

Application Criteria

Associate Degree Nursing RIBN Option- Fall 2023

February 6, 2023 – February 22, 2023

Thank you for your interest in the Associate Degree Nursing program, RIBN option, at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. Please read this information thoroughly. We want to make sure 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. Please email admissions@abtech.edu if you have questions regarding enrolling at A-B Tech or email advising@abtech.edu if you have questions about applying for the Nursing program.

The RIBN option is an A.A.S. Dual Enrollment track offered in collaboration with Western Carolina University (WCU). Students are accepted into and take courses at both A-B Tech and WCU during enrollment in the RIBN option. Students may be accepted as either a first-year RIBN or as a second-year RIBN student dependent on the number of completed general education courses. For questions or additional information, contact the RIBN advisor by emailing amyjparker@abtech.edu.

You must be a high school graduate or have an Adult High School or High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma to be eligible to enter any selective allied health program and have self-certified this requirement on your A-B Tech College application.

THE APPLICATION PERIOD

Students seeking the RIBN option will apply for WCU admission and A-B Tech. A-B Tech will begin accepting applications February 6, 2023. All deadlines and requirements in this document must be met to be eligible to apply. Contact the RIBN advisor for WCU application information – amyjparker@abtech.edu.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY REQUIREMENT:

Year I RIBN students

BIO 168 and 169 will be completed during year one (I) along with additional general education courses.

Year II RIBN students

Successful completion of:

- Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 168 or acceptable substitute) and Anatomy and Physiology II (BIO 169 or acceptable substitute) taken within 5 years of Fall 2023 term start from a regionally accredited institution with a “C” or higher is **required prior to Fall 2023 TERM start.** Course completion will be verified prior to full acceptance into the program

MINIMUM SCORE REQUIREMENT FOR ACT EXAM

Applicants will be required to score a *minimum composite score of 19 on the ACT (no test score substitutions). ACT scores must be on file with the College prior to meeting with the RIBN Advisor to complete the application/eligibility form for the RIBN Fall 2023 cohort.* The ACT requirement is waived for students who have

20 hours or more of college credit (100 level or higher) and have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale in all college courses. Please Note: The ACT requirement is presently under review for removal by WCU, but currently it is still included. Any changes to this policy will be updated on the selective admissions webpage. You may also contact the RIBN Advisor, amyjparker@abtech.edu or 828-398-7900 to determine if ACT scores are still required.

MINIMUM SCORE REQUIREMENT FOR ATI TEAS EXAM

Applicants will be required to score a *minimum composite/total adjusted TEAS score of 70*. Applicants may use ATI TEAS scores from a previous test session, provided the scores are 5 years old or newer and already on file at the college. You may only submit **one** TEAS score during the application period for the Fall 2023 cohort and your test scores must be received by February 24th, 2023 in order to be considered for the program.

MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT

Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

NA I REQUIREMENT

Year I RIBN students

May complete the NAI course during year one.

Year II RIBN students

Must provide documentation of their NAI to the RIBN Advisor at the time of completion of the Verification/Selection Form **OR** documentation of enrollment in a NAI course that will be completed before August 2023.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION - ATI TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills)

To be eligible for admission all qualified ADN, RIBN option, applicants will be required to take the ATI TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) exam. The ATI TEAS exam may only be completed at a location within the United States of America per ATI guidelines.

The ATI TEAS exam will be paid for by the student at the time of online registration on the ATI website. Information on the ATI TEAS exam and associated costs can be found at www.atitesting.com. Applicants should **NOT** schedule the ATI TEAS until **after** meeting with the RIBN Advisor and approved as eligible to apply.

The ATI TEAS composite (total adjusted) score will be used to rank applicants for the ADN program and a minimum score of 70 is required to be considered for the RIBN Option. You may use your TEAS composite score from a previous test session if the score is 5 years old or newer and already on file at the College.

Applicants may select **only ONE** of the following:

- 1) Testing at the Testing Center on A-B Tech's main campus on Victoria Road in Asheville, NC. Testing on campus will be available February 6th through February 24th, 2023.
- 2) Testing at an approved testing facility in another location.
- 3) Use an existing score already on file at the College provided the score is 5 years old or newer.
- 4) Request to submit only one score from a testing session that occurred **prior** to the application period at another testing facility. If multiple test scores are received on a single report (regardless of the reason for or source of the error), the earliest composite score will be used.

PLEASE NOTE: Test scores will not be accepted and applicants may not schedule the ATI TEAS exam until **after the applicant has completed the Verification/Selection Form with the RIBN Advisor.**

If an applicant does not follow through and take the ATI TEAS exam, they are disqualified from moving forward in the admission process.

Applicants in need of testing accommodations should contact Support Services at (828) 398-7581 or supportservices@abtech.edu at least two weeks prior to your testing date.

Notice to non-U.S. Citizens

A-B Tech welcomes non-citizens with work authorization through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to the Selective allied health programs. Clinical site eligibility is determined by the sites themselves and can be impacted by immigration status. Non-citizens should discuss their non-citizenship status with their Selective program advisor as soon as they are accepted into the program so that accommodations can be made if possible.

Please note: Non-citizens who are eligible for the Selective programs may not be eligible for certain clinical sites. Successful completion of clinical rotations is required for program completion. If a student drops the program after being denied clinical site privileges due to non-U.S. Citizen status the college refund policy will apply. Non-citizens are encouraged to contact the appropriate licensing/certifying agency to determine if they are eligible for licensure /certification upon graduation – decisions regarding licensure/certification are solely the responsibility of the licensing/certifying agency.

Questions regarding program admission for non-citizens may be made to advising@abtech.edu.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete and submit the standard A-B Tech admission application online at www.abtech.edu. (This is NOT an application to a nursing program. That will be done separately after you meet with the RIBN Advisor and are approved as eligible to apply.)
2. Applicants must certify on their college application that they are a high school graduate from a valid institution, an adult high school graduate from a valid institution, or have a valid high school equivalency (HSE). High school graduation or the equivalent from a regionally accredited, valid institution is generally required for Financial Aid purposes. You must have this high school equivalency by the first day of classes to enter the selective allied health program.
3. Applicants must complete New Student Orientation prior to meeting with the RIBN Advisor to complete the Verification/Selection Form. Registration for NSO is available at www.abtech.edu/nso . Waivers may apply.
4. **Year II** applicants must submit documentation of successful completion of Anatomy and Physiology I (or acceptable substitute) taken within 5 years of fall 2023 term start from a regionally accredited institution with a “C” or higher **prior to application to the RIBN option.**
5. Applicants must document college readiness in English and math. Visit www.abtech.edu/placement for detailed information or contact the RIBN Advisor, amyjparker@abtech.edu to learn about the acceptable options. Documentation of college placement must be completed or on file by **February 22nd, 2023.**

Once you meet the minimum requirements to apply to the program, you will be given permission and instructions to schedule the ATI TEAS exam by the RIBN Advisor. **You must complete this step and the Verification/Selection form by Wednesday, February 22, 2023.** You must schedule and take the ATI TEAS test by February 24th, 2023 to be considered as an applicant for the RIBN program. Applicants approved to submit scores must ensure scores are received by 5:00pm on February 24th, 2023. No exceptions.

You may use your ATI TEAS composite/total adjusted score from previous test sessions if the score is 5 years or newer and already on file at the college. Individuals wishing to submit a TEAS score *in lieu of testing* during the application period must submit their scores no later than February 24th, 2023. TEAS test date must be prior to the application period start date of September 9, 2022 and must be from an approved testing location. Be aware that only one TEAS exam will be allowed during the application period for the Fall 2023 class.

IMPORTANT: Students who submit TEAS exam scores must ensure scores are received by 5:00pm on February 24th, 2023. It is the applicant's responsibility to email the Testing Center (testingcenter@abtech.edu) to confirm scores were received prior to the testing deadline of February 24th, 2023.

ADMISSION TO THE ADN RIBN OPTION ONCE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET

1. You will receive the points of your TEAS exam composite score (adjusted individual total score). The ATI TEAS exam includes Reading, Math (including Algebra), Science, and English sections. The TEAS exam composite score will be used to rank applicants. **Applicants will be required to score a minimum composite/total adjusted ATI TEAS score of 70.**
2. For **Year II RIBN** students, successful completion of Anatomy and Physiology II (BIO 169 or acceptable substitute) with a "C" or higher is **required prior to Fall 2023 term start.** Course completion will be verified by the Nursing department **prior to full acceptance** into the program.
3. **ALL accepted Year II RIBN students** MUST attend the program orientation session held by the Nursing department. Program orientation details will be provided by the department after acceptance to the program. PLEASE NOTE: Failure to attend the program orientation will result in the loss of a seat in the class. **Year I** accepted students will attend orientation at the beginning of year two.
4. Final admission to the Nursing program shall be contingent upon documentation of physical and emotional health that would provide evidence that is indicative of the applicant's ability to provide safe nursing care to the public, satisfactory completion of required immunizations and current CPR for the Healthcare Provider certification. Immunizations and CPR must remain current while enrolled in the program.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION – READ CAREFULLY

Any allied health student deemed to have violated the College Student Code of Conduct may not be eligible for admission or re-admission to Selective allied health programs.

Certain immunizations are required by the **clinical agencies** to participate in clinical. Please note: COVID-19 vaccination requirements are based on clinical affiliate requirements and are subject to change.

Criminal background checks and drug screenings will be required by clinical sites for students entering the selective 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. The college refund policy applies if a student drops the program after being denied clinical site privileges.

Applicants should be aware that 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.

Applicants for Selective allied health programs must demonstrate the ability, with or without reasonable accommodations, 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 the nursing program, refer to the "Program Recommendations for ADA Technical Standards" notebook, which is available in the Admissions Office or on the A-B Tech web page. For further clarification, contact the Chair of Nursing at (828) 398-7264.

Students accepted into the nursing program will be required to obtain CPR certification from the American Heart Association or American Red Cross **prior to program orientation**. 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.

If you are not selected for the nursing RIBN option you may apply for the traditional nursing option.

All documents that you submit with your application for the nursing program must be true, correct and complete. Falsification of documentation may result in denial of admission or dismissal after admission.

Admission criteria are reviewed each year and are subject to change from year to year.

Students enrolled in the nursing program must complete all pre-requisite courses before proceeding in any nursing course. All courses in the program are prerequisites for courses in subsequent semesters. Students may have to enroll in general education and related courses that are scheduled as either Day or Evening courses to be able to meet the prerequisite requirements.

Nursing students will be required to complete clinical rotations, which may require them to travel more than one hour from campus. Clinical rotations may be conducted during weekend and/or evening hours. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation.

SELECTIVE ALLIED HEALTH READMISSION POLICY

The following readmission policy applies to students who receive an unsuccessful grade in a selective allied health program, or who voluntarily withdraw from such a program. Unsuccessful grades are defined as “D” or “F”.

1. If you receive an unsuccessful grade in a selective 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. Due to the selective nature of the Associate Degree Nursing Program, it will be necessary for students who have received an unsuccessful grade in a NUR course during their *first semester* to reapply for regular admission to the program during the next application period.
3. Students who receive an unsuccessful grade in a NUR course during subsequent semesters should contact the Chair of Nursing to petition for re-enrollment. These students may also reapply for regular admission to the program during the next application period.

IMPORTANT: Admission to the Nursing program is **limited to two times** unless granted an exception by the approval of both the Chair of Nursing and the Vice President of Instructional Services.

We appreciate your interest in A-B Tech and the Nursing (RIBN Option) program.

December 2022

STUDENT PREPARATION AND TESTING RESOURCES AVAILABLE

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Test resources are available from:

www.abtech.edu/placement (See Prepare for Placement Testing Section)

SAT or ACT study guides, which are available at various libraries and bookstores, are also good resources for testing preparation.

ATI TEAS

Test resources and online registration and payment are available at the following website:

www.atitesting.com

Study guides are available for review in the Locke Library located on the Main Campus on Victoria Rd. and A-B Tech Madison Campus. Study guides may also be purchased online from the test vendor ATI at the online store link or at the A-B Tech bookstore. Online practice assessments are also available at the vendor website.

ADDITIONAL PREPARATION RESOURCES

March2Success.com provides free personal assessments and preparation tools for the college placement test.

For career assessments and exploration, visit www.abtech.edu/focus2 . Email careerservices@abtech.edu or call (828) 398-7581 for an individual appointment