

## NURSING PROGRAM APPLICATION FAQs

### SECTION 1: GETTING STARTED

1. **What if I am a new student, just starting out, and I need help with getting started, sequencing the prerequisite courses, or have questions about academic and career options?**

New students who have not yet completed the prerequisite courses, and/or those who need academic or career advising related to the Nursing Program, may contact [Eun Ju Livings](#), in the Advising, Career, and Transfer Center for assistance.

2. **What do I need to do before starting the application for the Nursing Program?**

Applicants need to have completed the seven prerequisite courses and the TEAS examination prior to applying. For transfer of credits from other colleges, refer to the [Transfer of Credits process](#) and additional information in **Section 2** of this document.

Applicants also need to have an active SPSCC student account, which includes an active ctcLink ID number and an active SPSCC email address (Clipper ID). Currently-enrolled SPSCC students will already have active student accounts.

Returning SPSCC students (those who have not attended classes at SPSCC for two or more quarters), will need to [reapply for general admissions](#) prior to starting the Nursing Program application.

New SPSCC students will need to complete the college's [general admissions application](#) and activate [their SPSCC email address \(Clipper ID\)](#), prior to starting the Nursing Program application.

### SECTION 2: PREREQUISITES

1. **What are the prerequisites for the program?**

A. The seven prerequisite courses are listed below. Note that all transfer courses must have been completed at a [regionally-accredited](#) institution. There are no exceptions to the minimum grade requirements.

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|---|---|
| • BIOL& 241 Human A & P 1               | (minimum grade requirement: "B+" or better) |
| • BIOL& 242 Human A & P 2               | (minimum grade requirement: "B+" or better) |
| • BIOL& 260 Microbiology                | (minimum grade requirement: "B" or better)  |
| • CHEM& 121 Intro to Chemistry          | (minimum grade requirement: "B" or better)  |
| • ENGL& 101 or 102: English Composition | (minimum grade requirement: "B" or better)  |
| • MATH& 146 Intro to Statistics         | (minimum grade requirement: "B" or better)  |
| • PSYC& 200 Lifespan Psychology         | (minimum grade requirement: "B" or better)  |

B. The TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) exam is a required component of the application. Minimum required scores for each TEAS section are listed below. There are no exceptions to the minimum score requirements.

- Reading: 58.7%
- Mathematics: 58.7%
- Science: 58.7%
- English: 58.7%

An additional 30 credits of general education are required for graduation from the Nursing Program. Though not required for admission to the program, it is recommended that applicants complete these courses prior to entry. These include:

- BIOL& 160 or BIOL& 211 Biology (5 credits)
- PSYC& 100 General Psychology (5 credits)
- NUTR& 101 Nutrition (5 credits)
- Communications elective from DTA list (5 credits)
- Humanities electives from DTA list (10 credits) – Five (5) of those credits are embedded into the nursing program once accepted

2. **Are there any exceptions to the prerequisite course grades?**

There are no exceptions to the prerequisite course grades. Prior to applying, potential applicants would need to repeat courses in order to achieve the minimum requirements (or higher).

3. **What if I have a question about the equivalency of a prerequisite course that I completed at another college?**

Applicants with a specific question about a prerequisite course that was completed at another college may contact [Sheryl Kermoade](#), who is one of the Credentials Evaluators. Please note that this is not meant to be a shortcut to a full transcript evaluation for all prerequisite courses.

If a potential applicant requires a full transcript evaluation to determine if they have met all of the program prerequisites, they need to submit an official transcript(s) under the [Transfer of Credits process](#), which may take up to twelve (12) weeks to complete during peak times. Evaluations are processed in the order received. Potential applicants need to submit transcripts in advance of this timeline. Evaluations cannot be expedited to meet application deadlines.

4. **Is there a time (age) limit for the prerequisite courses, or is there a limit on the number of times a prerequisite course was repeated?**

There is no time (age) limit on when any of the seven prerequisite courses were completed. There is also no limit on the number of times an applicant has repeated a prerequisite course to earn a qualifying grade.

5. **What if I completed one or more of the prerequisite courses at The Evergreen State College or another college that issues narrative evaluations instead of letter grades?**

An applicant in this case would still be able to apply to the program, but they will be required to obtain additional information to complete their application file. More information about the additional requirement will be communicated after the application has been received. Questions regarding this process may be directed to [Sheryl Kermoade](#), who is one of the Credentials Evaluators at SPSCC.

6. **What if I am enrolled in one of the prerequisite courses during the open application period and my final grades won't post until after the deadline?**

For the **Summer** start application, applicants must be on track to complete all prerequisite courses by the end of **Winter Quarter** of the same year. Prerequisite courses may not be in progress during Spring Quarter for the Summer start.

For the **Fall** start application, all applicants must be on track to complete all prerequisite courses by the end of **Spring Quarter** of the same year. Prerequisite courses may not be in progress during Summer Quarter for the Fall start.

Applicants will notate in-progress courses within the application, and final grades will be checked at the end of the quarter (prior to the lottery) to determine eligibility.

If an applicant is enrolled in an in-progress course at another college, they need to submit a copy of their class schedule with the application. An updated, unofficial transcript will be due immediately after grades post, which must be received prior to the lottery.

If an applicant is enrolled in an in-progress course at SPSCC, a copy of the class schedule is not required with the application because staff have access to the applicant's SPSCC class schedule.

## **SECTION 3: TEAS EXAMINATION**

1. **Do I need to take the TEAS exam at SPSCC, or can I take it elsewhere?**

Applicants may complete the TEAS examination at any testing location that offers it. Applicants will submit their TEAS examination results as an attachment to the application using the upload feature.

2. **Are there any exceptions to the TEAS scores requirements?**

There are no exceptions to the minimum TEAS scores requirements (58.7% or higher in each of the four sections). Prior to applying, potential applicants would need to retake the TEAS exam in order to achieve the minimum requirements (or higher).

3. **I took the TEAS examination at the SPSCC Assessment Center. Do you have my scores already?**  
SPSCC staff do not receive any TEAS scores directly or automatically from ATI (the TEAS examination company). Applicants are required to submit their TEAS exam documentation as an attachment to the application.
4. **Is there a time (age) limit on the TEAS test?**  
Applicants need to have completed the TEAS test within three (3) years of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the application year. Example: For the 2024 application cycles, TEAS scores must be dated no earlier (not be older) than January 1, 2021. Scores from any date in 2020 or before would be ineligible.
5. **What if I didn't achieve the minimum score on all four sections of the TEAS exam on my first attempt?**  
If an applicant did not achieve the minimum score (58.7%) in all four subject areas, they will need to retest **prior to** submitting the application. There must be a minimum of at least thirty (30) days between attempts, and there are **no** exceptions to this interval. For multiple attempts, the highest score from each section of the exam will be used to complete the applicant's file.
6. **How do I submit my TEAS scores?**  
Applicants will use the upload feature within the application to attach a copy of their TEAS **Individual Performance Profile** printout (which is available to them at no cost). Please refer to [these instructions](#) to download the printout.
7. **Is the TEAS Individual Performance Profile the same as the TEAS transcript?**  
They are not the same. The **Individual Performance Profile** printout contains all four subject area scores, and it is available for applicants to download from within their ATI account at no cost. The TEAS transcript only has a single, composite score, and students must purchase it from ATI. SPSCC does not use the TEAS transcript.
8. **Why can't I find SPSCC in the list of colleges to send my TEAS transcript to?**  
Please refer to the preceding two questions about the required TEAS documentation for the application. Because SPSCC does not use the TEAS transcript, SPSCC is not listed as an option for which to receive one. Instead, SPSCC uses the free TEAS **Individual Performance Profile** printout.

## **SECTION 4: APPLICATION**

1. **When is the application period?**  
Typically, the Summer application is open from the first business day in January through the first business day in March, and the Fall application is open from the first business day in April through the first business day in June. Dates may be subject to change. Check the website for current information. There are **no** exceptions to the deadlines.
2. **What is the primary difference between the Summer and Fall cohorts?**  
Applicants who are accepted into the Summer cohort will attend classes in the evenings and on weekends while applicants who are accepted into the Fall cohort will attend classes during the day. For more information, please contact the Nursing Department staff at [nursing@spscc.edu](mailto:nursing@spscc.edu).
3. **If I want to apply for both the Summer and the Fall cohort, do I need to submit a separate application for each?**  
If an applicant wants to be entered into the lottery for both cohorts, they must submit a **separate** application for each starting term along with a separate application fee for each starting term.
4. **How do I apply to the Nursing Program?**  
When an application cycle is open, the link to the online application is displayed on the [program admission webpage](#). Applicants must wait for the open application cycle for that specific start term to apply. Complete applications must be submitted by the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
5. **Are applicants with higher grades ranked above other applicants, and is overall GPA a factor in eligibility?**  
Applicants are not ranked by grades, and overall GPA is not an eligibility factor. Please refer to eligibility requirements in the preceding question.
6. **Do I need to be a Certified Nursing Assistant in order to apply?**  
Being a Certified Nursing Assistant is not currently an application requirement.

**7. Do I need a letter of recommendation, or will it help my application to have one?**

Letters of recommendation are not required, and they are not considered when determining eligibility for the lottery.

**8. Do I need to submit health records or a background check with the application?**

These documents are not part of the initial application process and should not be submitted in advance. Only those applicants who are selected via the lottery will be required to submit these documents at a later date. Upon admission you will receive an admission packet with all the details, but vaccinations to consider having up-to-date include: Tdap, MMR, TB, Hep B, and COVID, as well as AHA provider CPR.

**9. Where can I learn more about the health records and background check requirements?**

Applicants may refer to [Nursing Health Records](#) for more information and may contact [Rebecca Swingle](#) with questions. These documents are not part of the initial application.

**10. How do I submit transcripts with my application?**

Applicants will attach unofficial copies of transcript(s) for any prerequisite courses that were completed at another college to the online application using the upload feature. Official transcripts will be required at a later date, but only from those applicants who are selected for entry into the program.

**11. If I completed all of the prerequisite courses at SPSCC, do I need to submit an SPSCC transcript with my application?**

Staff have access to an applicant's SPSCC transcript, so that is not a not required attachment for the application.

**12. After submitting it, how will I know if additional materials are needed for my application?**

Notification will be sent to the applicant's SPSCC email address, and application statuses will be updated in the [Application Self Service Center](#). Applicants are expected to monitor both for any updates.

## **SECTION 5: LOTTERY**

**1. What determines eligibility for the lottery?**

Eligibility for the lottery is based upon the following:

- Completion of the seven prerequisite courses with the minimum required grades (or higher) for each course,
- Completion of the TEAS examination with the minimum required scores (or higher) in all four subject areas, and
- Submission of the Nursing Program application (along with payment of the application fee and all required documentation) prior to the deadline of the open application cycle for the specific starting term.

**2. How are applicants selected for entry into the program?**

Eligible applicants are entered into the lottery, from which a pre-determined number of applicants will be selected to fill the cohort. Twenty (20) applicants are selected for the Summer start, and forty (40) applicants are selected for the Fall start.

**3. Can an applicant increase their chances in the lottery?**

The lottery is designed to give all eligible applicants the same opportunity to be randomly selected for entry into the program. No additional points are given for grades or TEAS scores above the minimum requirements, nor for work experience or other such factors.

Individual odds cannot be determined. The number of eligible applicants varies with each application cycle, and the number of total eligible applicants cannot be determined until final grades have posted, which is just prior to the lottery.

That said, five (5) spaces within the Summer cohort, and ten (10) spaces within the Fall cohort are reserved for drawing from applicants who completed twenty (20) or more of the prerequisite course credits at SPSCC. This does not include credits from general education courses; only the seven prerequisite courses.

**4. When will the lottery be held?**

The lottery for the Summer start term is typically conducted in mid-April. The lottery for the Fall start term is typically conducted in early July.

5. **How will I be notified of the lottery results?**

Notification that the lottery is completed will be sent to the applicant's SPSCC email address, and individual application statuses will be updated in the [Application Self Service Center](#). Applicants are expected to monitor both for updates, and those who are offered conditional acceptance, will have a limited amount of time to accept and pay the deposit.

## **SECTION 6: CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE AND WAITLIST**

1. **Following the lottery, I've been conditionally accepted, so now what?**

Applicants who are conditionally accepted via the lottery must pay the program deposit by the deadline indicated within their online acceptance letter ([Application Self Service Center](#)) in order to secure their spot in the program.

Conditionally-accepted applicants will receive an official admission packet, that is packed with information, and they are encouraged to attend the admission information session to learn even more and get specific questions answered. The date and time will be found within the admission packet.

2. **I'm on the waitlist list after that lottery, so now what?**

If any of the applicants who were selected via the lottery decline their acceptance, the vacated space will be offered to the next person on the waitlist. Notification will be sent to the waitlisted applicant's SPSCC email address. Questions about an applicant's current status on the waitlist may be directed to [Brittini Kilborn](#) in the Nursing Department.

3. **Does the waitlist carry over to other terms or years?**

The waitlist is specific to that application cycle and term. It does not carry over to other terms or to future years. To be reconsidered, applicants must submit a new application during the open application cycle.