

**Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
Nursing Program  
Admissions Guide for Nursing Program  
Applicants**

[www.AnokaRamsey.edu/Nursing](http://www.AnokaRamsey.edu/Nursing)

## Table of Contents

Nursing Program Highlights .....	3
Academic Planning and Pre-Application Planning .....	4
Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria .....	5
Nursing Curriculum Plan Traditional.....	6
Nursing Curriculum Plan for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN).....	7
Application Preparation and Submission .....	8
What Are the Holistic Application Questions? .....	10
How is Admission Credit Awarded? .....	12
Admission Decision Notifications - Accepted, Waitlisted, Denied .....	13
Frequently Asked Questions .....	14

## Nursing Program

The Anoka-Ramsey Community College (ARCC) Professional Nursing Program is intended to prepare students that are interested in a career as a Registered Nurse. Knowing expectations and following directions are key indicators of success in the ARCC nursing program and the nursing profession. Before applying, please review this Information Guide for Applicants.

### Program Highlights:

- Up to 128 students are accepted each term; 80 to Rapids campus and 48 to Cambridge campus
- Up to 16 accepted students join the LPN to RN Advanced Standing cohort each fall term on the Rapids campus and each spring term on the Cambridge campus
- NURS courses are offered daytime hours, Monday through Friday
- Upon completion of the Associate of Science degree in Nursing (ASN), students are eligible to take the NCLEX exam to become licensed as a registered nurse

### Admissions:

- Nursing applicants must first apply and be accepted for general admission to ARCC
- Online application for the nursing program opens on the ARCC website on June 1 (fall start) and January 1 (spring start)
- Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a completed high school diploma or GED prior to the start of NURS courses
- At the time of application, applicants must (1) have a current or expired Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certification, or have documentation of completed CNA coursework, and (2) must have completed the Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT) with minimum score of 74%
- Nursing applications are scored using holistic admissions criteria

### Holistic Admission Criteria:

- Metrics (55%) – Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT), general education course grades, and ARCC/ATC residency credit
- Experience (31%) – Work and volunteer experiences, LPN status, military status, and previous college degree
- Attributes (14%) – Two essay questions including grammar, spelling, and punctuation

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing Options:

Upon completion of the ASN at ARCC, nursing students may continue for additional semesters leading to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Nursing (BSN) to universities outside of or within the Minnesota State System, including ARCC's partner universities: Metropolitan State University and Minnesota State University, Moorhead. Dual acceptance information for ARCC nursing students is posted on the ARCC nursing webpage.

## Pre-Nursing Academic Planning

Prior to being formally accepted into the nursing program, students are considered Pre-Nursing at ARCC. For students that plan to apply to the nursing program it is vitally important to work with an ARCC academic advisor to prepare a competitive application. Academic advisors help ensure that students register for the correct general education courses and understand the application process. [ARCC Advising Services](#)

- All nursing and general education courses listed on the [Nursing Program Curriculum Plans](#) must have a C or higher to progress in the program. Grades of C- or P grades are not accepted.
- Students are strongly encouraged to complete general education courses used in the program prior to starting nursing (NURS) courses due to the rigor of the program, and to earn more admission credit on the application. Admission credit is awarded for general education courses that are completed at the time of application. Admission credit details are outlined in the Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria document (see page 5). These courses can also be taken concurrently with NURS courses or completed before, but not after, the identified semester. For example, Chemistry can be taken concurrently with NURS courses in Semester One but cannot be taken concurrently with Semester Two NURS courses.
- Declare the pre-nursing major using the [Declare/Change Your Major](#) form. For Educational Intent, select *Earn an associate (two-year) degree*, For Major Options, select *Declare/Change My Major*, From the Degree Option drop down list, select *Nursing, AS (AA 3275 Nursing Prep) – Separate application to get into this program*.
- Once declared, you can track your general education courses in your degree audit report. [Tutorial on How to Access Your Degree Audit](#)
- **Transfer courses:** Courses from other colleges often transfer as equivalent to general education courses required in the nursing program, but do not assume that all courses, even those with the same course title or course number, are equivalent. Use Transferology to verify course equivalencies [www.transferology.com/](http://www.transferology.com/)
- **Credits from other Non-Degree-Granting Sources (StraighterLine, Sophia, Study.com etc.):** The Nursing Program at ARCC does not take courses from Non-Degree-Granting Sources to be used for degree attainment.
- **Transfer course substitutions:** Academic Standards Petitions for required general education courses must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the application deadline date. [Academic Standards Petition](#)
- **Course grades:** Admission credit for **STEM courses** (BIOL/CHEM) is calculated at A: 4, B: 3, and C: 2. Credit for other general education courses is calculated at A: 3, B: 2, and C: 1. Credit is not awarded for courses in progress. “P” grades are not accepted. Additional resident credit is also awarded if at least four of the nine general education courses were taken through ARCC or ATC.
- **LPNs** are offered Advanced Standing Credit (4 credits) as reflected in the LPN to RN curriculum plan. The general education courses listed below are the same for both curriculum plans.

**Anoka-Ramsey Community College  
Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria**

(starting with application to the Fall 2026 cohort)

**Required at the time of application:**

1. The certification number for current or expired CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certification or proof of completion of a CNA program (Certificate of CNA Completion or a transcript) for students that completed coursework but did not take the test for registry.
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

**METRICS (HSRT + Course Grades + Resident Credit) - 55%**

**HSRT Score:** Admission credit is calculated at 50% of HSRT Total Score (74 - 100 = 37 - 50 credit earned)

**Course Grades:** Admission credit is awarded for General Education courses used in the program that are completed with a C or higher grade at the time of application. Credit for STEM courses is calculated at A = 4, B = 3, C = 2; credit for other General Education courses is calculated at A = 3, B = 2, C=1. Credit is not awarded for courses in progress or for "P" grades.

**Resident Credit:** Credit is awarded if four of the nine general education courses were completed with a C or higher grade at ARCC or ATC at the time of application. Credit is not awarded for courses in progress.

Course Grades: Credit is awarded for completed General Education courses based on grades earned	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	"P" and Grades D/F not accepted
APA Documentation (ENGL 1130)	3	2	1	0
<b>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I (BIOL 2113)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	0
<b>Fundamentals of General, Organic, &amp; Biological Chemistry (CHEM 1050) or Principles of Chemistry (CHEM 1061)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	0
College Writing & Critical Reading (ENGL 1120 or 1121)	3	2	1	0
<b>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (BIOL 2114)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	0
General Psychology (PSYC 1110) or Lifespan Development (PSYC 2235)	3	2	1	0
<b>Intro to Microbiology (BIOL 1900) or Microbiology (BIOL 2201)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	0
Intro to Ethics (PHIL 1110) or Medical Ethics (PHIL 1200)	3	2	1	0
Communications (CMST 1110 or 2210 or 2220)	3	2	1	0

**EXPERIENCES– 31%**

Healthcare Work Experience (Paid)	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s)
Other Work Experience (Paid)	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s)
Community Volunteer Service (Unpaid)	Credit is awarded based on length of experience(s)
Verified LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse)	Credit is awarded if applicant is a currently licensed LPN
Military Service	Credit is awarded for veterans or students with military status
Previous Degree	Credit is awarded if applicant has already earned a college degree (associates, bachelors, masters, doctorate, or international higher education)

**ATTRIBUTES – 14% (each essay 250 words or less)**

<b>Teamwork, Collaboration, and Accountability.</b> 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? This is not a leadership question.	Credit is awarded based on evidence provided. Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are also considered.
<b>Challenges and/or obstacles the applicant has experienced.</b> Describe your personal experiences that demonstrate your commitment to your continued education, and your ability to access and utilize academic or personal support.	Credit is awarded based on amount of grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors in all essays.
<b>Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling</b>	Credit is awarded based on amount of grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors in both essays.



**NURSING CURRICULUM PLAN for RNS (starting Fall 2026)**

- All general education courses required in the program and nursing courses (NURS) in each semester must be completed with a C or higher grade to progress to the next semester.
- General education courses can be taken concurrently with nursing courses or completed before, but not after, the identified semester. Admission credit is awarded for general education courses that are completed at the time of application. Admission credit details are outlined in the Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria document.
- This is a Dual Acceptance Program (DAP) with Metropolitan State University and Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM). Upper Division Nursing or Gen Ed courses cannot be taken at ARCC.
- Credits in Associates: 34 Nursing + 30 General Education = 64 Total
- Credits after licensure eligibility = 56 Total (includes upper division credits)
- Total Program Credits: Nursing + General Education = 120 Total
- The application link is available during the respective Fall and Spring application periods at <https://www.anokaramsey.edu/nursing>

	SEMESTER ONE: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CREDITS	TOTAL	SEMESTER TWO: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CREDITS	TOTAL
<b>YEAR 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 1160 Foundations of Professional Nursing</li> <li>• NURS 1162 Health Promotion and Wellness and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 1190 Health Promotion, Wellness, and Foundations of Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ APA Documentation (ENGL1130)</li> <li>◦ Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I (BIOL2113)</li> <li>◦ Fundamentals of General, Organic, &amp; Biological Chemistry (CHEM 1050). Principles of Chemistry (CHEM 1061) is an acceptable course substitution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2 2 4 1 4 3	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 1260 Health Maintenance: Chronic and Palliative and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 1262 Pharmacology for the Professional Nurse I</li> <li>• NURS 1290 Health Maintenance Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ College Writing &amp; Crit Reading (ENGL 1120 or 1121)</li> <li>◦ Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (BIOL2114)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4 2 3 4 4	17
<b>YEAR 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 2360 Health Restoration: Acute/Simple Alterations and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 2362 Pharmacology for the Professional Nurse II</li> <li>• NURS 2390 Health Restoration: Acute/Simple Alterations Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ General Psychology (PSYC 1110) or Lifespan Development (PSYC2235)</li> <li>◦ Intro to Microbiology (BIOL 1900). Microbiology (BIOL 2201) is an acceptable course substitution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	3 1 4 4 4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 2460 Health Restoration: Acute/Complex Alterations and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 2462 Nursing Leadership</li> <li>• NURS 2490 Health Restoration: Acute/Complex Alterations Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Intro to Ethics (PHIL 1110) or Medical Ethics (PHIL 1200)</li> <li>◦ Communication (CMST 1110 or 2210 or 2220)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4 2 3 3 3	15
	<b>SEMESTER FIVE: Metro or MSUM</b>	CREDITS	TOTAL	<b>SEMESTER SIX: Metro or MSUM</b>	CREDITS	TOTAL
<b>YEAR 3</b>	See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details			See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details		
	<b>SEMESTER SEVEN: Metro or MSUM</b>	CREDITS	TOTAL	<b>SEMESTER EIGHT: Metro or MSUM</b>	CREDITS	TOTAL
<b>YEAR 4</b>	See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details			See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details		

MSUM: <https://www.mnstate.edu/rn-bsn/> Metro: <https://www.metrostate.edu/academics/programs/nursing-rn-to-bsn-program>



**NURSING CURRICULUM PLAN for LPNs (starting with application to the Fall 2026 term)**

- All general education courses required in the program and nursing courses (NURS) in each semester must be completed with a C or higher grade to progress to the next semester.
- General education courses can be taken concurrently with nursing courses or completed before, but not after, the identified semester. Admission credit is awarded for general education courses that are completed at the time of application. Admission credit details are outlined in the Nursing Program Holistic Admissions Criteria document.
- This is a Dual Acceptance Program (DAP) with Metropolitan State University (Metro) and Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM). Upper Division Nursing or Gen Ed courses cannot be taken at ARCC.
- Credits in Associates: 4 Advanced Standing + 30 Nursing + 30 General Education = 64 Total
- Credits after licensure eligibility = 56 Total (includes upper division credits)
- Total Program Credits: Nursing + General Education = 120 Total
- The application link is available on the nursing webpage during respective application periods. <https://www.anokaramsey.edu/nursing>  
The LPN cohort is offered for Fall cohorts on the Rapids campus and for Spring cohorts on the Cambridge campus

	SEMESTER ONE: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CR	TOTAL	SEMESTER TWO: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CR	TOTAL
YEAR 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 1165 LPN Transition to the Role of the Professional Nurse I</li> <li>• NURS 1162 Health Promotion and Wellness and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• Advanced Standing Credit (LPN)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o APA Documentation(ENGL1130)</li> <li>o Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I (BIOL 2113)</li> <li>o Fundamentals of General, Organic, &amp; Biological Chemistry (CHEM 1050). Principles of Chemistry (CHEM 1061) is an acceptable course substitution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	3	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 1260 Health Maintenance: Chronic and Palliative and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 1262 Pharmacology for the Professional Nurse I</li> <li>• NURS 1265 LPN Transition to the Role of the Professional Nurse 2                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o College Writing &amp; Crit Reading (ENGL 1120 or 1121)</li> <li>o Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II (BIOL 2114)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4	16
		2			2	
		4			2	
		1			4	
		4			4	
		3			3	
	SEMESTER THREE: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CR	TOTAL	SEMESTER FOUR: ANOKA-RAMSEY	CR	TOTAL
YEAR 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 2360 Health Restoration: Acute/Simple Alterations and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 2362 Pharmacology for the Professional Nurse II</li> <li>• NURS 2390 Health Restoration: Acute/Simple Alterations Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o General Psychology (PSYC 1110) or Lifespan Development (PSYC2235)</li> <li>o Intro to Microbiology (BIOL 1900). Microbiology (BIOL 2201) is an acceptable course substitution.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	3	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NURS 2460 Health Restoration: Acute/Complex Alterations and the Role of the Professional Nurse</li> <li>• NURS 2462 Nursing Leadership</li> <li>• NURS 2490 Health Restoration: Acute/Complex Alterations Experiential Learning                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Intro to Ethics (PHIL 1110) or Medical Ethics (PHIL 1200)</li> <li>o Communication (CMST 1110 or 2210 or 2220)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4	15
		1			2	
		4			3	
		4			3	
		4			3	
	SEMESTER FIVE: Metro or MSUM	CR	TOTAL	SEMESTER SIX: Metro or MSUM	CR	TOTAL
YEAR 3	See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details			See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details		
	SEMESTER SEVEN: Metro or MSUM	CR	TOTAL	SEMESTER EIGHT: Metro or MSUM	CR	TOTAL
YEAR 4	See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details			See Metro and MSUM websites for RN to BSN program details		

MSUM: <https://www.mnstate.edu/rn-bsn/> Metro: <https://www.metrostate.edu/academics/programs/nursing-rn-to-bsn-program>

## Application Preparation and Submission

The criteria required at the time of application include a current or expired Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) or CNA course completion, and completion of the Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT) with a minimum score of 74%. LPNs are not required to have CNA.

**CNA:** one of three scenarios must be indicated on the nursing application form.

- If you completed the CNA course and tested for CNA registry, provide your certification number for current or expired CNA certification, or
- If you completed a CNA course, but are not on the registry, provide the name of the school/facility, and the year you completed the course. A copy of Certification of Completion will be requested if the course does not show on a transcript, or
- If you are requesting consideration for CNA substitution, provide the date you submitted the Nursing Program Exception Request Form found on the nursing webpage. Examples of trainings or certifications that will not be considered for CNA substitution unless proof of additional education and training of CNA skills for your position or certification is provided with the Nursing Program Exception Request include: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Home Health Aide (HHA), Medical Assistant (MA), Personal Care Assistant (PCA), Surgical Technician.

### Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT)

- A minimum HSRT score of 74% is required; applicants with scores below 74% are not eligible to apply.
- Free practice tests are offered in six different languages at <https://testing.insightassessment.com/ng/en/#/login>.
- Scores for HSRT tests taken at other colleges/institutions cannot be transferred to ARCC.
- The HSRT may be taken at ARCC once per application cycle and test scores are valid for 2 years. If you have more than one valid ARCC HSRT score at the time of application, the highest score vs. most recent score is used for admission scoring.
- Testing is open for three months for respective application cycles. The HSRT opens for fall nursing applicants November 1 through February 1, and for spring applicants April 1 through July 1.
- Information about how to register and other resources at [HSRT Testing in Testing Services at ARCC](#)

**Transcripts:** Have official transcripts for courses taken at all colleges or universities outside of the [Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System](#) sent to ARCC for official evaluation of course equivalency, include transcripts for International Baccalaureate (IB) or Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Admission credit cannot be awarded without official transcripts. All courses used for the nursing program must have a C grader or higher (C- and P grades are not accepted).

## Application Submission

- The online nursing application form is posted on the nursing webpage during application cycles.
- Fall Semester Cohort: Application opens January 1 through February 1. The application submission deadline is February 1 at 11:59p.m. Decision notifications are emailed to applicants April 1.
- Spring Semester Cohort: Application opens June 1 through July 1. The application submission deadline is July 1 at 11:59p.m. Decision notifications are emailed to applicants September 1.
- The nursing application form is in a Minnesota State System format that times out after 30 minutes. Submit only one application form. If you do submit more than one application, contact [nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu) to withdraw an application; if you do not contact them and you submitted more than one application, reviewers will evaluate responses from only the first application submitted.
- Be prepared before starting and have the following prepared:
  - ✓ ARCC Student Tech ID number (you can find this in your e-services account in the upper right corner)
  - ✓ The date you took the HSRT at ARCC and your score
  - ✓ College name(s) for any completed general education courses
  - ✓ Gather names and dates for employment and volunteering, just as you would to create a resume
  - ✓ Have essay responses ready to cut and paste; keep essays at 250 words or less and do not include your name in essays

**How do I know my application was received?** A confirmation email is sent to the email address you provided on your nursing application. Check Spam/Junk folders if you do not receive an email confirmation the same day you apply. If confirmation is not found, contact [nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu).

## What Are the Holistic Admissions Application Questions?

There are three sections to the nursing application: Student Information, Experience, and Attributes (2 essays)

### Student Information

- Demographic information: Legal name, Star ID, ARCC Tech ID, email address, phone number, birthdate, ethnicity, gender
- International student status with F-1 visa status (y/n). This is requested for advising purposes only.
- Veteran or military status (y/n)
- Previous enrollment in another nursing program (y/n)
- Your preferred ARCC campus location (Coon Rapids, Cambridge, No Preference)
- List of colleges or universities enrolled or attended **that are not part of the [Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System](#)**.
- Provide month and year HSRT was taken at ARCC and the score
- Provide either a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate number for a current or expired CNA certification **or** the name of school/facility and the year the CNA course was completed **or** provide the date you submitted a Nursing Program Exception Request form for CNA substitution consideration. LPN (Licensed Practical Nurses) will need to provide an LPN license number in lieu of CNA number.
- Provide course status (completed or in progress, enrolled, or plan to enroll) for each of the nine general education courses in the nursing program. Include name of college and year for courses completed with a C or higher grade (C- and P grades are not accepted).

### Experience

- Education: If applicable, list any previous college degrees earned. This does not include diplomas or certifications.
- LPN status: If you are a current LPN, provide license number and expiration date.
- Healthcare Related Work Experience (Paid): Any job worked in or out of the United States that includes direct care for patients.
- Other Work Experience Non-Healthcare (Paid): Any job in or out of the United States that is not in healthcare.
- Volunteer Experience (Unpaid): Any volunteer involvement in or out of the United States may be included. Consider new volunteer opportunities such as nursing homes, church, food shelf, Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), or any non-profit volunteer experience if you feel you have nothing to list.

Credit is awarded based on the combined length of experience in each section. Example: three CNA jobs worked one year each is credited as three years of healthcare experience. You may list up to five in each section: Name of Organization, Primary Duties, Month/Year Start and End Date for work or frequency for volunteer, and Organization Phone.

### Attributes (Two essays)

- Each essay should be no more than 250 words.
- Do not include your name in essays. Essays with student names will receive no credit.
- Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are part of the essay evaluations. Consider using [Grammarly](#), the same platform holistic reviewers use to evaluate grammar, punctuation, and spelling in essays.

### **Essay 1: Teamwork, Collaboration and Accountability**

Describe a SPECIFIC project or 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? This is not a leadership question. The readers want to see how you interact with a team. Use STAR format: Situation, Task, Action, Response.

*Provide a specific example of teamwork and not an overview of your leadership skills. Example:*

*Situation - A power failure occurred during dinner on your shift at a nursing home.*

*Task - Your team needed to keep clients calm and in the dining room for their safety and provide updates to clients.*

*Action - Two staff announced the situation to clients and positioned by exits to keep clients in the room; you called Excel Energy and kept staff apprised of updates; another staff distributed flashlights and helped keep clients calm, etc.*

*Response - Power was back on within 30 minutes and clients resumed dinner or went to their rooms. No one was injured and the team documented the incident after debriefing.*

### **Essay 2: Challenges and/or Obstacles**

Describe your personal experiences that demonstrate your level of commitment to your continued education, and your ability to access and utilize academic and personal support services.

What obstacles or challenges have you faced in your academic journey (i.e., parenting as a student, financial barriers, cultural issues, academic struggles, career change, transportation, housing, disability)? What hurdles have you/are you conquering for your education? What personal or academic supports (family, counselors, advisors, tutors, etc.) have you accessed, or do you know you can access if needed?

## **Essay Writing Resources**

**Academic or admission advisors cannot review or proofread nursing applications.**

[ARCC Tutoring Services](#) offers limited [Writing Services](#) for currently enrolled ARCC students. Writing tutors are happy to help with grammar, formatting, etc., in addition to teaching students how to fix mistakes. Because the essays need to be your voice, tutors do not proofread or help with nursing-related content in essays.

[Job Readiness Services](#) can also assist currently enrolled ARCC students. A solid resume is a great way to gather information for your nursing application.

Students are encouraged to reach out as early as possible for assistance. Staff are particularly busy at semester end and during peak testing periods.

## How is Admission Credit/Scoring Awarded?

METRICS (55%)	EXPERIENCE (31%)	ATTRIBUTES (14%)
<p><b>HSRT Score</b> A minimum score of 74 is required. Admission credit is awarded at 50% of the HSRT Total Score. For example, 50% of a Total Score of 80% is 40.</p> <p><b>Course Grades</b> Admission credit is awarded for each of the nine general education courses used in the program in any semester that is completed with a C or better grade.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credit for BIOL/CHEM courses is calculated at A: 4, B: 3, and C: 2.</li> <li>• Credit for other general education courses is calculated at A: 3, B: 2, and C:1.</li> <li>• Credit is not awarded for courses in progress or for “P” grades.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resident Credit</b> Credit is awarded if 4 of the 9 general education courses were completed with a C or better grade at ARCC or ATC.</p>	<p>Admission credit is awarded for:</p> <p><b>Healthcare work experience (Paid)</b> Experience can be inside or outside of United States</p> <p><b>Other work experience (Paid)</b> Experience can be inside or outside of United States</p> <p><b>Community service/volunteer (Unpaid)</b> Experience can be inside or outside of United States</p> <p><b>Verified LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse)</b> Currently licensed</p> <p><b>Military Service</b> Veteran status or inactive military status</p> <p><b>College degree</b> Completed a college degree at any level; this does not include diplomas or certificates</p>	<p>Admission credit is awarded upon review of two essays:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teamwork, Collaboration, and Accountability</li> <li>• Challenges and Obstacles</li> </ul> <p>Essays may be up to 250 words and should not include student names.</p> <p>Grammar, punctuation, and spelling are part of the essay evaluations.</p> <p>Consider using <a href="#">Grammarly</a> to check grammar, punctuation, and spelling in essays. Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated essays are not acceptable.</p>



Questions about the nursing application evaluation? Contact [nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu)

## Admission Decision Notifications

**Notification emails of acceptance, waitlist, or denial** are sent to the email verified on your nursing application. Check your Spam/Junk folder if you do not receive a decision notification on the scheduled date. If a notification is not found, email [nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu).

### **If Accepted to the nursing program:**

Nursing orientation and bootcamp attendance are required as noted in the acceptance letters. Registration for NURS courses will open after orientation. Additional requirements covered at orientation:

- ***You MUST verify your acceptance via the link in your acceptance email***
- Complete all assigned onboarding tasks by respective due dates, including a comprehensive reading assignment (Weaver)
- Complete Minnesota Department of Human Services background study processed through ARCC
- Supply documentation of CPR Healthcare Provider certification
- Provide health and immunization records and healthcare form signed by a healthcare provider

### **If Not Accepted, but placed on Waitlist for this admission cycle:**

This means you met admission criteria, but your scoring was not as high as other eligible students. The waitlist is comprised of 15-25 students with the next highest admission credit.

- Students are informed in admission notification letters if they qualify for the waitlist
- Students that agree to be waitlisted are advised about early onboarding tasks they may be start to prepare should seats be offered later
- Waitlisted students are contacted when seats open on either campus
- The waitlist is for the current application cycle only; waitlisted students must apply for the next admission application cycle to be considered for the next admission cycle

### **If Denied, the notification email will indicate the reason:**

- Student met admission criteria, but scoring was not high enough for acceptance or waitlist, **or**
- Student missing minimum criteria to apply (HSRT or CNA, or incomplete general college admission)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who do I contact about general education courses required in the nursing program?

- Current ARCC students: Contact your assigned Academic Advisor.
- Prospective (general and transfer) students: Follow the [Steps to Become a Student](#) or call 763-433-1300.

### Who do I contact with questions about the nursing application form and decision notifications?

Nursing Admissions Advisor [nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:nursingadmissions@anokaramsey.edu).

### What percentage of applicants are offered seats in the program?

Approximately 55% of applicants that apply are offered seats in the program between both campuses each term.

### What are the estimated costs for the nursing program?

The breakdown of costs for the Spring 2025 traditional (RN) nursing cohort is listed below. Costs are subject to change each term and costs are reviewed at orientation:

#### Approximate Tuition and Fees:

- 34 nursing credits at \$211.85/credit for RN (\$7,202.90)
- 30 general education credits at \$164.72/credit (\$4,941.60)
- Course fees: \$1,832

Total Tuition and Fees: \$13,976.50

#### Additional expenses:

- Textbooks, course materials: \$1,586
- Stethoscope: Cost is variable, approx. \$155
- Shoes: Price varies widely
- Scrubs: \$58-\$70 per set of scrubs, depending on the type of top and pants purchased; most students buy 2-3 pairs of scrubs

### What immunizations are required?

Expect to supply immunization documentation for Seasonal Influenza, Mumps, Measles/Rubeola (MMR), Varicella, Hepatitis B, Tuberculosis (TB), and TDAP (Adult Tetanus). To date clinical sites no longer require the COVID-19 vaccination or boosters. Students will be contacted if clinical sites reinstate the COVID vaccination or booster requirement.

A third-party vendor called Castlebranch is used to manage and track the required documents for nursing students. Details about vaccines and instructions on setting up Castlebranch account are provided at orientation. The Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) is a statewide system that stores electronic immunization records. Students should contact healthcare providers for immunization records or check for documentation of immunizations received in MN at this [website](#).

### What is the weekly time commitment for the nursing program?

Each semester of the nursing program, students have several different course components including classes, labs, and clinicals. Schedules vary based on the semester, but generally students should plan on being

available five days a week. Currently all course components are scheduled during the day. Additional clarity on the schedule for nursing students is provided at orientation.

**After acceptance to the program, what is the process for accommodations for students with disabilities?**

Representatives from the ARCC Office for Students with Disabilities provide information at nursing orientation. Students that have utilized accommodations in previous school settings or believe accommodations may be needed during orientation, for the comprehensive reading assignment (Weaver), or while in the nursing program, should contact the [ARCC Office for Students with Disabilities](#) at 763-433-1350 upon acceptance to the program.

**What is the Background Study?**

For clinical learning experiences, students must submit a background study with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and once reviewed, if approved, students receive a letter of clearance for unsupervised patient care. The background study must be processed through ARCC as background studies from other organizations cannot be used. Details about the background study are provided at orientation.

**What CPR certifications are accepted?**

All nursing students must have an active CPR certification before starting NURS courses and remain current while in the program. The required CPR is Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers through American Heart Association (AHA) or American Red Cross (ARC).

Fully online CPR courses are not accepted; the skill testing must be in-person. Below are four suggested options:

- ARCC offers 3 courses that meet the BLS requirement: HPER 1105 BLS Provider Certification (1 credit), HPER 1106 BLS Recertification (1 credit) and HPER 1103 First Aid & CPR (3 credits).
- [American Heart Association](#) - Must show BLS Provider on card or certificate. Heart Saver alone does not suffice.
- [American Red Cross](#) - Must be BLS/CPR for Healthcare (BLR.21)
- Heart in Hand CPR - [Heartinhandcpr1@gmail.com](mailto:Heartinhandcpr1@gmail.com) or 763-807-3795