


Joseph F. McCloskey
School of Nursing



Date: 6/2024	Academic Progression and Graduation Policy #202	Pages: 1 of 4
Reviewed: 6/22 6/23 6/24	 Tina Vanburen, DNP, MSN, RN, CNS Director, School of Nursing	Administration Committee

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clearly define the academic and clinical requirements necessary for students to progress through the nursing program. Additionally, it provides the criteria for graduation, including eligibility to sit for the NCLEX-RN licensure examination, thereby ensuring academic excellence and clinical competence.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing and establishes the academic, clinical, and administrative standards required for progression through the program and the criteria for graduation.

DEFINITIONS

Progression refers to the advancement of a student from one academic term to the next, contingent upon meeting defined academic, clinical, and professional standards. This includes maintaining a specified Grade Point Average (GPA), meeting clinical performance expectations, and fulfilling other academic obligations.

Graduation refers to the formal completion of the nursing program, including the fulfillment of all academic, financial, and administrative requirements, which makes a student eligible to receive a diploma in Registered Nursing and, starting with the Class of 2024, an associate in applied science degree from Alvernia University.

POLICY

1. Progression Requirements: Students must achieve a minimum semester GPA of 2.5 to progress to the next semester.
 - Nursing course grades must meet or exceed 78% to qualify for progression.
 - Clinical performance must meet program standards.
 - A satisfactory clinical grade will be documented as "PASS," while an unsatisfactory clinical grade will be documented as "FAIL," resulting in failure of both the theoretical and clinical components of the course.
 - More than two clinical absences will result in failure of both the didactic and clinical portions of the course.

2. Grading Scale: The following grading scale applies to all coursework:

Letter Grade	Percentage	GPA
A	94-100%	4.0
A-	90-93%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	83-86%	3.0
B-	80-82%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3
C	73-76%	2.0
C-	70-72%	1.7

3. Graduation Requirements: students must complete all academic program requirements.
 - A minimum cumulative GPA of 78% is required for graduation.
 - The final three terms of study must be completed at the Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing.
 - Students must fulfill all financial obligations to the institution before graduation.
 - Graduates must participate in an exit interview with the Director of the School of Nursing.
 - Upon successful completion of these requirements, students will receive a diploma (RN) from the Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing, and beginning with the Class of 2024, an associate in applied science degree from Alvernia University.

4. Successful completion of a JFMSON program necessitates mental and physical health essential to meet the objectives of the curriculum, as well as other skills necessary for success in the classroom and clinical components of the program. Based on these criteria, applicants must:
 - demonstrate a history of personal integrity, compassion, motivation, and the ability to function in stressful situations.
 - be able to walk, stand, move, and sit for long periods of time,
 - possess auditory, visual, and tactile abilities sufficient to assess and monitor health needs and provide safe care.
 - possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals with various backgrounds.

5. Required physical skill and dexterity.
 - Be able to lift and move patients and equipment and have fine motor movement to complete tasks in a safe and effective manner.

6. The school makes every effort to accommodate students and applicants with disabilities. Any applicant with a documented disability can request special accommodations by notifying the Office of Admissions in writing at the time of application or anytime thereafter.

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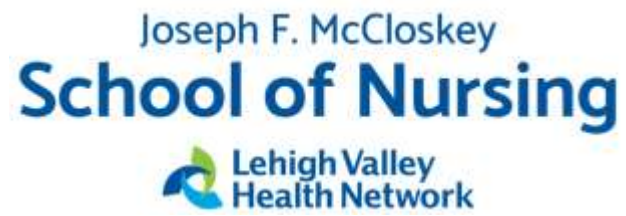


7. **Pre- Admission Information** All materials that are submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of JFMSON and cannot be returned or forwarded unless the applicant makes a formal request in writing to the school.
 - Any misrepresentation or omission of facts or essential documents during the application process and/or after acceptance into the program will result in a delay, denial, or revocation of admission.
 - As deemed appropriate, the Admissions Committee reserves the right to waive admission requirements after reviewing an applicant's completed record.

8. All applications must be completed by the deadline described under the program-specific requirements. A completed application file must contain:
 - A completed application and an application fee
 - Proof of permanent residency or working status, if applicable
 - An official high school transcript or GED
 - All official post-secondary transcripts, if applicable
 - A copy of Practical Nursing license, if applicable
 - A copy of EMT and American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare CPR certification, if applicable
 - An essay, if applicable
 - Career statement and resume, if applicable
 - Other program-specific information as requested.

9. Additional Requirements for Foreign-Educated Students
 - The school is not approved to issue or accept student visas. Applicants must show proof of permanent residency or working status.
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, New Jersey, may be required for applicants educated outside the United States or whose preferred language is not English, including those transferring from English-speaking colleges and universities. The school may require the following documentation to determine eligibility for admission:
 - satisfactory score on TOEFL. Testing must have occurred within two years of the application submission.
 - an evaluation of foreign transcripts by the World Education Service (WES) or another approved agency is required.
 - Certificate of Preliminary Education (CPE) from the Department of Education,
 - General Education Development (GED) General Report from the Commission on Graduate Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS)
 - evidence of completion of required high school or post-secondary coursework, and
 - TOEFL paper-based score of 560 or internet-based score of 83. TOEFL Essentials scores will be considered on an individual basis.

10. Post-Secondary Level Coursework: Applicants may be required to validate minimum requirements through post-secondary level coursework. Applicants must meet all minimum requirements and submit all official transcripts, including post-secondary transcripts, prior to August enrollment. **Requests for Clinical Entry: When transferring in courses, please be aware that entry into 2nd or 3rd year of nursing cannot be guaranteed.** Applicants are encouraged to seek guidance from Admissions before registering and completing courses at another institution.



REVIEW and APPROVAL: Administration Committee