FAQ – Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs)

Who can apply for admission to the Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs)?

There are two entry categories to the Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) at the University of Auckland.

All applicants will be subject to University Entrance (UE) requirements, and the Academic English Language Requirement (AELR), in addition to the specific programme entry requirements.

The two entry categories are:

1. School Leavers

NCEA: Applicants must have achieved a minimum rank score of 230 over a maximum of 5 approved subjects at Level 3, with a minimum of 18 credits in one subject from Table A and a minimum of 18 credits in one of Biology, Chemistry, or Physics (preferably Biology).

CIE: Applicants must have achieved a minimum rank score of 280. They will be allocated a rank score according to their UCAS tariff score total accumulated over a maximum of 6 subject units at AS or A Level from subjects that contribute to University Entrance (UE). In addition, applicants must have taken at least one subject from Table A and of Biology, Chemistry, or Physics at A Level (preferably Biology).

IB: Applicants must have obtained their IB Diploma with at least 31 points overall.

Table A subjects for NCEA and CIE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCEA</th>
<th>CIE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classical Studies</td>
<td>Classical Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>History</td>
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<td>History of Art</td>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Reo Māori, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Reo Rangatira</td>
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2. Alternative Admissions

A candidate in this category is one who has left secondary school and undergone further formal education in a relevant degree programme from a university recognised by the University of Auckland for a minimum of one year of full-time study.

This includes recent university graduates in a relevant degree, and those who have in the preceding year successfully completed the First Year of the Bachelor of Health Science (BHSc) or the Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Science) (BSc Biomed) at the University of Auckland.

Preference will be given to Alternative Admissions candidates who have achieved a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.5

An interview will be required.

MAPAS

This category is for students of Māori or Pacific descent. Up to 25 places will be offered to MAPAS candidates in each intake. Those applying under this scheme must be able to demonstrate a willingness to participate in their culture. Applicants may be School Leavers or Alternative Admissions students.

If I am admitted under the Alternative Admissions category, am I exempt from any courses?

All Alternative Admissions applicants are required to have completed all required first year BNurs courses or equivalent (see table below) in order to progress into the second year of the BNurs programme.

However, depending upon your previous course of study, you may be eligible to apply for specified credit against some courses. You may also be exempt from the General Education requirements. This is reviewed on a case by case basis.

First Year BNurs Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIOSCI 107</th>
<th>Biology for Biomedical Science: Cellular Processes and Development</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURSING 104</td>
<td>Applied Science for Nurses</td>
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<tr>
<td>POPHLTH 111</td>
<td>Population Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENEDU*</td>
<td>General Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING 105</td>
<td>Nursing in Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLTHPSYC 122</td>
<td>Behaviour, Health and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDSCI 142</td>
<td>Biology for Biomedical Science: Organ Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For more information about General Education courses, visit: www.auckland.ac.nz/generaleducation

What subjects should I take if I am applying under the School Leaver category?

You should choose your subjects to meet UE, AELR, and the BNurs Table A and science subject requirements. Many courses in the BNurs require strong academic writing and critical thinking skills, so taking subjects where these skills are developed is recommended.

Therefore, at least one English rich subject, as well as Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics (Biology preferable) are strongly recommended.

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Is there a mid-year intake for the BNurs?
No. However, there may be a few places for internal transfer from programmes within the University of Auckland.

How many students apply for the BNurs each year?
Over 1800 apply for the 100 places in the BNurs each year.

Are Australian students considered as International applicants?
No. Citizens and permanent residents of Australia, and students from the Cook Islands, Tokelau or Niue who are New Zealand citizens, are eligible for entry on the same basis as New Zealand students.

What if I am an International Student?
The BNurs programme is available to independent full fee paying international students who meet the entry criteria.

What are the BNurs entry requirements for competence in English?
The BNurs degree requires a high level of competence in written and spoken English.

If your entrance qualifications are from an overseas university and your first language is not English, you will have to meet the University’s English requirements for admission, and provide evidence of one of the following:

- an IELTS academic module to 6.5 (with no band less than 6.0), or;
- TOEFL 575 (paper-based) plus Essay (TWE) of 4.5 or 90 (internet-based) plus a Writing score of 21, or;
- a statement from your previous educational institute confirming that you have been taught in the medium of English, full time, for a minimum of two years. This cannot include English language acquisition courses.

When do the interviews for Alternative Admissions students take place?
The interview will be held in mid-November – early December. Invitees must attend in person.

Applicants who will be invited to attend an admissions interview will be notified by e-mail from mid-October.

Please see Important Dates:
www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/faculty/undergrad/important-dates.aspx

What sort of things do you ask in the admission interviews?
Alternative Admission applicants who are invited to an interview will be assessed on personal attributes considered by the Faculty to be important for those wishing to pursue a career in nursing, including communication skills, maturity, awareness and knowledge, career choice and well-roundedness.

It is essential that applicants can explain why they aspire to become a health professional. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities, whether sports or other social or community groups.

Would it be helpful if I submit reference letters to the interview?
No. References, CVs or similar documents are not to be submitted or brought to the interview.

If I left school without any qualification, what do I need to do to apply for the BNurs?
Applicants whose education background differs to those outlined in the application categories above may wish to investigate some of the University’s pathway programmes to gain entry into the BNurs, BHSc or BSc programmes, e.g.:
- Tertiary Foundation Certificate
- Certificate in Health Science (MAPAS only)

For more information, visit www.auckland.ac.nz

Postgraduate Study: Can I undertake postgraduate study or research upon completion of the BNurs degree?
Yes, there are many opportunities to take a variety of postgraduate qualifications, both in New Zealand and overseas, upon completion of BNurs.

The School of Nursing at the University of Auckland has the largest postgraduate programme in New Zealand. Opportunities include an Honours programme, Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas, Masters programmes, and PhD.

For further postgraduate information, please see the postgraduate section of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences website: www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/en/faculty/for/future-postgraduates.html

Applications Close 8 December
To apply, visit: www.apply.auckland.ac.nz, or Student Services Online.

* As selection criteria may change from year to year, applicants should consult the faculty website, prospectus, or the Faculty Student Centre for the latest information.

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