



Nursing Admissions Assessment FAQ

This booklet contains information on the admission assessment required for all new applicants for initial entry to the *clinical component* of the Accelerated RN, Traditional RN and LPN programs.

Nursing Clinical Admission Assessment for Prospective Clinical Applicants Frequently Asked Questions Howard Community College

Please note: The following information provides the latest information available at the time this document was printed. Processes are subject to change.

Why is HCC requiring clinical nursing applicants to take a nursing admission assessment exam?

- Students work hard and fulfill many requirements to be admitted to the clinical component of HCC's nursing programs. The new exam contributes to student success in the clinical program by identifying strengths and areas of possible challenge in advance. Students who need to study specific areas further and then go on to successfully complete the exam are more likely to have a successful clinical experience.

What is the test called?

- The test is called the Evolve Admission Assessment (A2). It is produced by Elsevier, a leading science and health sciences publisher.

Who is required to take the exam?

- All applicants to the Accelerated RN, Traditional RN, and LPN programs must take this exam.
- *LPN Pathways applicants* will *not* take this exam; a different exam, the HESI LPN-RN Mobility Exam is required for this program.

What score is required to qualify and how will I receive my scores?

- As of **June 1, 2010**, all applicants must receive a composite score of **70 or above** (scores are *not* rounded), to qualify for admission to the clinical portion of these programs.
- If you have taken the exam prior to June 1, 2010, your scores are valid for two years from the date of your exam.
- You will receive your score immediately following your exam, along with recommendations for meeting with an advisor. Advisors will be available on the testing dates; first priority will be given to students who need to retest.
- All scores will be valid for two years from the date of your exam.

What is the cost?

- As of January 1, 2011, the fee will be \$65 (subject to change).
- Students must pay the testing fee each time they sign up to take the exam, the test fee is non-refundable.

How do I schedule and pay the exam fee?

- Students must complete and submit the exam registration form and payment form along with the exam fee **at least one week** prior to their selected testing date. **Please note:** Seating for each session is limited. If we cannot accommodate your selection, we will offer you an alternative choice.
- Submit the exam registration form and fee payment to the Office of Admissions and Advising. This can be done online, in person or by mail at the present time.

- Register and pay online by going to:
<http://www.howardcc.edu/admissions/apply/alliedhealth/testing.html>
and clicking on the link that says “Register and Pay Online.”
- The exam fee may be paid by check, credit card, money order or cash. *Cash payments should never be mailed.* If cash is your preferred payment form, please submit your completed exam registration form *in person* to the Office of Admissions and Advising’s front counter, take your payment to the cashier’s office, and then return a copy of your payment receipt to the Office of Admissions and Advising.
- The registration and payment forms are available in the Office of Admissions and Advising and as PDFs online: www.howardcc.edu/admissions/apply/alliedhealth/testing.html

What subjects are covered on the exam?

- *All Accelerated and Traditional RN and LPN applicants* take the Anatomy & Physiology, Biology, English, and Math sections of the exam.
- *RN applicants* must also take the Chemistry section.
- More detailed information about exam topics is available online.

What is the format of the exam?

- The A2 is a computer-based timed exam with several sections.
- Most questions are multiple choice; some questions on the math section require student-generated answers.
- Once a question is answered you may not return to it again.

How long does the exam take?

- Students are *allotted* approximately five hours to complete this exam. Many students finish the exam sooner.
- Individual sections are *not* timed. Students must pace themselves in order to complete the entire exam in the allotted time.

How should I prepare for exam day?

- Familiarize yourself with the exam format.
- Get plenty of rest the night before.
- Plan to arrive 30 minutes ahead of time. Once the exam begins you cannot be admitted – no exceptions.
- Plan ahead for travel time to campus, parking and arrival at the Test Center.

Is review material available?

- A study guide is available in the HCC Bookstore. The approximate cost is \$35.00. (The study guide is available through other sources as well.)
- Copies of the study guide available for review in HCC’s Library. Copies *may not be removed*.

What if I need testing accommodations?

- Students with disabilities who are eligible for testing accommodations should contact HCC’s Disability Support Services Office at 443-518-1300. If you have a specific DSS counselor please contact them to make arrangements for accommodations.

When should I take the exam?

- Accelerated RN applicants are encouraged to take the test *no later than* the fall term of the year in which they are applying.
- Traditional RN and LPN applicants are encouraged to take the test *immediately following* the completion of their prerequisite classes.
- Students **must** satisfactorily complete the exam by the appropriate application deadline date.

What is the exam deadline?

Students should take the exam by the following deadlines based on their program of choice. Please note that these testing deadlines are subject to change:

- **Accelerated RN**
 - September 15 to qualify for Rolling Admission
 - February 1 to qualify for Regular Admission
- **Traditional RN and LPN**
 - February 15 to qualify for the first lottery
 - May 15 to qualify for the second lottery

When is the exam given?

- Specific testing dates will be set throughout the year. The exam *is not* given on a walk-in basis.
- Exam dates are subject to change.

How is the exam scored?

- Students receive sub-scores for English, Math, and Science, plus an overall Composite score.
- The Composite score is an average score of the sub-scores for English, Math, and Science.

What happens when I successfully complete the exam?

- The Office of Admissions and Advising will receive your composite score. It will become part of your application to the clinical component of the program. You are responsible for completing all other forms and requirements.

What happens if I do not successfully complete the exam?

- An advisor will be available to speak with you about your results and help you plan accordingly.
- The test company will e-mail you a remediation plan, indicating areas of weakness and suggesting further study topics. (Please note: It is important that all your contact information is current and that you also know how to access your HCC e-mail.)
- You may retest after three months so scheduling a new exam date is an important step.

Am I still required to take the English placement test?

- Applicants who have not completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in the U.S. must take the English placement test *in addition to* the Nursing Admission Assessment, *even if they have completed college-level English at another college.*

How can I learn more and determine when I should take the exam?

- Attend a nursing information session or a regular nursing information session.
- Meet with a nursing and allied health advisor.
- Check out our Nursing Testing Web Site - www.howardcc.edu/admissions/apply/alliedhealth/testing.html