

# CURRY COLLEGE ACCEL

## THE ACCELERATED NURSING PROGRAM

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Application and Admission Questions

#### **How do I apply?**

The ACCEL Nursing program application is available online and students can apply via the NursingCAS website at **[www.nursingcas.org](http://www.nursingcas.org)**. NursingCAS is the Centralized Application Service operated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

To start your application you must create an account with NursingCAS and select the Curry College Accelerated Entry Level Baccalaureate Nursing Program (ACCEL). Curry College will not accept any application materials; all required documents are to be submitted through NursingCAS. Transcripts along with the NursingCAS Transcript Request Form should be mailed to the address below:

**NursingCAS**  
**PO Box 9201**  
**Watertown, MA 02471**

#### **What are the Admission Requirements?**

- Completed application submitted through NursingCAS
- Current CV / Resume
- Personal Statement of “Why Curry? Why Nursing? Why Now?”
- Official transcripts from each college previously attended
- \$50 supplemental application fee paid to Curry College at **[www.curryce.afford.com](http://www.curryce.afford.com)** (select Continuing and Graduate Studies - Admissions)

During the application process, an interview at Curry College with a representative from the ACCEL Admissions Committee may be required. Those who are unable to attend an interview in person may be interviewed by SKYPE.

#### **Who should I contact for NursingCAS technical problems?**

Please contact NursingCAS customer service at 617-612-2880 or email [nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org](mailto:nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org).

#### **How do I know if my transcripts have been received by NursingCAS?**

For transcript status updates, please contact NursingCAS customer service at 617-612-2880 or email [nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org](mailto:nursingcasinfo@nursingcas.org).

#### **How do I pay my Curry Supplemental Application Fee?**

To pay your \$50 supplemental application fee go to [www.curryce.afford.com](http://www.curryce.afford.com). Under Make a One-Time Payment, select Continuing and Graduate Students Admission. Input ACCEL as the Student ID and Program Name and Select Spring 2018 as the term.

**Are there any Information Sessions scheduled?**

We hold Information Sessions in both the Fall and Spring semesters. In addition, there are several Open House events during the year, and we are always happy to meet with you individually.

**What is the minimum bachelor's degree grade point average (GPA) you require?**

A GPA of 3.0 or higher is preferred.

**What does the Admissions Committee look for in an application?**

The Committee takes a holistic approach when reviewing applications. Your undergraduate GPA and your prerequisite course grades are very important. The Committee also considers your essay "Why Nursing, Why Curry, Why Now?" You might also want to call attention to things you believe make you stand out as a candidate, such as honors, awards, or unique experiences.

**Does it help my chance for admission if I apply early?**

No, all applications are reviewed at the same time, after the June 1 deadline.

**When will I learn the Committee's decision?**

Decision letters are sent to all applicants in early July.

**I missed the application deadline. Can I still apply?**

No, applications received after the deadline are not considered.

**I was not accepted, but was offered a spot on the waitlist. When will I be contacted?**

Waitlisted students are contacted only when and if a place in the class becomes available. This may happen at any time right up to the start of the program.

**What is my ranking on the waitlist?**

We do not provide students with a waitlist ranking.

**If I don't get accepted from the waitlist this year, will I be considered admission for the following year?**

Waitlisted students must reapply if they wish to be considered for the next cohort.

## **Prerequisite Coursework Questions**

**What are the required prerequisite courses?**

Anatomy & Physiology 1 & 2, Chemistry, Microbiology, Statistics, Human Development. All four science courses must include a laboratory component.

**Can I use prerequisite courses from my bachelor's?**

Yes, if the grades are sufficient (at least B- for science course lectures and labs, at least C- for non-science courses)

**Is there a time limit on using prerequisite courses I've taken?**

No, however, if it has been many years since you took the course, you might wish to take a refresher course for your own benefit.

**I have completed only two science prerequisites, and I have a C+ in one of them. Can I still apply and repeat the course later?**

No. Your application will be reviewed ONLY if you have completed at least two sciences prerequisites with grades in lectures and labs of B- or higher.

**Do I need to finish all the prerequisites before I apply?**

No. Your application will be reviewed ONLY if you have completed at least two sciences prerequisites with grades in lectures and labs of B- or higher. Accepted students must complete all six prerequisite courses before beginning the program.

**What schools do you accept prerequisite coursework from?**

Any regionally accredited college, including community colleges. The science courses must be 4 credits (lecture + lab).

**Do you accept prerequisites from online courses?**

Yes, if from a regionally accredited college. The science courses must be 4 credits (lecture + lab).

**Do you accept prerequisite courses from Portage Learning?**

Yes. The science courses must be 4 credits (lecture + lab).

**Will it help my chances for admission if I take the prerequisite courses at Curry?**

No but the prerequisite courses are usually available at Curry through Continuing Education. All are offered during the summer semester. Some may be available during fall or spring.

**My school offers a full semester of Anatomy and a full semester of Physiology. Is that format acceptable?**

Yes.

**What type of Chemistry course is required?**

Any college-level chemistry course with a laboratory component (4 semester credits total)

**Will Biology or Cell Biology satisfy the Microbiology requirement?**

No.

**What is the Human Growth and Development course?**

This is a psychology course that covers development over the entire lifespan. It is NOT Introduction to Psychology, or Child Psychology, or Child Development, and it is not a biology course. If you are uncertain whether your course satisfies this requirement, please check with the ACCEL advisor.

**I earned my bachelor's degree as Psychology major, so I must have covered the Human Growth and Development already.**

If you did not have a distinct lifespan psychology course, you may take a CLEP or DSST exam to satisfy the prerequisite.

**I have taken an advanced level Mathematics course. Will that cover the statistics requirement?**

Not necessarily, but if you submit a syllabus, we will review the course.

## **Tuition / Financial Assistance Questions**

**What is the ACCEL tuition?**

The ACCEL Nursing program has fixed tuition which allows students to enter the program knowing the full cost of the ACCEL program and not be subject to a tuition increase as long as they remain enrolled with their original cohort group. The ACCEL program charges no additional course fees. Expenses for textbooks and course related materials are not included in the tuition. For planning purposes, tuition for the cohort beginning in January 2018 is \$47,590; tuition for the cohort beginning in January 2019 will be announced in May 2018.

**Is financial aid available?**

Curry does not provide any grant assistance to Continuing Education or Graduate students. ACCEL students can complete the FAFSA and apply to the Curry Financial Aid office for Federal student loans and Federal or State need-based grants. Because the ACCEL program is a second bachelor's degree, under Federal financial aid guidelines, students are technically considered to be "5<sup>th</sup> year undergrads". Typically the full cost of the ACCEL program is not covered and students must arrange for additional financing.

### **International Students / ESL Questions**

**I attended college outside the United States. What do I need to do?**

International Educational documents must be evaluated and certified by an accredited agency. Course-by-course evaluations must be done conducted on college-level international coursework. A list of accredited agencies can be found at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org).

**I am not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. What additional paperwork is required of me?**

Nothing, unless you are accepted into the ACCEL program. Then you will have to show that you can pay for your tuition and housing, and you will need to apply for a U.S. Student Visa, using Form I-20: Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F1) Student. An advisor will assist you with this process.

### **Miscellaneous Questions**

**Is ACCEL a day or evening program?**

Classes run all day, three days per week in semester 1; two days per week in semesters 3 and 4, and four days a week in the second (summer) semester.

**Can I keep my full-time job and work while I am in the program?**

Working full-time is discouraged. ACCEL is a highly intensive program. Some students have been able to manage working part time hours, but not full time. Students are encouraged to work in the healthcare field in their final two semesters of study.

**What is the NCLEX-RN exam pass rate for ACCEL graduates?**

The current NCLEX pass rate is over 94%.

**Is on-campus housing available?**

No.

**How can I get a campus tour?**

Tours are available through the Office of Admission (617-333-2210). They are primarily geared to traditional full-time undergraduate students. You may also do some exploring on your own. A campus map is available at [www.curry.edu/campus\\_map.pdf](http://www.curry.edu/campus_map.pdf) and a video tour is available at [www.curry.edu/Admissions](http://www.curry.edu/Admissions).

**How can I get additional information about the ACCEL program?**

Call the Office of Continuing and Graduate Studies at 617-333-2364 or email at [ccce@curry.edu](mailto:ccce@curry.edu), and a representative will be happy to assist you. We can provide you with information on upcoming ACCEL Information Sessions or schedule an appointment for you to meet with our Nursing advisor.