

ASSESSMENT TESTING FOR ARC NURSING PROGRAM ENROLLMENT IMPLEMENTATION BEGINS FALL 2008

The Governor has signed legislation that requires students who attend California Community College Nursing Programs to take assessment/readiness tests before or shortly after entering a nursing program. Only California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO)-approved assessment tests may be used by registered nursing programs. The assessment tests will be used to identify areas of academic weakness that require remediation for successful performance in the program. The tests generally include reading, math, science, and English. The passing standard and parameters for implementation of assessment testing have been developed by the CCCCCO. Each community college is working on specific processes to implement assessment testing utilizing the CCCCCO guidelines.

American River College (ARC) will be using the "Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)" developed by Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI). You may find out more information about ATI and the TEAS test by viewing their website at www.atitesting.com. *American River College will be using the following process beginning with the class entering Fall 2008.*

NEW ENROLLMENT CRITERIA BEGINNING FALL 2008

1. All applicants will be screened for program eligibility.
2. The class plus alternates will be selected utilizing computerized random selection.
3. Selected students and alternates will be assigned a mandatory TEAS test date. This is a proctored exam. **Note: ARC will only provide TEAS testing for students and alternates selected for the program.**
4. All selected and alternate students will complete the TEAS test. A composite score (average of the four test elements) of 67 will be required for program enrollment. Note: This score is required for California Community College Nursing Programs only. Private and California State Universities may have different testing requirements and passing scores.
5. Students who have already completed TEAS testing at the passing rate do not need to retake the test. There is no recency requirement allowed by the CCCCCO for assessment testing. However, these students will be required to go onto the ATI website and electronically transfer their TEAS scores to ARC. Paper copies of test results will not be accepted. Please visit the ATI website for more information on transferring scores to ARC.
6. The TEAS test will be provided at no cost to all ARC selected students and alternates. Additionally, a TEAS study guide will be provided free of charge in advance of the testing date.
7. Only selected students with an overall composite score of 67 will enroll in the nursing program. Alternates who achieve the 67 composite score will remain on the alternate list. Should program spaces become available, alternates will be offered program enrollment. Alternates who are not enrolled are guaranteed enrollment in the next available nursing semester.
8. Students who meet the 67 composite score, but fall below norms for individual testing components will meet with a Nurse Retention Specialist. Students will enroll in the program, but may be required to concurrently enroll in additional academic skills strengthening course work. Specific suggestions for course work, support services, etc., will be provided by the Nurse Retention Specialist.
9. Selected students and alternates who do not meet the 67 composite score will:
 - a. Confer with a Nurse Retention Specialist to review test results. After analysis, a specific and individualized remediation plan will be developed.
 - b. Have one year to complete the remediation plan.
 - c. Retake the TEAS test when the remediation plan is completed. A minimum composite score of 67 will be required.
 - d. Be placed on the ARC Nursing Program alternate list upon completion of the remediation plan and successful retaking of the TEAS test. Timing of program entry is dependent upon when the remediation plan is completed with satisfactory results. Students will be notified of the expected semester of program entry when placed on the alternate list.
 - e. Students who do not complete the remediation requirements within the one-year time frame and achieve the 67 composite score will forfeit their nursing program space and will be required to restart the application process as a "qualified re-applying" student.