Nursing Program Application Guidelines

Application Deadline Dates (Open Registration begins 6 months prior to deadline)

- **Vocational Nursing Program**
  - For Spring semester admission – First Friday in October of each year by 5:00 PM
- **Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing (AAS Nursing)**
  - For Fall semester admission – 1st Friday in April of each year by 5:00 PM
  - For Spring semester admission – 1st Friday in September of each year by 5:00 PM
- **LVN to RN Transition (AAS Nursing)**
  - For Summer semester admission – 3rd Friday in February of each year by 5:00 PM
  - For Fall semester admission – 1st Friday in April of each year by 5:00 PM
- **RN to BSN Degree**
  - Admission periods every Spring, Summer, & Fall semesters.
  - E-mail nursing@com.edu for application procedures.

Application Procedure

- Apply to COM via ApplyTexas.
  - Select General Studies as the major.
  - (If COM application is over a year old and no COM courses have currently been taken, students will need to submit a new COM application.
- Submit **official** transcripts to the COM Admissions Department via The National Student Clearinghouse for all colleges attended (except COM) and complete the Transcript Evaluation Form located at this site
  - Allow at least **2-4 weeks** for the evaluation to be completed after the transcript evaluation form has been submitted. All transferred courses must be in the Student Information System (SIS) to be eligible for admission to nursing.
  - Students who have previously been enrolled in any Nursing course(s) at a different college/university must disclose it at the time of application by e-mailing nursing@com.edu. Include student name, COM ID, which nursing course(s), and name of college/university for which each course was taken. If interested in applying as a transfer student, please send an email to nursing@com.edu to request application guidelines for transfer student status.
  - Students with more than one failure in a Vocational Nursing course (VNSG) within the past 3 years may not apply to the Vocational Nursing program for a period of 3 years from the last failure.
  - Students with a course failure in a Vocational Nursing course (VNSG) within the past 3 years may not apply to the AAS Nursing program for a period of 3 years from the last failure.
  - Students with more than one failure in a Nursing course (NURS or RNSG) within the past 3 years may not apply to the AAS Nursing program (Pre-licensure or LVN-RN Transition) for a period of 3 years from the last failure.
- **For VN, AAS, and LVN-RN Transition programs: Complete nursing application on WebAdvisor.**
  - Click on the Students icon and then on Nursing Applications Directory.
  - Apply to the desired program as a **new student**.
  - Follow the instructions throughout the nursing application and confirm and submit each section.
  - You may have more than one application open at a time if you are applying to multiple programs.

Program Requirements

- **Licensure Eligibility**
  - To check your eligibility for initial licensure you will be required to complete a criminal background check once accepted. Please visit the Texas Board of Nursing Website for more information. https://www.bon.texas.gov/licensure_eligibility.asp.html

Pre-Requisites: Please refer to the current COM Catalog for nursing program pre-requisite requirements.

![COM — College of the Mainland.]

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- **HESI A2**
  - The HESI A2 has a time limit of either 4.5 hours (Basic Sections only) or 5.5 hours (Basic plus Additional Sections) & consists of up to 8 total sections. The student is responsible for knowing which section(s) are needed for the program being applied to.

B A S I C   S E C T I O N S

Nursing Program	Reading	Grammar	Vocab	A & P	Math
VN – Current minimum 75% Score Each Section	X	X	X	Not Required	X
AAS/ LVN-RN Transition – Current minimum 78% Score Each Section	X	X	X	X	X

NOTE: All programs will require the three additional HESI A2 sections as follows:

A D D I T I O N A L   S E C T I O N S

Nursing Program	Learning Style	Personality Profile	Critical Thinking
VN, AAS/ LVN-RN Transition	X **No minimum score required**	X **No minimum score required**	**Critical Thinking: Score 951-1000 = 6 points toward ranking formula** **Critical Thinking: Score 900-950 = 5 points toward ranking formula** **Critical Thinking: Score 851-899 = 4 points toward ranking formula** **Critical Thinking: Score 800-850 = 3 points toward ranking formula** **Critical Thinking: Score <799 = 0 points toward ranking formula**

  - Students may repeat a HESI A2 section up to 2 times per quarter per the COM Testing Center.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
January	April	July	October
February	May	August	November
March	June	September	December

  - A maximum of 3 HESI A2 score reports are allowed per application period and the higher score in each section will be accepted. Applicants will need to officially submit the HESI A2 reports they would like considered each application period. If applying for both the RN and VN program for the spring application period, official HESI A2 reports will only need to be submitted once. Once the maximum of 3 HESI A2 score reports have been submitted, any additional reports received after will not be considered. Therefore, if you plan to retest wait before you submit HESI A2 reports as a maximum of 3 are allowed. NOTE: The cumulative score is not considered.
  - Notify nursing@com.edu if a higher HESI score is earned so that the student's application can be updated, if the maximum of 3 HESI A2 score reports has not been surpassed. The application will NOT update automatically. Nursing staff must manually verify HESI A2 scores in the order they are received. Students will receive an e-mail notification once verified. Only official transcript scores will be accepted from **Elsevier**.
  - HESI A2 Results are only valid for three years.
  - The HESI A2 assessment is available to COM Nursing applicants, as well as students applying to programs at other institutions.
  - As of January 2, 2024, the cost to test at COM Testing Center is $79 for Basic Sections and $89 for Basic

plus Additional Sections. The flat rate to retake a section will be $79 regardless of how many basic sections of the assessment you retake.

o Valid Photo ID Required**.**
o Steps to register to take the HESI A2 assessment in the COM Testing Center
  ▪ Evolve account - **You will need this username and password to log-in to the assessment**. Create your Evolve account create a student account if you do not have one.
o Once you have created your Evolve account, you can schedule your on-campus appointment. All candidates must show a **valid photo ID** to take the HESI A2 assessment in the COM Testing Center.

o <mark>All HESI A2 score reports must be officially submitted by **Elsevier**:</mark>
  ▪ All applicants must go to **https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/store?role=student** and log in using your username and password.
  ▪ Click on HESI Transcripts on the bottom right of the screen page. Download the HESI Transcript Request Form.
  ▪ Follow the directions on the form to return the document to Elsevier.
  ▪ Allow 7-10 business days for processing of the transcript form.
  ▪ Request the transcript results to be sent to:

> **Institution/School:** College of the Mainland
> **Deliver Transcript via Email**
> **Attention:** Nursing Department
> **Address:** 1200 Amburn Road Texas City, TX 77591
> **Email:**
> **nursing@com.edu**
> **Phone: (**409) 933-8914

Initial Clinical Readiness Documentation Requirements for Application Purposes

The following items are required to be uploaded by the application deadline date, using the Nursing Student SharePoint site (must have an active COM email address). The Clinical Readiness Information section of the application will NOT update automatically. Clinical readiness documentation is manually verified by Nursing staff in the order it is received. Students will receive an e-mail notification once verified.
  ▪ Proof of one measles/mumps/rubella (**MMR**) vaccination, *or* positive titer (lab must be **MMR IgG**).
  ▪ Proof of one Varicella vaccination, or positive titer (lab must be **VZV Ab IgG**).
  ▪ Proof of a completed Hepatitis B series (3-shot series or Hepislav 2-shot series) or positive Hepatitis B surface antibody (**HBsAB**) Titer **- Quantitative** lab value indicating the HBsAB level. **NOTE:** A **Qualitative (QUAL)** titer lab result will _**not**_ be accepted.
  NOTE: For verification purposes, all vaccinations must be an official shot record and/or lab result
  (school records or pharmacy receipts are not **acceptable). All documentation** _**must**_ **include:**
    * Student's name
    * Date vaccine was administered.
    * Facility name (i.e., clinic/hospital/pharmacy)
    * Date lab results reported for titers with the results.
    * If labs and/or vaccinations received at a pharmacy, ask for the "student documentation" verification form(s).
  ▪ State Issued Driver's license, or
    • State issued identification card, or
    • I-20 compliant documents are only accepted for RN to BSN, AAS, or LVN-RN Transition Programs. **NOTE:** International status is not eligible for the VN program.
    • All documents must be current / unexpired.

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Clinical Readiness Documentation Requirements AFTER Acceptance into the Program

If accepted, students will be required to submit clinical readiness documentation as listed below. **NOTE:** Students who receive notification of program acceptance will be provided information on how to create an account to upload clinical readiness documents in the Clinical Documentation Tracker. Alternate list students must have these clinical readiness documents immediately available if accepted into the program.

- Annual Flu vaccination, available August/September.
- Two MMR vaccines or a positive Titer (must be **MMR IgG**).
- Two Varicella vaccines **or** a positive Titer (must be **VZV Ab IgG**).
- Full Hepatitis B Positive Titer Lab result.
  Note: For clinical purposes, a Positive Hepatitis B Surface Antibody (HBsAB) **Quantitative** Titer indicating the HBsAB level is required. A Qualitative (QUAL) Titer lab result is NOT acceptable.
  * If the Titer lab result is NEGATIVE (Low), please see APPENDIX A for additional requirements.
- Hepatitis C Screen.
- Tdap vaccination within the past 10 years
- Tuberculosis screen (must be PPD, Chest X-Ray, or Quantiferon serological test).
  * PPD results must include date administered, date read and read result including the facility name.
- Basic Life Support (CPR & AED) course completed within the past year.
  * Only the American Heart Association course is accepted.
  * College of the Mainland offers American Heart Association BLS courses.
  * Contact the CE-Allied Health Program at 409-933-8645 for course information or register online via the CE course schedule. **NOTE:** If there are no courses available at COM, please visit the American Heart Association link https://www.heart.org/en/ to find a BLS Healthcare Provider course.
  * E-cards are acceptable.
  * Upload both sides of the paper card.
- Health Insurance Card (both sides) must have full medical coverage.
- COVID Vaccinations
  * Initial Vaccinations and boosters are required by a few clinical facilities for placement in their facilities. Students who are not COVID vaccinated may not be able to complete the hands-on clinical hours required by the Texas Board of Nursing.
- Click on the Quick Links section of the Nursing Student SharePoint
  * Download and complete the Nursing FERPA Consent to Release Student Information and upload the form in the appropriate section in the Clinical Documentation Tracker.

Applicants are ranked for selection based on the following:

- Weighted GPA for prerequisite courses
  - VN Students minimum GPA 2.0
  - AAS / LVN-RN Transition student minimum GPA 2.8
  NOTE: The GPA (pre-requisite courses only) is also highly weighted. You can retake a pre-requisite course to earn a better grade. Your nursing academic advisors, Lesli Carroll or LaShawnda Roberts, can assist you.
- HESI A2 Score Calculation
  - Performance on the HESI A2 exam is highly weighted. There are many HESI A2 study guides available online. Choose one that is right for you.
- Education Points (Doctorate, Master's Degree in Science or Arts, Bachelor's Degree in Science or Arts, Associate Degree in Science or Arts, and Health-Related Certificates).
  - Health related certificates must be current and approved by a state agency to be considered for points. Course completion is **not** acceptable proof for consideration. (Health related certificates does not include CPR certification).

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- o Points will only be awarded for the highest degree/certificate submitted (a degree is higher than a certificate).
- o Eligible certificates **must be uploaded** via the Nursing Student SharePoint site after you have entered them into the application to receive educational points.
- o You will not be given points for Degrees if they are not on file with the Admission Department.
- o You will not be given points for eligible certificates if they are not on file with the Nursing Department (via the SharePoint site).

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing (AAS Nursing) - For the applicants accepted into the Spring 2025 program, the *average* HESI A2 scores and *average* GPA (pre-requisite courses only) are listed below:

Reading	Grammar	Vocabulary	A & P	Math	GPA
89.53	88.20	91.07	92.00	93.20	3.53

Vocational Nursing Program – For the applicants accepted into the Spring 2025 program, the *average* HESI A2 scores and *average* GPA (pre-requisite courses only) are listed below:

Reading	Grammar	Vocabulary	Math	GPA
86.37	87.48	88.07	87.26	3.44

LVN-RN Transition Nursing Program – For the applicants accepted into the Fall 2024 program, the *average* HESI A2 scores and *average* GPA (pre-requisite courses only) are listed below:

Reading	Grammar	Vocabulary	A & P	Math	GPA
87.84	85.92	89.20	90.08	90.24	3.37

For more information, contact:

COM Nursing Department (STEAM 225)
Web: www.com.edu/nursing
Email: nursing@com.edu
Nursing Student SharePoint Site: https://com0.sharepoint.com/sites/NursingStudent/SitePages/Quick-links.aspx
Nursing Department Reception: 409-933-8914

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Any student who has a documented learning or physical disability and wishes to access academic accommodations under the 1973 Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disability Act must contact Kimberly Lachney in the student success center at 409- 933-8919 or klachney@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu. The student must have appropriate documentation of the disability and the need for the requested accommodation on file with the Advisement Center before accommodations can be provided.

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APPENDIX A – Negative Hepatitis B

If the Hepatitis B Titer has a NEGATIVE (LOW) lab result, students will be required to upload all the following into the Clinical Readiness Tracker.

- Proof of the initial Hepatitis B 3-shot series or 2-shot series completed prior to the negative lab.
  NOTE: The 2-shot series must specify Hepislav on the documentation to be valid.

- Proof of the NEGATIVE Hepatitis B Titer lab results.

- Proof of the Hepatitis B vaccination series being repeated.
  NOTE: The 1st vaccination in the repeated series must be uploaded no later than the clinical readiness deadline assigned if accepted.
  o The repeat vaccination series must be completed and uploaded in its entirety as scheduled by the medical physician.
  o It will then be followed up with proof of a repeated Hepatitis B Titer lab report proving immunity.
  o If the repeated Hepatitis B Titer lab report is still negative, it must be uploaded and proof of a non-converter letter from the medical physician will need to be acquired and uploaded.