

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT MGA

NURSING PROGRAMS

1. What are the types of undergraduate nursing programs offered at MGA?

- a. **Associate of Science in Nursing:** An ASN educational program readies nurses to deliver direct patient treatment or to carry out other qualified nursing duties and responsibilities inside the field of health care. MGA's program takes a minimum of 3 years and can be the groundwork for more advanced nursing academic options such as bachelor's or master's in nursing. It is a relatively fast way (minimum 3 years) to get into the nursing field and, therefore, is attractive to students needing a shorter, lighter course load route to employment as a Registered Nurse.
- b. **Pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (PLBSN):** A Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree takes a minimum of 4 years to complete. The BSN prepares nurses to perform in most medical environments. While the job environments for RNs with BSN degrees may be very similar to that of RNs with an ASN degree, those who complete BSN programs have additional preparation and training for specialty areas and clinical jobs that could include management, fiscal duties, medical personnel scheduling, administration, leadership and research roles. Students who are considering eventual advancement to master's programs to become a nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, nurse educator, or clinical nurse leader must first earn a BSN degree. The BSN is also favored for military, public health nursing, and more specialized jobs such as labor/delivery, emergency room, operating room, pediatrics, etc.
- c. **RN-BSN Completion:** This program allows currently licensed Registered Nurses with an Associate degree or diploma from a program accredited by ACEN to complete the nursing class and clinical instruction to earn a Bachelor's degree in the field. MGA's RN-BSN program is offered as an **entirely online** or a face-to-face option. This program requires 3 consecutive semesters once all required BSN core has been completed.

2. What is the name of the licensure exam a graduate takes to become a Registered Nurse?

Note that both ASN and BSN grads are well prepared to take the same National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX). MGA's pass rate for first-time testing on the NCLEX exam was 93% for both ASN and BSN 2017 program graduates. The GA state average pass rates for all RN programs was 90%.

3. What are the requirements for admission to the ASN and BSN nursing programs?

Four step process: (1) Apply and be accepted to MGA including providing official final transcripts of all previous college-level coursework. (2) Complete the required nursing core curriculum for your preference of ASN or pre-licensure BSN. If you are transferring it is **strongly** recommended that you meet with an Academic Advisor for

Nursing prior to application to ensure that you have earned all coursework & the GPAs for MGA admissions eligibility. Core requirements vary from university to university, and you should never assume that you are core complete. (3) Submit an Application online to the Nursing department during the application period prior to your anticipated semester of program entry. In general, applications for Fall semester open early in the prior January and for Spring early in June of the previous year. The application period is open for 6-8 weeks. (4) Take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS 6) nursing entrance exam within 365 days of the application end date for your targeted semester of Nursing program coursework. MGA's Testing Services department offers this exam *year-round but more frequently during the Nursing application periods* on Macon, Warner Robins, Dublin, & Cochran campuses.

4. What does the ATI TEAS 6 exam measure?

At MGA applicants take four sections of the exam: reading, mathematics, science, and English & language usage. Applicants are encouraged to score at least **Proficient level** (58%-77%) on the TEAS Academic Preparedness rating.

5. What is the minimum pre-nursing core GPA for application to the three programs?

You must have earned an overall **and** a nursing-core GPA of 2.5 to be considered for the ASN program; an overall 3.0 **and** a nursing-core GPA of 3.0 is required to apply to the BSN program. For the RN-BSN completion program the minimum is 2.5 overall **and** nursing-core. Note that your overall GPA includes **all** college-level coursework taken at or transferred into MGA. Nursing-core GPA is defined as only the core curriculum listed on the MGA's degree maps for the ASN, BSN, or RN-BSN.

6. Upon what factors is acceptance to ASN or pre-licensure BSN programs based?

Your overall GPA, your GPA in required pre-nursing core courses, & your ATI TEAS nursing entrance exam scores are primary. In making the admission decisions for each new cohort, the Admissions, Recruitment, and Retention (ARR) committee may also consider: percentage of nursing core classes completed, grades in science courses, history of D's & F's, patterns of withdrawal from courses/colleges, & recorded instances of academic misconduct and/or disruptive behavior.

7. For MGA's most recent (Fall 2018) entry point, what were the AVERAGE GPAs & test scores of students accepted to the Associate and Bachelor in Nursing programs?

ASN: Overall: 3.05 TEAS Academic Preparedness score: 71%

BSN: 3.47 Overall TEAS Academic Preparedness score: 75%

IMPORTANT NOTE: These averages vary for each new cohort & are a point of reference only.

8. When are ASN and BSN Program courses offered?

Most **nursing core** classes may be taken in class during day or evening hours or online; once accepted into the actual nursing-specific programs, however, you must be prepared to attend classes, labs, & hospital-based clinicals during daytime hours for four semesters. Two select NURS classes are offered during the summer. Some clinical hospital-based hours may require evening or weekend attendance. **Where?** Please understand that **you will NOT choose which campus** to attend once admitted to the actual program. Middle Georgia State

University's **BSN program classes** are offered only in Macon or Warner Robins. **ASN program classes** are usually taught on Dublin or Cochran campuses although Warner Robins could be possible.

9. What are the admission requirements for the RN-BSN Completion program?

MGA adheres to the Georgia RN-BSN articulation model. Applicants must have:
(1) Provided proof of a Georgia RN license in good standing. (2) Graduated from ACEN accredited program. (3) Completed 1000 hrs. of RN clinical work in past 3 years (4) Provided transcripts from previous higher education institutions. (5) Earned overall and nursing core GPAs of 2.5. (6) Completed same core classes as MGA's Pre-licensure BSN applicants.

(1) Where are the clinical sites located?

In over 50 hospitals and medical centers of all sizes in the central Georgia area.

(2) In addition to MGA's tuition/fees, what are the estimated costs once accepted to a MGA nursing program?

Nursing-related costs (CPR class, drug screening, background check, immunizations, uniforms, textbooks, ATI Learning Management System, professional liability insurance, etc.) is **estimated at \$3500 plus** the cost of the student's health insurance. Insurance costs vary widely based on the student's age and other individual circumstances *This amount will be spread over 4 semesters.* The estimate does not include expenses related to traveling to clinical sites. *Also note that it is approximate and subject to change.*

(3) FOR MORE INFO or to schedule an important advising appointment:

Macon: Advising Center: Call 478-471-2792 or email Ms. Wendy Bloodworth wendy.bloodworth@mga.edu or Ms. Sara Wingate sara.wingate@mga.edu

Cochran: Ms. Lisa Kelly lisa.kelly1@mga.edu or Kaneshia Grace (contact below)

Warner Robins: Call 478-929-6700 for an appointment

Dublin: Ms. Cindy Fountain cindy.fountain@mga.edu

E-Advising online: Ms. Kaneshia Grace kaneshia.grace@mga.edu