

(Registered Nursing)

Frequently Asked Questions

If you are an out-of-state student: North Georgia Technical College adheres to the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) procedure 6.6.1p. Student Tuition and Fees, Item VI – Out of State Students shall be enrolled in the college on a space available basis and shall not displace any Georgia Student desiring to enroll in the college. If there are remaining seats unfilled, out of state students will be added as indicated in the competitive admissions process.

Interested applicants must apply for acceptance to the college and submit necessary transcripts and any other documents requested by the Admissions Department prior to applying for candidacy into the Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) degree program. Upon acceptance to the college, students are placed in the Interdisciplinary Studies program while requirements are being met for ASN candidacy. Students obtain candidacy through a competitive admissions process consisting of the following: completion of all pre-requisite competitive core course credits with a 3.0 minimum GPA; completion of the Health Education Systems, Inc. Admission Assessment (HESI A2 exam); and submission of the ASN intent form.

NGTC Applications can be completed online at www.northgatech.edu or can be mailed to:

North Georgia Technical College Attn: Admissions Department PO Box 65, Clarkesville, GA 30523

When are admission applications to the college due?

The admissions application deadlines for each semester are posted on the North Georgia Technical College website at www.northgatech.edu and can be obtained by calling the main campus number at (706) 754-7700.

When can I apply to the ASN program after being accepted to the college?

<u>Clarkesville:</u> We will accept Intent forms <u>January 1 through April 1</u>
<u>Blairsville:</u> We will accept Intent forms <u>May 1 through August 1</u>

The ASN Intent form is submitted online from the Registered Nursing (ASN) webpage by following the steps below:

- 1. Access the NGTC main website www.northgatech.edu
- 2. From the "Study at NGTC" heading at the top of the page, select "Academic Programs"
- 3. From the categories of programs, select "Medical"
- 4. From the list of medical programs, select "Registered Nursing"
- 5. Select "Intent Form" on the Registered Nursing webpage

ASN Intent Forms and NGTC Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

When does a new ASN cohort start each year?

<u>Clarkesville:</u> Fall semester <u>Blairsville:</u> Spring semester



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How many students will be admitted to each cohort?

<u>Clarkesville:</u> 30 students* <u>Blairsville:</u> 20 students*

What is the competitive process? Meeting minimum admissions standards does not guarantee acceptance. Applicants' scores on the HESI exam and GPA of pre-requisite courses will be ranked from the highest to the lowest. Students with the highest combined scores will be admitted based on available seats in the cohort. If it becomes necessary to break a tie, the following criteria will be considered:

- Employment experience in a healthcare field
- Completion of educational degree (associates, bachelors, masters)
- Completion of additional general education courses (other than the pre-requisites) required for graduation from the ASN program (PSYC 1101, PSYC 2103, ENGL 1102 and one humanities/fine arts course such as ARTS 1101, ENGL 2130, HUMN 1101, or MUSC 1101).

What must I have completed to be eligible for the competitive admission process for the RN program?

- 1. Acceptance to North Georgia Technical College.
 - a. Official copies of all transcripts must be submitted with application to the college.
 - b. Recent transcripts for all required coursework must be submitted to the Admissions Office by mail or electronically at admissions@northgatech.edu by May 15 for Clarkesville and August 15 for Blairsville for completion of competitive admissions process.
 - c. ASN Intent Form submitted by the deadline (April 1 for Clarkesville campus and August 1 for Blairsville campus).
- 2. Completion of required core courses.
 - a. The required core courses are outlined in the *North Georgia Technical College Catalog/Student Handbook*. The list can also be found in the *Frequently Asked Questions* document on the ASN program webpage.
 - b. A minimum 3.0 GPA must be achieved for required competitive core courses (an average of final grades).
 - c. Students must earn a minimum of a "C" grade in each required course to include pre- or co-requisite general education courses.
- 3. Completion of the HESI Admission Assessment (A2) Exam.
 - a. HESI Exam must be completed by April 1st for Clarkesville and August 1st for Blairsville.
 - b. The HESI must be taken on one of the NGTC campuses.
 - c. Only the first two attempts on the HESI Assessment Exam within the 12-month period prior to the intent form due date will be considered in the competitive process.
 - d. The 12-month period for valid scores at Clarkesville is April 1 of the previous year through March 31 of the intent year, and at Blairsville, it is August 1 of the previous year through July 31 of the intent year.
 - e. There is no wait-time between the two attempts, although additional preparation between retakes is recommended.

^{*} Although we strive to admit 30 students to the Clarkesville campus in the fall and 20 students to the Blairsville campus in the spring, the number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available.



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HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)

Students interested in being considered for entrance to the Associate in Science Degree in Nursing program at North Georgia Technical College are required to complete the HESI (Health Education Systems, Inc.) Admission Assessment Exam (A2). The HESI exam evaluates performance in Math, Science (Anatomy and Physiology), English (Grammar, Vocabulary, and Reading Comprehension). The cumulative score from the highest of the first two attempts will be used for the ASN competitive admission process.

- The cost of the exam is \$70.00.
- Applicants are encouraged NOT to take the HESI exam until completing the BIOL 2113 and BIOL 2114 courses
 OR at least complete BIOL 2113 and some of BIOL 2114.
- A limited number of study guides are available for student use in the NGTC library on each campus.
- Applicants do not need to submit HESI scores to the ASN program. Scores will be retrieved by the ASN department directly from the testing company, Elsevier.
- HESI Exam dates are published, and students can register for the exam on the <u>NGTC website</u> under the Economic Development heading, Continuing Education, and Available Courses.
- Call the Clarkesville testing office at 706-754-7716 with questions or issues registering.

What courses must I take before applying for the ASN Program?

To obtain candidacy for the ASN Program, the following courses must be completed with a **3.0** cumulative GPA or better by the end of spring semester for Clarkesville campus and summer semester for Blairsville.

COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
ENGL 1101	Composition and Rhetoric	3
MATH 1111	College Algebra (Math Modeling and Statistics are also accepted)	3
BIOL 2113	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BIOL 2113L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	1
BIOL 2114	Human Anatomy and Physiology II **	3
BIOL 2114L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab **	1
BIOL 2117	Introduction to Microbiology **	3
BIOL 2117L	Introduction to Microbiology Lab **	1

^{**} BIOL 2113 and BIOL 2113 Lab are pre-requisites for this course

Additional courses that are required to graduate from the ASN program but do not have to be completed prior to acceptance are:

COURSE	TITLE	CREDIT HOURS
COLL 1010	College & Career Success Skills (exemption test available)	3
ENGL 1102	Literature and Composition	3
PSYC 1101	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYC 2103	Human Growth and Development	3

One of the following choices of fine arts/humanities courses for **3** credit hours:

ARTS 1101 Art Appreciation or MUSC 1101 Music Appreciation

or ENGL 2130 American Literature or HUMN 1101 Introduction to Humanities



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<u>Can I still work while I am in the ASN program?</u> Students are strongly discouraged from working while they are enrolled in the ASN program due to the heavy academic load. Work hours and childcare needs must be scheduled around the program class times.

<u>How long does it take to complete the program?</u> Nursing courses require 5 semesters to complete. Core requirements vary according to credit load and individual student flexibility in scheduling.

<u>Can my prior college coursework be applied to the program?</u> Official college transcripts will be reviewed by the Registrar's Office per the official transfer credit rules and course validity periods outlined in the *Transfer Admission* section of *North Georgia Technical College Catalog*, which is available in the online <u>North Georgia Technical College</u> Catalog. Only the Registrar's office may approve transferred courses for credit.

May I transfer nursing courses? Only core courses are eligible for transfer credit, not nursing courses.

<u>Are ASN classes offered in the evening or online?</u> The ASN program curriculum (RNSG courses) will be offered during the day. However, there may be some clinical rotations in the evening and possibly on weekends. Some prerequisite and core courses may be offered in the evening and online.

<u>What degree will be issued upon completion of the program?</u> Graduates will be issued the Associate in Science Degree in Nursing and will be eligible to apply to take the Georgia Board of Nursing RN licensure exam.

Where will I find jobs when I complete the program? Registered Nursing is projected to be one of two occupations with the highest growth rate in Georgia and among occupations with the most annual openings in metro Atlanta and North Georgia (*GA DOL Projections to 2018*). RNs are employed in hospitals, long-term care, rehabilitation centers, home care, inpatient and outpatient hospice, correctional facilities, outpatient clinics, physician's offices, school nursing, health education, mental health facilities, camp nurses, public health, insurance industry, regulatory services, health informatics and many others. NGTC provides placement counseling services through Student Affairs.

<u>Does the program offer internship opportunities?</u> Nursing students have assigned clinical hours but these are not considered internships.



Associate of Science Degree in Nursing Program (Registered Nursing)

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Nursing Course Sequence Clarkesville:

Nursing Semester	Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours
Fall	RNSG 2602	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice	6
Spring	RNSG 2610 RNSG 2604	Concepts of Nursing Practice I Pharmacology for Nursing	6 4
Summer	RNSG 2614 RNSG 2612	Obstetrics Pediatric Nursing	4 4
Fall	RNSG 2620 RNSG 2606	Concepts in Nursing Practice II Mental Health	6 3
Spring	RNSG 2630	Transition to Nursing Practice	6
Core Courses — 33 Hours	Nursing Hours: 3	Total: 72 Hours	

Nursing Course Sequence Blairsville:

Nursing Semester	Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours	
Spring	RNSG 2602	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice	6	
Summer	RNSG 2610 RNSG 2604	Concepts of Nursing Practice I Pharmacology for Nursing	6 4	
Fall	RNSG 2614 RNSG 2612	Obstetrics Pediatric Nursing	4 4	
Spring	RNSG 2620 RNSG 2606	Concepts in Nursing Practice II Mental Health	6 3	
Summer	RNSG 2630	Transition to Nursing Practice	6	
Core Courses — 33 Hours	Nursing Hours: 3	Total: 72 Hours		



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What are the time limits on transferability of courses?

- 4 years for most occupational courses including ACCT, ALHS, BUSN, CIST, CLBT, COMP, NAST, EMSP, HECT, MAST, PNSG, and PHAR.
- 10 years for BIOL courses and all occupational courses not listed above. However, if course content and competencies have changed significantly within the 10-year period, faculty may request that students validate skills or repeat a course.
- No expiration on most general education courses (such as ARTS, CHEM, ECON, ENGL, HIST, MATH, MUSC, PHYS, PSYC, SOCI, SPCH) and courses used to satisfy elective credit requirements.

Additional Information

- Students must meet the minimum college admission standards and competitive program admission
 requirements to be given consideration for entry into the ASN program. Completion of the HESI exam alone
 does not guarantee admission to the program. Students are notified by email and postal mail regarding the
 outcome of the competitive admissions process. Clarkesville applicants are notified by June 15 and
 Blairsville by September 15.
- Criminal background checks and drug screenings will take place prior to clinical placement. Positive background checks and drug screens may result in denial of clinical placement, jeopardizing completion of the program.
- Students are required to follow the medical clearance policies designated by their assigned clinical and/or practicum sites. Please be aware that some clinical/practicum sites mandate vaccinations against specific diseases such as COVID-19, influenza and/or testing for specific diseases such as tuberculosis. If you elect not to be vaccinated or tested, you will not be allowed to attend those clinical/practicum sites. If you do not have all required immunizations and tests, you will have limited access to clinical/practicum sites. This will delay or prevent program completion.
- Although vaccines are not required for program admission, each clinical/practicum site reserves the right to deny a student entry based on their own policies and procedures. If a student is denied entry to a clinical/practicum site based on lack of vaccinations or testing, the student will not be able to complete the clinical/practicum course. As a result, successful completion of the program will not be possible.
- Students must show documentation of the immunizations and testing listed in the chart below for clinical placement. Deadline for documentation is given to new students at program orientation.

Varicella

If you have had varicella, you must have a titer to document immunity

Hepatitis B

If you do not have documentation of your dates, you must have a titer to document immunity.

MMR (measles, mumps/rubella)

If you have had any of these, you must have a titer to document immunity

Diphtheria/Tetanus

Must have had one Tdap. Must have Td booster within 10 years

Covid-19

Two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine

Annual Flu Vaccine

Two TB skin tests annually



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ASN Application Process

NGTC ASN Program Campus	Entry Semester	Number of Students Accepted	Intent form and HESI (A2) Score Due By:	Submission Period	Official Transcripts Due By:	Applicants Notified of Acceptance By:
Clarkesville	Fall	30*	April 1	Jan 1 - April 1	May 15	June 15
Blairsville	Spring	20*	August 1	May 1 - August 1	August 15	September 15

Step 1: Apply to North Georgia Technical College

Students interested in applying to the ASN program must either have been a NGTC student within the past year, or if not, complete an application and be accepted into North Georgia Technical College. Students not taking courses two consecutive terms should complete the readmission process to become an active student again. Application and official transcripts must be submitted to NGTC Admission Department by the above dates. Admissions application and transcripts can be submitted online or mailed to the following address:

North Georgia Technical College Attn: Admissions Department PO Box 65, Clarkesville, GA 30523

Step 2: Submit an Intent Form

TAKE ALL PRE-REQUISITE COMPETITIVE GENERAL CORE CLASSES and then submit the online Intent Form found on the ASN program webpage: https://northgatech.edu/academic-programs/health-sciences/registered-nursing/. Intent form must be submitted by the respective deadline.

Step 3 Take the HESI A2 Assessment

HESI scores are calculated from the areas of Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and English. Only the first two attempts on the exam within the 12-month period prior to the due date will be given consideration. The 12-month period for valid scores at Clarkesville is April 1 of the previous year through March 31 of the intent year, and at Blairsville, it is August 1 of the previous year through July 31 of the intent year. The highest overall score from the two testing sessions will be used in the competitive process. There is no wait-time between the two attempts, but additional preparation between retakes is recommended. The assessment must be taken on one of the NGTC campuses. Scores from other institutions are not accepted. Exam dates are posted on the NGTC website on the Economic Development, Continuing Education webpage under the "Courses Available" listing. Register for the HESI exam using your legal first and last name. Name must match photo identification and name submitted on the intent form.

Competitive Admissions Information: Admission to the nursing program is competitive. Applicants' scores are ranked on the HESI (A2) exam (weighted 60%) and cumulative GPA from the following 8 pre-requisite classes (weighted 40%): Math 1111 College Algebra (or math equivalent - Math Modeling, Statistics or Calculus), ENGL 1101, and BIOL 2113, 2114, 2117 all with their labs. Students with the highest combined score will be admitted. Although we strive to admit 30 students to the Clarkesville campus in fall and 20 students to the Blairsville campus in the spring, the number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. For additional information contact the Health Science Department at 706-754-7752 or email tscroggs@northgatech.edu.



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ASN ADMISSION CALCULATION INSTRUCTIONS

The ASN admission score is derived from a combination of Academic GPA* (40%) and HESI (60%) exam scores.

- The Academic GPA is taken from information in the NGTC BANNER database system.
- Academic GPA is calculated from these courses: Math 1111 (or Math Modeling, Statistics, Pre-Calculus or Calculus), English 1101, Biology 2113, Biology 2113L, Biology 2114, Biology 2114L, Biology 2117, and Biology 2117 L.
- Calculus is typically a 4-credit hour course but will be calculated as 3 credit hours for quality point purposes.
- Transcript information for students who have transferred coursework from other academic institutions is obtained from official records received in the Registrar's office. Questions concerning academic credit transferred should be directed to the Registrar (706-754-7768) for resolution.
- Advanced Placement (AP) course credits submitted for required core classes are not included in the
 calculated GPA for ASN admission. Example: Should a student receive AP credit for English (ENGL 1101), the
 remainder of core curriculum grades are used for GPA calculation (divided by 15 as opposed to 18 "total
 hours attempted"). Students with no AP scores have the option to take CLEP exams for ENGL 1101 and
 MATH 1111. Students with AP or CLEP scores may take courses at NGTC to earn a grade if desired (financial
 aid may not cover the courses).
- HESI exam score is calculated from the highest overall result in the areas of Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and English combined. The learner profile and critical thinking portions are not considered part of the test score.
 - HESI examination score will be retrieved directly from the testing company, Elsevier.
 - The highest overall score (from one sitting) will be used.
- In the rare event it becomes necessary to break a tie, the following criteria will be considered:

Currently employed in healthcare (requires certificate or	Examples: CNA, EMT, CLT, CRT, etc. (10 points for currently			
license)	employed, licensed applicants.)			
Advanced Degree	Completion of Advanced Degree:			
	Masters or above (10 points)			
	Bachelors (10 points)			
	Associates (5 points)			
Quality Points	Calculations for noncompetitive core courses:			
Grade x credit hours = points	(PSYC 1101, PSYC 2103, ENGL 1102 and one humanities/fine			
$A = 4 \qquad D = 0$	arts course such as ARTS 1101, ENGL 2130, HUMN 1101, or			
B=3 $F=0$	MUSC 1101)			
C = 2				



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	_	AKDOWN WO				POINTS
Weight 40% Grade Point Average of Core Curriculum Quality Points Grade x Credit Hours= Points A = 4 B = 3 C = 2 D = 0 F = 0 *A minimum of 3.0 Cumulative GPA must be achieved for required core courses.	Course ENGL1101 MATH1111 BIOL2113 BIOL2114 BIOL2114 BIOL2117 BIOL2117 Total Quality Poir TQP ÷ 18 (total GPA ÷ 4) * 100 Additional Course the competitive ac COLL 10 PSYC 21c ENGL 11	Grade Gr	Points pted) = GPA 4 = GPA Score These will not be increased will be use	ncluded in the G sed as an advisen		TQP GPA GPA Score
Weight 60% HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)	HESI Admission As * 0.6 = 60%		n			HESI Score
				GPA Total Score	+ HESI Total Score	Final Score