



UNIVERSITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO

School of Nursing and
Health Professions

School of Nursing
2130 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1080
TEL 415-422-6681
FAX 415-422-6877

School of Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing
Clinical Nurse Leader for the non-nurse

Frequently Asked Questions

PROGRAM/APPLICATION QUESTIONS

• Where do I get the application for the program? Do I have to apply on-line?

You are required to do the application on-line. Please refer to the following website: <http://web.usfca.edu/graduate/>.

• What is the minimum GPA requirement? Do I still have a chance of being accepted if I have under that?

We take a holistic perspective when reviewing applications. The minimum GPA requirement is 3.0 but we accept people who have under a 3.0 under certain circumstances. Doing well in prerequisite courses along with relevant work and volunteer experience can improve your application. We do not base acceptance solely on grades.

• Do you look at the entire undergraduate transcript or just the last 60 units of the undergraduate GPA?

We look at the cumulative GPA from your undergraduate degree. We look at the prerequisite GPA separately.

• How long is the Master's Entry CNL program for the non-nurse?

The program takes 2 years. There are 3 semesters per year – Fall, Spring, and Summer. Classes are held year-round.

• How much is the program?

For the 2011-2012 academic year, the cost is \$1085 per unit and the program is 68 units for a total tuition cost of about \$73,780. You can expect to pay about \$2000 more for books, clinical fees, etc.

• Does USF offer financial aid or scholarships?

We do offer financial aid. US citizens and permanent residents in the non-nurse program are eligible for \$20,500 in unsubsidized federal loans. You can apply for Graduate PLUS loans to make up the remainder of the cost. Many candidates also look online for appropriate scholarships or grants.

• Do I receive a RN license?

Yes! After the 5th semester, you will take the NCLEX exam. At this point, we have a 100% pass rate for the NCLEX at the Master's level.

• Do you require a CNA license?

No, we do not require a CNA license although it will put you at a slight advantage to have one.

• Do you require the GRE or TEAS test?

No, we do not.

• How often do you accept applications? What are the deadlines? Do you accept applications on a rolling basis?

We accept applications two times a year. The deadlines are October 15th for Spring and February 15th for Summer. We do not accept applications on a rolling basis, so please apply within the appropriate deadline window. These are strict deadlines and all of your materials should be in by the designated time. We will begin review on the deadline day.

• How can I find the semester time lines?

Please refer to the five year academic calendar to see when each semester starts and ends and when you will have your holiday breaks:

<http://web.usfca.edu/registration/>

• Do you do interviews for the program?

No, we do not conduct interviews. The admissions committee carefully reviews each applicant's goal statement instead.

• Who should I have write the letters of recommendation? Can I have them sent directly to the school?

Letters of recommendation should be from individuals who can speak to either your academic or intellectual readiness for graduate level work, or your professional capacities or experiences. Our online application allows the applicant to supply the names and email addresses of their recommenders. Upon receiving those, USF will contact your recommenders by email and provide them with a formatted template that they can use and send back to us with the recommendation.

- **Approximately how many people apply to the non-nurse program? How many do you accept? Do you do a waitlist?**

We receive anywhere from 250-400 applications per semester. We admit approximately 40. We do a waitlist for the relevant application cycle but this waitlist does not roll over the following semester.

- **Can I defer enrollment?**

No, you may not defer enrollment. You need to re-apply.

- **How do I re-apply?**

In order to re-apply, simply go to the online application and fill out a new application. You are not required to submit any new documentation but we recommend that you submit an updated resume, statement and perhaps one additional letter of recommendation to strengthen your application.

- **When do we find out if we have been accepted?**

We try to let you know approximately 6 weeks after the deadline.

PREREQUISITE QUESTIONS

- **Do the prerequisites have a time limit?**

The Sciences, Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology, have a seven year limit. Otherwise, there is no time limit on the other prerequisites.

- **Is there anyway I can waive a prerequisite?**

No, you have to do all of the prerequisites. For certain prerequisite classes, you can go to www.collegeboard.com and sign up for the CLEP test. If you pass the test in a given subject, then you do not have to take the class.

- **If I retake a prerequisite, will you take the higher grade?**

Yes, we will. We look at the average between both.

- **Can I use interpersonal communication for the Public Speaking prerequisite requirement?**

No, you can not. We only take Public Speaking or/and Oral Communication.

- **Can prerequisites be in progress as I apply? Is there a limit to the number of classes I can have in progress?**

Yes, you can be in the process of completing prerequisites when you apply. However, a student cannot matriculate into our program unless all of the prerequisites are completed before our term begins. Please be sure to check the USF academic calendar and the calendar of the institution where you are taking your prerequisites to make sure they do not overlap. <http://web.usfca.edu/registration/>

- **Can I take Anatomy, Physiology and Microbiology online?**

You can take the lectures to these sciences on line but you may not do labs on line. They must be done in class.

- **Can I take the Public Speaking prerequisite online?**

Similarly to the labs with the sciences, the Public Speaking class must be done in-class and cannot be completed online.

