

Common Prerequisites: Nursing Programs

Prerequisite tips:

- **There are several pathways that can be taken to earn a BSN.** Since CU Boulder does not have a nursing school, the most common approach for our students is to graduate from CU Boulder with the major of their choice, and then apply to nursing school (typically to complete either an accelerated second bachelor's degree program or a direct-entry master's degree program in nursing). Alternatively, you may transfer to another school to complete a traditional BSN degree.
- **Although the coursework listed below will meet the requirements for many nursing programs, details do vary by program and school.** You must verify the prerequisites for each of the schools to which you would like to apply.
- **Each prerequisite course must be completed with a grade of C or higher.** Most nursing schools will not accept a grade of C- or below in any prerequisite course, but you will be considered a more competitive applicant if you have earned a B or higher in all prerequisites. In addition, a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is typically required.
- **Prerequisite "expiration dates":** Some nursing programs require applicants to have completed all of their prerequisites within 10 years prior to enrollment.
- **Community college courses, online courses:** You may complete the prerequisites at a regionally-accredited community college. In fact, this may be a strategic approach to consider. At CU Boulder, many of the science prerequisites are taught at a more advanced, upper-division level. In contrast, nursing schools expect applicants to have completed them at less rigorous, lower-division level. Online coursework is typically accepted, but check each of your schools of interest to verify.
- **AP/IB Credit:** Check to see if the nursing schools you are considering will accept AP/IB credit to meet program prerequisites. Some accept such credit outright; others allow students with AP/IB credit take a higher-level course rather than repeat the same course.

MATH

- Math prerequisites for college chemistry and physics:**
 - Precalculus: MATH 1150 (4) (*This course covers both algebra and trigonometry in a single semester*)
- Statistics:** Choose one of the following courses:
- PSYC 2111 (4), IPHY 2800 (4), IPHY 3280 (4), MATH 2510 (3), SOCY 2061 (3), EBIO 1010 (3)

MICROBIOLOGY

Recommended prerequisite: EBIO or MCDB first-year biology sequence

- Lecture: EBIO 3400 (3)
- Lab (*usually recommended or required*): EBIO 3410 (1)

CHEMISTRY

Recommended but optional:
Introductory Chemistry

- CHEM 1021 (4 – lecture and lab are combined)



General Chemistry 1 with lab

(Lab is not a nursing school prerequisite, but is a CU Boulder prerequisite for required Physiology)

Math prerequisite: College Algebra or Precalculus

- Lecture: CHEM 1113 (4)
- Lab: CHEM 1114 (1)



General Chemistry 2 with lab

(Lab is not a nursing school prerequisite, but is a CU Boulder prerequisite for required Physiology)

Math prerequisite: College Algebra or Precalculus

- Lecture: CHEM 1133 (4)
- Lab: CHEM 1134 (1)

Biology Option 1

General Biology 1
 Lecture: EBIO 1210 (3)



Human Anatomy*
• *Lab may be recommended or required*
 Lecture: IPHY 3410 (3)
 Lab: IPHY 3415 (2)



Human Physiology*
Lab may be recommended or required
 Lecture: IPHY 3430 (4)
 Lab: IPHY 3435 (2)

Biology Option 2

Intro to Cellular and Molecular Bio lecture
 MCDB 1150 (3)



Human Anatomy*
• *Lab may be recommended or required*
 Lecture: IPHY 3410 (4)
 Lab: IPHY 3415 (2)



Human Physiology*
Lab may be recommended or required
 Lecture: IPHY 3430 (4)
 Lab: IPHY 3435 (2)

**Non-degree pre-health students can enroll early.*

If you are planning to transfer to a traditional BSN program without completing a non-nursing bachelor's degree first, you must also complete the following prerequisites:

Notes:

- **If you wish to transfer into a traditional BSN program**, you must complete more prerequisites than are required for college graduates applying to accelerated BSN programs or direct-entry MSN programs.
- **Transfer students must complete at least 60 credit hours at the undergraduate level**, and at least 44 of those credit hours must be completed by the end of the fall semester prior to admission.
- **All prerequisites must be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to matriculation**, and two of the following courses must be completed by the end of the fall semester prior to admission: anatomy, physiology, and microbiology.

Liberal Arts coursework

*Choose two courses from the following departments (the two courses must be from **different** departments)*

- Foreign Language, History, Microeconomics, Philosophy or Political Science #1
- Foreign Language, History, Microeconomics, Philosophy or Political Science #2

Creative Arts

*Choose one non-performance course in fine arts, music, literature, film, or other creative arts.
A 3000- or 4000-level language course with proof of a literature component is also acceptable.*

- Creative Arts/Upper-division language course

ENGLISH COMPOSITION II

- WRTG course #1 or AP/IB credit for composition (if AP/IB is accepted by your programs of interest)
- WRTG course #2 (this may be an upper-division scientific writing course in EBIO or IPHY)

NUTRITION

- IPHY 2420

Intro to Sociology

- SOCY 1001

PSYCHOLOGY

- General Psychology: PSYC 1001 (3)
- Developmental Psychology: PSYC 3684 (3)

Cultural Anthropology or Multicultural Studies

- ANTH 1125
- OR-
- A course in multicultural or gender studies