Frequently Asked Questions

4-YEAR TRACK

IS THIS AN ONLINE PROGRAM?
The 4-year track BSN is NOT an online program.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM?
The program is 5 semesters long. Students begin the program in spring semester of their sophomore year.

DO YOU ACCEPT TRANSFER STUDENTS?
We do accept transfer students, but they must be admitted to BSU prior to applying to the nursing major. Prerequisite courses transferred from another school must be formally approved by the nursing department as equivalent before the nursing application is submitted. Transfer Credits

HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS?
The nursing program is 5 semesters long, PLUS applicants must be enrolled in the NRSG 2000 class during the fall semester. So it is really a 6-semester, on-campus commitment.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ACCEPTED?
- Completion of at least 30 semester credits at the 0900 level and above from an accredited college or university, including the required prerequisite courses.
- A cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. This GPA is required to apply to the program but does not guarantee admission.
- Two references from teachers, counselors or employers.
- Transcript with proof of a completed Nursing Assistant course (valid Practical Nurse license waives the CNA requirement) and American Heart Association BLS CPR certification.
- Enrollment in NRSG 2000 at BSU at the time of application.

Applicants should refer to the criteria and procedure as explained in the official application materials for more detailed information. Application Criteria

WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED PREREQUISITE COURSES?
- BIOL 1930 Nursing Anatomy and Physiology I and II with lab – 8 credits
- PSY 1100 Introduction to Psychology – 4 credits
- PSY 3237 Lifespan Development – 4 credits
- CHEM 1111 General Chemistry I with lab – 4 credits
- NRSG 2000 Introduction to Professional Nursing – must be taken at BSU.

Prerequisite courses must have been completed within the last 5 years. A grade of C or higher is required and courses can be repeated only once for the purpose of improving a lower grade. Prerequisite courses transferred from another school must be formally approved by the nursing department as equivalent before the nursing application is submitted.

WHAT PSEO COURSES COUNT FOR PRE-REQS?
If a class is included in the program of study and/or general education requirements and is taken as a PSEO course, it will count toward your degree.
**Do I have to take an admission exam?**
Yes, the HESI Admission Assessment Exam is required for admission. The exam will be offered by the nursing department on the BSU campus soon after the application deadline.

**What is the lowest GPA you accept?**
We will review applicants who have at least a 2.5 GPA. The average GPA of students accepted is 3.4.

**How many students are accepted into the program each year?** 50-60 students.

**What is the acceptance rate?** It depends on the total number of applicants.

**Can I reapply if I don’t get in?** Yes, students may apply again in a future year, but no more than two times total.

**How often are students accepted into the program?** Once per year in the fall.

**When is the application deadline for the nursing program?**
We accept applications from August 15 to September 15 only. Normally students apply in their sophomore year.

**When do I have to complete the Nursing Assistant course?**
Prior to applying for the program.

**Can I test out of the nursing assistant course and submit my certificate instead?**
No. Documentation of completing a NA course is required, but the certificate is not.

**Do I have to take the nursing assistant certification test?**
No. Documentation of completing a NA course is required, but the certificate is not.

**Do you have to take CPR and CNA at BSU?**
No. These classes are not offered at BSU. They are usually offered at community/technical colleges.

**Are there Clinicals?** Yes

**Are they just in Bemidji?**
Most are at Sanford Bemidji Hospital but they are also in the surrounding area. Some students will complete their clinicals in Park Rapids.

**Will I be eligible to get a PHN certificate after completing the program?** Yes

**Do you accept LPNs? How long will it take to go from LPN-BSN?**
We do not have an accelerated LPN-BSN program. LPNs are welcome to apply but they will need to fulfill all of the same requirements as other students.

**Do you have an accelerated program for students who already have a bachelor’s degree?**
We do not have an accelerated program. However, a prior degree does meet the liberal education requirements.