



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
Gayle Greve Hunt School *of* Nursing

## **Student Catalog 2017-18**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER...  
Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing

## 2017-18 CATALOG

This catalog is an official publication of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). Once posted to **elpaso.ttuhsoc.edu**, the policies, regulations, procedures, programs, courses, schedules, and fees herein are effective immediately. Students are expected to complete the degree requirements established in the catalog in effect at the time of entry into the program. Similarly, students readmitted to the GGHSON are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the student catalog that is current at the time of readmission. Only with the expressed approval of the dean may a different catalog apply. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The catalog is published at least annually and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year. The program curriculum and other conditions for graduation are outlined in detail in the GGHSON Student Handbook.

The provisions of this catalog do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant to, or student or faculty member of the GGHSON. The GGHSON reserves the right to withdraw courses at any time, and change fees, calendars, curricula, graduation procedures, and any other requirement-affecting students. Changes become effective for both current and newly admitted students whenever the proper authorities so determine.

TTUHSC El Paso is open to all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, disability, sex, national origin, or sexual orientation, who are eligible for admission as students. TTUHSC El Paso is an Equal Opportunity Institution and no applicant or student will be discriminated against because of race, creed, religion, disability, sex, national origin, or sexual orientation during his or her course of education at this institution.

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## **STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION**

### **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees. Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso is a part of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and is currently seeking separate accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES  
CENTER INSTITUTIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

***Board of Regents***

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Tim Lancaster, Vice Chairman  
John Esparza  
Ronnie Hammonds  
Christopher M. Huckabee  
J. Michael Lewis  
Mickey L. Long  
John D. Steinmetz  
John Walker

**Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center**

Robert Duncan, Chancellor  
Tedd Mitchell, M.D., President for the Health  
Sciences Center

***TTUHSC Presidents***

Grover Elmer Murray (1966-76)  
Maurice Cecil Mackey (1976-79)  
Lauro Fred Cavazos (1980-88)  
Robert Lawless (1988-96)  
David Smith (1996-02)  
Roy Wilson (2003-06)  
Bernhard Mitemeyer -Interim (2006-07)  
John C. Baldwin (2007-09)  
Tedd Mitchell (2010-present)

***TTUHSC El Paso President***

Richard A. Lange, M.D., M.B.A. (2014-present)



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
EL PASO

Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing

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Assistant Dean and Chair, Undergraduate Programs



**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO**  
**Institutional Mission**

**Mission**

The mission of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso is to improve the lives of people in our State and our community by focusing on the unique health care needs of socially and culturally diverse border populations through excellence in integrated education, research, and patient care.

**TTUHSC El Paso Goals and Objectives**

**1. Foster the development of competent health care professionals**

- 1.1 Increase student enrollment in targeted academic programs
- 1.2 Develop and enhance academic programs that target health-related education
- 1.3 Effectively assess student-learning outcomes for each academic program
- 1.4 Provide appropriate, state-of-the-art technology to promote equitable learning experiences for all students
- 1.5 Enhance opportunities for inter-professional education across all TTUHSC El Paso schools and disciplines
- 1.6 Provide effective, institution-wide academic and student support services
- 1.7 Consistently emphasize diversity as a key component of higher education and health-related training programs
- 1.8 Continue plans to establish a school of dental medicine

**2. Recruit, develop, and retain outstanding employees**

- 2.1 Recruit, develop and retain qualified faculty who enhance the reputation of the university
- 2.2 Recruit, develop, and retain qualified staff who enhance the reputation of the university
- 2.3 Recruit a diverse population of qualified employees

**3. Advance knowledge through innovative, peer-reviewed research**

- 3.1 Conduct focused clinical, translational and educational research
- 3.2 Increase opportunities for externally funded research
- 3.3 Promote collaborative research among faculty within the TTU System
- 3.4 Provide appropriate resources to facilitate effective and efficient research

**4. Improve community health through the provision of patient care services and health-related education**

- 4.1 Improve access to quality health care in targeted populations

4.2 Develop and enhance programs that promote health education

4.3 Provide leadership in the development of partnerships to improve community health

4.4 Enrich student services across the TTUHSC El Paso community

**5. Operate effectively and efficiently through maximization of available resources**

5.1 Operate and maintain a physical environment conducive to education, research, and patient care

5.2 Maintain appropriate technology to promote effective operations

5.3 Maintain financial stability through efficient management of fiscal resources and fundraising efforts

5.4 Engage in an ongoing process of data-driven, continuous improvement

5.5 Maintain appropriate internal and external communication with key constituents

5.6 Maintain ongoing compliance with local, state, and federal rules and regulations, as well as programmatic and regional accreditation standards



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
EL PASO  
Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing

**Mission Statement**

The primary mission of the TTUHSC El Paso Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) is to provide quality educational programs and advance excellence in health care for diverse populations through programs of scholarship, research, practice and service.

**Vision Statement**

The GGHSON will be nationally recognized, propelled by visionary leadership, innovative educational programs and a commitment to robust research and practice programs. Our values adhere to the highest standards of integrity and quality related to innovative education, practice, research and service. We value individual uniqueness, a spirit of trust, caring, and open communication and teamwork. Loyal, creative and culturally diverse students, faculty and staff are our dedicated community of stakeholders.

**Programmatic Accreditation**

The baccalaureate degree in nursing at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>

Obtained full approval on September 12, 2012.

In effect until June 30, 2018.

Next on-site evaluation in fall of 2017.

The master's degree program in nursing at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing is pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccneaccreditation.org>).

Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted.

## GGHSON 2015-2020 Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

**Goal 1:** The GGHSON baccalaureate program curriculum demonstrates that graduates will be able to deliver safe, patient-centered care for individuals, families, and communities.

SLO 1a: Accelerated B.S.N. students will demonstrate competence (e.g., application and integration of clinical evidence based upon the patients' changing condition, safe medication administration, monitoring of patients' vital signs, assessing for patient fall risk) for generalist baccalaureate nursing practice.

SLO 1b: R.N. to B.S.N. students will be able to synthesize theories and concepts from the arts, humanities, and the social sciences in professional practice.

**Goal 2:** The GGHSON baccalaureate program is based on the elements of scholarly inquiry and models for applying evidence-based clinical practice.

SLO 2a: Accelerated B.S.N. students will assess clinical data, ascertain its validity, and use findings to inform practice in order to make sound clinical judgements.

SLO 2b: R.N. to B.S.N. students will demonstrate the ability to comprehensively assess a patient, family, or community in order to determine level of clinical need or priority.

**Goal 3:** The GGHSON baccalaureate program will provide opportunities for students to engage in the delivery of safe and competent nursing care.

SLO 3a: Accelerated B.S.N. students will develop a plan of care with the patient/family and health care team.

SLO 3b: R.N. to B.S.N. students will demonstrate the ability to utilize the nursing process when providing care to individuals, families, and communities.

**Goal 4:** The GGHSON baccalaureate program integrates technology to enhance pedagogical methods that support active learning.

SLO 4: Accelerated B.S.N. and R.N. to B.S.N. students will demonstrate the use of information management, computer technology, and the use of information systems in nursing practice.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Undergraduate Program

### Accelerated B.S.N. Track

For students who are not registered nurses, the Accelerated B.S.N. (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) track at the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) offers students the opportunity to complete a degree in four consecutive semesters, with admissions twice a calendar year, during the fall and spring terms. Students must complete their course work in sequential order. Refer to the Accelerated B.S.N. section of this catalog for more information, or contact the Office of Student Affairs to discuss degree plan options.

### R.N. to B.S.N. Track

For registered nurses with an associate degree, the R.N. to B.S.N. track provides the opportunity to earn the bachelor's degree through web-based education. Full-time students can complete the degree in three consecutive semesters; however, students can also attend on a part-time basis. The program admits students for the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Refer to the R.N. to B.S.N. section of this catalog for more information, or contact the Office of Student Affairs to discuss degree plan options.

### GGHSON Academic Goals

#### Undergraduate - Accelerated B.S.N. and R.N to B.S.N. Programs

The GGHSON academic institutional effectiveness (IE) undergraduate goals are as follows:

- Goal 1: The GGHSON baccalaureate program curriculum demonstrates that graduates will be able to deliver safe, patient-centered care for individuals, families, and communities.
- Goal 2: The GGHSON baccalaureate program is based on the elements of scholarly inquiry and models for applying evidence-based clinical practice.
- Goal 3: The GGHSON baccalaureate program will provide opportunities for students to engage in the delivery of safe and competent nursing care.
- Goal 4: The GGHSON baccalaureate program integrates technology to enhance pedagogical methods that support active learning.

## Graduate Program

### Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) in Leadership Track

For students who are registered nurses with a B.S.N. degree, the M.S.N. offers a hybrid degree plan that students can complete on a part-time basis. On campus intensives, lasting two to three days, over several semesters are required during the program. The program will admit students every fall and spring semester. Refer to the M.S.N. section of this catalog for more information, or contact the Office of Student Affairs to discuss degree plan options.

### GGHSON Academic Goals

#### Graduate - M.S.N. in Leadership Program

- Goal 1: The GGHSON will provide M.S.N. students with a rigorous educational opportunity to learn and apply nursing science essential to graduate-level advanced nursing practice.
- Goal 2: The GGHSON M.S.N. curriculum will prioritize quality nursing science and evidence based practice principles.
- Goal 3: GGHSON M.S.N. students will impact care provided to individuals and populations.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Clinical Practice and Community Engagement

#### Disability Support Services

The Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all student with documented disabilities (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning chronic health, sensory, or physical). Accommodations are not provided retroactively and students are encouraged to register with the DSS office as soon as they begin their academic program. TTUHSC El Paso encourages students to access all resources available for consistent support and accommodations.

Please contact Dr. Tammy Salazar, Director of the Office of Disability Support Services, to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom, laboratory, and/or clinical settings. For more information, you can also visit the [DSS website](#).

#### Confidentiality/Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) is dedicated to ensuring that all students remain informed about current issues in nursing practice and research. One such issue is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). All students are required to provide proof of education in HIPAA training at the beginning of their enrollment in the GGHSON. Certificates of compliance are not transferable from other institutions because HIPAA certification is institution-specific. Therefore, all students must take the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) HIPAA training and provide evidence of compliance certification. All students receive information regarding HIPAA training and are asked to sign a confidentiality agreement during New Student Orientation. All proof of training is placed in the student's advising file stored in the appropriate dean's office. Those who cannot show proof will not be allowed to participate in clinical work. Furthermore, release of confidential information (including verbal, written, or electronic communications with or about patients or involving patient health information to anyone who does not need the information for treatment, payment, or health care operation) is a cause for dismissal from the school.

#### Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) (20 U.S.C.A. Section 1232g) affords certain rights to students concerning their educational records. FERPA grants students the right to inspect and review their educational records (with exceptions); to request that their records be amended; to have limited control over the disclosure of information contained in their records; and to file a complaint with the U.S. dean of education concerning alleged failures of their university to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The *TTUHSC El Paso Institutional Student Handbook/Code of Student Conduct* shall serve as the annual notification that must be provided to students under FERPA, 34 C.F.F. 99.7, unless the individual school already notifies its students of FERPA rights on an annual basis.

#### Sexual Harassment – Title IX

The GGHSON considers sexual harassment in all its forms to be a serious offense and one that is subject to a range of actions, up to and including suspension or dismissal. Sexual harassment is a violation of [HSCEP OP 51.03](#).

Refer to the [http://el Paso.ttuhs c.edu/studentservices/\\_documents/TTUHSCEP-Institutional-Handbook.pdf](http://el Paso.ttuhs c.edu/studentservices/_documents/TTUHSCEP-Institutional-Handbook.pdf) Sexual harassment education is required for all students and is completed at the time of orientation. Contact the appropriate program office for further educational information and opportunities.

The University does not tolerate discrimination or harassment based on or related to sex, race, national origin, religion, age, disability, protected veteran status, genetic information, or other protected categories, classes, or characteristics. While sexual orientation and gender identity are not explicitly protected categories under state or federal law, it is the University's policy not to discriminate in employment, admission, or use of programs, activities, facilities, or services on these bases.

The University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex and other types of Sexual Misconduct.

Questions regarding Title IX may be referred as follows:

CONTACT	PHONE	ADDRESS	EMAIL
TTUHSC El Paso Title IX Coordinator Rebecca Salcido Executive Director	915-215-4140	TTUHSC El Paso Human Resources Dept. Administrative Support Bldg. 200 N. Concepcion El Paso, TX 79905	<a href="mailto:rebecca.salcido@ttuhsc.edu">rebecca.salcido@ttuhsc.edu</a>
Office of Civil Rights (OCR)	Customer Service Hotline 800-421-3481		<a href="http://www.ed.gov/ocr">www.ed.gov/ocr</a>

For reports or notices of discrimination and/or harassment against a student:

CONTACT	PHONE	ADDRESS	EMAIL
TTUHSC El Paso Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students Kathryn V. Horn, M.D. Assistant Vice President for Student Services	915-215-4786	TTUHSC El Paso Office of Student Services 5001 El Paso Drive Room 2140E El Paso, TX 79905	<a href="mailto:kathryn.horn@ttuhsc.edu">kathryn.horn@ttuhsc.edu</a>



For reports or notices of discrimination and/or harassment by or against employees:

CONTACT	PHONE	ADDRESS	EMAIL
TTUHSC El Paso Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Employees  Charlotte Bingham Managing Director Office of Equal Employment	806-742-3627	TTU Office of Equal Employment Opportunity TTU Administration Bldg. Room 210 Box 1073 Lubbock, TX 79409	<a href="mailto:eeo@ttu.edu">eeo@ttu.edu</a>

Sexual harassment is prohibited under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

### State Privacy Policies

When Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) collects personal information — whether through written or electronic means — the paper form or webpage must state (with few exceptions) that the individual is entitled to be informed about how his/her information is being used.

For more information, go to: <http://elpaso.ttuhscc.edu/student-services/registrars/ferpa.aspx>

### Smoke and Tobacco Free Environment

TTUHSC El Paso is committed to the health of our students, patients, faculty, and staff, and the public in general. As an institution whose mission is to provide excellence in health care education and service, we are a smoke-free campus. For more information, go to [HSCEP OP 10.19](#).

## Essential Eligibility Requirements for Acceptance to the TTUHSC El Paso Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing

The following include essential Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) eligibility requirements and examples of requisite activities (not all-inclusive). These should be used to assist applicants/students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary.

Essential Functions	Examples of Requisite Activities
Critical thinking abilities sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situations; develop nursing care plans.
Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues.
Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures; initiate health coaching; document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and to maneuver in small spaces.	Move around in patients' rooms, workspaces, and treatment areas; administer cardio-pulmonary procedures.
Abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Ability to hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, all auscultation sounds, and cries for help.
Abilities sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.	Observe patient/client responses.
Abilities sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, auscultation, percussion, and observational functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertion of a catheter.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines apply to all qualified disabled persons. According to the ADA, a "qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices; the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers; or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by a public entity."

For further information, see [elpaso.ttuhs.edu/student-services/dss.aspx](http://elpaso.ttuhs.edu/student-services/dss.aspx).

## STUDENT LIFE

### GGHSON Clinical Simulation Center (CSC)

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) Clinical Simulation Center (CSC) is located on campus and provides a unique simulation environment to facilitate student learning and evaluation. The CSC provides a realistic learning environment where students learn and develop clinical competencies in a safe environment. Faculty and students from the GGHSON, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), and Allied Health use the facilities, simulators, manikins, equipment, and supplies available in the CSC.

### Required Technology

GGHSON students are required to spend a considerable amount of time utilizing online resources, including email. Owning a personal computer is required to succeed in this area of study, and daily computer access is expected of all students. For those in the Accelerated B.S.N. track, a laptop is required in order to participate in classroom learning activities.

For information on recommended system requirements, please visit

<http://www.ttuhsc.edu/son/help/system-requirements.aspx>.

### Textbooks

Courses use information from various mediums, including textbooks. Students may have to purchase or rent specific textbooks. Every semester, the required and optional texts are listed for each course on Blackboard/Canvas. Students are responsible for purchasing or renting books prior to the start of the course. Generally, students may purchase or rent textbooks through a vendor of the student's choice.

### Undergraduate Program Employment

#### **Accelerated B.S.N. Track**

- The GGHSON strongly advises against working while enrolled in the Accelerated B.S.N. track. The decision to work while enrolled in the school ultimately rests with the individual student. A student employed in a health care agency is responsible, personally and professionally, for accepting and engaging in only those activities that fall under the position for which he/she is qualified. Students who are employed as nursing assistants or nurse technicians should not practice outside the scope of such position established under the Nursing Practice Act. Students currently licensed as registered nurses assume the responsibility for clinical practice under their own professional license issued by the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON).
- All students should be thoroughly familiar with the TBON's Nursing Practice Act - Rules §224 (Delegation of Nursing Tasks by Registered Professional Nurses to Unlicensed Personnel for Clients with Acute Conditions or in Acute Care Environments) and 225 (R.N. Delegation to Unlicensed Personnel and Tasks Not Requiring Delegation in Independent Living Environments for Clients with Stable and Predictable Conditions). This information may be accessed on the TBON website at [bon.state.tx.us](http://bon.state.tx.us).

#### **R.N. to B.S.N. Track**

- There are no employment restrictions for this track.

### Graduate Program Employment

#### **M.S.N. in Leadership Track**

- There are no employment restrictions for this program.

### Delia Montes-Gallo Library of the Health Sciences (AEC Library)

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) Delia Montes-Gallo Library of the Health Sciences (AEC Library) serves the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The library is located in two buildings. The Academic Education Center (AEC) houses clinical science materials, while the Medical Education Building (MEB) houses basic science materials. For more information go to <http://elpaso.ttuhscc.edu/libraries/>.

### Texas Nursing Students' Association

Voluntary membership in the Texas Nursing Students' Association, a society for pre-professionals, is available. This award-winning group is highly active on school, state, and national levels.

## **PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS (PAS)**

As a member of TTUHSC El Paso community, you are provided with FREE, CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING through the Program of Assistance for Students (PAS). These services are provided by community mental health providers that are not associated with Texas Tech. You may self-refer to this program by calling any of the providers on the list and letting them know you are a TTUHSC El Paso student. You can also call 800-327-0328 or 806-743-1327, Monday through Friday, anytime between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to request a list of providers in our community to access confidential counseling. These numbers also serve as a crisis hotline. Students are provided up to five free visits per academic year and anyone in your household may use these visits. For more information, please visit: <http://elpaso.ttuhscc.edu/studentervices/pas.aspx>.

### International (Non-Immigrant) Application Policy

The TTUHSC El Paso Campus is unable to offer admission to International Students requiring an F1 Visa.

In addition to stated admissions requirements, applicants with foreign academic credentials must provide a transcribed academic transcript completed by a certified English translation and U.S. grade equivalencies.

### Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

Students whose predominant language is not English — including permanent residents of the U.S. — must also present a score of at least 550 (paper exam), 213 (computer exam), or 79 (internet exam) on the TOEFL. The TOEFL requirement may be waived if the student has graduated from a U.S. high school with a minimum of two years' attendance or if the student is a citizen of a country where English is the native language.

Countries/regions commonly considered to have English as the predominant language include: Australia, Canada (except the Province of Quebec), Commonwealth Caribbean countries (Anguilla, Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands), Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales), and the U.S.

Applicants holding degrees from a U.S. college and/or university are not required to submit TOEFL scores. Information concerning the TOEFL may be obtained from Educational Testing Service (ETS) at 660 Rosedale Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, U.S., or online at [ets.org/toefl](http://ets.org/toefl).

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Upon acceptance of an admission offer, the student must immediately pay a non-refundable \$100 fee to guarantee his/her placement. Failure to pay the fee will result in forfeiture of the offer of acceptance.

The Financial Aid Office provides approximate expenses for a 12-month period. Estimated tuition and fees are available at

<http://el Paso.ttuhs.edu/fiscal/businessaffairs/studentbusserv/resources/tuitionandfeeestimates.aspx>.

Contact Student Business Services at 915-215-5680 or email at [SBSElp@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:SBSElp@ttuhsc.edu) with any questions.

Installment options are available to students in the fall, spring, and summer terms. An installment option fee is assessed each semester for students who use the installment payment plan. Tuition payments are made to TTUHSC El Paso. Further questions regarding tuition and fees should be directed to the Bursar's Office at 915-215- 5723.

### Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees

Information concerning payments and refunds may be obtained from Student Business Services.

Contact Student Business Services at 915-215-5680 or email at [SBSElp@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:SBSElp@ttuhsc.edu) with any questions.

### Financial Aid

Every student needs to be proactive and find ways to fund their education and keep their debt under control. Our financial aid liaison will assist students to seek financial support, and will also offer ways to live within reasonable budget. Students interested in applying for financial aid (grants and loans) should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Apply online at [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov) using the TTUHSC school code: **016024**.

After receiving financial aid, to continue receiving it, you must meet the requirements of the [Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy](#). The TTUHSC Financial Aid Office abides by the [National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrator's Code of Conduct](#), which offers ethical principles and a code of conduct.

### Overview

- [Financial Aid and Payment Fact Sheet \(2017 - 2018\)](#)
  - Financial Aid Information
    - [Nursing Student](#)

### Quick Links

- [Studentloans.gov](http://Studentloans.gov)
- [NSLDS](http://NSLDS)
- [AAMC.org](http://AAMC.org)
- [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov)
- [Studentaid.gov](http://Studentaid.gov)

### Services

- [Student Business Services Website](#)

- [Student Resources](#)
- [Payment Information](#)
- [TTUHSC Financial Aid Office \(Lubbock\)](#)

### Contact Us

Medical Education Building, 1210  
5001 El Paso Dr. El Paso, TX 79905  
Phone: [915-215-4923](tel:915-215-4923)  
Fax: 915-783-5145  
[elp.financialaid@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:elp.financialaid@ttuhsc.edu)

### Scholarships

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) offers various scholarship opportunities for its nursing students. Applications are available from the GGHSON Office of Finance at 915-215-6120 and are valid for one academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters). Students are welcomed to submit a new scholarship application every year.

Eligible scholarship applications are distributed to and awarded by the GGHSON scholarship committee. Eligibility requirements are determined by the GGHSON on an individual basis.

Any student who is a non-resident or non-U.S. citizen and holds a competitive scholarship of at least \$1,000 for the academic year or for a summer semester in which he/she is enrolled is entitled to Texas resident tuition/fees without regard to the length of time he/she has resided in Texas. For more information, contact GGHSON Office of Finance at 915-215-6120.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

### Health Services

Students may opt in to the medical services fee that will allow them to be seen at Texas Tech Physicians of El Paso at Hague Street. Contact Business services if you would like to participate in that fee. Please refer to the brochure at:  
[http://elpaso.ttuhsc.edu/som/studentaffairs/\\_documents/Student%20Health%20Brochure.pdf](http://elpaso.ttuhsc.edu/som/studentaffairs/_documents/Student%20Health%20Brochure.pdf).

For information on health insurance policies available through the institution, contact the Office of Student Affairs, at 915-215-6124 or <https://ttuhscep.myahpcare.com/>.

### Graduation

Students planning to graduate must complete the Intent to Graduate form via WebRaider. On this form, students can designate the address to which they wish their diploma to be sent if not picked up at commencement.

Students must be enrolled at the time of graduation and registered for a least one-credit hour.

## **IMMUNIZATION REQUIRMENTS**

Students are expected to maintain a general state of good health. Failure to maintain documentation of the following required immunizations in the appropriate office can result in exclusion from clinical practice and a hold being placed on school records. Immunization records provided during the application process will be audited. The following information

must be on file for a student's immunization record to be considered complete while enrolled in the GGHSO.

Vaccine/Titers Test	Due by
TB skin test	New student orientation
Meningitis vaccine (less than 22 years old)	New student orientation
TDAP vaccine	New student orientation
Flu vaccine	September 1
Hepatitis B titers test	New student orientation
Varicella titers test	New student orientation
Measles (rubeola) titers test	New student orientation
Mumps titers test	New student orientation
Rubella titers test	New student orientation

Other specialty-related immunizations or testing may be recommended or required by specific clinical agencies. All students are expected to personally maintain immunization requirements and provide documentation to the appropriate office every semester in which the student is enrolled at TTUHSC El Paso. *Notifications are not sent.*

Immunizations may be obtained at Texas Tech Physicians of El Paso (TTP El Paso, 4801 Alberta Ave.).

- Make an appointment with a clinic nurse by calling 915-215-5500.
- Take your personal immunization records with you to the appointment to ensure that your vaccinations are properly documented.
- Also, take your student ID badge.

Remember to keep personal immunization records in a safe place, as they are required for all health care workers. All copies of personal immunization records provided to the GGHSO become the property of the GGHSO. Never supply the institution with original documents. There may be a fee assessed to request copies of immunization records submitted to the GGHSO.

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

### Accelerated B.S.N. Track

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSO) offers students the opportunity to complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing in four consecutive semesters, or 16 months. Admissions cycles occur twice per year.

**Fall Admissions: December 15 - February 1**

**Spring Admissions: July 1 - August 15**

A 2.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) is required to be considered for admission to the GGHSO. All grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admissions GPA. All pre-requisite coursework must be completed with a grade of C or better prior to enrolling in the first nursing course. Students must have completed a minimum of 40 credit hours of prerequisite courses including all four required science courses at the time of application submission. Students may seek exception with approval from the dean.

All applicants are required to:

- Complete all prerequisites by the first day of their first semester in the GGHSO program.
- Complete and submit the Centralized Application Service for Nursing Programs (Nursing CAS) application and non-refundable application fee. The application can be accessed



online at [nursingcas.org](http://nursingcas.org).

- Submit a supplemental application to the GGHSO (qualifying applicants only).
- Submit official, sealed transcripts from all institutions attended.
- Complete the Health Education Systems Incorporated (HESI) Admissions Examination offered by Elsevier.
- Submit all applicable documentation, e.g., TOEFL score.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are the most important factors in consideration for admission, additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include, but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience

All applicants are reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will be used to determine a student's admission.

### **National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN®) Eligibility**

The Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) has identified certain circumstances that may render a potential candidate ineligible for licensure as a registered nurse in the state of Texas. The Declaratory Order is a formal disclosure to the TBON of an outstanding eligibility issue and permits the TBON to make decisions regarding a petitioner's eligibility for licensure prior to the candidate entering or completing a nursing program. This petition should be completed as soon as possible; the review process takes at least three months and in some cases, longer, depending on the issue and volume of applications. Students who have obtained a Declaratory Order petition must notify and inform the GSBS dean of the outcome of his/her petition. If one of the following statements applies to you, you must complete a petition for Declaratory Order.

- For any criminal offense including those pending appeal you have: 1) been convicted of a misdemeanor; 2) been convicted of a felony; 3) pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty; 4) received deferred adjudication; 5) been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty; 6) been sentenced to serve jail or prison time or to court-ordered confinement; 7) been granted pre-trial diversion; 8) been arrested or have any pending criminal charges; 9) been cited or charged with any violation of the law; or 10) been the subject of a court-martial, Article 15 violation or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action.
- You are currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation.
- You have been refused licensure by any licensing authority; have had a license revoked, annulled, cancelled, suspended, or placed on probation; have accepted surrender of a license; have been denied renewal of a current or formerly held license, certificate, or multi-state privilege; or have ever been fined, censured, reprimanded, or otherwise disciplined by any licensing authority (excludes Class C misdemeanor traffic violations).
- Within the past five years, you have been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug (This does not apply if you have completed and/or are in compliance with the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses for substance abuse or mental illness).
- Within the past five years, you have been diagnosed with, or treated or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or any other psychotic disorder(s), including bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.

**NOTE: Expunged and sealed offenses:** While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket, or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the court order expunging or sealing the record in question to our office, along with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that has not been expunged or sealed will at a minimum, subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant



offenses raises questions about truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of non-disclosure: Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure, you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on the Declaratory Order form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of Tex. Gov't Code, chapter 411, the TBON is entitled to access information on any criminal history record that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. Even if the matter is not explicitly revealed on a Declaratory Order, the board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

Statutes and rules governing the petition for Declaratory Order are outlined in the Texas Occupations Code §§301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act) and in the Board Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TAC §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be found on the TBON's website: [bon.state.tx.us](http://bon.state.tx.us).

The Nursing Practice Act was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, which added § 301.4535, authorizing the TBON to deny or revoke an individual's licensure for certain criminal offenses. Under this provision, the TBON must refuse or withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his/her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The TBON may consider granting licensure to an applicant who otherwise would be ineligible for licensure after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment (punishable as a felony); sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, or an elderly or disabled person; perpetration of family violence; involvement in a child abduction; sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; any offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes by a military tribunal.

#### Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours

According to Texas Education Code § 54.014, "An institution of higher education may charge a resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) IF: before the semester begins, the student has previously attempted coursework at any institution that exceeds, by at least 30 hours, the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in."

The policy does **NOT** apply to:

- Semester credit hours completed at a private or out-of-state institution.
- Earned credit hours without enrollment (i.e., advanced placement or credit by exam) or remedial courses.
- Credits that culminated in an earned degree.
- Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate student in any institution of higher education prior to fall 1999. Furthermore, students who were first admitted to an institution of higher education between fall 1999 and summer 1996 may exceed the semester credit hours required for the degree by 45 credit hours without penalty.

For the complete text of this legislation, visit [capitol.state.tx.us/](http://capitol.state.tx.us/), navigate to "Legislation." Click on "Bill Lookup," select "79(R) - 2005" from the drop-down menu, and enter "HB1172" in the "Bill Number" field. Then, click "Submit." When the bill history appears on the screen, select "Text" from the navigation menu. Select "Enrolled Bill Summary" and click on the text icon.

### Criminal Background Checks

In accordance with [HSCEP OP 10.20](#), all students are required to complete and clear a criminal background check (CBC) prior to enrollment in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). Students are responsible for their own CBC and any associated fees.

**HSCEP OP 10.20** also states the following:

Students, trainees, and residents shall timely self-disclose relevant criminal history record information no later than five (5) business days following the charge of a crime. "Criminal history record information" (CHRI) means information collected about students, trainees or residents by a criminal justice agency that consists of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, information, and other formal criminal charges, and their dispositions. If self-disclosure reveals CHRI, the individual must then undergo a contemporaneous CBC, which may include fingerprinting. The report will be made available to the appropriate Dean or his/her designee. Failure of students, trainees or residents to disclose information, which is subsequently found on a background check, may result in dismissal or withdrawal of acceptance from the university.

Undergraduate students complete and clear the CBC process through the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON). Instructions are supplied to all incoming undergraduate students at orientation.

In accordance with [HSCEP 10.20](#), additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment.

If an applicant believes the record contains errors and notifies the school in writing of his/her intent to challenge the report, matriculation is placed on hold pending the outcome of the challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the school of his/her intent to challenge the record, or if it is determined that the record is accurate, the admission offer will be withdrawn.

### Required Technology

GGHSON students are required to spend a considerable amount of time utilizing online resources, including email. Owning a personal computer is required to succeed in this area of study, and daily computer access is expected of all students. For those in the Accelerated B.S.N. track, a laptop is required in order to participate in classroom learning activities.

For information on recommended system requirements, please visit

<http://www.ttuhsn.edu/son/help/system-requirements.aspx>.

### Drug Screenings

Drug screenings are required if requested by a clinical institution site.

### Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made at least two months prior to the first day of the semester for which readmission is requested. The associate dean is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the GGHSON. The minimum cumulative grade point average for readmission consideration is 2.5 for the undergraduate program and 2.7 for the graduate program.

The associate dean reviews all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student who withdrew in good standing:

- Eligible and admit
- Eligible, as space permits and in order of request (in relation to other applications for readmission)

- Not eligible

The associate dean may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, e.g., successful completion of a comprehensive examination. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary reasons is subject to the discretion of the associate dean.

## Prerequisite Courses

### Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for Accelerated B.S.N. Track

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) is compliant with the intent of state law and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) regulations regarding the Texas Success Initiative.

#### **Texas Success Initiative**

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI), formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP), is a state-required program that is designed to help ensure undergraduate students' success in their college studies. All students seeking an undergraduate degree from any Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center program or campus must satisfy the TSI requirement before enrollment. To obtain details pertaining to the TSI, see [Texas Success Initiative](#)

All Texas Core Curriculum requirements, as established by Texas legislation, must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in the Accelerated B.S.N. track, and prior to course attendance at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) campus. TTUHSC El Paso does not offer general education courses. General education requirements completed at a private or out-of-state institution may not be equivalents of the required Texas Core Curriculum, and may not excuse a student from not completing the core curriculum.

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

### Core Objectives

- **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills (COM)** - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** - manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Teamwork (TW)** - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Social Responsibility (SR)** - intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- **Personal Responsibility (PR)** - ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

### Foundational Component Areas

- Communication - 6 credit hours
- Mathematics - 3 credit hours
- Life and Physical Sciences - 6 credit hours
- Language, Philosophy and Culture - 3 credit hours
  - Any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course.

- Creative Arts - 3 credit hours
- American History - 6 credit hours
- Government and Political Science - 6 credit hours
- Social and Behavioral Sciences - 3 credit hours
- Component Option Area - 6 credit hours


**Total: 42 course credit hours**

Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). All Texas public institutions are required to maintain a crosswalk with TCCNS course numbers and titles if they use a different number and title.

Students seeking to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (B.S.N.) at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) must satisfy the course requirements of the TTUHSC El Paso nursing core curriculum in accordance with Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code § 4.28. Upon full admission into the track, the GGHSON conducts a degree audit on all students' official transcript(s). Students whose transcript(s) indicate that they are "Core Complete" at another Texas public college or university will have no additional Core Curriculum requirements imposed. For more information on institutional core requirements refer to [HSCEP OP 77.16](#).

In addition to the requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum, please find below the necessary prerequisites for admission into the Accelerated B.S.N. Track. Some prerequisites may count as Texas Core Curriculum. For additional information, you may contact our advising staff at <http://el Paso.ttuhs c.edu/son/bsn/contact.aspx>.

<b>Accelerated B.S.N. Track</b>				
<b>Texas Core Curriculum and Prerequisite Course Credit Hour Requirements - Combined</b>				
Texas Core Course Credit Hours	Pre-requisite Lab Credit Hours	Pre-requisite Course Credit Hours	TCCNS	Texas Core Field
3	-	-	ENGL 1301	Communication
3	-	-	ENGL 1302	Communication
3	-	-	*MATH 1342, 1442, 2342, or 2442	Mathematics
3	1	-	CHEM 1305/1105 or CHEM 1406/1411	Life and Physical Sciences
3	1	-	BIOL 2420	Life and Physical Sciences
3	1	-	BIOL 2401	Component Area Option
3	1	-	BIOL 2402	Component Area Option
3	-	-	Humanities Elective: any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature or cultural studies course.	Language/Philosophy/Culture

Texas Core Course Credit Hours	Pre-requisite Lab Credit Hours	Pre-requisite Course Credit Hours	TCCNS	Texas Core Field
3	-	-	Visual & Performing Arts Elective: any art, music, drama, or theatre art course.	Creative Arts
3	-	-	HIST 1301	American History
3	-	-	HIST 1302	American History
Note: Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History (HIST 2301) for 3 credit hours of United States History.				
3	-	-	GOVT 2305 Federal Government (Federal Constitution & Topics).	Government
3	-	-	GOVT 2306 Texas Government (Texas Constitution & Topics).	Government
3	-	-	PSYC 2301 or 2314	Social/Behavioral Science
-	-	3	**ZOO 3303 Pathophysiology	
-	-	3	HDFS 2303 PSYC 2314	
-	-	3	HECO 1322 or BIO 1322	
<b>Totals</b>				
<b>42</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	 TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing	
<b>Total Core &amp; prerequisite credit hours required prior to admission to GGHSN</b>		<b>55</b>		

Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number that corresponds with the TCCNS number.

\*Statistics is required as a nursing prerequisite. Students who take any other statistics course as the nursing prerequisite must also take an upper level mathematics course in order to meet the core curriculum requirement.

\*\*Pathophysiology - offered online.

#### Transfer Credit

Courses taken at other institutions with equivalent course content are acceptable for transfer credit if a C or better was earned. **Note:** Pass/fail courses are not acceptable for transfer. Maximum credit allowed for credit by examination is 15 credit hours. For more information on institutional transfer of credit, refer to [HSCEP OP 77.17](#).

If any prerequisite courses have been or will be taken for credit by examination, students may not receive credit toward their TTUHSC El Paso calculated GPA. Credit by examination credit must appear on an official college transcript for acceptance.

#### Offer of Admission

There are a limited number of positions available each semester. Notices of admission are sent

via email. Applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the offer letter by accepting the offer and paying \$100 non-refundable placement fee. Failure to respond by the deadline or to participate in the mandatory new student orientation results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

#### Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

Students are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) Student Catalog in effect at the time of entry into the program. Under certain circumstances, only with the expressed approval of the associate dean may a different catalog be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The catalog is published annually and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

#### Degree Requirements for Accelerated B.S.N. Program

Students in the Accelerated B.S.N. track are required to complete 55 credit hours of prerequisite coursework and 65 credit hours of nursing coursework, totaling 120 credit hours.

#### Minimum Academic Requirements

- Maintain at least a 2.5 semester and cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- Earn a minimum grade of C in all courses required for the program — whether nursing or non-nursing.
- If an F or WF is earned in any nursing course, the student is eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to the recommendation of course faculty.
- If a student's cumulative GPA or semester GPA falls below a 2.5 in the semester of graduation, he/she is ineligible for graduation.

#### Conditions for Academic Dismissal

- An F or WF earned in two or more nursing courses taken in the same semester.
- Earning an F or WF for the second time — even if the first F or WF was replaced with a passing grade by retaking the course.
- Failure to maintain a cumulative or semester GPA of at least 2.5 for two consecutive semesters.
- Earning an F or WF in the same nursing course twice.

#### Comprehensive Examinations

Accelerated B.S.N. students must achieve a passing score on the comprehensive examination administered during the last semester of nursing coursework. Any student who does not pass the examination is required to complete a prescribed remediation program and to repeat the examination.

#### Residence Credit

“Residence credit” refers to coursework completed while enrolled in classes at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso), and should not be confused with resident status in the state of Texas for tuition purposes. The minimum TTUHSC El Paso residence credit required for the Accelerated B.S.N. program is 32 hours, including the final 15 hours in nursing courses taken for a grade.

#### Semester Hours

The semester hour is the unit of measurement for determining course credit. Didactic contact hours are measured on a one-to-one basis, and clinical contact hours on a one-to-three basis. Student preparation is approximately three to four hours for each hour of didactic coursework and an appropriate relative amount of preparation for clinical activities are expected.

#### Course Loads

Accelerated B.S.N. and R.N. to B.S.N. tracks enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (six hours for each of the two summer sessions or 12 hours for both) is considered a full-time student. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (i.e., course load) is regulated by the associate dean. In determining this load, the associate dean takes into account the

quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 20 semester credit hours.

#### Degree Plan


The unit manager for Student Affairs generally completes degree plans during New Student Orientation. The degree plan may be revised based on a student's ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including, but not limited to, capacities of community clinic sites. The following degree plan is designed for applicants who do not already possess the R.N. license. It is provided here as an example of a basic course schedule for a full-time student. Please note that program length varies, depending on the individual student's rate of progression. All prerequisite courses should be completed prior to enrolling in the first nursing course. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment are determined by the dean.

**Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso**  
**Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing**  
**Accelerated B.S.N. - Sample Degree Plan**

Upon acceptance to the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON), students are able to enroll in nursing courses. The following program assumes full-time status and a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5.

<b>GGHSON</b>			
<b>Accelerated B.S.N. Degree Plan</b>			
Semester	Course Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Title
1	1	GNUR3126	Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice I
	2	GNUR3221	Introduction to the Nursing Profession
	2	GNUR3226	Foundational Aspects of Professional Communication
	3	GNUR3307	Health Assessment
	4	GNUR3416	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice - Didactic
	5	GNUR3530	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice - Clinical
	Total Credit Hours	17	
Semester	Course Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Title
2	2	GNUR3227	Nursing Care of the Aging Adult
	3	GNUR3320	Pharmacology
	3	GNUR3331	Mental Health Nursing
	4	GNUR3420	Chronic Care Clinical
	4	GNUR3485	Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing
	Total Credit Hours	16	
Semester	Course Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Title
3	2	GNUR4206	Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice II
	3	GNUR4306	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family
	3	GNUR4307	Aspects of Pediatric Nursing
	4	GNUR4410	Acute Care Nursing Clinical
	4	GNUR4498	Concepts of Acute Care Nursing Didactic
	Total Credit Hours	16	



Semester	Course Credit Hours	Course Number	Course Title
4	1	GNUR4106	Introduction to Nursing Informatics
	3	GNUR4317	Community and Population Health
	3	GNUR4320	Professional Role of the Leader and Manager
	6	GNUR4620	Professional Transitions
	3	GNUR.....	*Nursing Elective
	Total Credit Hours 16	*Three-credit-hour nursing elective may be taken anytime during the 4th semester.	
<b>Total ABSN Course Credit Hours</b>		<b>65</b>	 <p>TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing</p>

Accelerated B.S.N.						
Texas Core Curriculum (TCC) Course Credits	+	Prerequisite course credits	+	Accelerated B.S.N. Degree Course Credits	=	Accelerated B.S.N. Track Credit Hours
42		13		65		120
<b>Total Credit Hours = 55</b> TCC credits combined with required prerequisite credit hours						

## Accelerated B.S.N. Course Descriptions

Courses are delivered in traditional, web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and web-based (completely online) formats.

All pre-/co-requisites and associated conditions/criteria for such coursework are applicable throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order.

<b>CL</b>	Concurrent enrollment in a clinical section required
<b>#:#:#</b>	First #: represents the number of credit hours; second #: represents the number of weekly lecture hours; third #: represents the number of weekly clinical hours
<b>*</b>	Elective course; offered at select times, depending on faculty availability and interest
<b>V</b>	Variable credit
<b>FACE</b>	Delivered through face-to-face instruction
<b>HYBRD</b>	Delivered through a combination of face-to-face and online instruction
<b>ONLIN</b>	85% of planned instruction occurs offsite or online

### 3000-Level Courses

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**GNUR3030. Independent Study in Nursing** (V1-6 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Pre-requisite: Consent of instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) Topic and objectives of study are mutually agreed upon by the student and selected faculty member. Independent study agreement formalizes the plan for study and guides evaluation. Semester hours and course may be repeated as topic and/or objective of study change.

**GNUR3040. Special Topics in Nursing** (V1-6 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

**GNUR3126. Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice I** (1:1:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) This is an introductory course exploring the theory and methods of evidence based practice with emphasis on its role in providing quality patient-centered care in the medical/surgical setting.

**GNUR3221. Introduction to the Nursing Profession** (2:2:0 ONLIN). An introduction to the health care delivery system and the nursing profession.

**GNUR3226. Foundational Aspects of Professional Communication** (2:2:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) This course is designed to prepare students to communicate effectively in an intra-professional and an inter-professional approach. The focus includes professional therapeutic patient/client communication. The students will be expected to be able to listen, comprehend, and communicate accurate intellectual and affective understanding.

**GNUR3227. Nursing Care of the Aging Adult** (2:2:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: G N U R 3307, GNUR3416 and GNUR3530.) An introduction to concepts of aging with a focus on health promotion, access to healthcare, maintenance of functional capacity and physiologic changes. Includes concepts to improve quality of life during common conditions experienced by the aging adult through inter-professional collaboration.

**GNUR3307. Health Assessment** (CL 3:2:3 FACE). (Accelerated B.S.N.) An introduction to health assessment as a systematic process with emphasis on developing skill in the techniques of assessment and therapeutic communication across the life span. Includes introductory concepts

of data collection, health history, physical examination, use of technology to access and document holistic health assessment and clinical decision making. Performance assessment of skills is required in a laboratory experience.

**GNUR3320. Pharmacology** (3:3:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: G NUR3307, GNUR3416 and GNUR3530.) This course introduces principles of pharmacodynamics and pharmacotherapy. Included will be classifications of drugs, the use of the nursing process for safe medication administration including legal and ethical standards. Life span, genetic, and cultural implications of drug therapy are explored. Evidenced based practice will be utilized using case studies and simulation of dosage calculations, routes and skills of administration, and methods of documentation.

**GNUR3331. Mental Health Nursing** (CL 3:2:3 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3307, GNUR3416 and GNUR3530.) This course emphasizes the concepts of altered mental health and the pathological processes associated with mental health disorders. The focus is on approaches to promote mental health/optimal function in the care of patients, groups, and families experiencing altered states of mental health utilizing evidence based standards of care.

**GNUR3357. Holistic Health Practices in Stress Management** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) This course is an introduction to holistic health in stress management. Includes the role of the mind, body and universe in attaining high-level wellness; stress and its relationship to health; and the interaction of holistic health practices in the management of stress.

**GNUR3366. Hospice and Palliative Care** (CL 3:2.5:1.5 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) This course will utilize readings from sociology, psychology, religion, and medical and nursing sciences as a background for discussing and analyzing therapeutic nursing interventions for care of the terminally ill client. Clinical and experimental techniques will be utilized to promote thought and discussion in order to explore death in its personal, general, and professional significance.

**GNUR3371. Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) An interdisciplinary course surveying major legal and ethical issues in the delivery of healthcare.

**GNUR3374. Philosophical Issues and Problems in Human Caring** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs.) Exploration of different avenues of approaching philosophical dilemmas in providing care to clients whose behaviors and value systems are difficult to accept. Examines select issues from the standpoints of philosophy and nursing.

**GNUR3485. Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing** (4:4:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3416 and G NUR3307.) This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in a variety of settings. Special focus is on the concepts of aging, health promotion, disease prevention, and genetics as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be demonstrated through case study analysis and critical thinking activities.

**GNUR3416. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice-Didactic** (4:4:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) This course is an introduction to nursing as a systematic process with emphasis on the knowledge, core to evidence based professional nursing care, utilizing an attitude of clinical reasoning. Emphasis is on recognizing shared commonalities, yet diverse as to age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, lifestyle, socio-economic class, and sexual orientation, on the client's health care.

**GNUR3420. Chronic Care Nursing Clinical** (4:0:12 ONLIN ). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: G NUR3530 and G NUR3307.) This course provides opportunities for students to integrate knowledge

and theory essential to the care of patients experiencing chronic health alterations, with special focus on needs of the aging population. Clinical judgment and reasoning, therapeutic nursing skills, genetics, and pharmacology concepts necessary for chronic care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence based nursing care through case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

**GNUR3530. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice-Clinical** (5:0:15 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) This course is an introduction to nursing as a systematic process with emphasis on the knowledge core to evidence-based professional nursing care, utilizing an attitude of clinical reasoning. Emphasis is on recognizing shared commonalities, yet diverse as to age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, lifestyle, socio-economic class, and sexual orientation, on the client's health care.

#### **4000-Level Courses**

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**GNUR4106. Introduction to Nursing Informatics** (1:1:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: G NUR4498.) This course will explore the core concepts, skills, and technology used in nursing informatics. The student will examine the use of current technology to promote safe, patient centered, quality care in the global healthcare system.

**GNUR4206. Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice II** (2:2:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3126.) This course focuses on the asking and answering of clinical nursing questions through the synthesis of current literature and analysis of clinical practice guidelines.

**GNUR4306. Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family** (CL 3:2:3 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3307, GNUR3416, GNUR3530, GNUR3485 and GNUR3420.) Encompasses concepts related to the safe delivery of quality nursing care to childbearing families. Focuses on application of the nursing process of the childbearing family unit. Special emphasis is placed upon communication within an interdisciplinary team, patient safety including principles of infection control, quality improvement, evidenced based nursing care related to Accelerated B.S.N. and alternative birth processes, patient centered care with consideration of cultural differences to the childbirth experience and the use of informatics and technology.

**GNUR4307. Aspects of Pediatric Nursing** (CL 3:2:3 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3307, GNUR3416, GNUR3530, GNUR3485 and GNUR3420.) This course emphasizes essential nursing concepts of children's health and illness. The focus is on safe professional practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings centering on care appropriate for the child's age and development. Additionally, students will demonstrate ability to reason clinically/use critical thinking by applying evidence based practice in both simulation and clinical setting.

**GNUR4313. Financial Management in Nursing** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (\*Elective) Financial Management in Nursing explores economic issues relevant to nursing practice and health care. The course uses a systems approach to analyze the financial impact of health care decisions. The course further assesses the financial implication of nursing decisions from a clinical perspective. Topics include a myriad of financial concepts that range from staffing and budgeting to measuring productivity and forecasting costs. The goal of the course is to enable the nurses in managerial roles to implement change without negatively affecting patient care outcomes.

**GNUR4315. Cultural Competencies for Health and Illness.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (\*Elective) Transcultural Nursing provides a theoretical framework for the delivery of culturally competent nursing care. The course will enable the nurse to navigate through the obstacles that culture can place on the patient/family experience. Through a presentation of the history and theory behind cultural competence in nursing, the course offers key information regarding health beliefs and the impact of culture on both health and illness.

**GNUR4317. Community and Population Health** (CL 3:2:3 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3485 and GNUR3420.) This course emphasizes public health and community nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice. Focus is on the concepts of

community health nursing practice, epidemiology and disease transmission, comprehensive assessment of risk factors and health problems, program planning and intervention, environmental health, collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, health promotion and disease prevention.

**GNUR4320. Professional Role of Leader and Manager** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR4498.) This course incorporates the role of the nurse as a leader and manager in nursing. Students will utilize selected theories and concepts to generate knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to the role of leader and manager. The course provides opportunity for the students to explore the role of the nursing profession in a global healthcare environment.

**GNUR4410. Acute Care Nursing-Clinical** (4:0:12 ONLIN). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3530, GNUR3485 and G NUR3420.) This simulated acute care setting. Clinical judgment and reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills necessary in the acute care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence based nursing care through simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

**GNUR4498. Concepts of Acute Care Nursing-Didactic** (4:4:0 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR3307, GNUR3416, GNUR3485 and GNUR3420.) This course emphasizes acute care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in complex adult medical/surgical environments. Advanced clinical judgment, reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills are demonstrated in the application of evidence based nursing care through the use of in case study analysis with increasing complexities and critical thinking activities. The focus is on complex disease management including environmental factors, genetic risks, and preventive care using a collaborative approach.

**GNUR4620. Professional Transitions** (CL 6:4:6 HYBRD). (Accelerated B.S.N.) (Prerequisites: GNUR4498 and GNUR4410.) This course focuses on the role of the professional nurse using evidence- based practice and quality standards to deliver safe holistic care to the culturally diverse complex client and family. Emphasis is on the transition of the student nurse into a professional role which includes their ability to apply concepts related to inter professional teamwork, informatics and patient-centered care.

### **3000-Level Course - Elective**

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**GNUR3040. Special Topics (V1-6)** (\*Elective) The purpose of this course is to develop and understanding of forensic science as a multifaceted, team approach to solve crimes. This course is designed to encourage the integration of professional collaboration in the development of health care policies, procedures, and practices for responding to victims. Content to be addressed includes assessment, intervention, and utilization of community resources; legal issues; and evaluation for forensic evidence. The course will give the student a general understanding and appreciation of forensic science. For nursing students, Pre-requisite: Senior level student; for non -nursing students, Pre-requisite: Interdisciplinary Minor in Forensic Sciences (FORS).

## R.N. to B.S.N. Track

Web-based technology is used to delivery course material for this program. A concerted effort is made to individualize the program to meet the needs of different learners and classes are specifically tailored to registered nurses. Students can complete in three consecutive semesters, with admissions cycles in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Whether the student elects to attend full- or part-time, he/she must still complete the program in two years from the time of initial enrollment.

### Admissions Requirements

All applicants to the R.N. to B.S.N. program are required to:

- Maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher in both general education and nursing-specific prerequisite courses. All prerequisite coursework must be completed with a grade of C or higher prior to enrollment.
- Provide official transcripts of grades earned in all prerequisite courses taken transcripts of nursing-specific or general education — prior to enrollment.
- Pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN®) prior to matriculation.
- Submit verification of valid/current state R.N. licensure (includes out-of-state licenses), and be in good standing with no restrictions or stipulations.
- Submit a completed application and non-refundable application fee to the Nursing Central Application System (NCAS) and a supplemental application to the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). The application fee is \$85 if submitted prior to the application deadline.
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions in which he/she has enrolled to the NCAS.
- Submit any other required documentation, such as TOEFL scores (international students).
- Complete all general education requirements prior to enrollment.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are important factors in admissions consideration, additional, non-academic information may be considered. These non-academic factors include, but are not limited to the following:

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience

All applicants are reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will be used to determine a student's admission.

### Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours

Texas Education Code - Section § 54.0154 states that “An institution of higher education may charge resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) **IF**: before the semester or other academic session begins, the student has previously **attempted** a number of semester credit hours for courses taken at any institution of higher education while classified as a resident student for tuition purposes that exceeds, by at least 30 hours, the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled. For purposes of this subsection, an undergraduate student who is not enrolled in a degree program is considered to be enrolled in a degree program or programs requiring a minimum of 120 semester credit hours, including minors and double majors, and for completion of any certificate or other special program in which the student is also enrolled, including a program with a study abroad component. An institution of higher education that charges students tuition at a higher rate under this subsection may adopt a policy under which the institution exempts from the payment of that higher rate a student that is subject to the payment of the higher rate solely as a result of hardship as determined by the institution under the policy.”

Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate in any institution of higher education prior to fall 1999 are exempt from this rule. Furthermore, students enrolled as undergraduate students prior to fall 2006 may not be charged a higher rate of tuition until the number of semester hours previously attempted exceeds the number of hours required for the student's degree program by 45 hours.

#### Computer Requirements

Students are required to own a laptop. Additional information regarding computer requirements may be obtained from Student Affairs prior to orientation.

#### Online/Distance Education Student Orientation

Students are *required* to complete an online student orientation.

Please read the information on R.N. to B.S.N. web page and use links to navigate through the orientation process and familiarize yourself with some of the services the school offers. Please be sure to review program specific information for additional orientation requirements.

#### Criminal Background Checks

In accordance with [HSCEP OP 10.20](#), all students are required to complete and clear a criminal background check (CBC) prior to enrollment in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). Students are responsible for their own CBC and any associated fees.

Undergraduate students complete and clear the CBC process through the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON). Instructions are supplied to all incoming undergraduate students at orientation.

In accordance with [HSCEP 10.20](#), additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment.

If an applicant believes the record contains errors and notifies the school in writing of his/her intent to challenge the report, matriculation is placed on hold pending the outcome of the challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the school of his/her intent to challenge the record, or if it is determined that the record is accurate, the admission offer will be withdrawn.

NOTE: Expunged and sealed offenses: While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket, or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the expunged or sealed record in question to our office, along with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not, in fact, expunged or sealed, will, at a minimum, subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions about truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of non-disclosure: Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure, you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on the Declaratory Order form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of Tex. Gov't Code, chapter 411, the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) is entitled to access information on any criminal history record that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. Even if the matter is not explicitly revealed on a Declaratory Order, the board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

Statutes and rules governing the petition for Declaratory Order may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act) and in the Board Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TAC §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be located on the TBON's website: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

The Nursing Practice Act (<http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html>) was amended during



the 2005 Texas legislative session, which added § 301.4535, authorizing the TBON to deny or revoke an individual's licensure for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the TBON must refuse or withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his/her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The TBON may consider granting licensure to an applicant who otherwise would be ineligible for licensure after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment (punishable as a felony); sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, or an elderly or disabled person; perpetration of family violence; involvement in a child abduction; sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; any offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes by a military tribunal.

#### Drug Screenings

Drug screenings may be required if requested by a clinical institution site. Students are responsible for any associated expenses.

#### Immunizations

See [Immunization Requirements](#).

#### Identification Badge Requirements - Distance Education Students

Per [HSCEP OP 76.02](#), enrolled students are required to obtain an official student identification badge. This requirement also applies to distance education students even though they are not on campus. Should a distance education student be on campus, they must visibly wear the official student badge. For more information, refer to [HSCEP OP 76.02](#).

All enrolled students to the R.N. to B.S.N. program are required to:

1. Complete and submit the following:
  - a. Notarized ID Verification form.
  - b. Identification/Security Access form.
  
2. Mail to:  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso  
Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing  
Office of Student Affairs  
210 North Concepcion  
El Paso, Texas 79905
  
3. Submit a photo per the guidelines:
  - a. Follow the instructions for submission.
  - b. Students will receive an email if photo is not within the specified guidelines.
  
4. Once the Office of Student Affairs receives a completed notarized ID verification, **AND** a completed identification/security access form **AND** an acceptable electronic photo, the student will receive a student badge, via mail, to the address provided on the Identification/Security Access form.

Lost or stolen student IDs are subject to a replacement fee. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the Office of Student Affairs at 915-215-6124 or [GGHSON@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:GGHSON@ttuhsc.edu).



### Readmissions Requirements

All applicants to the R.N. to B.S.N. program are required to:

- Maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher in both general education and nursing-specific prerequisite courses. All prerequisite coursework must be completed with a grade of C or higher prior to enrollment.
- Provide official transcripts of grades earned in all prerequisite courses taken transcripts of nursing-specific or general education, prior to re-enrollment.
- Pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN®) prior to matriculation.
- Submit verification of valid/current state R.N. licensure (includes out-of-state licenses), and be in good standing with no restrictions or stipulations.
- Submit a completed application and non-refundable application fee to the Nursing Central Application System (NCAS) and a supplemental application to the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). The application fee is \$85 if submitted prior to the application deadline.
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions in which he/she has enrolled to the NCAS.
- Submit any other required documentation, such as TOEFL scores (international students).
- Complete all general education requirements prior to enrollment.

### Transfer Students

Students requesting transfer to the R.N. to B.S.N. program from another university must meet the following criteria:

- Be eligible to return to the institution from which he/she is requesting transfer.
- Satisfy all Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) standards for transfer credit.
- Have completed all program prerequisites.
- Have already completed or be eligible to complete at least 25 percent of all degree credits while enrolled at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (i.e., at least 30 of the 120 credits required for a bachelor's degree in the state of Texas).

## **R.N. to B.S.N.**

### **Prerequisite Requirements**

All Texas Core Curriculum requirements as established by Texas legislation must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in the R.N. to B.S.N. track, and prior to course attendance at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) campus. TTUHSC El Paso does not offer general education courses. General education requirements completed at a private or out-of-state institution may not be equivalents of the required Texas Core Curriculum, and may not excuse a student from not completing the core curriculum. In addition to the required prerequisites listed below, students receiving a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from TTUHSC El Paso must satisfy the coursework requirements of the TTUHSC El Paso Core Curriculum (CC).

#### **Core Objectives**

- **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills (COM)** - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** - manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Teamwork (TW)** - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Social Responsibility(SR)** - intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- **Personal Responsibility (PR)** - ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

#### **Foundational Component Areas**

- Communication - 6 credit hours
- Mathematics - 3 credit hours
- Life and Physical Sciences - 6 credit hours
- Language, Philosophy and Culture - 3 credit hours
  - Any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course
- Creative Arts - 3 credit hours
- American History - 6 credit hours
- Government and Political Science - 6 credit hours
- Social and Behavioral Sciences - 3 credit hours
- Component Option Area - 6 credit hours


**Total: 42 course credit hours**

Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). All Texas public institutions are required to maintain a crosswalk with TCCNS course numbers and titles if they use a different number and title.

Students seeking to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (B.S.N.) at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSC El Paso) Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) must satisfy the course requirements of the TTUHSC El Paso nursing core curriculum in accordance with Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code § 4.28. Upon full admission into the R.N. to B.S.N. track, TTUHSC El Paso GGHSON conduct a degree audit on all students' official transcript(s). Students whose transcript(s) indicate that they are "Core Complete" at another Texas public college or university will have no additional Core Curriculum requirements imposed. For more information on institutional core requirements refer to HSCEP OP 77.16 at: <http://www.ttuhsoc.edu/son/help/system-requirements.aspx>.

In addition to being Texas Core Curriculum complete, below are the necessary prerequisites for admission into the R.N. to B.S.N. track. Some prerequisites may count as Texas Core Curriculum complete. For additional information, you may contact our advising staff at <http://el Paso.ttuhs c.edu/son/rntobsn/contact.aspx>.

RN to BSN				
Texas Core Course and Prerequisite Course Credit Hour Requirements - Combined				
Texas Core Course credit hours	Pre-requisite Lab credit hours	Pre-requisite Course credit hours	TCCNS	Texas Core Field
3			ENGL 1301	Communication Core
3			ENGL 1302	Communication Core
3			MATH: Any math that meets Texas core compliance standards.	Mathematics Core
3	1		CHEM: Any physical science that meets Texas core compliance standards.	Life and Physical Science
3	1		BIOL 2420	Life and Physical Science
3	1		BIOL 2401	Component Area Option
3	1		BIOL 2402	Component Area Option
3			Humanities Elective: any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course	Language/Philosophy/Culture
3			Visual & Performing Arts Elective: any art, music, drama, or theatre art course	Creative Arts
3			HIST 1301	American History Core
3			HIST 1302	American History Core
<i>Note: Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History (HIST 2301) for 3 credit hours of United States History.</i>				
3			GOVT 2305	Government Core
3			GOVT 2306	Government Core
3			PSYC 2301	Social/Behavioral Science

		3	PSYC 2314	
		3	HECO 1322 or BIOL 1322	
<b>Totals</b>				
<b>42</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>		
<b>Total Core &amp; Prerequisite Credit hours required prior to Admission to GGHSON</b>			<b>52</b>	
 <b>TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY</b> <b>HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER</b> <b>EL PASO</b> Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing				

Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number that corresponds with the TCCNS number.

Transfer Credit

Courses provided from other institutions with equivalent course content are acceptable for transfer credit if a C or better was earned. NOTE: pass/fail courses are not acceptable for transfer. Maximum credit allowed for credit by examination is 15 credit hours and must be on an official college transcript for acceptance. For more information on institutional transfer of credit, see [HSCEP OP 77.17](#).

Important Information About General Education and Associate Degree in Nursing Requirements:

- Pass/fail grades for general education prerequisites are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Pass/fail grades for nursing prerequisites are awarded a 2.0 grade value in the admission grade point average (GPA) calculation. Students may not take any courses required for a degree in nursing on a pass/fail basis.
- Any nursing degree course previously taken on a pass/fail basis is not transferrable.
- Applicants may request that grades for non-nursing courses more than 10 years old not be excluded from their admission GPA. If a student does elect this option, any credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past years to use this option.
- After a student has been admitted to the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON), no previous coursework is factored into his/her GPA. However, all grades earned at all schools previously attended are calculated in the admission GPA. Quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative GPA for admission are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.
- The GGHSON accepts prerequisite coursework completed via classroom, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited university or college.

**Texas Success Initiative (TSI)**

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI), formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP), is a state required program that is designed to help ensure undergraduate students' success in their college studies. All students seeking an undergraduate degree from any Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center program or campus must satisfy the TSI requirement before enrollment. To obtain TSI details pertaining to the TSI, see [Texas Success Initiative](#).

### Recognition of Previous Nursing Coursework

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) uses two methods to acknowledge previous nursing coursework. They are: (a) transfer of credit and (b) advanced placement. Both methods are described below:

#### Transfer of Credit

- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which they have been enrolled. The transcripts are reviewed and coursework is evaluated by the program administrator's office. Final determination regarding applicability of completed coursework toward degree requirements is made by the undergraduate department chair for the R.N. to B.S.N. program.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based on the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent content completed with the grade of C or better at any accredited educational institution are accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- The GGHSON accepts prerequisite courses completed via classroom, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university.
- No more than 52 general education course hours may be transferred. A minimum of 38 credit hours of basic nursing education coursework of basic nursing education coursework is required, for a total of 90 (52 general education + 38 basic nursing) semester credit hours to meet the R.N. to B.S.N. degree requirements (If a basic nursing program has been completed in less than 38 hours, the student is advised to meet with the department chair for the R.N. to B.S.N. program.). Transfer credit is posted by Registrar's office upon admission, automatically classifying all R.N. to B.S.N. students as seniors.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to the R.N. to B.S.N. program coordinator to determine applicability of transfer credit before submitting an application.

#### Advanced Placement

Students who have completed courses in nursing are eligible to receive advanced placement credit. Advanced placement credit may be awarded for credit earned at an agency that is not part of an institution of higher education, such as a diploma-granting nursing school.

#### Offer of Admission

There are a limited number of positions available each semester. Notices of admission are sent via email. Applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the offer letter by accepting the offer and paying \$100 non-refundable placement fee. Failure to respond by the deadline or to participate in the mandatory new student orientation results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

#### Conditional Admission

If a student does not meet the requirements for full admission, conditional admission may be granted. Under a conditional admission, the student is required to comply with conditions stated in the offer letter prior to the start of the term for which he/she was admitted. Examples of admission conditions include, but are not limited to:

- Verification of nursing degree completion – typically, if a student is graduating from his/her degree program at the time of application to the R.N. to B.S.N. program, the verification of degree completion is not available until the end of the semester.
- Official transcripts for completed prerequisite coursework – typically, if the prerequisite coursework is still in progress at the time of the application.

#### Graduation under a Particular Catalog

Students are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) catalog in effect at the time of entry into the program. Under certain circumstances, only with the expressed approval of the associate dean may a different catalog be

selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The catalog is published annually and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

#### ***Minimum Academic Requirements***

- Maintain at least a 2.5 semester and cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- Earn a minimum grade of C in all nursing courses.
- If an F or WF is earned in any nursing course, the student is eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to the recommendation of course faculty.
- If a student's cumulative GPA or semester GPA falls below a 2.5 in the semester of graduation, he/she is ineligible for graduation.

#### ***Conditions for Academic Dismissal***

- F or WF earned in two or more nursing courses taken in one semester.
- Earning F or WF for the third time — even if the first two failing grades were replaced with a passing grade by retaking the course.
- Earning less than a 2.5 semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.
- Earning an F or WF in the same nursing course twice.

#### **Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads**

The semester credit hour is the unit of measurement for determining credit. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis, while clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation is expected, as is an appropriate amount of preparation time for clinical activities. For the R.N. to B.S.N. track, enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (at least six for an individual summer session or 12 for a full summer session) constitutes full-time enrollment. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the department chair. In determining course load, the department chair takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 15 semester credit hours. See below for a sample course load.

#### **Degree Plan**

Degree plans are generally completed by the R.N. to B.S.N. program coordinator during the initial advising session with the student. The degree plan may be revised based on a student's ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including, but not limited to, capacities of community clinic sites.

The following degree plan is designed for applicants with an R.N. license. It is provided here as an example of a basic course schedule for a full-time student and will vary depending on each student's ability to progress through the program. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment are determined by the program director in cooperation with the associate dean. All general education courses must be completed prior to enrollment. Students should discuss an appropriate academic and employment workload with the program director prior to enrolling in classes.

**R.N.to B.S.N. Track**  
*Semester course sequence based on entrance term*

Term 1		
Course Number	Course Name	Credits Earned
GNUR 4373	Introduction to Evidence	3
GNUR 4374	Nursing Management & Leadership	3
GNUR 4375	Information Systems & Quality Management	3
GNUR 4383	Legal & Ethical Issues in Healthcare	3
Total semester credit hours		12

Term 2		
Course Number	Course Name	Credits Earned
GNUR 4308	Global Health Issues in Nursing	3
GNUR 4376	Population Focused Community Health	3
GNUR 4364	Informatics in Nursing Practice	3
GNUR XXXX	Nursing Elective	3
Total semester credit hours		12

Term 3		
Course Number	Course Name	Credits Earned
GNUR 4390	Baccalaureate Nursing Practice	3
GNUR 4381	Issues and Trends in Nursing	3
Total semester credit hours		6
<b>Total R.N. to B.S.N. course credits</b>		<b>30</b>

R.N. to B.S.N.								
Texas Core Curriculum Course Credits	+	Prerequisite course credits	+	Transferable Nursing Course Credits	+	R.N. to B.S.N. Degree Course Credits	=	BSN Degree Credit Hours
42		10		38		30		120

**Total credit hours = 52**  
 TCC credits combined with required prerequisite credit hours

## R.N. to B.S.N. Track Course Descriptions

Undergraduate courses are delivered in traditional, web-enhanced, and web-based formats.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses must be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order

<b>ONLIN</b>	85% of planned instruction occurs offsite or online
<b>FACE</b>	Delivered through face-to-face instruction
<b>CL</b>	Concurrent enrollment in a clinical section required
<b>#:#: #</b>	First # represents the number of credit hours; second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
<b>*</b>	Elective course; offered at select times, depending on faculty availability and interest
<b>V</b>	Variable credit

### 4000-Level Courses

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**GNUR4308. Global Health Issues in Nursing.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) In order to provide competent care for diverse populations, it is important for nurses to have an awareness of global health issues. This course will provide an introduction to global health issues affecting nurses. The student will be exposed to a variety of global issues; including infectious diseases, non-infectious diseases, and non-disease related global issues that impact healthcare in developing countries.

**GNUR4311. Professional Practice and Role Development.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) Dimensions of Professional Practice and Role Development facilitates the development and implementation of strategies to enable the synthesis of professional development for the nurse. The course enables the student to recognize and understand the critical role that nurses play in health care delivery. Students will analyze principles of professional practice and will explore strategies to model the professional practice in current clinical situations.

**GNUR4364. Informatics in Nursing Practice** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Students will explore the various uses of informatics in nursing practice and the healthcare setting including current technology initiatives, use of informatics in a variety of healthcare settings, decision support systems, and the impact of technology on nurse-patient relationships.

**GNUR4373. Introduction to Evidence** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course addresses pathways for engaging with appropriate evidence to advance the practice of nursing. Basic research concepts and evidence-based practice approaches will be used to prepare the students as consumers of evidence in order to ensure that practice is based on validated evidence. This course provides students with a foundation for evidence-based practice in synthesizing the professional role in nursing. The ability to function as competent consumers of evidence in nursing demands an understanding of what is evidence and basic research principles. This course describes various models of inquiry in nursing. Students will engage in discussions, reading, and evaluation of evidence and research reports to advance the practice of nursing.

**GNUR4374. Nursing Management and Leadership** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course builds on management and leadership concepts essential in professional nursing practice in the



21st century. Management and leadership theories, roles and functions serve as the foundation for the course. Key concepts covered include managing quality using informatics tools and systems, patient safety, staffing, fiscal planning and decision-making.

**GNUR4375. Information Systems and Quality Management** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course is an introduction to information systems and quality processes required to monitor and improve healthcare outcomes related to cost, safety, care, coordination and quality management. Learning information system and quality management concepts will prepare the students to function as a nursing leader in a variety of healthcare settings. Content will cover strategies to improve communication and manage information using technology to support decision making to improve patient care and delivery systems.

**GNUR4376. Population Focused Community Health** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course emphasizes population-focused nursing and community-oriented approaches to understanding and addressing public health concerns. The focus is on the concepts of population health assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs to improve community health.

**GNUR4377. Risk Analysis and Implications for Practice** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). This course introduces the student to systems analysis as it relates to patient safety and risk reduction. Content will cover the role of the inter-professional healthcare team in identifying potential factors which lead to adverse medication events. Resources at the organizational, federal, state, and private level are reviewed in developing strategies that ensure care for vulnerable populations.

**GNUR4380. Nature of Nursing Theory** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course is an introduction to the nature of nursing theory. Origins of and strategies for theory development in nursing are examined in terms of importance in guiding the profession as a practice discipline. Nursing theory is analyzed as a foundation for nursing practice aide research.

**GNUR4381. Issues and Trends in Nursing** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course focuses on current issues and trends in nursing relevant to the professional role on a local, state, national and international level.

**GNUR4383. Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) This course surveys major legal and ethical issues in the inter-professional delivery of healthcare. Study focuses on basic principles and language of law and ethics, and develops an understanding of value formation and its influence on ethical theories. The role of state nursing boards in regulating practice is reviewed along with landmark court cases affecting the role and duties of the nurse.

**GNUR4390. Baccalaureate Nursing Practice** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Capstone course which requires students to integrate principles of patient centered care, interdisciplinary teams, evidence based practice, quality improvement, informatics, and patient safety through discussion, personal reflection, and development of a professional portfolio.

## **Electives**

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**GNUR4313. Financial Management in Nursing.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) Financial Management in Nursing explores economic issues relevant to nursing practice and health care. The course uses a systems approach to analyze the financial impact of health care decisions. The course further assesses the financial implication of nursing decisions from a clinical perspective. Topics include a myriad of financial concepts that range from staffing and budgeting to measuring productivity and forecasting costs. The goal of the course is to enable the nurses in managerial roles to implement change without negatively affecting patient care outcomes.

**GNUR4315. Cultural Competencies for Health and Illness.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.) Transcultural Nursing provides a theoretical framework for the delivery of culturally competent nursing care. The course will enable the nurse to navigate through the obstacles that culture can place on the patient/family experience. Through a presentation of the history and theory behind

cultural competence in nursing, the course offers key information regarding health beliefs and the impact of culture on both health and illness.

**GNUR4362. Health Care for Rural Older Adults.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Focus on important concepts in health and health care among rural elders as a population group. This concept of rurality will be presented not as a dichotomy, but as a continuum, focusing on the special needs of rural elders. Emphasis is on the collaborative role of nurses in assisting elders and families in rural settings to negotiate health care delivery systems, using principles for evaluating, managing, and coordinating care of rural elders.

**GNUR4363. Foundations of Holistic Nursing.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Students will explore various perspectives related to health and healing processes, including concepts of self-care, presence, intentionality, and integrative modalities as a basis for holistic nursing practice. Contemporary research supporting evidence based holistic practice is highlighted.

**GNUR4365. Spirituality in Health Practice an Evidence Based Practice.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). This course is an exploration of spirituality in healthcare. Included in this course is an overview of different aspects related to spirituality and an exploration into avenues to strengthen the inclusion of spirituality in health care delivery with a focus on the evidence-based practice foundation for these avenues.

**GNUR4366. Genomics in Nursing Practice.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). This course will increase the ability of the professional nurse to think genetically when approaching a clinical situation or problem that may not appear to be genetic in nature. The course will examine basic mechanisms of inheritance and transmission of chromosomes and genes, understanding of genetic contributions to human diversity, and information about common inherited genetic disorders and conditions.

**GNUR4367. Issues in Women's Health.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). This course provides the opportunity to explore women's health issues and their implications for health care.

**GNUR4368. Conducting Life Review with Elderly Clients.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Designed to acquaint students with concepts and processes of conducting life review with elderly clients. Included in this course are two primary goals in conducting life review with elderly clients. The first goal is on the emotional level with the outcome being to decrease anxiety and increase the client's sense of satisfaction, pride, and accomplishment about their life. The second goal is on a cognitive level with the outcome being to heighten the client's awareness of the strengths and resources they have to meet previous life challenges.

**GNUR4369. Health Law for the Nurse Leader.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). This course will immerse the student in major legal topics that confront nurses in their role as leaders in health care organizations. Students will explore when and how the law impacts the health care arena and the delivery of care.

**GNUR4388. Client and Peer Teaching.** (\*Elective) (3:3:0 ONLIN). (R.N. to B.S.N.). Focuses on collaboration between nurse and client/peers. It includes an assessment of learning needs, the implementation of planned learning.

## GRADUATE STUDIES

### Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) in Leadership Track

#### Purpose

The purpose of this program is to prepare nurses at a graduate Master-level education in the area of leadership.

#### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon program completion, graduates will be able to:

1. Integrate concepts (e.g., leadership skills to improve quality of care) consistent with advanced nursing practice.
2. Enhance knowledge and understanding of nursing science and evidence-based practice.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of health-related needs of individuals and populations including the underserved and vulnerable.

This is designed as a part-time, 39-credit-hour program to be completed in seven consecutive semesters. Students enroll in six credit hours each semester and attend required two to three day on-campus intensives over several semesters during the program. On-campus intensives allow students to engage in activities that can best be completed in a face-to-face format with faculty and content experts.

Spring 2018 application dates: **June 15 - August 15**

Fall 2018 application dates: **January 1 - March 1**

#### Graduate Admissions Requirements

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- **Prerequisite Coursework:** All applicants are required to have completed a three-semester-credit-hour or four-quarter-credit-hour statistics course from an accredited college or university.
- **Previous Education:** A bachelor's in nursing degree (B.S.N.) from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). Hold a valid and unencumbered R.N. license in the state in which they reside.
- **Grade Point Average (GPA):** A minimum 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA; special attention will be paid to undergraduate nursing and science grades.

Required application materials

- **Online Applications:** A completed online application and non-refundable application fee, submitted through the Nursing Central Application System (NCAS) and a separate application to the GGHSON. The NCAS application fee is \$45 if submitted prior to the application deadline and the GGHSON application fee is \$40.
- **License:** A valid and unencumbered RN license in the state of the applicant's residency. Students must have successfully passed the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN®) prior to starting their M.S.N. coursework.
- A professional resume or curriculum vitae.
- **Resume/CV: Recommendations:** Three professional recommendation letters attesting to the applicant's ability to complete academic requirements and demonstrate professional competencies and personal character are required. Appropriate reference sources include faculty members, professional colleagues, or work supervisors who understand the demands of a graduate program and can speak to the applicant's potential for success.
- **Personal Statement:** A personal statement describing the applicant's professional journey and future contribution to nursing leadership. The statement should be a maximum of three pages, double-spaced, 11-12-point font size, and uploaded as a PDF file.
- **Transcripts:** Applicants must provide all postsecondary transcripts from every school where

college credit was earned — not just degree-granting institutions. Applicants with foreign academic credentials must provide academic records in the original language with certified English translation and US equivalencies.

#### Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

Students whose predominant language is not English — including U.S. residents — must also present a score of at least 550 (paper exam), 213 (computer exam), or 79 (internet) on the TOEFL. The TOEFL requirement may be waived if the student graduated from a U.S. high school with a minimum of two years attendance or if the student is a citizen of a country where English is the official language.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are important factors in admission considerations, additional, non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors may include, but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages, etc.
- Permanent residence in TTUHSC El Paso service area/county
- Multilingualism
- Prior enrollment in any Texas Tech University System campus or program

All applicants are reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor can determine a student's admission.

#### Computer Requirements

Students are required to spend a considerable amount of time utilizing online resources, including email. Owning a personal computer is required to succeed in this area of study. Additional information on computer requirements may be obtained from the coordinators in Student Affairs prior to orientation.

#### Distance Education Student Orientation

Distance education students are required to complete the designated student orientation. Please read the information on the M.S.N. web page and use links to navigate through the orientation process and familiarize yourself with some of the services the school offers. Please be sure to review program specific information for additional orientation requirements.

#### Criminal Background Checks

In accordance with [HSCEP OP 10.20](#), a criminal background check (CBC) must be completed and cleared prior to enrollment in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). Students are responsible for their own CBC and any associated costs.

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with [HSCEP OP 10.20](#).

If an applicant believes the record contains errors and gives written notification to the school of his/her intent to challenge the report, matriculation will be put on hold pending the outcome of the challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the school of his/her intent to challenge the record, or if it is determined that the record is accurate at the conclusion of a vendor challenge, the admission offer will be withdrawn.

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses: While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket, or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the expunged or sealed record in question to our office, along with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not, in fact, expunged or sealed, will, at a minimum,

subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions about truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure: Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure, you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on the Declaratory Order form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of the Gov't Code chapter 411, the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) is entitled to access information on any criminal history record that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. Even if the matter is not explicitly revealed in a Declaratory Order, the board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

Statutes and rules governing the Petition for Declaratory Order may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§ 301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules and Regulations Relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TAC §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be located on the TBON's website: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

The Nursing Practice Act (<http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html>) was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, which added § 301.4535, authorizing the TBON to deny or revoke licensure to an individual for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the BON must refuse or withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his or her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The TBON may consider granting licensure to an applicant who otherwise would be ineligible for licensure after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment (punishable as a felony); sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, or an elderly or disabled person; perpetration of family violence; involvement in a child abduction; sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; any offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

#### Criminal Background Check Policy

In accordance with [HSCEP OP 10.20](#), all students are required to complete and clear a criminal background check (CBC) prior to enrollment in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON). Students are responsible for their own CBC and any associated fees.

**HSCEP OP 10.20** also states the following:

Students, trainees, and residents shall timely self-disclose relevant criminal history record information no later than five (5) business days following the charge of a crime. "Criminal history record information" (CHRI) means information collected about students, trainees or residents by a criminal justice agency that consists of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, information, and other formal criminal charges, and their dispositions.<sup>2</sup> If self-disclosure reveals CHRI, the individual must then undergo a contemporaneous CBC, which may include fingerprinting. The report will be made available to the appropriate Dean or his/her designee. Failure of students, trainees or residents to disclose information, which is subsequently found on a background check, may result in dismissal or withdrawal of acceptance from the university.

Undergraduate students complete and clear the CBC process through the TBON. Instructions are supplied to all incoming undergraduate students at orientation.

In accordance with [HSCEP 10.20](#), additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment.

If an applicant believes the record contains errors and notifies the school in writing of his/her intent to challenge the report, matriculation is placed on hold pending the outcome of the

challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the school of his/her intent to challenge the record, or if it is determined that the record is accurate, the admission offer will be withdrawn.

#### Drug Screenings

Drug screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site at the cost of the student.

#### Immunizations

See [Immunization Requirements](#).

#### Identification Badge Requirements – Distance Education Students

Per [HSCEP OP 76.02](#), enrolled students are required to obtain an official student identification badge. This requirement also applies to distance education students even though they are not on campus. Should a distance education student be on campus, they must visibly wear the official student badge.

All enrolled students to the graduate program are required to:

1. Complete and submit the following:
  - a. Notarized Identity Verification form
  - b. Identification/Security Access form
2. Mail to:  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso  
Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing  
Office of Student Affairs  
210 North Concepcion  
El Paso, Texas 79905
3. Submit a photo per the guidelines:
  - a. Follow the instructions for submission.
  - b. Students will receive an email if photo is not within the specified guidelines.
4. Once the Office of Student Affairs receives a completed notarized identity verification form, **and** a completed identification/security access form, **and** an acceptable electronic photo, the student will receive a student badge, via mail, to the address provided on the identification/security Access form.

Lost or stolen student IDs are subject to a replacement fee. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the Office of Student Affairs at 915-215-6124 or [GGHSON@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:GGHSON@ttuhsc.edu).

#### Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made at least two months prior to the first day of the semester for which readmission is requested. The associate dean is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the GGHSON. The minimum cumulative grade point average for readmission consideration is 2.7.

A student who left in good standing and is seeking readmission must complete and submit an application for readmission, including the expected re-entry term, to the admissions coordinator of the graduate program. The admissions coordinator for the graduate program will notify the chair of graduate studies of the request for readmission and provide the student's most recent transcripts, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdrawal, if known. The chair may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, e.g., readmission on a part-time degree plan, auditing coursework, etc.

A student who was not in good standing at the time of his/her leave due to academic or disciplinary causes must complete and submit an application for readmission, including the expected re-entry term, to the admissions coordinator of the graduate program. The student must also submit a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdrawal and his/her plan to improve or correct performance, if offered readmission. The admissions coordinator for the graduate program will notify the chair of graduate studies of the request for readmission and provide the student's most recent transcripts, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdrawal, if known. The chair may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, e.g., readmission on a part-time degree plan, auditing coursework, etc.

The associate dean reviews all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student who withdrew in good standing:

- Eligible and admit
- Eligible, as space permits and in order of request (in relation to other applications for readmission)
- Not eligible

#### Offer of Admission

There are a limited number of positions available each semester. Notices of admission are sent via email. Applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the offer letter by accepting the offer and paying \$100 non-refundable placement fee. Failure to respond by the deadline or to participate in the mandatory new student orientation results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

#### Degree Requirements for the Graduate Program

Students are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing (GGHSON) Student Catalog in effect at the time of entry into the program. Under certain circumstances, only with the expressed approval of the associate dean may a different catalog be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The catalog is published annually and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

#### ***Minimum Academic Requirements***

- Maintain at least a 3.0 semester and cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- Earn a minimum grade of C in all graduate program coursework.
- If an F or WF is earned in any graduate course, the student is eligible to repeat that course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- If a student's cumulative GPA or semester GPA falls below a 3.0 in the semester of graduation, he/she is ineligible for graduation.

#### ***Conditions for Academic Dismissal***

- An F or WF earned in two or more nursing courses taken in one semester.
- Earning an F or WF in a graduate course for the second time — even if the first failing grade was replaced with a passing grade by retaking the course.
- Earning a C or lower in the same graduate course twice.
- Earning a C or lower in a second graduate even though one graduate course has been retaken and a satisfactory grade of B or better has been obtained.
- Earning less than a 3.0 semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.
- Earning an F or WF in the same nursing course twice.

### Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measurement for determining credit. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis, while clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation is expected, as is an appropriate amount of preparation time for clinical activities. The dean regulates the number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load). In determining course load, the dean takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved.

<b>Prefix and Number</b>	<b>Required Courses for M.S.N.</b>	<b>Credit hours</b>
GNUR5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5327	Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	3
GNUR5342	Advanced Health Assessment	3
GNUR5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	3
GNUR5314	Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching and Technology	3
GNUR5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	3
GNUR5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR5347	Administrative Role Development	3
GNUR6010	Application of Administrative Practice	3
<b>Total:</b>		<b>39</b>

### Academic Advising

The chair of graduate studies directs academic advising for students enrolled in the graduate program in leadership program. Student receive their degree plan at orientation and are expected to follow the degree plan when registering for courses. Under the direction of the associate dean and student affairs and in collaboration with the department chair, the coordinator for graduate student affairs assists students with academic planning, staying informed of curriculum changes, and problem solving related to progression through the degree plan. Graduate faculty are consulted regarding academic advising, when necessary, to best meet students' needs. All questions regarding registration, adding/dropping a course, or withdrawing from the program should be directed to the coordinator for graduate student affairs.



## M.S.N. in Leadership Course Descriptions

Graduate courses are delivered in traditional, web-enhanced, and web-based formats. All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses must be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order

<b>ONLIN</b>	85% of planned instruction occurs offsite or online
<b>FACE</b>	Delivered through face-to-face instruction
<b>CL</b>	Concurrent enrollment in a clinical section required
<b>HYBRD</b>	
<b>#:##</b>	First # represents the number of credit hours; second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
<b>*</b>	Elective course; offered at select times, depending on faculty availability and interest
<b>V</b>	Variable credit

### 5000-Level Courses

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**GNUR5314. Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching and Technology.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This course focuses on the nurse educator role by creating the foundational components of learning principles, pedagogical approaches, teaching strategies and information systems technology.

**GNUR5322. Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This course will engage the student in the examination of information and technology concepts, theories, and skills necessary to optimally communicate, manage knowledge, minimize error, and support health care decisions. Students will learn to apply information and communication technologies to integrate and coordinate patient care; examine data management systems to improve outcomes of care; and utilize evidence-based care and health education to manage health information. Principles of information and cognitive science will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of healthcare information, health care delivery, decision-support, and the ethical and secure management of information in the advanced practice nursing role.

**GNUR5323. Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 HYBRD). (M.S.N.). This course engages the student in an examination of organizational and leadership concepts, theories, and skills that are critical to high quality, safe patient care. Students will learn to apply quality improvement and patient safety sciences to promote healthcare systems that are safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient centered. Principles of leadership will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of systems thinking, ethical and critical decision-making, communication, collaboration, negotiation, change facilitation and financial management in the advanced practice nursing role.

**GNUR5324. Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 HYBRD). (M.S.N.). This course addresses the theoretical basis for population and environmental health, the principles of epidemiology, models/frameworks of health and health management systems and major population health concepts foundational to advanced nursing practice.

**GNUR5325. Health Policy: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 HYBRD). (M.S.N.). This course addresses health policy, financing, and advocacy roles implemented by the M.S.N.-prepared nurse, as well as professional issues for M.S.N.-prepared nurses. Local, state, and national policies; legal and regulatory processes; and professional nursing issues impacting healthcare delivery are examined.

**GNUR5326. Research for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This core course focuses on developing an understanding of fundamental aspects of research critique and common approaches to design and conduct of research relevant to nursing. While qualitative and quantitative approaches are introduced this course, the understanding and use of statistics in the context of research and research critique is emphasized.

**GNUR5327. Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This course promotes understanding and use of theory while focusing on methods underlying evidence based approaches to nursing practice. Selected theories that are relevant to evidence based nursing practice will be critiqued for usefulness and application in an effort to link theory, evidence, and practice. Practice problems form the basis for examining evidence application in nursing.

**GNUR5342. Advanced Health Assessment.** (3:2:3.5 HYBRD). (M.S.N.). Building upon basic physical assessment and history taking knowledge and skills, this course focuses on knowledge and clinical skills required for advanced practice nursing. Requires on campus skills lab.

**GNUR5343. Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This graduate course focuses on application of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamics principles to medication regimens for patients, male and female, across the life span. Students will utilize assessment data and evidence-based protocols to guide safe prescriptive decision-making in a master's prepared nursing role.

**GNUR5345. Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). Study of the physiologic basis of disease for advanced practice nursing. Emphasis is on application of pathophysiologic concepts to the recognition of pathologic conditions and the management of clients with a variety of health problems across the life span.

**GNUR5347. Administrative Role Development.** (3:2.5:2 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). The focus of this course is on creation of an effective workplace in which safe patient care can occur. The traditional elements of managing are the avenues through which learners gain insight into the effectiveness and influence of the administrative role.

**GNUR5386. Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders.** (3:3:0 ONLIN). (M.S.N.). This course is designed to provide graduate students with information and skills for developing budgets and managing financial issues in health care facilities, clinics, independent practice or a nursing unit.

**GNUR6010. Application of Administrative Practice.** (3:0:12 HYBRD). (M.S.N.). This course provides learners with the opportunity to implement ideas into a practice setting. It is designed to allow learners to use ideas from the literature, their peers, conferences and other approved sources to create an application project designed to change practice from a clinical or administrative perspective.