



Frequently Asked Questions

Accelerated Nursing Program

- **What are the starting and ending dates for the 16th month program?**
The Accelerated Option begins each January and continues full-time over the subsequent four semesters, with student graduating in Spring semester. Our students go Spring, Summer, Fall and then Spring. We follow the usual semester schedule including breaks. Taking that all into account, the Option is a total of 15 academic months.
- **Does the program take place in Edwardsville or Springfield?**
The Accelerated Option is housed solely at the Edwardsville campus.
- **Are there any hospitals that offer funding in exchange for an agreement to work at that hospital for 1-2 years after graduation?**
This is a question that I tend to struggle to answer. With hospital benefits varying from place to place, I find it difficult to give you a specific dollar amount that may not apply elsewhere.
- **Do you accept the MCAT instead of a GRE?**
We do not require the MCAT or GRE for admission as the Accelerated Option is a second bachelor's degree.
- **What type of financial aid do you offer students?**
Most of our students still utilize the Federal financial aid programs – though some also work part time at hospitals for benefits, too.
- **Do you require the HESI test?**
We do not require the HESI test for the Accelerated Option because the students already have a bachelor's degree.
- **What about prerequisites? Do you accept the courses taken at other colleges?**
We would need to review your academic transcripts, but generally speaking we do accept cognate courses from regionally accredited colleges and universities. However, we cannot accept clinical nursing courses.
- **When can I start taking prerequisite classes?**
You may begin taking prerequisite courses at any time – they don't have to be completed at SIUE. In case you choose to take courses at a community college, please check with us to ensure that the classes are applicable. We have fairly comprehensive lists of courses at community colleges throughout the state that meet our requirements.
- **Enrollment in the University.**
Admission to the university expires two semesters after your last active enrollment.
- **Can general education classes be taken along with the other courses in the accelerated program?**

Students take 69 semester hours over four semesters to complete the Accelerated Option. Due to the rigor, students do not take any general education courses during those four semesters. However, students who are still in the process of attempting the prerequisites are allowed to apply for admission and will receive full consideration.

- **My science courses exceed the 7 year limit. What do you suggest?**
We are willing in some cases to be flexible with science courses that are over 7 years old but less than 10 years old. It would be best if you were to meet with one of our advisors to further evaluate your academic work.
- **Can any of the courses be done online, or are they all on campus?**
There are some graduate Courses that can be done online, but all of the courses for the Accelerated Option are done on campus. I don't know of any Accelerated programs that use the online format.
- **What is expected of the Ethics course?**
We would prefer that the Ethics course be at a sophomore or higher level general ethics course. They are usually offered in a school's philosophy department. If you are considering taking the course at SIUE, it is PHIL 320.
- **What is the average class size and how often are new classes admitted?**
We can enroll a maximum of 40 students into the Accelerated Option each year. We enroll once per year in January, though the application deadline is October 1.
- **My GPA is not what you require. Do you ever make any exceptions?**
Unfortunately, when the University approved the Accelerated Option it set the GPA requirement at 3.0 – particularly because of the rigor and intensity of the academic work. Our Accelerated students do in four semesters what our Traditional students do in six.