

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The School of Nursing offers three undergraduate nursing programs:

On-Campus BSN (p. 1), **RN to BSN (p. 1)**, and **Community College Nursing Partnership (CCNP) (p. 1)**.

With a **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** from the University of Kansas School of Nursing, graduates are prepared for success in any health care setting. KU BSN graduates are ready to work in hospitals, community health agencies, industrial or long-term care facilities, as travel nurses, flight nurses, and many other diverse clinical settings.

Graduates of the KU School of Nursing baccalaureate program provide care to patients across the lifespan and in multiple settings; many graduates go on to become charge nurses and move into other leadership positions in Kansas and across the country. They are also well-prepared for continuing their education through master's and doctoral programs in nursing.

Undergraduate Admission to the School of Nursing

On-Campus BSN Program (p. 1) (p. 1)

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Community College Nursing Partnership Program (CCNP)

On-Campus BSN Program

Students enter the On-Campus BSN program after completing 58 semester credit hours of prerequisite work in an accredited college or university. Admission to the school is competitive. A minimum grade-point average of 2.75 is required to apply.

Pre-Nursing Advising

Pre-nursing advisors are available to current KU students by appointment through J (<https://advising.ku.edu/>) ayhawk Academic Advising (<https://advising.ku.edu/>) in Summerfield Hall. Advising by the KUMC academic advisor can also be arranged by calling (913) 588-1619 or emailing soninfo@kumc.edu. The KUMC School of Nursing advisor provides students with information about the nursing profession, help with course selection in preparation for nursing application, and guidance in the admission process. Students are encouraged to work with an academic advisor to ensure all prerequisites are met in a timely fashion.

Admission Procedure

Priority applications for the on-campus BSN program are accepted from **July 1 to November 1** for admission the following fall semester (both campuses); the last day to apply for fall is January 15. Priority applications for the on-campus BSN program are accepted from **January 15 to May 1** for admission the following spring semester (Kansas City only); the last day to apply for spring admission is June 15. Students applying by the priority deadline receive weighted consideration for admission and are eligible for admission scholarships. Applications are accepted through the KU Medical Center online application (<https://gograd.ku.edu/apply/?sr=ca7d45b3-1f3c-471c-89d2-5abe042c93bb>) site.

Admission Criteria

The School of Nursing is meeting the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected based on college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

Locations

The School of Nursing has two campuses: one on the University of Kansas Medical Center campus in Kansas City, KS, about one hour east of the Lawrence Campus, and one on the University of Kansas Medical Center campus in Salina, KS, about two hours west of the Lawrence campus.

Course Requirements

Within the 58 hours required for admission to the on-campus BSN program, the following must be included:

Humanities and Social Sciences

Courses in English composition and literature, public speech, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, ethics, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
English		
ENGL 101	Composition	3
ENGL 102	Critical Reading and Writing	3
or ENGL 105	Honors Introduction to English	
Social Sciences		
PSYC 104	General Psychology	3
SOC 104	Elements of Sociology	3
or SOC 160	Social Problems and American Values	
PSYC 250	Human Development (ABSC 160, ABSC 250, or PSYC 333 also allowed)	3
Humanities		
PHIL 160	Introduction to Ethics (PHIL 370 also allowed)	3
Arts and Humanities - Must satisfy KBOR Systemwide General Education Bucket 6		3
Oral Communication		
COMS 130	Public Speaking (COMS 244 also allowed)	3

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, biology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are required, but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Natural Sciences		
BIOL 100 & BIOL 102	Principles of Biology and Principles of Biology Laboratory (BIOL 150 & BIOL 154 also accepted)	4
BIOL 200 & BIOL 203	Basic Microbiology and Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	5
BIOL 240 & BIOL 241	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory	5
BIOL 246	Principles of Human Physiology	3
CHEM 110 or CHEM 130	Introductory Chemistry General Chemistry I	5
HSES 330 or HSCI 320	Principles of Nutrition and Health Principles of Nutrition	3
Mathematics and Statistics		
MATH 101	College Algebra: _____ (more advanced math may be substituted)	3
MATH 107 or PSYC 210	Introductory Statistics Statistics in Psychological Research	3

Electives

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 4 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 58 credit hours required for admission. Examples of performance-based courses include physical education courses and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

RN to BSN Program

Through the RN to BSN program, licensed registered nurses (RN) with associate degrees in nursing can complete the Bachelor of Science (BSN) degree online.

Admission Procedure

The RN to BSN program is not accepting applications for the 2025-2026 academic year. Advising is available year-round by calling (913) 588-1619 or emailing soninfo@kumc.edu; applicants are encouraged to reach out with questions.

Admission Criteria

Eligible applicants must have current United States RN licensure, an associate degree in nursing from an ACEN-accredited college, and completion of 60 prerequisite credit hours with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50.

The School of Nursing is meeting the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who, in the judgment of the student admission and progression committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected based on college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental

status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

Course Requirements

Within the 60 prerequisite credit hours required for admission to the RN to BSN program, the following must be included:

Humanities and Social Sciences

Courses in English composition and literature, speech or interpersonal communication, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, ethics, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
English		
ENGL 101	Composition	3
ENGL 102 or ENGL 105	Critical Reading and Writing Honors Introduction to English	3
Social Sciences		
PSYC 104	General Psychology	3
SOC 104 or SOC 160	Elements of Sociology Social Problems and American Values	3
PSYC 250	Human Development (or ABSC 160 or ABSC 250 or PSYC 333)	3
Humanities		
PHIL 160	Introduction to Ethics (or PHIL 370)	3
Oral Communication		
COMS 130	Public Speaking (or COMS 244)	3

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include a laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are required but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Natural Sciences		
BIOL 200	Basic Microbiology	3
BIOL 203	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	2
BIOL 240	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy	3
BIOL 241	Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory	2
BIOL 246	Principles of Human Physiology	3
CHEM 110 or CHEM 130	Introductory Chemistry General Chemistry I	5
HSES 330 or HSCI 320	Principles of Nutrition and Health Principles of Nutrition	3
Mathematics and Statistics		
MATH 101	College Algebra: _____ (or exemption)	3
MATH 107 or PSYC 210	Introductory Statistics Statistics in Psychological Research	3

Electives

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, oral communication, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 8 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 60 credit hours required for admission. Examples of performance-based courses include physical education courses and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

Community College Nursing Partnership Program (CCNP)

The Community College Nursing Partnership (CCNP) program is a collaboration between nationally-accredited associate degree schools of nursing in Kansas and the University of Kansas School of Nursing. Through this collaboration, students first complete 59-62 credit hours of prerequisite liberal arts and science courses, and then simultaneously complete the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) at a partner community college and 30 credit hours of BSN courses online through KU School of Nursing. A detailed course plan for each partnership program can be found on the School of Nursing website (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-nursing/academics/degree-programs/community-college-nursing-partnership.html>).

Admission Procedure

Students should apply for admission to the CCNP immediately upon notification of admission to their selected ADN program, but no later than the following dates: **July 1** for fall semester and **December 1** for spring semester. Applications are accepted through the KU Medical Center online application (<https://gograd.ku.edu/apply/?sr=ca7d45b3-1f3c-471c-89d2-5abe042c93bb>) site.

Admission Criteria

Eligible applicants must be admitted to a participating community college's Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program and complete 59-62 credit hours of community college specific prerequisite credit hours with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50. The School of Nursing is meeting the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who, in the judgment of the student admission and progression committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected on the basis of college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

Course Requirements

Within the 59-62 hours required for admission to the CCNP program, the following must be included:

Humanities and Social Sciences

Courses in English composition and literature, speech or interpersonal communication, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, ethics, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
English		
ENGL 101	Composition	3
ENGL 102	Critical Reading and Writing	3
or ENGL 105	Honors Introduction to English	
Social Sciences		
PSYC 104	General Psychology	3
SOC 104	Elements of Sociology	3
or SOC 160	Social Problems and American Values	
PSYC 250	Human Development (or ABSC 160 or ABSC 250 or PSYC 333)	3
Humanities		
PHIL 160	Introduction to Ethics (or PHIL 370)	3
Arts and Humanities - Must satisfy KBOR Systemwide General Education Bucket 6		3
Oral Communication		
Select one of the following:		3
COMS 130	Public Speaking (or COMS 244)	3

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include a laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are required but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Natural Sciences		
BIOL 200	Basic Microbiology	3
BIOL 203	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	2
BIOL 240	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy	3
BIOL 241	Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory	2
BIOL 246	Principles of Human Physiology	3
CHEM 110	Introductory Chemistry	5
or CHEM 130	General Chemistry I	
HSES 330	Principles of Nutrition and Health	3
or HSCI 320	Principles of Nutrition	
Mathematics and Statistics		
MATH 101	College Algebra: _____	3
MATH 107	Introductory Statistics	3
or PSYC 210	Statistics in Psychological Research	

Electives

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, oral communication, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 8 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 60 credit hours required for admission. Examples of performance-based courses include physical education courses and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

Additional Requirements

Students from certain community colleges will be required to take Nursing Assessment, Pathophysiology and/or Pharmacology as prerequisite courses. See the KU School of Nursing website (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-nursing.html>) for detailed requirements for each specific partnership school.

The BSN degree is granted to candidates recommended by the School of Nursing as having successfully fulfilled all prescribed requirements, including the courses listed below. A total of 120 credit hours is required for the BSN, with a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. Only courses in which a grade of C or higher is earned count toward graduation. The last 30 hours completed for the degree must have been taken in residence at KU. A portion of total hours applied toward graduation may be earned through credit by examination. An applicant who receives a failing grade of D or F in the semester prior to the admission decision (e.g., Fall 2025 for Fall 2026 entry or Spring 2026 for Spring 2027 entry) will be removed from consideration. The professional portion of the BSN program can be completed in 2 academic years of full-time study.

Pre-Licensure BSN Program

The professional portion of the BSN program can be completed in 2 academic years of full-time study. In addition to the required courses listed below, each student must take a 2-credit hour elective.

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 327	Communicating and Managing Healthcare Information	3
NURS 328	Professional Development I: Introduction to the Profession	2
NURS 329	Alterations in Physiological Functioning I	2
NURS 330	Pharmacology I	2
NURS 331	Basic Assessment and Clinical Skills	3
NURS 332	Health and Illness: Foundations of Nursing	3
NURS 333	Practicum I: Foundations of Nursing	1
NURS 334	Professional Development II: Image, Roles, and Ethics	3
NURS 335	Quality Improvement	2
NURS 336	Alterations in Physiological Functioning II	3
NURS 337	Pharmacology II	2
NURS 338	Health and Illness: Nursing Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 339	Practicum II: Nursing Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 382	Honors Seminar (if in Nursing Honors Program)	1
NURS 471	Development of a Microsystem Leader	3
NURS 472	Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice	2
NURS 473	Professional Development III: Transition to Practice	2
NURS 474	Health and Illness: Nursing with Diverse Populations	4
NURS 475	Practicum III: Nursing within Dynamic Microsystems	3
NURS 476	Nursing in an Evolving Healthcare System	4
NURS 477	Practicum V: Capstone	3
NURS 478	Integration of Concepts and Clinical Competencies	1
NURS 480	Practicum IV: Leadership in a Population Health Setting	2

NURS 481	Honors Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice (if in Nursing Honors Program)	2
NURS 482	Honors Practicum I (if in Nursing Honors Program)	2
NURS 483	Honors Practicum II (if in Nursing Honors Program)	2
NURS 485	Population Health, From Local to Global I	2
NURS 486	Population Health, Local to Global II	2

RN to BSN Program

The RN to BSN program provides registered nurses a way to complete the baccalaureate degree in a flexible online format. The program can be completed in as little as one calendar year of full-time study or up to five years of part-time study. A total of 120 semester credit hours is required for the degree, comprised of 60 credit hours of liberal arts prerequisite courses and 60 credit hours of nursing courses and evidence of RN licensure. NURS 326 and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio or transfer from approved associate degree programs. The last 30 hours completed for the degree must be taken at KU.

KU RN to BSN Courses

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 320	Pathophysiology for the Practicing Nurse	3
NURS 326	Pharmacology for the Practicing Nurse	3
NURS 352	Client Assessment for the Practicing Nurse	3
NURS 441	Evidence Based Practice in Nursing	3
NURS 443	Developing the Baccalaureate Nurse Role	3
NURS 444	Using Technology to Enhance Client Safety	3
NURS 446	Population Based Health Care for the Practicing Nurse	3
NURS 447	Nursing Practice within the Clinical Health Care Micro System	3
NURS 448	Scholarly Inquiry for Quality Improvement	3
NURS 449	Nursing Practice within the Healthcare Organization	3
NURS 451	Navigating the Influences of the Health Care Macro-Environment	3
NURS 492	Clinical Leadership Practicum for the Practicing Nurse	2-3
Total Hours		35-36

Portfolio/Transfer Credits

Code	Title	Hours
	Introduction to Professional Nursing	2
	Assessment/Therapeutic Interventions	3
	Foundations of Nursing	4
	Image, Roles & Ethics	3
	Nursing Across the Lifespan	6
	Nursing Diverse Populations	7
	NURS 326 and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio from approved associate degree programs.	0-6
Total Hours		25-31

Community College Nursing Partnership Program (CCNP)

Students first complete 59-62 credit hours of community college specific prerequisite liberal arts and science courses, and then simultaneously complete the associate degree in nursing at a partner community college and 30 credit hours of BSN courses online through KU School of Nursing.

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 356	Using Technology and Informatics to Improve Patient Safety	3
NURS 357	Introduction to the Baccalaureate Nurse Role	3
NURS 411	Population-Based Nursing	3
NURS 412	Nursing in Healthcare Microsystems	3
NURS 413	Ethics, Advocacy, and Collaboration in Nursing Practice	3
NURS 414	Organizational Influences on Nursing Practice	3
NURS 415	Improving Healthcare Quality	3
NURS 416	Evidence-Based Nursing Practice	3
NURS 417	Influences of the Healthcare Macro-System on Nursing Practice	3
NURS 418	Clinical Leadership Practicum	3
Total Hours		30

Portfolio/Transfer Credits

Code	Title	Hours
	Introduction to Professional Nursing	2
	Assessment/Therapeutic Interventions	3
	Foundations of Nursing	4
	Image, Roles & Ethics	3
	Nursing Across the Lifespan	6
	Nursing Diverse Populations	7
	Pharmacology	3
	Nursing Assessment	3
Total Hours		31

On-Campus BSN Plan of Study

Year 1		Hours
Semester 1	Semester 2	Hours
BIOL 100 or 150 (Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE)) ^{040***}	3 CHEM 110 or 130	5
BIOL 102 or 154 (Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE)) ^{040***}	1 ENGL 102 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3
ENGL 101 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3 SOC 104 or 160 (Core 34: Social and Behavioral Sciences (SGE)) ⁰⁵⁰	3
MATH 101 (Core 34: Math and Statistics (SGE)) ⁰³⁰	3 PHIL 160 or 370 (Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE)) ⁰⁶⁰	3
Arts and Humanities	3	3
Elective (Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE)) ⁰⁶⁰		

PSYC 104 (Core 34: Social and Behavioral Sciences (SGE)) ^{050***}	3	
		16
		14

Year 2		
Semester 1	Hours Semester 2	Hours
BIOL 240	3 BIOL 200	3
BIOL 241	2 BIOL 203	2
BIOL 246	3 HSES 330 or HSCI 320	3
PSYC 250, ABSC 160, ABSC 250, or PSYC 333	3 PSYC 210 or MATH 107	3
Elective	3 COMS 130 (Core 34: Communications (SGE)) ⁰²⁰	3
Apply to BSN Program by Jan 15, 2026 for Fall 2026 entry		Apply to BSN Program by Jun 15, 2026 for Spring 2027 entry
		14
		14

Year 3		
Semester 1	Hours Semester 2	Hours
NURS 327	3 NURS 334	3
NURS 328	2 NURS 335	2
NURS 329	2 NURS 336	3
NURS 330	2 NURS 337	2
NURS 331	3 NURS 338	3
NURS 332	3 NURS 339	3
NURS 333	1	
		16
		16

Year 4		
Semester 1	Hours Semester 2	Hours
NURS 471	3 NURS 476	4
NURS 472	2 NURS 477	3
NURS 473	2 NURS 478	1
NURS 474	4 NURS 480	2
NURS 475	3 NURS 486	2
NURS 485	2 Nursing Elective (if not completed in an earlier semester)	2
		16
		14

Total Hours 120

Sample schedules for the RN to BSN and Community College Nursing Partnership programs are available online on the School of Nursing website (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-nursing.html>).

Notes:

* - This course is a Required major course and is also part of Core 34: Systemwide General Education. If this course is not taken to fulfill the Core 34:SGE requirement, it must be taken in place of elective hours.

** - This course is a Recommended Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This specific course is not required but is recommended by the program's faculty.

*** - This course is a Required Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. This program is approved by the Kansas Board of Regents to require this specific Core 34: Systemwide General Education course. If

a student did not take this course it must be taken in addition to other degree requirements.

University Honors Program

The School of Nursing encourages all qualified on-campus BSN undergraduates to participate in the University Honors Program (<http://www.honors.ku.edu/>).

Departmental Honors Program

The School of Nursing's Departmental Honors Program offers enhanced educational opportunities for the most academically talented, promising, and motivated baccalaureate students while providing a foundation for leadership development and articulation into graduate education.

Students in the School of Nursing Honors Program develop and complete a research or scholarly inquiry project under the guidance of a faculty research mentor. Students must make formal application and be admitted to the Honors Program to take honors courses. Once admitted to the program, students may use departmental honors courses to help meet the requirements of the University Honors Program.

Selection criteria for the Nursing Honors Program are as follows:

- Enrollment in the Pre-Licensure BSN program
- Full-time status
- Completion of Nursing Honors Program application - available during the first semester of nursing school
- Overall grade-point average of 3.25 or higher and contingent upon earning a nursing grade-point average of 3.5 or higher at the end of the fall semester (exceptions are considered on an individual basis)

Academic progression through the honors curriculum is evaluated on an individual basis. To graduate with departmental honors from the School of Nursing, the student must attain an overall grade-point average of 3.25 with a nursing grade-point average of 3.5 and satisfactory grades in all clinical practicum courses, complete all required courses in the Nursing Honors Program, and have their oral and written reports of research/scholarly inquiry findings certified.

The honors curriculum comprises the following courses:

Code	Title	Hours
NURS 382	Honors Seminar (spring of junior year)	1
NURS 481	Honors Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice (summer between junior and senior year)	2
NURS 482	Honors Practicum I (fall of senior year)	2
NURS 483	Honors Practicum II (spring of senior year)	2

Students who successfully complete the Nursing Honors Program are recognized in the following ways:

- The notation of Departmental Honors on the official university transcript
- An official certificate indicating graduation with BSN Honors
- Listing in the School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony program
- Formal recognition at the School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony
- Listing in the University of Kansas Commencement Program
- Formal recognition at the Cording Ceremony on the Lawrence campus for students also completing the University Honors Program

For more information, contact the School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (<https://nursing.kumc.edu/about-the-school/contact-us.html>).

TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION University of Kansas School of Nursing

I. Introduction

All individuals admitted to the University of Kansas School of Nursing will be asked to verify that they can meet the following Technical Standards, with or without accommodation(s). In courses or programs without clinical components, or involving no direct client care, the Technical Standards may be modified. After acceptance, but before admission to the School of Nursing, students in all programs must be able to document current certification/evidence of completion of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for healthcare providers. This requires being able to successfully complete both the written and practical test for certification. In addition, with or without accommodation, the following abilities and expectations must be met by all students, undergraduate and graduate, admitted to the School of Nursing.

II. Standards

A. Observation/Sensory-motor: Applicants must be able to observe demonstrations and learn from experiences in the basic sciences, including but not limited to, physiology and pharmacology, microbiology and pathophysiology laboratory situations. Applicants must be able to observe and learn from experiences in the clinical nursing laboratory such as the following examples: accurately read gradients/calibrations on a syringe; measure medications accurately; accurately recognize color changes on chemical reaction strips; assess heart, breath, abdominal sounds; assess normal and abnormal color changes in the skin; observe pupil changes; and observe digital or waveform readings.

B. Communication: Communications include not only speech but also reading, writing, and computer usage, including handheld digital access. Applicants must be able to communicate accurately and effectively with patients, caregivers, physicians, other health professionals, clinical facility staff, faculty and staff, peers, and the community in general in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications.

C. Psychomotor: Applicants should have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers. Applicants should be physically able to collect specimens and perform basic tests (such as glucose finger stick, urine dipstick). Applicants should be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Examples of emergency treatment reasonably required of nurses are cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administration of intravenous medication, application of pressure to stop bleeding, and assist in moving and lifting patients using proper body mechanics. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and using tactile and visual senses.

D. Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative: Applicants must be able to comprehend and interpret documents written in English. Applicants should have cognitive abilities including measurements, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Critical thinking is the ability to synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a client's history, physical exam findings and diagnostic studies.

Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of nurses, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, the applicant should be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures in order to understand normal and abnormal anatomy and physiology.

E. Behavioral and Social Attributes: Applicants must possess the emotional health required to utilize their intellectual abilities fully, exercise good judgment, complete all responsibilities attendant to the nursing diagnosis and care of patients promptly, and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and their families. Applicants must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal communication skills, interest and motivation are all personal qualities that should be assessed during the admissions and education process. As a component of nursing education, a student must demonstrate ethical behavior including adherence to the professional nursing and student honor codes. The honor code at the KU School of Nursing is the Professional Integrity System (PROFITS). KU PROFITS is a peer-oriented integrity system to promote an environment where academic honesty is valued and expected.

III. Reasonable Accommodation

Applicants who disclose a disability are considered for admission if they are otherwise qualified so long as such accommodation does not significantly alter the essential requirements of the curriculum and the educational program, or significantly affect the safety of patient care or others. When applicants or students disclose a disability, the provision of reasonable accommodations will be considered in an attempt to assist these individuals in meeting these required technical standards. Applicants whose response indicates that they cannot meet one or more of the expectations will be reviewed further by the University's Office for Academic Accommodations, with applicant and faculty input, to determine if any reasonable accommodations are possible to facilitate successful completion of the nursing curriculum and preparation for the national registry examination.

It is important to give persons interested in enrolling in nursing a realistic view of the vigorous demands of the School of Nursing's theoretical and practicum curriculum while at the same time investigating reasonable accommodations. Whether or not a requested accommodation is reasonable will be determined on a case by case basis. Interested individuals may schedule an orientation visit to the nursing skills laboratory and actual sites of the University of Kansas Hospital and/or University of Kansas Medical Center. These orientation visits enable persons to assess their interest and ability to function in the actual clinical areas and in learning and demonstrating manual skills.