

**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

THE PATHWAYS OPTION

General Information

The NMSU Pathways Bachelor Science in Nursing (BSN) option is an alternative entry path for students who have a bachelor's or master's degree in a field other than nursing, and who wish to receive their Bachelor of Science in Nursing. It allows students to take a reduced number of prerequisite credits before entering the BSN program, since they receive credit for academic work completed in their prior degree program.

The Pathways option is offered in four (4) full semesters. Students can enter either in the fall semester, beginning fall 2008 or the spring semester, beginning spring 2009.

Pathways Prerequisites

The applicant must have:

1. A minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale in the undergraduate degree.
2. A minimum 3.0 (grade of B) on a 4.0 scale in the required prerequisite 6 credit anatomy and physiology course(s), and one prerequisite 3 credit science course (Biology, Microbiology, Chemistry or Physics). These courses must be completed prior to application to the Pathways program and must be no older than 7 years as of the start of the nursing program. If an applicant took a prerequisite course over 7 years ago and does not wish to repeat it, the applicant may take, at their own expense, the appropriate test at the NMSU School of Nursing to waive out of that prerequisite course. The test must be passed with an 85%. Prerequisite courses completed online from a **nationally accredited** college, university or junior college will be acceptable, including laboratory components. It is the applicant's responsibility to make certain that national accreditation has been awarded.
3. A Statement of Intent (see Pathways application)
4. Admission to New Mexico State University as a second degree seeking student.
5. Completion by deadline of all clinical clearance requirements prior to beginning of nursing semester.
6. A medical terminology course is highly recommended.
7. Criminal background check, fingerprinting, and drug testing will be required as a condition of admission.

Selection of Pathways Students

Pathways students are selected by committee from among other Pathways applicants only and are not compared with the traditional BSN applicants or the Roadrunner accelerated nursing applicants in the selection process.

Procedure:

1. Apply to New Mexico State University (NMSU) as a new transfer second degree seeking. For students who graduated from NMSU, apply as a readmit second degree seeking. www.nmsu.edu
2. Request **official** transcripts from all colleges or other post-secondary educational institutions to be mailed directly to:

Office of Admissions, MSC 3A
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

3. Apply to the School of Nursing, Pathways BSN Option for Non-nursing graduates. Application consists of :
 - a. Pathways application (attached)
 - b. Official transcripts from EACH institution you have attended. Request these institutions send the transcripts directly to you in sealed envelopes for inclusion in your packet to the Pathways program. If you have attended NMSU you may include an official or unofficial transcript from NMSU within your packet.
 - c. Statement of Intent (attached)

This is a self-managed application with ALL materials to be submitted in ONE PACKET to:

Pathways Second Degree BSN Option
School of Nursing, MSC 3446
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001

All required materials must be submitted to the Pathways program by 5:00 pm on the deadline date. Spring admission is September 1, 2008. Fall admission is February 1, 2009.

Timeline

Sept 01, 2008

- ___ Application to NMSU Admissions Office must be on file complete with official transcripts
- ___ Complete application packet for PATHWAYS program submitted to the School of Nursing
- ___ Proof of completion of Anatomy, Physiology Course(s) and Science course (chemistry, biology, physics)

Week of October 1, 2008

- ___ Letters of acceptance and alternate status with complete instructions for clinical clearances, background checks and fingerprinting will be sent to applicants.
- ___ Background check and fingerprinting will be required at candidate's expense.

October 15, 2008

- ___ Letters of acceptance and alternate status must be returned.
- ___ Fee for background check must accompany acceptance forms. Background check and fingerprinting will be required at candidate's expense.

November 1, 2008

- ___ Clinical clearances must be completed and received by the School of Nursing

Orientation for all students will be announced in acceptance letter.

Instruction Begins

January 14, Spring Semester 2009