

Thank you for your interest in Nursing at the Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing at UC Irvine. This guide is intended to assist applicants in creating a complete application to our MS in Nursing Science with a Community and Population Health Nursing Concentration program (also known as the Master's Entry Program in Nursing or "MEPN" program). Applicants should also review the MEPN Admissions website in its entirety when preparing to apply:

<https://nursing.uci.edu/admissions/mepn-admissions/>

Important Admissions and Application Updates for Fall 2021

NEW 2021 - Please note that there have been several updates for this new application cycle. Please read the information below carefully for information about submitting an application in **Fall 2021** to join the cohort of the MEPN program starting in **Fall 2022**. **Important updates include:**

- The cohort starting in 2022 will start in the Fall 2022 quarter at UC Irvine.
 - Previously, the program started in June during the Summer Session. However, the revised version of our program no longer requires the first summer session course.
- Essay prompts have been revised and the word limit is now 500 words per essay.
 - Previously, the essay prompts allowed for up to 1200 words per essay. The prompts have now changed in content and word count. Please see the information below and on our website for up-to-date information.
- We strongly encourage you to have taken Human Anatomy lecture/lab, Human Physiology lecture/lab, and Microbiology lecture/lab within 5 years of applying to the program.
 - Next year (the Fall 2022 application to join the Fall 2023 cohort), we will require that the prerequisites listed above were taken within five years of applying. This year, it is still a strong recommendation, but not a requirement.
- The application deadline is now November 30th, 2021.
 - Previously, the application deadline was at the end of December. The new application deadline is earlier than it has been in previous years. Please read all submission deadlines carefully; no exceptions to our deadlines will be considered.

Please note that admission to our program is extremely competitive. Space is limited to a small cohort of students and we receive significantly more qualified applications than we are able to admit. While following this guide may be helpful, it does not guarantee admission to our program.

Minimum Admissions Requirements for the MEPN Program

In order to qualify for admission to the MEPN program, applicants must have:

- A non-nursing baccalaureate (Bachelor's degree) from a regionally accredited institution
 - Degree must be completed by December 31st preceding the program start date.
 - Unofficial transcripts uploaded in the application must have degree conferral date.
 - Degree standards must be equivalent to that of the University of California.
 - For Bachelor's degrees earned in countries outside of the United States, we require that applicants provide professional transcript evaluations by an independent educational evaluating service. Please see our FAQs at the end of this document for additional information.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in your Bachelor's degree
 - Additional prerequisites taken after degree conferral are not calculated in this GPA during our review.
- Completed all prerequisite courses by December 31st preceding the program start date.
 - Prerequisites must be completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher.
 - Prerequisite courses must be offered at the college or university level through an accredited institution and must be taken for college or university units/credit.
 - AP test scores are not accepted in place of prerequisite courses.
 - Applicants who are finishing prerequisites in the Fall 2021 term should submit transcripts with grades as "post-submission" documents in their Graduate Application after those grades are available.
 - Prerequisites include the following courses:
 - General Chemistry course OR a combined Chemistry course which includes a combination of inorganic (general), organic and biochemistry (must contain all 3)
 - Human Anatomy with lab (can be a single combined course or two separate courses)
 - Human Physiology with lab (can be a single combined course or two separate courses)
 - Microbiology with lab (can be a single combined course or two separate courses)
 - One Statistics course
 - One Intro to Psychology or Lifespan Development Psychology course
 - One Intro to Sociology or Cultural Anthropology course

The deadline to submit your UCI Graduate Application to our program is **November 30th, 2021**.

All of the components listed above are required for admission to the MEPN program. Our program is unable to accommodate exceptions to any of the deadlines listed above. Please review our website and this guide carefully for more information about these requirements.

We strongly encourage applicants to read through our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page for answers to questions that we commonly receive: <https://nursing.uci.edu/faq-items/mepn-faq/>

Due to the high volume of applications that our program receives, we are unable to make individual appointments with prospective applicants. If you have any additional questions after reading this guide, please contact our School of Nursing Graduate Student Affairs Office via email at gnsao@uci.edu.

Components of the MEPN Application

Students applying to the MEPN program submit their application through the Online Application for UCI Graduate Admissions (the current application can be found here: <https://apply.grad.uci.edu/apply/>). The application will become available on October 1st, 2021. A complete application includes and adheres to the components below that we will review in detail in subsequent sections. We recommend having all of these materials prepared in advance when submitting your application.

- A personal history statement (following the specific prompts and guidelines from the School of Nursing)
- A statement of purpose (following the specific prompts and guidelines from the School of Nursing)
- Three letters of recommendation submitted on your behalf
- A current resume
- A completed Prerequisite Checklist (using the form from the UCI School of Nursing website only)
- Unofficial transcripts from all universities/institutions
 - Transcripts must include Bachelor’s degree GPA and degree conferral date
- TOEFL or IELTS English test scores (if needed)

Where to Upload Materials in the Online Application

The Online Application for UCI Graduate Admissions (<https://apply.grad.uci.edu/apply/>) is used by most graduate programs at UC Irvine, not just Nursing Science programs. The information below will help you which sections of the Online Application you will upload your required materials:

MEPN Application Requirement	Where to Upload on Online Application
A personal history statement (following the specific prompts and guidelines from the School of Nursing)	“Essays” Section
A statement of purpose (following the specific prompts and guidelines from the School of Nursing)	“Essays” Section
Three letters of recommendation submitted on your behalf	“Letters of Recommendation” Section
A current resume	“Additional Information” Section, under <i>Curriculum Vitae</i>
A completed Prerequisite Checklist (using the form from the UCI School of Nursing website <u>only</u>)	“Nursing Science - Community and Population Health Concentration Program” Section
Unofficial transcripts from all universities/institutions	“Transcript Upload” Section
TOEFL or IELTS English test scores (if needed)	“Test Scores” Section (in addition to sending official test scores to UCI)

Essays: Personal History Statement & Statement of Purpose

The Online Application for UCI Graduation Admissions will prompt applicants to upload responses for two essay sections: the Personal History Statement and the Statement of Purpose. While the Online Application includes examples of prompts, MEPN applicants should respond to each section according to the instructions below.

Personal History Statement

500 word maximum; applicants should respond to the prompt listed below in their response:

- Describe how your personal history has provided you with unique perspectives that will contribute to the richness of the MEPN program?
 - Examples that you may choose to address include but are not limited to those relevant to your education, residency and citizenship, first-generation college status, cultural, economic, or other social identities.

Statement of Purpose

500 word maximum; applicants should respond to the prompt listed below in their response:

- The MEPN program has a concentration in Community and Population Health. How have your experiences and education to this point prepared you to enter the nursing profession with focus on addressing the barriers to healthcare among underserved populations? How do these experiences influence your future career goals?

Letters of Recommendation

Applicants must include three letters of recommendation in their application. Any additional letters beyond the first three received will not be reviewed or considered in your application.

All letters must be received by the application deadline (November 30th, 2021); we are unable to accept incomplete applications with any late letters of recommendation. We strongly recommend that applicants contact their recommenders as soon as possible and plan to submit letters as early as possible to avoid any late submissions.

Letters of recommendation are intended to help application reviewers better understand your professional and academic readiness for the MEPN program. Letters must be from a combination of professional and academic recommenders. We recommend that at least one letter should be from a recent clinical employer or supervisor, at least one letter should be from a college professor or instructor, and the third letter can be from either a professional or an academic recommender. If you do not have a clinical employer/supervisor or professor/instructor who is able to write you a letter of recommendation, choose someone who can best speak to your academic and professional readiness.

Letters of Recommendation are collected through the Online Application. Applicants will provide email contact information for their recommenders in the application. For more information about the Letter of Recommendation process in the Online Application, please refer here: <https://grad.uci.edu/admissions/applying-to-uci/letters-of-recommendation.php>

If students have any questions about letters of recommendation in their application, they should contact the Graduate Admission team at gradapplicant@uci.edu. The School of Nursing Student Affairs Office cannot assist with technical issues related to the letter of recommendation system in the Online Application.

Current Resume

Applicants should include a current resume in their application that is clear, easy-to-read, and informative. We recommend that you include:

- Academic honors, recognition, published research, and/or scholarships
- Volunteer and work activities, including both healthcare-related and non-healthcare-related activities
- Leadership positions
- Bilingual abilities (Please clearly state whether or not you are fluent. Fluency in this case would mean that you would be qualified and comfortable speaking to and assisting patients in this language.)

While the list above covers general items that you should include on your resume, it is not exhaustive and you may include additional details and experiences that you feel are relevant to your application. There is no page limit for the resume requirement.

We strongly recommend that you utilize career services and resources available through your universities and colleges to assist you in creating a professional, comprehensive resume.

Prerequisite Checklist

Applicants are required to fill out a “Prerequisite Checklist” (available at <https://nursing.uci.edu/admissions/mepn-admissions/>) and upload it in their application. Applicants may only use the Prerequisite Checklist form on the website linked above. Any other versions of this form (e.g. lists of courses in a Word document) will not be accepted.

All prerequisites must be completed with a letter grade of C or higher by December 31st preceding the program start date. We are unable to make any exceptions to this deadline.

For applicants applying in Fall 2021 (to join the Fall 2022 cohort), prerequisites must be completed by December 31st, 2021. Checklists with courses planned for the Winter 2021 and/or Spring 2021 terms will not be accepted.

NOTE: If you are finishing a prerequisite course in the Fall 2021 term, please ensure that you submit your application by the deadline (November 30th, 2021) and submit final grades as “post-submission” documents in your UC Irvine Graduate Application as soon as those grades are available.

The following is a list of required prerequisites and a list of example courses at UC Irvine that would satisfy those requirements. UC Irvine courses listed below are examples only.

Prerequisite	Course Title at UC Irvine
General Chemistry OR Combined Chemistry <i>("combined" courses include general/inorganic chemistry, biochemistry, and organic chemistry)</i>	General Chemistry: Chemistry 1A, Chemistry 1B, and Chemistry 1C
Microbiology (Lecture)	Biological Sciences M122
Microbiology (Lab)	Biological Sciences M118L
Human Physiology (Lecture)	Biological Sciences E109
Human Physiology (Lab)	Biological Sciences E112L
Human Anatomy (Lecture)	Biological Sciences D170*
Human Anatomy (Lab)	Biological Sciences D170*
Statistics	Statistics 7 or 8
Intro to Psychology OR Lifespan Development Psychology	Intro to Psychology: Psychology 7A or 9A Lifespan Developmental Psychology: Psychology 120D
Intro to Sociology OR Intro to Cultural Anthropology	Intro to Sociology: Sociology 1 Intro to Cultural Anthropology: Anthropology 2A

*At UC Irvine, Human Anatomy lecture and lab are included in a single course, Biological Sciences D170

You may use the prerequisite checklist course examples from UC Irvine to help find equivalent courses at community colleges through assist.org or by comparing course descriptions using UC Irvine’s General Catalogue (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/allcourses/>).

It is critical that applicants submit a clear, complete Prerequisite Checklist in their application. This is a sample of how the Prerequisite Checklist should be filled out:

Prerequisite Required <i>Example courses offered at UC Irvine</i>	College/University Where Fulfilled	Course Department/ Number and Course Title	Quarter Units or Semester Units	Semester/Quarter Term and Year Completed	Letter Grade
Intro to Psych OR Lifespan Development Psych <i>PSYCH 7A OR 9A PSCI 9 OR 11A</i>	Irvine Valley College	PSYC 1 Introduction to Psychology	3.0 Semester Units	Fall 2018	B+

NOTE: Some schools combine the lecture and lab components of Microbiology, Human Physiology, and/or Human Anatomy. If this is the case for your prerequisite(s), please fill out course information in the “lecture” row and write “see above” in the “lab” row. As a reminder, we do not require a lab for the Chemistry requirement.

Unofficial Transcripts

Applicants must upload unofficial copies of transcripts from all college and universities attended in their application. Applicants do not need to submit official transcripts to UCI when they submit their application. Admitted students who accept their offers of admission will be prompted to submit their official transcripts at a later date.

Applicants must include their transcripts from their Bachelor's Degree in their application. The Bachelor's Degree transcripts should clearly list final GPA and the degree conferral date.

Any applicants who are finishing prerequisites and/or their Bachelor's Degree in the Fall 2021 term must still submit their application by the November 30th, 2021 deadline. Once final grades and transcripts reflecting the completed degree are available, they must be uploaded to the application as "post-submission" documents.

Students who received their Bachelor's Degree outside of the United States should upload a copy of evaluations and translations in their application. All graduate programs at the School of Nursing require professional transcript evaluations by an independent educational evaluating service from any member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services or the Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. Applicants should note that foreign transcript evaluation services may take several weeks to process and should plan accordingly. The report uploaded to the application must include a degree-equivalent evaluation and course-by-course equivalent evaluation for any prerequisites.

The School of Nursing and the University of California do not endorse or have a formal partnership with any specific transcript evaluation agencies. However, some applicants have used the following services:

- World Education Services, Inc. (<http://www.wes.org/>)
- International Education Research Foundation (<http://www.ierf.org/>)

English Language Proficiency

International students applying to the MEPN program should consult the UCI Graduate Admissions page on English Language proficiency requirements before applying to determine if a TOEFL or IELTS test score is required for admission: <https://grad.uci.edu/admissions/applying-to-uci/english-proficiency.php>

The School of Nursing does not waive TOEFL or IELTS English test scores for applicants.

Application Submission

Applicants must pay an application fee in order to successfully submit their application. More information about the fee and potential fee waivers for eligible students can be found here: <https://grad.uci.edu/admissions/applying-to-uci/application-fee-information.php>

The School of Nursing does not collect and does not process graduate application fees. The School of Nursing does not manage the application fee waiver process. All questions about application submission fees should be directed to UCI Graduate Division via their admissions website.

Fall 2021 Application Deadline and Admissions Decisions

The MEPN application deadline for students applying to join the Fall 2022 cohort is November 30th, 2021. Any applications submitted after this deadline will not be accepted nor will they be reviewed. A complete application submission includes all of the components listed in this guide, including all three letters of recommendation and successful payment of the application fee.

The School of Nursing will begin notifying applicants of admissions decisions in late Winter or early Spring 2022 via email. Applicants should monitor the email address that they provide on their Online Application carefully and check their UC Irvine Graduate Application portals for updates. If the Graduate Student Affairs Office needs additional clarification regarding your application, you will be contacted via email. The Graduate Student Affairs Office cannot provide individual application updates to those waiting to receive their admissions decisions and does not provide a date at which all decisions will be released.

Understanding MEPN Program Requirements & Costs

Students applying to the MEPN program at UC Irvine are required to enroll in two years of coursework. This includes Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters for two years. The program no longer requires summer session coursework as of Fall 2022.

Applicants can find current program tuition and fees for the MEPN Program on the UCI Registrar's website (refer to current year under the "Charts" section and then find "Master of Science in Nursing" on the following page):

<https://www.reg.uci.edu/fees/>

Additional Nursing Student Costs

There are certain costs, such as the cost to purchase scrubs, associated with Nursing School beyond posted tuition and fees. Applicants can learn more about these costs here: https://nursing.uci.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Nursing-Science-Supplemental-Costs_MEPN_SP20.pdf

UC Irvine Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

UC Irvine's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships can help provide applicants with information about potential sources of funding. Applicants can find important information for entering students here:

<https://www.ofas.uci.edu/content/GraduateEntering.aspx>

The School of Nursing does not provide MEPN students with the opportunity to TA in the Nursing Science department. However, students may find opportunities independently with other departments on campus at UC Irvine. The School of Nursing does not coordinate those opportunities and students are responsible for seeking out those positions.

UC Irvine's Graduate Division also offers resources for graduate students to learn about funding opportunities:

<https://grad.uci.edu/funding/index.php>