

## Nursing FAQ's:

### 1. Does Ole Miss in Oxford have a nursing program?

No, Ole Miss in Oxford does not offer a four year nursing program. Ole Miss in Oxford only offers the pre-requisite courses that a student will need to apply to nursing programs. The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, MS offers a nursing program, but you must complete the required pre-requisites before attending.

### 2. What is a 2 + program?

A 2+ program is designed for students who want to finish a health profession a little faster. Several health professions participate in programs like these such as nursing, dental hygiene, radiologic sciences, etc. You can finish the pre-requisite work for these programs in 2 years and follow it with a professional program. All the professional programs will not finish on the Oxford campus, so you will have to transfer out. Ole Miss in Oxford will offer the pre-requisite courses. So, the breakdown is 2 years of pre-requisites and then 2 years of a professional program of your choice. Different programs have different requirements and all are competitive. Just because your major is a 2+ program does not mean you are automatically accepted into that program.

### 3. When do I apply to nursing school?

Students can usually apply to nursing school a year before they plan on attending. Different nursing programs will have different deadlines, but in general terms a year in advance is about the right amount of time to begin the application and sometimes testing process.

### 4. How many nursing schools should I apply to?

We suggest applying to a variety of nursing schools and five is a good starting point. All nursing schools have slightly different requirements so you want to consider those differences in your application process.

### 5. How competitive are nursing schools?

Nursing schools are very competitive. Some schools will only consider your GPA, while others will consider a test score such as the ACT, TEAS V, or HESI. Some schools will even ask for recommendation letters. That is why you should apply to a variety of schools to increase your chances of being accepted.

### 6. What if I don't get into nursing school?

Admission is not guaranteed, so do not get discouraged. We suggest expanding your search or reapply the next year or semester. You can also ask the nursing school you applied to why you were not accepted. This will give you a good indication of what to do differently next time. We also suggest ALWAYS having a backup plan, which can include

other nursing schools or finishing out a different program in Oxford and then reapplying to a nursing school of your choice.

7. Can I receive a bachelor's degree in something else and then go to nursing school?

Yes, of course. Nursing schools do not care how long you take to get there. Some nursing schools even have programs designed for students who already have a bachelor's degree, which are often called accelerated or second-degree programs. You can still apply to traditional programs with a bachelor's degree.

8. What is the difference between a traditional program and an accelerated or second-degree program?

A traditional program is designed so students can enter after two years of coursework or around 60 hours of college work. Accelerated or Second-degree programs are for students who already have a bachelor's degree and want to go back to nursing school. Students with a bachelor's degree can still apply to the traditional program.

9. What is the most important factor for determining admission to a nursing program?

Your GPA is the most important factor. However, public BSN programs in Mississippi require a 21 ACT score plus your GPA to be eligible to apply. WE believe students with a minimum 3.0 GPA will be competitive for admission to many nursing programs.

10. Can I retake my ACT?

Yes, you can retake your ACT after you have started college. Many students perform better on the test once they have taken some college courses. You will sign up for the ACT just like you did in high school at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

11. What is the average admission standard to UMMC School of Nursing in Jackson?

UMMC in Jackson, MS receives around 400 applications each year for the traditional BSN program. The average of the incoming Summer 2013 class was a 3.6 GPA and a 26 ACT score. They accepted 80 students not including Freshmen Early Entry (FEE).

12. What is Freshmen Early Entry (FEE)?

FEE is a program specific to UMMC in Jackson, MS. A high school student with a 24 ACT score and a 3.5 HS GPA can apply for this program by Nov. 1 of their freshmen year. Students must make a C in all of their college pre-requisites and can't receive below an overall 2.5 pre-requisite GPA. Student accepted in this program and meet the requirements will automatically be accepted to the School of Nursing in Jackson, MS and will begin the program the summer following their sophomore year of college.

13. Where can I find nursing schools to apply to?

There is not one website that combines all the nursing schools in the country. We suggest finding a region you are willing to move to and then begin searching the internet from there. The Health Professions Advising Office can serve as a guide, but it is ultimately up to the student to decide where to apply.