



HOWARD

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

You Can Get There From Here.

PROGRAM **INFORMATION**



Accelerated **Registered Nursing** **Associate of Arts Degree Program**

April 2011

Application Period: September 15 – January 15 (final deadline)

All prerequisites and the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment must be completed by **February 1**

Students may submit a Supplemental Application to the Accelerated RN A.A. Degree Program if they:

1. **Have already completed** all non-nursing course work and other requirements prior to September 15
OR
Will be completing all non-nursing course work and the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment by February 1
2. **Are currently enrolled** at Howard Community College
OR
Have submitted a Standard Application for Admission (\$25 application fee) prior to or with their Supplemental Application to the Accelerated Nursing Program (declaring **08b** as their Learning Program)
3. **Meet the minimum GPA requirements:**
 - 3.25 GPA for the four required science courses
AND
 - 3.0 GPA for all non-nursing course work required for the degree
AND
 - 2.0 GPA for all coursework completed at HCC
4. **Have completed the English placement requirement** through:
 - Proof of a U.S. Bachelor’s Degree
OR
 - Completion of college-level English at HCC by February 1 with a C or higher
OR
 - Placement into ENGL-121 on HCC’s English Placement Exam by January 15
5. **Have completed transcript evaluation requirements by:**
 - Submitting a Transcript Evaluation Request Form before or with the Accelerated Nursing Supplemental Application
AND
 - Requesting that *official* transcripts be sent to HCC’s Office of Admissions and Advising from each institution attended; must be received prior to the January 15 deadline.
Please note: Applications will not be considered complete and will not be reviewed and/or processed until all documents, including official transcripts, are received.
6. **Have completed the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment with a composite score of 70 or higher** by the appropriate deadline for their admission period.

Accelerated RN Nursing Curriculum (non-nursing course work)

Required Science Courses	Equivalent Course at HCC
Microbiology	BIOL-107 or BIOL-200 (4 credits with lab)
Chemistry	CHEM-103 or CHEM-101 (4 credits with lab)
Anatomy and Physiology I	BIOL-203 (4 credits with lab)
Anatomy and Physiology II	BIOL-204 (4 credits with lab)

Required General Education Courses	Equivalent Course at HCC
College Composition I: Expository Writing	ENGL-121 (or ENGL-102)
Humanities, Arts & Literature	One core course must be taken in two of the following Core areas: Humanities Core, Arts Core or Literature Core
Introduction to Sociology	SOCI-101
General Psychology	PSYC-101
Mathematics	College-level Math Core Course (3-5 credits)
Life Span Development	HMDV-200

Time Limits on Science Courses

Anatomy & Physiology I and II must be completed no more than five years prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course at HCC. If courses are over five years old, students need to either successfully retake the expired course(s) prior to applying to the nursing program, or take the competency exam to demonstrate mastery of this material. Upon passing the competency exam(s), credit will be granted for a student's original Anatomy & Physiology course(s). The original courses must be completed at an accredited institution with a grade of C or higher; the course content must be equivalent to HCC's content. Students must submit the "Request to Take Anatomy & Physiology Competency Exams" form, available at the Office of Admissions and Advising, or online:

www.howardcc.edu/admissions/docs/allied_health/APCompExamForm.pdf.

Microbiology and Chemistry must be completed no more than ten years prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course at HCC. If either your Microbiology or Chemistry is over ten years old, you will need to successfully retake the expired course(s) prior to applying to any of the nursing programs at HCC or otherwise demonstrate current knowledge – for example, via available HCC proficiency or challenge exams, CLEP exams, etc.

Please note that science courses taken at another college with an online lab may not transfer to HCC.

Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment Requirement

Applicants for the clinical portion of the nursing program are required to successfully complete the Evolve Admission Assessment (A2) to qualify for admission. The assessment fee is currently \$65. **Fees are subject to change.** The assessment covers English, Math, Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, and Chemistry. Students have approximately 5 hours to complete the assessment and must achieve **an overall composite score of 70 (out of 100)** to qualify for admission to clinicals. The assessment will be given on selected dates throughout the year. Students are strongly encouraged to see a Nursing/Allied Health Advisor in the Office of Admissions and Advising regarding this requirement and to review the testing website: <http://www.howardcc.edu/admissions/apply/alliedhealth/testing.html>

Assignment of Points

- Specific points (as indicated in the chart below) will be assigned for Science GPA, Overall GPA, and completion of a U.S. Bachelor's Degree.
- The highest grade for each course will be used in calculating the applicant's GPA. (If an applicant has more than one course that fulfills a requirement, the best-fit course with the highest grade will be used for GPA calculations.)
- Passing AP/IB/CLEP scores will be accepted for a **maximum of three required courses**. However, no grade will be assigned for the test score and it will not be calculated into the applicant's GPA.

Qualifying Criteria	GPA	Points Allotted
Science GPA (for four required sciences) (All science grades must be "C" or higher)	4.0	20 points
	3.75 - 3.99	10 points
	3.50 - 3.74	5 points
	3.25 - 3.49	3 points
Overall GPA (in all required courses) (Math grade must be "C" or higher)	4.0	20 points
	3.75 - 3.99	10 points
	3.50 - 3.74	5 points
	3.25 - 3.49	3 points
	3.0 - 3.24	1 point
Completion of U.S. Bachelor's Degree		5 points

Selection and Acceptance Procedures

Rolling Admission

- Qualified applicants who have completed **all** required course work prior to September 15, **passed the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment** with a composite score of **70 or higher** by September 15, meet the **minimum GPA requirements**, and accrue at least **15 points** will be offered a seat in the Accelerated Registered Nursing Program on a rolling basis. Admission is offered to qualified students as they submit their applications; residency is not a determining factor during the Rolling Admission period. Students must submit a complete application by **December 1** for Rolling Admission.
- Qualified applicants who have completed all of the above requirements and accrue fewer than 15 points will be deferred for review until the end of the application period.

Regular Admission

- Students who will complete **all** required course work **by the end of the Fall or Winter semester** may submit an application prior to completion of course work. However, applications will not be reviewed until all course work is completed and final GPAs can be calculated. Students must **meet all GPA requirements** and successfully complete required testing. These applications will be reviewed after January 15, along with applicants who applied for rolling admissions and did not accrue at least 15 points.
- Students must **pass the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment with a composite score of 70 or higher** by February 1.
- At the end of the Regular Admission period, seats will be offered to qualified applicants based on residency status and point totals. Within each residency category, students will be offered seats based on their point totals, from highest to lowest. Legal residents of Howard County will be seated first. If open seats remain, out-of-county residents will be seated next, followed by out-of-state students, and finally international citizens (F-1 students are not currently eligible to apply).
- In the event of a tie in points, the science GPA will be used to break the tie. If necessary, the second tie-breaking category is overall GPA.
- A waiting list will be maintained but **will not roll over** to the next year. Students on the waiting list who do not receive a seat may re-apply during the next Accelerated RN A.A. Degree Program application period.
- Students may apply to both the Accelerated RN A.A. Degree Program and the Traditional RN A.A. Degree Program at the same time. However, if a student has already applied or will be applying to both RN Programs, the student will be required to make a final decision within 30 days of acceptance into the Accelerated Program. Once a student accepts a seat in the Accelerated Program, their Traditional RN application will be withdrawn.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT CLINICAL SCHEDULING

When applying to the Nursing Program, students select either a day or an evening/weekend schedule. It has been the practice of the Nursing Education Program to assign sites for clinical practice based upon the student's selected schedule. Due to the growth of the nursing program, and programs statewide, **the Nursing Education Program is no longer able to guarantee that all clinical rotations will be held within the selected option.** This is necessary to ensure adequate and appropriate clinical experiences. All clinical assignments are based on clinical agency availability as determined by the agency.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND DRUG SCREENING

All students enrolled in clinical portions of HCC's allied health programs will be required to obtain a criminal background check and drug screening as required for clinical placement. Students will use the authorized services of Pre-Check, Inc. The timeline for ordering this background check is very specific; students should *not* order this background check *until instructed to do so by a college official.*

For more information on this program, please refer to our website:

www.howardcc.edu/admissions/apply/alliedhealth/acceleratedrn.html

ACCELERATED RN A.A. DEGREE PROGRAM CHECKLIST

Applications accepted September 15-January 15 (final deadline)

All prerequisites and the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment must be completed by **February 1**

To be eligible to submit a Supplemental Application (\$25.00 fee) to HCC's Accelerated RN A.A. Degree Program during the application period, you must complete the following steps:

___ **Submit** the Standard HCC Application for Admission (\$25 fee).

___ **Declare** 08b as your Learning Program.

___ **Take HCC's English placement exam by January 15** (required of all prospective nursing students *except* students who show proof of completion of a U.S. Bachelor's degree).

___ **Place into ENGL-121** (on HCC's English placement exam) or complete the required developmental English courses as determined by placement scores. (You may retake the placement exam only once.)

___ **Complete the following with a minimum 3.25 GPA:**

*BIOL-107 or BIOL-200 (Microbiology)

*CHEM-103 or CHEM-101 (Chemistry)

*BIOL-203 (Anatomy and Physiology I)

*BIOL-204 (Anatomy and Physiology II)

___ **Complete the remaining courses with a minimum 3.0 GPA:**

MATH Core Course

HMDV-200 (Life Span Development)

PSYC-101 (General Psychology)

ENGL-121 (College Composition I: Expository Writing)

SOCI-101 (Introduction to Sociology)

Humanities, Arts & Literature - One core course must be taken in two of the

following Core areas: Humanities Core, Arts Core or Literature Core

___ **Submit a Transcript Evaluation Request Form (\$15 fee), and request official college transcripts from all previous postsecondary institutions.** (*Applications will not be considered complete and will not be reviewed and/or processed until all official transcripts are received.*)

___ **Maintain a minimum 2.0 Howard Community College GPA**

___ **Complete the Clinical Nursing Admission Assessment with a composite score of 70 or higher**

* These FOUR science courses must be completed with a minimum 3.25 GPA. All science, math and nursing courses must be completed with a minimum grade of C. Microbiology and Chemistry cannot be over 10 years old prior to the first nursing course. Anatomy and Physiology I and II cannot be over five years old prior to the first nursing course. Competency exams for Anatomy and Physiology I and II courses are available for students whose Anatomy and Physiology course work is over five years old. Contact the Office of Admissions and Advising for more information.

The Office of Admissions and Advising reserves the right to refuse admission into HCC's Nursing Program to any applicant who falsifies his or her address to claim Howard County residency.

Admissions policies and procedures are subject to change at any time. Applicants to clinical allied health programs are subject to all applicable college policies. Should unforeseen circumstances develop regarding the selection of applicants, the college reserves the right to exercise its best judgment.

Students may contact the Office of Admissions and Advising with questions. Call 443-518-4230 (TTY/STS use MD Relay) or email alliedhealth@howardcc.edu.