

TEAS EXAM

The **TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skill) Exam** is a 4-part test consisting of Reading, Math, Science, and English and Language Usage. It is a timed test on the computer and is administered by the ATI Testing.com. For Texas Health School, the minimum accepted scores for the TEAS are: Overall - 58%, Reading - 64%, and Math - 60%. Though the Science and English and Language Usage are non-graded, they do play a part in achieving the 58% Overall score and will need to be taken.

To prepare for the **TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skill) Exam**, create an account on www.atitesting.com. Become familiar with the website and learn all you can about the exam – the number of questions, how much time for each section, etc. Find out more about the study guides available. Lots of helpful information to help you successfully pass the exam. Another good resource is YouTube which has many videos on the TEAS Exam.

PURCHASE A STUDY GUIDE FOR THE TEAS EXAM. Shop reputable websites like Amazon for different price ranges for the book/study guide, and you may find a used book at a more affordable price. Once you have studied, take the pre-tests in the back of the Study Guide.

Register for TEAS exam online at www.atitesting.com. Make sure you write down your User ID and password! (You'll need it to log in to take your exam). Select a test date and advise your Admissions Representative of date you test. Payment is made online when you register for your test.

If you select Texas Health School as your test site, make sure you bring your www.atitesting.com User ID#/Password. You will not be able to take the test if you arrive late. Do not bring in a cell phone or your study guide to the exam. THS provides scratch paper and a calculator to test takers.

After you have passed the test call your Admissions Representative and set an appointment to meet with Financial Aid.

We wish you success!

TEXAS HEALTH SCHOOL Admissions Team



**TEXAS
HEALTH SCHOOL**
Caring for Others

Vocational Nursing Program

Information

And

Application Instructions

Applicant Name: _____

Application Deadline: January 25, 2021

Orientation Date: February 1, 2021

Class Start Date: February 2, 2021

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in Texas Health School's Vocational Nursing Program. The Vocational Nursing Program at Texas Health School is a one year certificate program, which offers classroom, skill laboratory and clinical instruction.

Texas Health School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color or national origin, as required by the Title IX, Section 504 and Title IV.

ADMISSION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Texas Health School (THS) requires all Vocational Nursing (VN) Program applicants to go through a multi-step admissions process as outlined below.

Applicants who have previously attended a vocational nursing program must submit a letter of good standing with Program Director's or designee's signature on program letterhead.

Step I

Admission Process

1. All VN applicants are required to attend a mandatory VN Program Information Session hosted by Admissions. (NO CHILDREN/GUESTS ALLOWED)
2. Complete the THS Application Form.
3. Pass the Wonderlic Scholastic Level Exam (SLE) with a minimum score of 17. The applicant will be permitted three (3) attempts to achieve a passing score on the Wonderlic (SLE) test. If the applicant does not satisfactorily complete the test on the first attempt, a substantially different test may be administered on the same day. For a third attempt, an applicant must wait five (5) calendar days to retake the same (SLE) test.
4. Submit proof of high school graduation or a GED. (An Official HS transcript with date of graduation or a General Education Development (GED) equivalency will be required in Step II.) Applicants with foreign transcripts from international institutions must have their transcripts evaluated for equivalency to a U. S high school diploma by an accredited evaluation service.

THS will accept the following documents:

- a. Official high school transcript indicating the date of high school graduation.
- b. GED certificate or official notification that a GED has been earned.
- c. College transcript indicating the date of high school graduation.

- d. Foreign transcript evaluation.
5. Complete an initial criminal background check through TDPS. This background check will be conducted by the school.
6. An applicant **MUST** be able to read, write, speak, and communicate effectively in English.

The applicant must successfully complete all items in Step I before applying to the VN Program (Step II).

Step II

TEAS/Supporting Documents

The TEAS VI® test is a multiple choice exam testing the following four (4) subject areas

- i. **Reading** – paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.
- ii. **Math** – whole numbers, metric conversions, fractions, decimals, algebraic equations, percentages, and ratio/proportion.
- iii. **Science** – science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, basic physical principles, and general science.
- iv. **English and Language Usage** – punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, contextual words, and spelling.

The TEAS VI® test is a web-based, proctored test. For a schedule and registration information, please contact your Admissions representative at (713) 932-9333. You can find more information about TEAS® at www.atitesting.com.

All VN applicants are required to:

1. Pass the TEAS VI® test* (either before or after the VN Program Information Session) as defined by achieving:
 - a. A minimum overall individual score of 58% as calculated on the ATI TEAS VI test score or an ATI TEAS Composite Score of 63.0% or higher using the combined highest ATI TEAS Section Scores weighted according to the following formula:

Reading (score x 30%) + Math (score x 30%) + English (score x 30%) + Science (score x 10%)
= ATI TEAS Composite Score

- b. The following minimum percentages (%) in the sub-sections:
 - i. Math 60%

ii. Reading 64%

2. Submit an Official high school transcript or official GED scores.
3. Submit **two (2)** Student Recommendation Forms from an employer(s) and/or teacher.
Please see instructions for submissions on the VN Student Recommendation Form.
4. Submit a **one (1)** page legible, handwritten essay answering the question and titled, “Why I Want to be a Nurse”.
5. Submit a **current** resume.
6. Submit proof of immunizations (shot record) showing the completion of the following vaccinations with booster/titer taken within the last 10 years:
 - a. Hepatitis B
 - b. MMR
 - c. Tdap
 - d. TB
 - e. Varicella
 - f. Meningitis
 - g. Influenza – within the year
7. Provide proof of health/physical exam form signed by the health care provider.
8. Submit evidence of current Health Insurance. (Copy of insurance card or a pending application)
9. Submit a copy of current BLS HealthCare Provider CPR Card.
10. Submit (within 30 days prior to start of class) satisfactorily completed Drug Screen conducted by a THS designated agency.

STEP III

Financial Aid/Registration

1. Meet with the Financial Aid Department to complete the financial assistance process to cover program.
2. Complete an Enrollment Agreement to register along with a non-refundable registration/application fee.

Step IV

File Completion/The Interview

Once an applicant is registered and has completed the financial aid process, the Admissions department will ensure that all required supporting documents have been submitted and file is complete (with the exception of the drug screen results if earlier than 30 days prior to class start date). All documents are a permanent part of the applicant's file and will not be returned.

Applicants will be scheduled to complete an interview with the Nursing Selection Committee. The Nursing Selection Committee includes the Program Director and the Education Coordinator (or her/his designee).

Step V

Final Acceptance

Within two (2) weeks after the Nursing Selection Committee interview, you will be emailed a decision as either conditionally accepted, waiting list placement, or a denial. It is your responsibility to make sure THS has your current email address(es), and to ensure your email filters accept THS emails to your inbox (vs. spam).

Submit a satisfactory completed drug screen if you were conditionally accepted or placed on the waiting list before 30 days prior to class start.

Before the first day of the third semester:

It is your Responsibility to ensure that you submit an original Blue Card from the TBON or an original declaratory order outcome letter from the TBON, stating that the student is eligible to take the NCLEX-PN® Exam at a future date.

It must be submitted to the program Director PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF THE THIRD SEMESTER (NO EXCEPTIONS).

Please see Background Checks page 9 for more information.

SELECTION PROCESS

Admission to the VN Program is selective. Students will be ranked for acceptance in the program based on the following criteria:

1. TEAS VI® Exam Score.
2. Selection Committee interview evaluation form.
3. Eligible previous academic grades.
4. Previous Certification, Degree, and/or diploma history.
5. Wonderlic ® Exam Score.
6. Letters of Recommendation Forms.
7. Short Essay Question.

Applicants not accepted into the program may reapply. All applicants who are accepted are required to attend the VN Student Orientation at the school. Meeting all of the admissions requirements does NOT guarantee acceptance into the program.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Background checks are used to:

1. Satisfy clinical facilities requirements of a background check prior to allowing a student to care for the clients under his or her responsibility.

2. Identify students who may have difficulty in meeting TX Board of Nursing (BON) eligibility for licensure and thereby allow such students early submission of petition for declaratory order from the TBON.
3. Protect and promote client/patient safety.

Two criminal background checks will be conducted on ALL students, as a condition for progression in the admission process.

The first criminal background checks will be conducted by a school approved vendor as a condition of progression to Step I of the admission process. Please note - acceptance of this background check does not guarantee eligibility for licensure.

The second background check will be conducted by the BON approved vendor, which is currently the DPS/FBI. If the student has a satisfactory outcome with the BON-mandated background check, the BON will mail a “Blue Card” to the student stating this.

If a positive criminal history is revealed during the BON mandated (DPS/FBI) background check, the BON will send the student a letter requesting a “Petition for Declaratory Order” from the student. For more information on submitting a “Petition for Declaratory Order”, see below.

A REQUIREMENT OF CONTINUATION AND GRADUATION FROM THE VN EDUCATION PROGRAM IS AN ORIGINAL BLUE CARD FROM THE BON OR AN ORIGINAL DECLARATORY ORDER OUTCOME LETTER FROM THE BON, STATING THE STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE NCLEX-PN® EXAM AT A FUTURE DATE, PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF THIRD SEMESTER; OTHERWISE THE STUDENT WILL BE TERMINATED FROM THE PROGRAM. NO EXCEPTIONS.

A student who has **ANY** criminal offense other than a very minor traffic violation, has been diagnosed with mental illness, or has a history of substance abuse, may be eligible for admission into the VN Education Program **ONLY** if the student has:

1. Submitted a Petition for Declaratory Order to the Texas BON requesting the BON to further investigate their situation through the online application on the new nurse portal at <https://txbn.boardsofnursing.org/txbn>. (Refer to TBON website link: https://www.bon.texas.gov/forms_declaratory_order.asp)

And,

2. The applicant has received a written response for the Petition of Declaratory Order from the

Initial Licensure and Recognition Forms - Declaratory Order

A Petition for Declaratory Order (DO) is a formal disclosure to the Board of an eligibility issue that may prevent an applicant from taking the NCLEX and receiving initial licensure. **The DO permits the Board to make a decision regarding a petitioner's eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program.**

You should submit the DO & \$150 if:

- You submitted fingerprints as part of the New/Accepted Student Roster process & you received an outcome letter from the Board requesting the submission of the DO & \$150.

You should submit the DO ONLY if:

- You submitted fingerprints as part of the New/Accepted Student Roster process & received a Blue Card, **BUT** have to disclose a non-CBC related eligibility issue (i.e. questions 2-5 on the DO).

You will need to contact the Board for specific instructions on submitting the DO without the \$150 payment. Please send an email with your name, DOB, and last 4 of your SSN to webmaster@bon.texas.gov. The subject line should be DO – Payment Bypass.

NOTE: As of June 15, 2020 the DO must be submitted electronically via the Nurse Portal (<https://www.bon.texas.gov/texasnurseportal/>).

Board of Nursing stating the student is eligible to take the NCLEX-PN® exam in the future.

Applicants to the VN Program must possess:

- 1. Visual acuity** sufficient to assess patients and their environments and to implement the nursing care plans that are developed from such assessments.

Examples of relevant activities:

- a. Detect changes in skin color or condition.
- b. Collect data from recording equipment and measurement devices used in patient care.
- c. Detect a fire in a patient area and initiate emergency action.
- d. Draw up the correct quantity of medication into a syringe.
- e. Students must be able to read fine print for medication administration purposes.

- 2. Hearing ability** sufficient to assess patients and their environments and to implement the nursing care plans that are developed from such assessments.

Examples of relevant activities:

- a. Detect sounds related to bodily functions using a stethoscope.
- b. Detect audible alarms within the frequency and volume ranges of the sounds generated by mechanical systems that monitor bodily functions.
- c. Communicate clearly in telephone conversations.
- d. Communicate effectively with patients and with other members of the health care team.

- 3. Olfactory ability** sufficient to assess patients and to implement the nursing care plans that are developed from such assessments.

- a. Detect foul or unusual odors of bodily fluids or spoiled foods.
- b. Detect smoke from burning materials.

- 4. Tactile ability** sufficient to assess patients and to implement the nursing care plans that are developed from such assessments.

Examples of relevant activities:

- a. Detect changes in skin temperature.

- b. Detect unsafe temperature levels in heat-producing devices used in patient care.
- c. Detect anatomical abnormalities, such as subcutaneous crepitus, edema, or infiltrated intravenous fluid.

5. Strength and mobility sufficient to perform patient care activities and emergency procedures.

Examples of relevant activities:

- a. Safely transfer patients in and out of bed.
- b. Turn and position patients as needed to prevent complications due to bed rest.
- c. Hang intravenous bags at the appropriate level.
- d. Accurately read the volumes in body fluid collection devices hung below bed level.
- e. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- f. Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively unaided.
- g. Manipulate small equipment and containers, such as syringes, vials, ampules, and medication packages, and to administer medications.

6. Physical endurance sufficient to complete assigned periods of clinical practice. Students will be standing on their feet for at least eight hours each clinical day.

7. Have the ability to speak, comprehend, read, and write in English at a level that meets the need for accurate, clear, and effective communication.

8. Emotional stability to function effectively under stress, to adapt to changing situations, and to follow through on assigned patient care responsibilities.

9. Cognitive ability is required to collect, analyze, and integrate information and knowledge to make clinical judgments and management decisions that promote positive patient outcomes.

VN students are eligible to apply to test for Certified Nursing Aide Test through the Texas Nurse Aide Registry following successful completion of first semester VNSG courses.