

**WNC Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nurses (WNC RIBN)
Dual Admission and Continuation Criteria
A-B Technical Community College and Western Carolina University**

Thank you for your interest in WNC RIBN. Students admitted to WNC RIBN must meet dual admission requirements set forth collaboratively by A-B Tech **and** WCU. Please read this information thoroughly. Admission to WNC RIBN is highly competitive.

****Please note that A-B Tech and WCU also have traditional two year and four year nursing education tracks. Each of those options has a separate admissions process from the WNC RIBN dual admission nursing option. If you wish to apply for either of those traditional tracks, you must complete the individual admissions process for the A-B Tech or WCU track and meet the admissions criteria for that specific nursing track.****

**Please see below for requirements for Dual Admission to WNC RIBN:
APPLICATION CRITERIA FOR FALL 2011**

THE APPLICATION PERIOD

A-B Tech and WCU are collaborating on a dual admission process. WNC RIBN will begin accepting applications **October 1, 2010** for the RIBN class that begins fall semester 2011. The deadline to apply for fall 2011 admission is **December 22, 2010**.

We want to ensure you have the best possible chance of being selected by completing all processes and submitting all necessary application documents completely, correctly and by the deadline. Should you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact the WNC RIBN Advisor at (828) 254-1921 ext 7534.

NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENCY

Preference is given to North Carolina residents. If you are not a NC resident you will only be considered in the event that vacancies occur after June 1, 2011. Please be advised that this rarely occurs. Applicants who (1) have lived outside NC during all of the 12 months immediately preceding the start of the fall semester 2011 or (2) are claimed as a dependent by a parent/guardian who is not a NC resident are generally not considered to be residents. In order to ensure that you meet the residency requirements and are eligible to apply, you must fill out the *Application for a Legal Resident of NC* in the A-B Tech Admissions Office by the December 22, 2010 deadline.

WNC RIBN is not open to applicants who are not U.S. citizens unless the applicant is: (1) a permanent resident alien with an alien registration receipt card ("green card") or (2) a nonimmigrant alien with an employment authorization card and a visa type which permits establishment of NC residency. Questions regarding this should be directed to the A-B Tech International Student Advisor (828) 254-1921, ext. 441.

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES REQUIRED

To be considered for admission, you must have earned a high school diploma or its equivalent and satisfy the following UNC minimum course requirements:

- Four units of English
- Two units of social studies (one in U.S. history)
- Four units of mathematics (algebra I, algebra II, geometry, and some advanced unit of mathematics beyond algebra II)
- Three units of science (life science, physical science, and a laboratory course; biology preferred and **chemistry required**)
- Two units of a language other than English

PRE ADMISSION TEST SCORES

You must submit your SAT scores to A-B Tech (must include the three components of critical reading, math and writing). No scores taken prior to March 2005 will be allowed. **The SAT score in critical reading must meet the minimum score requirement of 500 or higher to be considered for admission to WNC RIBN.**

- Scores less than 500 in the SAT writing and math sections may be submitted for inclusion in the selection process. However, since this a competitive admissions program, be aware that the higher your scores, the more likely you are to be admitted. You may elect to retake the SAT.
- If you decide to submit SAT scores less than 500 in the SAT writing and/or math sections, you will need to take the ACCUPLACER for placement into required college math and English courses.
- The SAT may be repeated; however, only the first two scores achieved after graduation from high-school (post-secondary education) will be considered. The higher of the two scores is accepted.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

- To be eligible to apply for admission to WNC RIBN directly from high school OR before completion of at least 30 hours of college credit, a student must have an **unweighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale** in high school courses.
- To be eligible to apply for admission to WNC RIBN after completion of at least 30 hours of college credit, a student must have a **cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale** in all college courses (includes courses taken at A-B-Tech).

HOW TO APPLY (5 Steps)

1. Complete a free, online application to A-B Tech. Please visit www.abtech.edu (Click on Students, Admission) for an online application to A-B Tech and transcript request form. Please be aware, this is **not** an application to WNC RIBN or any other allied health program.
2. Submit your **official** high school transcript, all official college transcripts and official SAT scores to the Admissions Office at A-B Tech by **November 15, 2010**.
3. Take the Test of Essential Academic Skills exam (TEAS) published by Assessment Technologies Institute at A-B Tech by **December 22, 2010**.

TEAS® Registration and Administration Guidelines

TEST OF ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC SKILLS (TEAS®)

The TEAS® is an assessment product of Academic Testing, Inc. (ATI). WNC RIBN uses applicant performances on the TEAS®, in addition to SAT scores and GPA, to rank applicants into the program. The student will be responsible for all costs associated with the TEAS® test and any costs associated with TEAS® study guides or TEAS® practice tests. There is no set minimum score for the TEAS®. Your direct scores on the test will be entered into the RIBN competitive points system.

TEAS® Categories	Description/Test Items/Time
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions (40 items, 50 minutes)
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions, decimals, algebraic equations, percentages, and ratio/proportion (45 items, 56 minutes)
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, basic physical principles, and general science (30 items, 38 minutes)
English and Language Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, contextual words, and spelling (55 items, 65 minutes)

<http://www.atitesting.com/global/students/teas.asp>

REGISTRATION FOR TEAS® ADMINISTRATION

The TEAS® will be administered on A-B Tech's Asheville campus for fall 2011 admission into all competitive allied health programs. **If you meet all of the dual admission requirements for WNC RIBN** by November 15, 2010, you will be given written permission by the WNC RIBN Advisor to

schedule a time to take the TEAS exam. You must schedule and take the TEAS exam by **December 22, 2010** to be considered an applicant to WNC RIBN for fall 2011 admission.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

To be eligible for fall 2011 admission, ALL competitive allied health program applicants will be required to take the **TEAS Version 5 (V) exam** (Test of Essential Academic Skills) in addition to meeting the minimum required SAT scores or their equivalent on the Accuplacer test as previously required. The TEAS exam costs \$35 and will be paid for by the student at the time of online registration on the ATI website. The TEAS exam composite (total adjusted score) score will be used to rank applicants within their selected competitive allied health program. **Only one (1) set of TEAS Version 5 (V) scores will be accepted during each application period.** TEAS test scores from older/other versions of the TEAS exam will not be accepted.

DAY OF THE EXAM

- You must arrive on time at the appropriate location. Late arrivals will not be admitted.
 - Photo ID is required for admission to the exam. Driver's license is preferred.
 - Use of calculators or other devices is not permitted. All personal items must be placed on the floor. Proctors may require that you place personal items in a designated area in the exam room.
 - You will need your *username* and *password* to log in on the website in order to start your exam.
4. After you take the TEAS exam, you **must** make an appointment with the WNC RIBN Advisor to complete your WNC RIBN application. Official scores must be submitted to the A-B Tech Admissions office if the TEAS were taken elsewhere by **December 22, 2010**.
- Applicants with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services/Counselor at (828) 254-1921, ext. 141, at least three weeks prior to testing to receive special accommodations for the TEAS exam.
5. Applicants will be mailed a copy of their program application competitive points summary to their address of record in February 2011.

HOW THE POINT SYSTEM WORKS

Admission to the program is highly competitive. After meeting all general and WNC RIBN program admission requirements for WCU and A-B Tech, all WNC RIBN applicants will be ranked numerically based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA, minimum 3.0 required, as reported by the respective institution(s), (weighted as 25% of the score)
- SAT critical reading – minimum 500 score required (weighted as 25% of the score)
- TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) Exam (weighted as 50% of the score)

All documentation, transcripts and tests scores for eligibility and points must be submitted to the A-B Tech Admissions Office by the December 22, 2010 deadline. Students wishing to apply to WNC RIBN do not need to apply separately to WCU as part of the WNC RIBN application process. If a student is accepted into WNC RIBN and intends to enroll in the fall 2011 class, A-B Tech will send WCU the student's application materials, and the student must then pay the \$45 application fee to WCU.

STUDENT PREPARATION AND TESTING RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Websites available:

<http://sat.collegeboard.com/home>
www.onlinecollegeprep.com
www.mymathtest.com
www.purplemath.com
www.atitesting.com/global/students/teas.aspx
www.testprepreview.com/teas_practice.html

WNC RIBN CURRICULUM CONTINUATION CRITERIA for students accepted into and enrolled in WNC RIBN:

- Minimum Grade of C in all courses
- **NA I REQUIREMENT**

All RIBN nursing students must, **by July 1, prior to starting year 2** nursing courses:

1. Provide documentation of successful completion of a NC approved Certified Nurse Aide I Program which includes theory, lab-B, and clinical components*. (A copy of a college transcript or a notarized course completion certificate will be acceptable documentation) ***Challenging the Nurse Aide I examination will not meet this requirement*, and**
2. Hold a documented, current, unrestricted credential as a Nurse Aide I (NAI) from the North Carolina Nurse Aide Registry <https://www.ncnar.org/index1.jsp> and the Division of Health Service Regulation. (A copy of current listing on the NC DHSR Nurse Aide Registry Website will be acceptable documentation.)

Records are kept for only one year if the applicant has never attended curriculum classes at A-B Tech. All records, except the A-B Tech transcript, are destroyed if the student has not attended in the past five years. If you are not selected for the WNC RIBN class beginning fall semester 2011 and wish to apply for the fall 2012 class, you must re-apply and re-compete.
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WNC RIBN STUDENT INFORMATION BEGINNING YEAR 2

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

For the fall of 2011, criminal background checks and drug screenings may be required by certain clinical sites for students entering the A-B Tech competitive allied health programs. These screenings will be conducted at the student's expense by a professional and independent vendor. Failure to achieve acceptable standards for these screenings will result in the denial of clinical privileges. Successful completion of clinical is required for program completion. **For all WNC RIBN students**, criminal background checks will be required by WCU prior to entering Year 4 baccalaureate nursing courses in the RIBN curriculum.

Applicants should be aware that as of January 1, 2002, the North Carolina State Board of Nursing requires criminal background checks including fingerprints for all applicants for initial licensure and may deny licensure to individuals convicted of a misdemeanor or felony. The NC Board of Nursing does not become involved in reviewing the applicant's conviction record until such time as application is made to take the national examination. The question asked on this application is whether or not the applicant has ever been convicted of a misdemeanor/felony. If the response is yes, a certified copy of the criminal record and a detailed written explanation must be submitted. Review of the record is made by the Board staff in accordance with guidelines established by the Board. The applicant may take the exam as scheduled; however, the license may or may not be issued upon passing the exam.

Applicants for A-B Tech competitive allied health programs must demonstrate the ability to meet certain technical standards critical to the successful completion of the program. These standards include skills and abilities essential for such things as operation of equipment; evaluation and manipulation of patients; evaluation of microscopic components and color reactions; and communication with patients, families and other medical personnel. For an explanation of specific physical and cognitive requirements for WNC RIBN, refer to the "Program Recommendations for ADA Technical Standards" notebook, which is available in the A-B Technical Community College Admissions Office or on the A-B Tech web page. For further clarification, contact the Nursing Department Chair at (828) 254-1921, extension 262.

Students accepted into the WNC RIBN nursing option will be required to obtain CPR credential/certification from the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association prior to Year 2 in the curriculum. This CPR for the healthcare provider/professional rescuer course must include hands on skill demonstration of one and two rescuer adult, child and infant CPR and use of an AED.

All documents that you submit with your application for WNC RIBN must be true, correct and complete. Falsification of documentation may result in denial of admission or dismissal after admission. **Admission criteria are subject to change from year to year.**

Allied Health students will be required to complete clinical rotations which may require them to travel more than one hour from campus.

COMPETITIVE ALLIED HEALTH READMISSION POLICY

The following readmission policy applies to students who receive an unsuccessful grade in a competitive allied health program, or who voluntarily withdraw from such a program.

Unsuccessful grades are defined as "D", "F", or "U".

1. If you receive an unsuccessful grade in a competitive allied health program, you may not proceed to any subsequent course, which has the course in question as a prerequisite. You must repeat the course in question before proceeding to the next higher course in the program.
2. Most allied health courses are offered only once annually.
3. Since a new class of students is admitted to each program annually and because of the competitive nature of the programs in question, it will be necessary for the students who have received an unsuccessful grade in a major course during their first semester to reapply for readmission to the program for the following fall.
4. Readmission of students who have progressed beyond the first semester, but who have been unsuccessful in a subsequent semester is dependent upon space availability in the class, demonstration of proficiency in a variety of clinical procedures, and other issues pertinent to reentering students. You will be required to meet with the Department Chairperson for specific readmission guidelines.

IMPORTANT FOR PLANNING TIME AND TRAVEL

Please Note: The class and clinical schedules for the nursing programs are rigorous. Specifically: Classes and labs will meet as early as 8 a.m. or end as late as 9 p.m. while clinicals may meet as early as 6:30 a.m. or end as late as 11 p.m. All students will usually meet together as a group for class, but there will be different sections offered for labs and clinical rotations. These sections will include both day, evening & weekend hours, Monday through Sunday. For example, two students would meet together for class, but each student may have a different lab time; one attending in the morning while the other attends during the afternoon or evening hours. Both students might be assigned to clinicals on the same day of the week, yet have different arrival and departure times. Students can choose which section best meets their needs during the advising session with nursing faculty prior to registration for the upcoming semester. There will be a variety of clinical rotation schedules as is necessary to complete the required number of clinical hours each semester. Examples of some clinical hours are: 12 hour shifts, 6:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.; 8 or 9 hour shifts, 6:30 a.m. – 3 or 4 p.m., 1:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.; and some partial shifts as 6:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; 3 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Occasionally, students will be assigned to a "split shift", as 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. And then return to same site at 5 p.m. leaving at 9 p.m. The availability of any one day or time varies with each semester and at each agency. Clinical rotations may be outside of Buncombe County based on the type of experience needed for the particular nursing course and the availability of the clinical sites. Students are expected to have reliable personal transportation. Mandatory clinical agency orientation and precepted clinical experiences may occur during unscheduled class/lab/clinical times. Precepted experiences are planned for some nursing courses, especially those in Years 3 and 4. When participating in a precepted clinical experience, the student will follow the same shift schedule as their assigned RN preceptor.