etc.) after you have submitted your ADN program application.
- All prospective nursing students are strongly encouraged to enroll in READ-0471 Study Skills Seminar or HLTHS 1110 Medical Terminology; or, go to College of DuPage Learning Commons to assist you in your reading comprehension, math and verbal skills.

NOTE: Failure to inform appropriate departments of name changes and contact information may result in not getting time sensitive information related to your admission decision.