

Before you test...

Information for students preparing to take the nursing admission test,

HESI Admission Assessment™ (A²)

Please read this document before taking the nursing admission test. This document will explain how to register for the test as well as help you to determine how best you should prepare for the exam. This exam will determine (along with other factors as stated in the GRCC catalog) your eligibility to be placed on the waiting list for the Nursing Program (RN and LPN).

How do I sign up for the nursing admission test?

The first step is to obtain a Testing Record Sheet from the Assessment Center, 3rd floor Student Center, Room 358 or online at www.grcc.edu/testing. Registration for the HESI test is restricted to students who are enrolled at GRCC.

Complete the Testing Record Sheet, bring the Testing Record Sheet and \$40.00 to the Cashier's Office, 1st floor Main Building, Room 154. Obtain a receipt.

Bring the Testing Record Sheet, picture ID and your receipt back to the Assessment Center to schedule your testing appointment. The test is offered approximately 4 times per month.

What is covered on the nursing admission test (A²)?

The A² covers five different areas: math, reading comprehension, vocabulary and general knowledge, learning styles and a personality profile. The total time to complete this test is approximately 3 hours.

Math focuses on the math skills needed for the calculation of drugs and other solutions. Time allotted is 50 minutes for 50 questions. Topics covered can include:

- Addition
- Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions
- Decimals
- Ratio and Proportion
- Household Measures
- General Math Facts (Roman Numerals, Military Time, etc.)

Reading Comprehension involves reading scenarios that are health related. Time allotted is 50 minutes for 38 questions.

Vocabulary and General Knowledge contains basic vocabulary that is often used in health care fields, but is not necessarily medical terminology. Time allotted is 50 minutes for 50 questions.

Grammar - Contains basic grammar, including parts of speech, important terms and their uses in grammar, commonly occurring grammatical errors, etc.

Learning Styles examines your preferred ways of learning. Time allotted is 15 minutes for 14 questions.

Personality Profile examines personality related to preferred learning style. Time allotted is 15 minutes for 15 questions.

How do I prepare for the exam?

There are several ways to prepare to take the **A²**. GRCC students who took the college placement exam (Accuplacer) and were placed into one or more Academic Foundation classes (EN097, RD097/RD098, MA003) should complete these courses with a grade of C or higher before attempting the **A²**.

If you did not take the placement test or did not need to take any Academic Foundation Program classes, you should consider purchasing the study guide, **HESI Admission Assessment Study Guide** available in the GRCC Bookstore or online at:

<http://www.us.elsevierhealth.com/product.jsp?isbn=9781416056355>

What is the passing score?

Only the Math, Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary and General Knowledge subtests are scored. The passing score on each subtest is 75 for students wishing to enter the RN program, and 70 for students wishing to enter the LPN program. The results of the Learning Style and Personality Style subtests are for your benefit to help you understand your learning and personality style and are not considered in the passing score.

Can I retake the exam?

You may retake each subtest a maximum of 3 times. You will be required to pay the full fee (\$40.00) each time regardless of taking one subtest or all three scored subtests.

You must wait at least 2 months before retaking a test. This provides you an opportunity to review and improve your skills before attempting the test again. Depending on your score, you may need to take one or more Academic Foundation Program courses to strengthen your skills so that you may achieve a passing score. You will receive more information on recommendations after you take this test.

Anything else I should know?

If you have severe test anxiety you might benefit from speaking to a counselor in the Counseling and Career Center (3rd floor Student Center, Room 327, 616-234-3900 to schedule an appointment) in advance of taking this test.

If you need to take any Academic Foundation Program classes (EN097, RD097/098, and/or MA003), do so prior to taking this test. The skills you learn in these classes will help you to do better on this exam.

At the conclusion of the test you will be given your scores and an information sheet that will help you to interpret your scores, who to contact for more information and your next steps.