5000 Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions

Graduate programs in the Byrdine F Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions.
See subsections for specific program information as well as policies.

5010 General Information

The Byrdine F Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions is a graduate school of Nursing, Nutrition, Physical Therapy and Respiratory Therapy, preparing the students for advanced practice, research, and leadership roles in addressing the health and human service needs of the citizens of Georgia. Involvement in the community is encouraged. The programs are responsive to the needs of both full-time students for both first and second careers. Courses are delivered through a variety of delivery methods: instruction, web-based instruction, and distance technology.

5010.10 Office of the Dean

816 Urban Life
404-413-1100
snhp.gsu.edu

Vilmoth, Dean
Lynda Goodfellow, Associate Dean for Academics
Andrew Butler, Associate Dean for Research

5010.30 Accreditation

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree program is accredited by the Commission on Rehabilitation Therapy Education. The Dietetic Internship Certificate program is accredited by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, the American Dietetic Association.
Dietetics Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association. Respiratory Therapy leading to the Master’s of Health Sciences with an option for entry into the profession of respiratory care by the Committee on Respiratory Care.

5010.40 Degrees Offered

The School of Nursing and Health Professions offers:

- Master of Science: major in health sciences (concentrations in adult health, child health, critical care nursing, mental health CNS/NP, family psychiatric/mental health CNS/NP, family health, geriatric health, healthcare innovations.)
- Post-Master’s Certificates in all clinical areas in nursing
- Doctor of Philosophy: major in nursing (focus in health promotion and populations)
- Doctor of Physical Therapy

5010.60 Academic Units

School of Nursing

900 Urban Life Building
404/413-1200
nursing.gsu.edu/349.html

Joan Cranford, Assistant Dean

Department of Nutrition

862 Urban Life Building
404/413-1225
nutrition.gsu.edu/692.html

Anita Nucci, Department Head

Faculty: Benardot, Ganji, Henes, Hopkins, Johnson, McCarroll, McCarty, Gebhardt, Gordon, Grantham, Harris, Horne, Howell, Kelley, Kipke, Plitnick, Sims, Spratling, Stallings, Taylor, Thomas, Tice, Washington

Emeritus Faculty: Cody, Baxter, Kicklighter, Roman, Rosenbloom

Department of Physical Therapy
A person seeking to pursue any of the school's programs of graduate study through the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions must follow the sections established by the School of Nursing and Health Professions. Acceptance into one of the programs in the School of Nursing and Health Professions is from another College in the University.

Georgia State University welcomes applications from all qualified students, regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, disability, veteran status or national origin. Students are accepted, including, but not limited to, an applicant’s academic record, test scores, personal and professional character. Admission is a competitive, selective process and meeting the minimum criteria does not guarantee acceptance.

Absent extenuating circumstances, good disciplinary standing at the applicant's current institution is a condition of admission for all applicants. For purposes of admission, an applicant's academic record, test scores, and letters of recommendation are reviewed. No pending disciplinary charges, outstanding disciplinary sanctions, or suspension or dismissal from other educational institutions is a condition of admission. Applicants with a criminal and/or disciplinary history who are deemed unsuitable for admission based on their academic record and other credentials are required to withdraw their application before an admission decision is made by the university. Instructions for withdrawing an application are sent to the applicant after the university has determined that the applicant is unsuitable for admission.
Omissions or misrepresentations on an application for admission, by, acceptance to and continuation at Georgia State. Applicants have when information changes after application submission.

**Graduate Admissions Appeals**

The Chair of the academic department of the graduate program President’s designee for purposes of hearing Graduate Admission Applicants for graduate program admissions who are denied admission to the department chair within twenty (20) calendar days of the decision chair is final.

Applicants for graduate admission who are denied for reasons related application may appeal the denial to the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs of the denial letter. The decision of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs final.

**Notice to applicant of background review requirements**

The University requires applicants who have a criminal or disciplinary contact the Background Review Records Coordinator at 404-413-4110, process as soon as possible to ensure timely processing of your application, will let you know what supplemental documentation you will need to provide documentation such as:

1. a personal statement explaining the circumstances surrounding the current status of any charges and sanctions;
2. copies of criminal or school disciplinary records; and
3. a background check (if you have a criminal history);

Please note that a final admission decision cannot be made until the disciplinary review process. *Applications may be withdrawn from consideration within two weeks.*

**Master of Science in Nursing**

The master’s program in nursing is open to registered nurses who advanced degree. There are two admission options: RNs with a bachelor’s associate or diploma level that have had outstanding practice experience have a baccalaureate degree in nursing must complete additional academic work and on current undergraduate requirements for
Nursing accepts students into the master’s degree options each fall semesters is February 1. The application deadline for spring semesters is October 1.

The following materials are required for admission:

1. Application for Graduate Study, and supplemental application.
2. A $50 application fee.
3. Two copies of official transcripts from all colleges attended.
4. Two letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable if you have completed your undergraduate nursing degree within five years of being employed by a professor.
5. Current vitae or resume including education, work experience, community activities, research and publications.
7. A written statement identifying your educational/professional graduate option.
9. Official scores from either the Miller Analogy Test (MAT), while GRE

Additional requirements include the following:

1. Graduation from an accredited nursing program.
2. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on a 4.00 scale of course work attempted at regionally accredited institutions.
3. Registration as a professional nurse in Georgia or another U.S. Board of Nursing.
4. An interview with a faculty member.
5. One to two years of clinical practice in the specialty area for practice specialist.

Application information and materials are available on the School of Nursing.

**Admission Status**

**Full Graduate Status:** Admission to the master’s program is contingent upon successful completion of all entrance requirements.

**Applicants who meet all admissions guidelines based upon faculty preferences are immediately admitted.**

**Provisional Graduate Status:** Students who do not meet all admission requirements may be admitted on a Provisional status. These students are limited to one year of study. The student must complete all admission requirements by the end of the first year.
These students are limited to nine semester hours of study. These credits are under the student’s faculty advisor. Courses that must be included in the student's plan of study are: NURS 7310 Advanced Pathophysiological Concepts in Nursing, Part 1 and NURS 7311 Advanced Pathophysiological Concepts in Nursing, Part 2 and one of the following: NURS 7550 (Pharmacology and Advanced Practice Nursing), or NURS 7000 (Research Methods for Advanced Practice in Nursing). The student must complete at least one 9-credit course during the provisional status period. If the student fails to complete the course, the student will be withdrawn from the program. If a GPA of 3.0 is not achieved, the student will be placed on probation and will receive a letter notifying him or her of the change in status.

**Post Master’s Certificate**

The Post-Master’s certificate program is open to all registered nurses with a Bachelor's degree. All applicants have to meet the same admission requirements as the Master of Science in Nursing. More information can be found on the MSN program page. The length of time to complete the program depends on the student's academic history and the courses taken in the MS Nursing program.

**Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing**

The Nursing program accepts students into the doctoral program for the fall and spring semesters, beginning February 1.

The following materials are required for admission:

1. **Application for Graduate Study.**
2. **A $50 application fee.**
3. **Two copies of official transcripts from all colleges attended.**
4. **Three letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable about the applicant’s academic abilities.**
5. **Current vitae or resume including education, work experience, community activities, research, and publications.**
6. **Statements of professional goals and research area of interest.**
7. **A two-page position paper on a current social or health issues.**
8. **Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).**
9. **Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). English. See section on "International Admissions" for more information.**
10. **A Certificate of Immunization.**

**Additional requirements include the following:**

- **Three letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable about the applicant’s academic abilities.**
- **A two-page position paper on a current social or health issues.**
- **Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).**
- **Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). English. See section on "International Admissions" for more information.**
- **A Certificate of Immunization.**
1. Master’s degree in nursing. Applicants who hold a master’s degree in nursing, (2) a background in advanced course work in nursing theory or an individualized learning program.

2. License/Certification. All applicants (including international registered nurse (R.N. license) prior to acceptance to the doctoral program.

3. An interview with a Nursing faculty member.

4. Applicants must have completed a graduate-level intermediate admission, OR must complete a graduate-level intermediate in the doctoral program.

Nursing Non Degree Admission

Non-degree status is granted on an individual basis in the graduate degree program with a major in nursing to be eligible to take master’s level courses. Applicants wishing to take graduate coursework without admission to the nursing program.

Instructor permission is required for course enrollment. Admission to the degree program. Students with non-degree status.

Application information and materials are available on School’s website.

Nutrition, Master of Science in Health Sciences

IMPORTANT: The four courses listed below are required prerequisites and must be completed prior to admission. If you wish to continue your graduate program if they are not taken as part of the graduate program.

- Inorganic Chemistry (1 semester)
  (GSU CHEM 1151K or equivalent)

- Organic Chemistry (1 semester)
  (GSU CHEM 1152K or equivalent)

- Human Anatomy and Physiology (2 semesters)
  (GSU BIOL 1110K and BIOL 1120K or equivalent)

Additionally, a biochemistry course (NUTR 6700 or equivalent) and nutrition/metabolism courses must have been completed prior to admission.
The Master of Science program accepts students into the program on a rolling basis; however, the deadline to apply for fall semester is April 1, fall semesters is May 15 and for spring semester is December 15. All applicants are required to hold baccalaureate degrees and meet other requirements listed below.

The selection of potential degree candidates for the Master of Science in Nutrition is based upon the quality of the undergraduate record and preparation for the specific degree program to be pursued. All applicants must meet the following requirements:

The following materials are required for admission:

1. Application for Graduate Study
2. A $50 application fee
3. Supplemental Application for the Master of Nutrition
4. Two letters of recommendation from individuals knowledgeable about the applicant's academic abilities
5. Statement of Professional Goals

In addition to the materials required for program admission, the following materials are required to support the specialization in nutrition:

1. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all college-level courses
2. A rank in the 50th percentile or greater on both the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) Quantitative Reasoning measures
3. A resume (curriculum vita) outlining professional, educational, and technical experience and proficiency in languages other than English.
4. Two letters of recommendation.
5. A statement of professional goals.
6. College-level courses with laboratory experiences in anatomy and physiology, biochemistry, and normal nutrition (nutrition and metabolism). These courses must have been completed within 10 years prior to application admission.

Students may be admitted in Fall and Spring semesters to the specialization in nutrition. The deadline to apply for fall semester is May 15 and the application deadline for spring semester is December 15. Students are strongly urged to enter in fall semester to maximize availability of their cohort and placement opportunities.

Application information and materials are available on the School of Health Sciences' website.

Nutrition, Master of Science in Health Sciences, College of Health Sciences

IMPORTANT: The four courses listed below are required prerequisites for the Master of Science in Nutrition.

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Biochemistry
- Normal Nutrition
- Nutrition and Metabolism
Inorganic Chemistry (1 semester)

(GSU CHEM 1151K or equivalent)

Organic Chemistry (1 semester)

(GSU CHEM 1152K or equivalent)

Human Anatomy and Physiology (2 semesters)

(GSU BIOL 1110K and BIOL 1120K or equivalent)

Additionally, a biochemistry course (NUTR 6700 or equivalent) and a nutrition course (NUTR 6700 or equivalent) are prerequisites to graduate coursework. They must have been taken in the holder’s undergraduate program if they are not taken as part of the graduate program.

Applicants to this program must meet the requirements for admission to the graduate program in Nutrition, including the Nutrition Specialization requirements listed in the online Bulletin of Undergraduate Studies. For a complete list of requirements, please see the online Bulletin of Undergraduate Studies. Applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate course in anthropology, psychology, or sociology. Applicants must submit a completed application that is available online. Undergraduate majors from SUNY must submit a SUNY Degree Verification Statement listing completion date or CADE Declaration of Completion. Applicants who do not have a completion date must apply for this program January 15 for each academic year. All other applications are due May 15 for a Fall Semester start date.

The Coordinated program accepts students twice a year. The application deadline for fall semester is May 15 and for spring semester is October 1.

**Doctor of Physical Therapy**

Candidates for admission to the entry-level doctor of physical therapy program must demonstrate abilities to meet certain technical standards of performance necessary for participation in the curriculum. Candidates must demonstrate the functional use of their senses that will allow them to interpret nonverbal communications from patients or clients. They must be able to interpret and follow complex oral and written instructions. Additionally, each candidate should be physically able to provide therapy treatment when necessary.

All candidates must possess those intellectual, ethical, physical, and professional qualifications required by the curriculum and to achieve the levels of competence required by the University.
required for full utilization of these abilities in order to exercise a

Prerequisites

The D.P.T. curriculum demands rigorous scholarly effort. Students must apply to the program. To gain admission, students must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university. The baccalaureate degree must be completed prior to acceptance into the physical therapy degree should be in a student’s area of interest. The program is designed for professional training in the field other than physical therapy.

- Students are required to complete the following prerequisites:
  - 2 courses in anatomy and/or physiology
  - 2 courses in physics
  - 2 courses in chemistry
  - 1 course in statistics
  - 1 course in biology
  - 1 course in psychology

- A rank in the 50th percentile or greater on both the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Quantitative and Verbal Reasoning measures. The minimum required score is 500.

- A cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above is required.

- Documentation of volunteer and/or work experience in two related fields. Experience in physical therapy service is required with at least 20 hours of observation in each field. These experience documents must be signed by a supervisor who can attest to your work experience.

The program is competitive, and the admissions application, letters of recommendation, Personal Statement, and interview are utilized to rank applicants for admission.

The following materials are required for admission:

1. Application for Graduate Study and supplemental application
2. A $50 application fee
3. Two copies of official transcripts from each college attended
4. Official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) including scores in the Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytical sections
5. Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for international students. See section on “International Admissions” in this chapter.

Selected applicants are invited to campus for an interview with the Admissions Committee of Physical Therapy.

Students are expected to demonstrate professional standards and conduct professional and ethical behavior at all times.
Students are accepted into the program once a year and the program generally nine to twelve months prior to the anticipated semester start. More information is available on the School's website snhp.gsu.edu/221.html.

Respiratory Therapy, Master of Science in Health Science

The selection of potential degree candidates for the Master of Science in Health Science—Respiratory Therapy is based upon the quality of the undergraduate record and the extent of preparation for the specific degree program to be pursued. All applicants must hold baccalaureate degrees and meet other requirements listed below.

Individuals are admitted into the program in one of two categories—full graduate status or nondegree status.

Full Graduate Status

Full Graduate Status must be achieved in order to fulfill all degree requirements.

1. Application for Graduate Study and supplemental application
2. A $50 application fee
3. Two copies of official transcripts from all colleges attended
4. Official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
5. Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if English is not母语. See section on “International Admissions” in this chapter
6. A Certificate of Immunization

Provisional Status

Applicants who do not meet all or most of the admissions standards as determined by the faculty, have the potential to be successful in graduate study, and who do not meet the requirements stated on their admission application may be admitted to this status at the option of the division and when they qualify

Respiratory Therapy Specialization

In addition to the materials required for program admission, the following are required for applicants to the specialization in respiratory care:

1. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all college-level coursework
2. A rank in the 50th percentile or greater on both the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Quantitative Reasoning measures
3. Bachelor of Science/Arts degree in respiratory therapy or related field
4. Resumé (C.V.) outlining professional and educational experience

5. Three reference letters from academic and/or professional references
5. If you already have your bachelor’s degree in respiratory therapist (RRT), a copy of National Board of Respiratory Care

Provisional Status

Applicants who do not meet one or more of the admissions standards of the faculty, have the potential to be successful in graduate study. Applicants admitted to this status must satisfy the requirements stated on their admission status and/or be admitted to this status at the option of the division and when space or capacity for additional students is available.

Respiratory Therapy Nondegree Status

Nondegree Status is provided to accommodate selected students who, due to the volume of applications, are unable to fulfill all the requirements for admission to the Respiratory Therapy program. Students in Nondegree Status are limited to 12 semester hours.

Applications are accepted for the fall and spring semesters only. The application deadline is February 15 for spring. Application information and materials are available online.

5020.20 Transient Student Admission

A student enrolled in a graduate degree program at another accredited institution who wishes to attend the school. Admission requirements include an application and a letter of good standing from the institution the applicant is presently attending. The application must be approved by the home institution. The application must be printed from the university's website.

Admission to transient status is normally for one semester only. A student may apply for one additional semester at Georgia State must file an Application for Reentry with the Academic Assistance. Students must be in good Academic Standing with their current institution and must request approval for transients students at the University. Transient students who are admitted to the program must continue taking courses as transient students in the School of Nursing. For a complete definition see section 1110.10 in this catalog. If the student wishes to continue their education, the home institution must submit a new application for the next semester.

Although the university cannot guarantee the availability of space for all students in the registration process. The student is responsible for contacting the home institution to request permission to continue taking courses in the School of Nursing. If the student is not granted permission, the student may not be allowed to continue taking courses in the School of Nursing.
It is the policy of Georgia State University to encourage the enrollment of international students and to subscribe to the principles of international education and to the values of understanding can mutual respect, appreciation and tolerance of cultural exchanges. Our philosophy of education and cooperation, friendship, and understanding among the peoples of the world is enhanced by international education of students to our campus because we believe in a cultural exchange of ideas and experiences, which is beneficial to the international students involved, and to metropolitan Georgia.

- **Academic Credentials**: Applicants who have completed all or part of their education outside the United States are required to have their foreign credentials evaluated by an independent evaluation service. The School of Nursing and Health Professions recommends Josef Silny & Associates, but the Office of International Education Services (OIES) also accepts evaluations of foreign credentials from Education USA (www.eduusa.org). If Josef Silny & Associates evaluations cannot be obtained, other acceptable credentials are those issued by the Ministry of Education in the home country, or by an institution of higher learning in the home country. The credentials must be accompanied by translations. Translations should be prepared by an official, and the original copies of the translations, acceptable in general rule, documents translated by the Office of the Americas, International Education (IIE) will be acceptable.

- **English Proficiency**: In addition to meeting the regular admission requirements, applicants whose first language is not English must submit official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the Test of Spoken English (TSE). Applicants who have completed a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution are exempt from this requirement.

- **Financial Resources**: Applicants who plan to attend Georgia State University must submit a completed Financial Statement showing the financial support necessary for their education.

- **Course Load**: The international student with a student visa is required to be enrolled in a full course of study. A full course of study at Georgia State University in an academic semester is considered to be 12 credit hours.

### 5020.40 Changing Semester of Entry

Admission to a graduate program in the School of Nursing and Health Professions is not limited to the major and the concentration specified in the letter of acceptance. Applicants who have been accepted to the program and who wish to change their major or concentration should notify the school of their decision and the new major and concentration. Applicants who have been accepted to the program and who wish to change their course load should notify the school of their decision and the new course load.
programs, students who do not enroll for the semester they are a candidate for the program, and students who do not enroll for the semester they are a candidate for the program. Students generally have to reapply to the program and pay reentry application fees.

5020.50 Reentry Students

A reentry student is a student who has been enrolled at Georgia State University in any program, in which they were last enrolled. Students must additionally be able to demonstrate that they have attended Georgia State University in both undergraduate and graduate programs, in which they were last enrolled. Students must additionally be able to demonstrate that they have attended Georgia State University in both undergraduate and graduate programs, in which they were last enrolled. Reentry applications for Undergraduate Students are submitted online at www.gsu.edu/es/admissions.html. Graduate Student may obtain application forms online at www.gsu.edu/es/gsasis.html. Undergraduate students should refer to the “Transient Student Admission” section for additional information.

1. Has not registered for courses at Georgia State during the previous academic year.
2. Attended any semester as a transient student and wishes to return to Georgia State University.