

Anoka Ramsey Community College
Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria
 (starting with application to the Fall 2025 cohort)

Required at time of application for admission to the program:

1. The certification number for current or expired CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certification is required at the time of application or proof of completion of a CNA program for students that completed coursework but did not take the test for registry. The certificate number (current or expired) or the name of school where course was completed and year completed must be listed on the nursing application. LPNs are not required to have CNA certification. *Nursing Program Exception Requests for CNA substitutions for other trainings or certifications will be considered only if additional training and education documentation is provided.
2. Applicants must have taken the Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT) through Anoka-Ramsey Community College and earn an overall score of 74 or higher. The minimum score required to apply is 74. The HSRT score and the date the test was taken must be listed on the nursing application. *Note: A TEAS score is not accepted for application to the nursing program at ARCC.*

METRICS – 50%

Course Completion The more required General Education courses (9) listed on the Nursing Curriculum Plan that are completed at the time of application, the more admission credit is awarded.	Minimal credit is awarded if all Semester One courses are completed. The amount of credit awarded increases based on the number of additional courses completed; maximum credit is awarded if all 9 courses are completed. Additional credit is awarded if at least 4 of these courses were completed through ARCC or ATC; no credit is awarded for courses in progress.
HSRT score will be calculated at 10% of HSRT Total Score with a minimum score of 74.	The range for the HSRT Total Score is 74-100 (or 7.4-10 at 10%). Applicants with scores less than 74 are not eligible to apply.

EXPERIENCES – 35%

Formal Education	Credit is awarded if applicant has already earned a college degree (associates, bachelors, masters, doctorate, or international higher education)
Verified Work Experience (Paid) Healthcare related	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s).
Verified Work Experience (Paid) Non-healthcare related	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s).
Verified LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) License	Credit is awarded if the applicant is a licensed LPN.
Verified Volunteer Activity (Unpaid)	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s).
Verified Military Experience	Credit is awarded for veterans or students with military status.
Verified F1 visa status	Credit is awarded for international students with F1 visa status.

ATTRIBUTES – 15% (each essay 250 words or less)

Teamwork, Collaboration, and Accountability. <i>Describe a SPECIFIC example in your life that demonstrates your experience with Teamwork Collaboration and Accountability. What was your specific role, what was the communication and decision-making process, and what was the outcome of this experience?</i> This is not a leadership question. Use STAR format: Situation, Task, Action, Response	Credit is awarded based on evidence provided using the STAR format. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are also considered.
Beliefs and Values. <i>What specific personal experience(s) inspired you to be a nurse? Include information related to your actions and how they impact the dignity, worth, and human rights of the individual(s) involved.</i>	Credit is awarded based on evidence provided. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are also considered.
Challenges and/or obstacles the applicant has experienced. <i>Describe your personal experiences that demonstrate your commitment to your continued education, and your ability to access and utilize academic or personal support.</i>	Credit is awarded based on evidence provided that incorporates the GRIT criteria. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are also considered.
Grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	Credit is awarded based on amount of grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors in all essays.

*Other trainings or certifications equivalent to CNA training may be considered for CNA substitution. Students must submit a Nursing Program Exception Request form found on the nursing webpage. <https://www.anokaramsey.edu/nursing.aspx> The following trainings or certifications will be not considered for CNA substitution unless proof of additional education and training is provided with the Nursing Program Exception Request: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Home Health Aide (HHA), Medical Assistant (MA), Personal Care Assistant (PCA), Surgical Technician. 6/24