

DATE: April 15, 2010

TO: Counselors/Advisors Interacting with Pre-Nursing Students

FROM: Jane McAteer, Director of Nursing

SUBJECT: Importance of Reading Classes for Pre-Nursing Students/
Assessment Testing

The Nursing faculty would like your support in *strongly recommending that all pre-nursing students complete the Reading course sequence through READ 400 beginning with the course identified by the Reading Placement test results.* We are requesting this because we have found that when students fail a Nursing course and then are required to take Reading courses through the 400 level, they return and verbalize that now they really understand how to read a science textbook. Most of these students have then gone on to successfully complete the Nursing program.

Pre-nursing students need to be aware that they will be required to read 3-4 chapters per week of college-level textbooks throughout the Nursing program in addition to other required work and the Reading courses will help them be successful in completing their goals of becoming nurses. Choosing not to complete the sequence of Reading courses as indicated by the Reading Placement test scores would potentially jeopardize the students' completion of the Nursing program.

The current assessment test required of all accepted nursing students is the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills). The test includes 4 components: Math, Science, English, and Reading. A 67% composite score will be required before entry into the program. Students who do not achieve 67% will need to complete an individualized remediation plan in one year, retest and receive a 67% in order to enter the program.

Previous official TEAS scores are accepted with no expiration dates. Students can purchase a book or online practice test at the website – www.atitesting.com in the online store. Students are directed to call the assessment center to reserve a computer testing time. The test is paid for by the nursing department.

Thank you for your assistance. Please call me at x 6682 if you have questions.