Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing

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 Information for Fall 2023

Please read the information below carefully before continuing through the rest of this guide:

- The information in this guide is specifically relevant to the **Fall 2023** application cycle for the MEPN program. Applicants who submit an application in the Fall 2023 cycle are applying to join the MEPN Cohort starting coursework in Fall 2024.
  - If you plan to apply in future years, please continue to monitor our website for updated information.
- There is a maximum word count of <u>1000 words for the Statement of Purpose essay prompt for the MEPN application.</u>
  - We understand that UC Irvine's Graduate Application allows for up to 1200 words; however, please follow the guidelines on our website and in this guide to ensure that your essay response is <u>1000 words or less AND that you only respond to the Statement of Purpose essay prompt in this guide. Please **do not** submit a response in the Personal History Statement essay portion of the application.</u>
- You are required to take Human Anatomy lecture/lab, Human Physiology lecture/lab, and Microbiology lecture/lab within 5 years of applying to the program.
  - For the Fall 2023 application cycle, this means coursework completed in the Fall 2018 term (and later) is acceptable. Courses completed in Summer 2018 (and before) are not acceptable.
- The priority application deadline is <u>November 30th, 2023.</u> There is only one application deadline in the Fall 2023 application cycle.
  - All application materials, including Letters of Recommendation, are due by the application deadline. Please read all submission deadlines carefully; no exceptions to our deadlines will be considered.
  - If you are finishing prerequisites in Fall 2023 term or completing our bachelor's degree in the Fall 2023 term, you must submit your application by the November 30th, 2023 deadline **and** submit your final transcripts from the Fall 2023 term as "Post-Submission" documents in your UC Irvine Graduate Application portal as soon as they become available.

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 <u>does not guarantee admission to our program</u>.

Updated July 2023

UCI Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing

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.
- 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.
  - Priority deadline applicants who are finishing prerequisites in the Fall 2023 term should submit transcripts with grades as "post-submission" documents in their UC Irvine 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, 2023.**

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 2nd, 2023. 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 statement of purpose (following the specific prompts and guidelines from the School of Nursing)
  - NOTE: The MEPN application does not require a personal history essay response. Please do not submit a personal history essay response as it will not be reviewed or considered for admission.
- 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
  - If you received your degree outside of the United States, you must upload a professional evaluation/translation in addition to copies of unofficial transcripts.
- 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 for the MEPN:

MEPN Application Requirement	Where to Upload on Online Application
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 *Curriculum Vitae*
A completed Prerequisite Checklist (using the form from the UCI School of Nursing website only)	"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)
Final transcripts for courses/degrees completed in December 2023 (if any)	"Post-Submission Document" section of the UCI Graduate Application Portal (available after paying for and submitting the application by the November 30th deadline)

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Essay: Statement of Purpose

The Online Application for UCI Graduation Admissions will prompt applicants to upload a response for the Statement of Purpose essay section. MEPN applicants should respond according to the instructions below:

> **Statement of Purpose**
> In the UCI Graduate Application "Statement of Purpose" section, please respond to the following prompt in <u>1000 words or less:</u>
>
> **The MEPN program has a concentration in Community and Population Health. Please describe how your experiences and education have:**
> - **Provided you with unique perspectives that will contribute to the richness of the MEPN program?**
> - **Prepared you to enter the nursing profession with focus on addressing the barriers to healthcare among underserved populations?**
> - **Influenced your future career goals?**
>
> When reflecting on your previous experiences, examples that you may choose to address include, but are not limited to, those relevant to your:
> - o Education
> - o Residency and citizenship
> - o First-generation college status
> - o Cultural, economic, or other social identities

Letters of Recommendation

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

<u>All letters of recommendation must be received by the application deadline);</u> 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.** <u>The School of Nursing Student Affairs Office cannot assist with technical issues related to the letter of recommendation system in the Online Application.</u>

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Current Resume

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

Please use the guide below in formatting your resume to upload in the "CV" section of the UCI Graduate Application. Note that applicants do not need to have information/experience in every category listed.

The list below is a guide and recommendation for content only; 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.

Category	Items to include	
Education	Bachelor's Degree(s)	Please include: Name of the University, Name and Type of Degree Earned, and Date of Graduation
	Graduate Degree or Post-Baccalaureate Program(s)	**Did you complete Graduate degree or post-Baccalaureate program after your Bachelor's Degree?** If so, please include: Name of the University, Name and Type of Degree Earned or Program Completed, and Date of Graduation/Completion
Honors College or Program	**Did you complete an Honors/Honors College program during your undergraduate experience?** *Note: This is separate from being on the Dean's List or Latin Honors distinction.* If so, please include the name of the program, years of participation, and any other details you feel may be relevant.	
Scholarships	**Have you been awarded any scholarships during your college or university studies?** If so, include: Title of Scholarship, Date(s) Awarded, and Details/Description of Scholarship.	
Scholarly Publications	**Have you had any academic work and/or research published in scholarly journals or publications?** If so, provide additional information and citation(s).	
Club and Organization Involvement	**Did you or do you participate in any social/volunteer organizations during your undergraduate experience?** If so, please provide details about the organization, your role in the organization, and dates of participation.	

Language Fluency	**Are you fluent in a language other than English?** If so, describe your level of fluency in language(s) other than English. Please include detail about your comfort level in reading, writing, and speaking. Address how you learned the language, how often you use the language, and how comfortable you may be communicating with patients in the language.
Certifications and Licenses	**Have you earned any certifications or licenses?** If so, please include information about the type of Certification or License, the License Number (if applicable), Month and Year Earned, and Expiration (if applicable).
Work/Volunteer Experience	Please separate **paid** work/internships and **unpaid** volunteer positions/internships into two separate sections of your resume. For each role, please include: • Title, Company/Organization, Location • A short description of your job duties (2-3 bullet points preferred) • Dates (include months and years of start and end) • Was this a paid experience or a volunteer experience?

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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. This deadline is the same for both the priority and second round admissions deadlines. We are unable to make any exceptions to this deadline.

For applicants applying in Fall 2023 cycle (to join the Fall 2024 cohort), prerequisites must be completed by December 31st, 2023. Checklists with courses planned for the Winter 2024 and/or Spring 2024 terms will not be accepted.

If you are finishing a prerequisite course in the Fall 2023 term, please ensure that you submit your application by the deadline (November 30th, 2023) 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** *("combined" courses include general/inorganic chemistry, biochemistry, and organic chemistry)*	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/**). Applicants who cannot determine if a prerequisite is acceptable after comparing course descriptions can email **gnsao@hs.uci.edu** with all three of the following: (1) the MEPN prerequisite requirement, (2) the course description for the course in question, and (3) a detailed syllabus for the course in question. Note that due

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to a high volume of emails and inquiries that our office receives, applicants seeking a syllabus review may expect a delayed response. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

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 *Example courses offered at UC Irvine*	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 *PSYCH 7A OR 9A* *PSCI 9 OR 11A*	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 2022 term must still submit their application by the November 30th, 2023 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/**

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/application-fee-fee-waivers/**

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.

Please note that if you are planning to apply for an Application Fee Waiver, you must submit your waiver request to UC Irvine's Graduate Division **at least** 5 days in advance of our application deadline. Applications that are not submitted by the deadline due to nonpayment or late submissions of Application Fee Waivers will not be accepted.

Fall 2023 Application Cycle Deadline and Admissions Decisions

The MEPN application deadline for students applying to join the Fall 2024 cohort is November 30th, 2023. Any applications submitted after the 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 priority deadline applicants of admissions decisions in Spring 2024 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.

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**

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