How do I apply for the program?
Application packets are available on-line, in the Health Professions Office, and at the main building entrance on the college campus during the admission cycle only. Admission cycle is open once per year January – April.

Completed application packets are accepted from mid-January through mid-April, check website for specifics. Applicants must register for the TEAS entrance exam during the admission cycle. Information about the TEAS exam, costs and schedules are available in the Brazosport College Testing Center. Applicants must satisfy state of Texas, college, and program admission requirements; as described in the college catalogue. Accepted students must complete an FBI background screen before full admission is granted. Applications must be turned in fully completed and on time.

When does the program begin?
The program begins the fall semester each year.

Do I need to complete the prerequisites before I can apply to the program?
No. All prerequisites must be completed before applicants can begin the program. If prerequisites are not complete, a complete assessment of the applicant’s grades cannot be established and the applicant will not be as competitive.

How are students selected for admission?
Admission to the ADN Program is competitive. Only a small percentage of applicants can be selected. There are always more applicants than available program openings. Applicants are ranked according to academic performance (number of required courses completed and GPA), and review of completed application. Applicants, who complete required coursework at Brazosport College, are residents of the college district, or re-applicants, receive additional consideration. After review of completed application packets, a select few are invited to interview with program representatives.

When can I expect to be notified of acceptance into the program?
Applicants can expect notification by email to the last known address, on or around the end of May. Applicants must NOT expect another form of notification. Relatives and family members cannot be notified. Applicant and student information is ALWAYS confidential, and cannot be discussed with anyone except applicant or student.

I did not get in this year, can I re-apply?
If an applicant does not get accepted on the first try, it does not mean the applicant is not a good candidate. There are limited openings in all nursing programs. Re-applicants receive additional points on the applicant selection tool. Re-applying for admission demonstrates determination to be a nurse. An excellent alternate path is the LVN program. LVNs can enter LVN to ADN transition programs, losing no time and perhaps saving time lost by waiting.

Can I take all the required non-nursing courses prior to starting the program?
Yes, any or all non-nursing academic courses may be taken before beginning nursing courses. The prerequisites must be successfully completed before the fall start date.
Occasionally students not accepted or enrolled in a nursing program are permitted to register for an introductory nursing course. Introductory nursing courses usually offer an overview and history of nursing. An introductory course may help a student decide to continue in nursing or seek a different health-related career. These courses are usually equivalent across programs and are valuable.
There may be differences in beginning nursing courses such as health assessment and pharmacology. Health Assessment and Pharmacology are critical foundation courses and should be taken at the nursing program the applicant enters. Expectations and content may differ from program to program in these critical foundation courses. Applicants invited to join the Brazosport ADN program and seeking transfer course credit (other than a basic introductory course) are required to demonstrate current and comparable safe practice and knowledge in the course requested for transfer credit consideration.

Will courses transfer from another institution?
Academic courses are transferable from regionally accredited college and universities when the content and credit hours are equivalent. See current catalog on website or visit with a counselor for advising.
Will Anatomy & Physiology or Microbiology taken more than five years ago be accepted?
There is a five year limit on science prerequisite courses. Only classes taken five years from the start date of the Brazosport ADN program are accepted for transfer. Limitation on science courses is very common. Applicants can seek credit by exam to demonstrate current competency. Contact the testing center on the main campus for information.

How long does it take to complete the program?
Once enrolled in and beginning nursing program courses, the ADN program is two Fall semesters and two Spring semesters. There is no part-time option. There are summer classes and summer clinical learning experiences. Class room and clinical time alone is usually 40 hours per week, not including studying and completing assignments.

Can I work while in the nursing program?
A full-time or part time work schedule is difficult to maintain while in any nursing program. Class and clinical hours may vary, including nights, weekends, holidays, days, and 12 hour shifts. No accommodation is given to students due to work schedules, child care or other constraints. Working while in school is a common reason for failure to complete nursing programs.

Nursing students believe they can work, study, maintain home and family, and be successful in nursing school. Nursing education is difficult and stressful for student and family. Financial planning, family planning, and realistic discussions with family members increase the chance for success. School will end and life will go forth.

Delaying school in order to work less and decrease life stress is a better choice than beginning school, failing to finish, and owing money. Realistic planning improves likelihood of success.

How much study time is required?
A minimum of 3 hours of study for each hour spent in the classroom is required. It is not possible to “cram” for a nursing exam. Quality study time is mandatory for success.
The Learning Assistance Center (LAC) is a vast resource for all students. Reading, studying, taking notes, test-taking, and other learning skills are available through the LAC. The college offers a credit course, Psyc 1300 Learning Frameworks, in these important success skills. Most students do NOT have adequate study skills. But these skills can be acquired and greatly improve student success. Tutoring is available for students.

Students forget we all have to learn and practice any skill, for success. Your teachers and college staff want students to be successful! Ask for help, work hard, and never give up.

Do I need a computer?
Computer skill is mandatory. An abundance of computers are available on campus. Students must have skill in word processing, using files, storing information, using email, accessing web sites, using web-based instruction, creating Power Point presentations, saving and printing, searching the web, accessing on-line learning resources, and students must own a PDA. The college offers training and support for students lacking in computer skills, or students needing refreshing or updating.

The college offers dial up internet to students without home internet access.

I am an LVN, are there any special options for me?
An LVN to ADN curriculum tract is currently being offered. Interested LVNs must complete all ADN pre-requisites. Further information is available in the LVN ADN program packet and in the Health Professions office.

Will I have trouble getting a nursing license?
The board of nursing website www.bne.state.tx.us and the college nursing program information includes common causes that may prevent or delay licensure. Review this material carefully. There is a process in place for individuals with an unsatisfactory background check. Successful completion of nursing school does not mean a graduate has “a right” to sit for the NCLEX exam or even be employed by an organization. The knowledge burden is always on the applicant, student, and graduate. Each state has different rules and laws related to nursing licensure.

Where are clinical experiences?
Clinical experiences are scheduled locally and the surrounding area. Students can expect to have clinical experiences nights, days, weekends, and holidays. Students are expected to be flexible and accountable for their learning.
I got fired from one of the clinical facilities used in the program. Does this matter?
Yes. Any student prohibited from clinical experiences at a clinical site cannot meet course and program objectives, and may be dismissed from the program. Special accommodation related to clinical sites is not possible.

How can I improve my chances of success?
We encourage all students to register for and complete Psych 1300 Learning Frameworks. Learning Frameworks equips students for maximal success. Learning Frameworks should be one of the first courses anyone takes at college. Effective study habits are learned, not present at birth!

Students returning to college or taking science courses should consider starting college taking one or two courses only. Returning or new students frequently need to acquire study and test taking skill. Starting with one or two courses will increase the likely hood of success, will inspire confidence, and give students time needed to develop effective study habits. Students get a realistic picture of the time required for study, and can better prepare for the intense nursing curriculum.

Will nursing courses from other schools transfer to Brazosport College?
Nursing courses have similar titles and similar expectations. Nursing courses considered for transfer must have a minimum grade of ‘B.’ Applicants requesting transfer credit for nursing courses completed elsewhere are required to demonstrate competency by exam and skill demonstration. Applicants must pay any fees associated with competency assessment. Two faculty members observe the applicant. Faculty decisions are final. Applicants with less than satisfactory performance must complete the nursing course in question at Brazosport College.

What if I become ill or get pregnant?
Students bring a rich life experience to the nursing education experience. Because of the intensity of education and clinical experiences, students must have minimal to no absences.

I have heard nursing students have dress and behavior rules even on class days. Is this true?
Yes. Nursing students are entering a profession with high expectations and obligations. Nursing students must view school as a job and behave accordingly.

How much does the nursing program cost?
Community College education is a bargain! Nursing students are required to purchase text books, a PDA, uniforms, drug screening test, criminal background check, review courses, equipment, travel to clinical experiences, food, and other miscellaneous costs. Total estimated cost for the two year nursing program is around $6000(in-district), not including travel, food, and other unexpected cost. Please review and seek financial aid information. There are abundant resources for nursing school cost. Graduate nurses are frequently offered incentives from potential employers, including tuition pay back options. College fees and tuition are subject to change.

What computer skills do I need?
Students of today believe they have great computer skills if they can surf, download, text, and check email. These basic skills are good but much greater computer skill is required for nursing. Students must be fluent in Word, Power Point, file management, formatting, grammar, punctuation, computer assisted learning, searching and evaluating articles and information, confidentiality, basic spread sheet use, podcasting, using PDAs, electronic record keeping, and much more. Applicants are strongly encouraged to take a computer course at Brazosport College. Admission counselors can suggest appropriate computer courses.

Visit the Brazosport College Homepage (www.brazosport.edu) and consult with an admissions advisor