
700 Tiverton Ave.
Factor Building
Box 951702
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1702

Dear Potential Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the UCLA School of Nursing. The Masters Entry Clinical Nurse (MECN) Program leads to a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree. This program is designed for individuals who have a baccalaureate degree in another discipline to prepare for a career in nursing. The MECN Program prepares nurse generalists with special leadership skills to function in acute care hospitals. Our students will focus on being providers and managers of care at the point of care; prepared to implement evidence-based practice and quality improvement in clinical settings. This is a two-year program.

In our program you will develop a strong theoretical base upon which to build your clinical, research, and leadership skills. Opportunities exist to collaborate with researchers and clinical experts in many departments. Our students participate in clinical practice at our practice partner sites: The New Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, UCLA-Santa Monica Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, VA- West Los Angeles, and Saint John's Medical Center. Resources available to students enrolled in the School of Nursing include a computer laboratory with access to a mainframe computer and other up-to-date equipment to support graduate study. In addition, one of the nation's premier biomedical libraries with computer search services is located right next door in the Center for Health Sciences.

We accept applications for the Fall Quarter only and the deadline to apply for Fall 2026 is **November 1, 2025**. The Admissions application will be available in September at www.grad.ucla.edu.

For more information we encourage you to visit our website at <http://nursing.ucla.edu>. If you have questions on the admission process, you may contact Mark Covin at mcovin@sonnet.ucla.edu, Jeimy Gama at jgama@sonnet.ucla.edu or Nataly Ascencio at nascencio@sonnet.ucla.edu. We will be happy to answer your questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Covin

Mark Covin, Ed.D.
Director of Recruitment, Outreach & Admissions
UCLA School of Nursing

MSN/MECN Application Procedure

Students are admitted for the fall quarter only. The Admissions application is available online after Labor Day at www.grad.ucla.edu. Please note that the deadline for submitting your application is **November 1st**.

Items that you must submit as part of your online application:

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Please respond to the following. Your statement can be up to 1,500 words maximum in length (approximately 3-pages, single spaced, using 1-inch margins and 12-point font). You do not need to answer every question; focus on the elements that you feel are most relevant to your candidacy.

- What is your purpose in applying for graduate study in your specified degree program? Describe your area(s) of interest, including any subfield(s) or interdisciplinary interests.
- What experiences have prepared you for advanced study or research in this degree program? What relevant skills have you gained from these experiences? Have your experiences led to specific or tangible outcomes that would support your potential to contribute to this field (examples: performance, publications, presentations, awards or recognitions)?
- What additional information about your past experience may aid the selection committee in evaluating your preparation and aptitude for graduate study at UCLA?
- Why is the UCLA graduate program to which you are applying is the best place for you to pursue your academic goals? If you are applying for a research master's or doctoral program, we encourage you to indicate specific research interests and potential faculty mentors.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

The Personal Statement is an opportunity for you to provide additional information that may aid the selection committee in evaluating your preparation and aptitude for graduate study at UCLA. The personal statement will also be used to consider candidates for the Eugene Cota-Robles Award and the Graduate Opportunity Program.

Instructions to respond to one or more of the following prompts are provided in the application and include 500 words limit (approximately 1-page, single-spaced, using 1-inch margins and 12-point font).

- Are there educational, personal, cultural, economic, or social experiences, not described in your Statement of Purpose, that have shaped your academic journey? If so, how? Have any of these experiences provided unique perspective(s) that you would contribute to your program, field or profession?
- Describe challenge(s) or barriers that you have faced in your pursuit of higher education. What motivated you to persist, and how did you overcome them?
- What leadership experiences, community outreach, service initiatives, or research projects have you participated in or plan to pursue that aim to positively impact others of the broader community?
- Describe ways in which your perspective, experiences, or aspirations have aligned with UCLA's Principles of Community.

RESUME/CV

Please upload your Resume or CV to the online application.

RECOMMENDATION FORMS

Three are required. **You do not need to send your recommenders the form.** Once you fill out their contact information in the online application, they will automatically be sent a link to complete the form.

TRANSCRIPTS

You are required to upload unofficial transcripts into the application. If admitted, you will need to send **one official** transcript from the school at which you completed your Bachelor's degree(s). We also require **one official** transcript from other schools at which you completed prerequisite classes.

Please send official transcripts to:

Electronically: admissions@sonnet.ucla.edu

or

Student Affairs Office
Attn: MSN/MECN PROGRAM
2-150 Factor Building
Box 951702
Los Angeles, Ca. 90095-1702

Materials listed on the application that are NOT required for School of Nursing Applicants:

- Test (GRE) scores
- Writing Sample
- Professional Experience
- Awards and Publications

Questions?

Processing of Applications:

Mark Covin: mcovin@sonnet.ucla.edu

Jeimy Gama: jgama@sonnet.ucla.edu

Nataly Ascencio: nascencio@sonnet.ucla.edu

We applaud your interest to begin your journey into one of the most rewarding professions in the world!

All applications are reviewed through the same process. Your application is how the Admissions Committee and faculty see all that you have to offer. Since there are no personal interviews, your application is critical to introducing the Admissions Committee to who you are as a person and the strengths you would bring to the UCLA School of Nursing. Remember, UCLA School of Nursing usually receives over 6,000+ BS applications each year for 50 open slots, and 500+ MECN applications for 70 open slots. Admission is extremely competitive.

So, YOU hold the key to the strength of your application. Here are the components of the UCLA Pre-licensure application and some tips we want to give you. While no one area will assure your admission, we hope that the following tips help you present yourself to the admissions committee in the best possible way.

- **Grade Point Average**
- **Statement of Purpose/Personal Statement**
- **Resume**
- **Letters of Recommendation**

Please note that our process takes a more “holistic” approach – we look at the “big picture” and no one item is the only thing considered.

Disclaimer

The pool of applicants is extremely competitive. While we do our best to provide information, our guidance is simply advice and will not guarantee admission.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

You will provide an official transcript as part of your School of Nursing Supplemental Application (BS Transfer Applicants & MECN Applicants ONLY). Some points are assigned to your GPA. But GPA is NOT the whole picture.

- DO NOT duplicate information about your GPA in your “statement of purpose” – reviewers can see your transcript.
- If your grades have been less than stellar, but you improved them in later courses, address what you did to improve in your “statement of purpose”
- GPA is NOT the only thing reviewers weigh – so just because you do not have a 4.0 does not mean you won’t be considered, just as a 4.0 GPA (or higher) does not guarantee admission.

- Note: If applying with AP scores, please refer to instructions on how to submit scores and adhere to UCLA AP Credits for Majors in the College. MECN applicants will need AP Scores of 4 or 5 for acceptance.

Statement of Purpose

The “Statement of Purpose” is your opportunity to shine and should be PERSONAL to YOU. It is your opportunity to share with reviewer’s important information that might not be in your GPA, Resume or Letters of Recommendation. Remember, this is the ONLY opportunity to share why YOU deserve to be one of the few students admitted. You have to set your application apart from all the hundreds of others.

Please read the instructions carefully and address all items: if you are “silent” or do not write about yourself, you give the reviewer no opportunity to consider other factors. Here are a few things that reviewers look for:

- ✓ Why you want to be a nurse – write from your heart
- ✓ Your self-assessment for success (at the University and in Nursing)
- ✓ Your goals for a nursing career (we want to know if you have a goal – and we know this can often change)
- ✓ Multicultural experiences, diversity (should include examples)
- ✓ Bilingual ability (describe your level and how you achieved this)
- ✓ Examples of responding to challenges or adversity (e.g. being the first generation in your family to attend college, overcoming specific hardships, etc.)
- ✓ Accomplishments – make sure they are also in your resume
- ✓ Leadership activities and qualities

Common mistakes to avoid:

- Clichés.
- Giving lists of qualities you possess, trying to convince the reviewer you know what is associated with being an advanced practice nurse.
- Saying how smart you are.
- Making it too general (as if it could be written by anyone. Make it specific ABOUT YOU and why YOU want to be a nurse)
- Going over the page limit or disregarding instructions (e.g., single spaced, small font, etc.)
- Forgetting to review your Statement for errors in spelling, grammar, etc. (Pay attention to spellcheck and grammar check). While it is NOT allowed to have someone else write your Statement (that is considered “academic dishonesty” at the University level), have someone read it – they may see things you do not.
- Being superficial
- Devoting too much space saying how great UCLA is and how much you have always wanted to attend.

Each of the programs (BS and MECN) may have slightly different expectations. BS applicants are usually coming straight out of High School so their applicant pool includes others like them. However, applicants to the MECN program must have an undergraduate degree because they are seeking admission to a GRADUATE program

There are many resources on the internet to help guide you to put yourself in the best light. Here is a link you can review as you fashion YOUR distinctive “statement of purpose”. While written by a liberal arts professor (Vince Gotera, University of Northern Iowa), the advice is still excellent – aimed at graduate school statements, but good advice overall:

<http://www.uni.edu/~gotera/gradapp/stmtpurpose.htm>

Resume

This is vital and reviewers look to your resume for your accomplishments and experiences, so make sure it is complete and reflects your leadership, employment, community service, volunteer and other creative experiences.

Be sure to list all the activities you have participated in and roles you had for events or activities. Be sure to note leadership positions and provide specific details of when, where and how long you had a leadership role. For BS applicants, include music, arts, and athletics. For MECN applicants, college activities can be included as well, but primarily you will include post degree work done prior to writing this application.

If you have listed volunteer activities, quantify how many hours you devoted to them per day or per week or per month, and note over what period of time (e.g., for 1 month, for 2 years, etc).

Letters of Recommendation

Letters of Recommendation are a crucial part of your application.

Please follow the directions carefully regarding WHO should be writing a letters. That is, employers, supervisors and instructors/teachers/academic counselors are the right persons to provide Letters of Recommendation for you. The strongest Letters of Recommendation are from those who have known you over time, have seen your growth and accomplishments, and/or have been your employer/supervisor (Letters are NOT to be written by family members or friends).

Tips:

- ✓ It may be helpful to share your Statement of Purpose with people who are writing Letters of Recommendation as well as talk with them about your goals.
- ✓ Make sure the person can be honest about their evaluation of you.
- ✓ DO NOT ask family members, “family friends” or co-workers; while they may be positive, the instructions require “employers, supervisors and instructors/teachers/academic counselors”
- ✓ If you claim you have health related experience, reviewers will look for ONE letter from a person who supervised you during this activity.
- ✓ At least ONE letter is required from someone in an instructor/faculty/academic counselor category. This applies to BS and MECN applicants.

One last note...

While we wish we could admit every qualified candidate, as you are probably aware, admissions to nursing programs are HIGHLY COMPETITIVE. Each applicant pool is different and everything starts fresh each year.

For BS Applicants: While your heart may be set to get a BS from UCLA, if you are NOT admitted, you can earn a nursing degree elsewhere and apply to UCLA for a graduate degree. Or, you can earn an undergraduate degree in another field and apply to our MECN program.

For MECN Applicants: If you are not admitted or are placed on the wait list for the MECN program, or you decide to apply again, please update and pay close attention to your resubmission application. Work to enhance your chances of admission by: gaining experiences, refining your statement, and making your application stronger.

ANY CHANGES IN YOUR APPLICATION OR ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION, MUST BE SUBMITTED BY JANUARY 15TH.

Wishing you success!

Student:	
UID:	
Email:	

Fall 2024 Entry

Master's Entry Clinical Nursing (MECN)

Academic Course Sequence

Quarter	Course No.	Course Title	Theory Units	Lab Units	Clinical Units	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	MECN Pre-requisites
Year 1 - Fall	N230A	Advanced Pathophysiology I	3					
	N250	Ethical Issues, Social Justice, and History of Nursing	5					
	N150A	Fundamentals A + Lab Component*	3	1		30		
	N174	Physical Assessment + Lab Component*	3	1		30		
			14	2		60		TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 16
Year 1 - Winter	N225A	Advanced Pharmacology I	3					
	N230B	Advanced Pathophysiology II	2					N230A
	N150B	Fundamentals B + Lab Component*	3	1		30		N150A
	N465A	Clinical Internship: Med-Surg A	3		1		30	N150A, N174, N230A
			11	1	1	30	30	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 13
Year 1 - Spring	N204	Research Design and Critique	4					
	N225B	Advanced Pharmacology II	2					N225A
	N260	Secondary Prevention	4					
	N465B	Clinical Internship: Med-Surg B	4		2		60	N150B, N174, N230B, N465A
			14		2		60	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 16
Year 1 - Summer	N268	Leadership in Health Care Systems	4					N250, N465A, N465B
	N461	Clinical Internship: Mental Health	3		2		60	N174, N260, N465A, N465B
	N465C	Clinical Internship: Med-Surg C	4		4		120	N174, N204, N260, N465A, N465B
			11		6		180	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 17
Year 2 - Fall	N269	Quality Improvement & Population-Based Quality of Practice	4					N268, N465A, N465B, N465C
	N462	Clinical Internship: Maternity	3		2		60	N174, N260, N465A, N465B
	N464	Clinical Internship: Pediatrics	3		2		60	N174, N204, N260, N465A, N465B
	N463	Clinical Internship: Geriatrics	2		1		30	N174, N465A
			12		5		150	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 17
Year 2 - Winter	N467	Clinical Internship: Integration			12		360	N174, N268, N461, N462, N463, N464, N465A, N465B, N465C
	N597	Individual Study - Comprehensive Exam (January submission)	2					N268, N461, N462, N463, N464, N465A, N465B, N465C
			2		12		360	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 14
Year 2 - Spring	N171	Clinical Internship: Public Health Nursing	3		3		90	N461, N465A, N465B, N465C, N462, N464, N463
	N267	Healthcare Policy	3					N268, N269
	N597 (optional, for re-submission only)	Individual Study - Comprehensive Exam (April re-submission only)	2					N268, N269
			6-8		3		90	TOTAL ENROLLED UNITS: 9-11
			70	3	29	90	870	TOTAL CUMULATIVE UNITS: 102

This course sequence is subject to change.

FEE NAME	RESIDENT	NONRES...
Tuition	12,762.00	12,762.00
Nonresident Supplemental Tuition (NRST)		12,245.00
Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)	14,112.00	14,112.00
Student Services Fee	1,254.00	1,254.00
UCGPC Fee	7.00	7.00
UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UCSHIP)	6,631.85	6,631.85
Ackerman Student Union Fee	81.00	81.00
Graduate Students Association Fee	38.25	38.25
Graduate Writing Center Fee	21.90	21.90
Student Programs, Activities, and Resources Complex (SPARC) Fee	135.00	135.00
Student Seismic Fee	113.00	113.00
Wooden Center Fee	37.00	37.00
BruinGo Universal Access Transit Pass	34.15	34.15
Continuing student total mandatory fees	\$35,227.15	\$47,472.15
Document Fee	80.00	80.00
New student total mandatory fees	\$35,307.15	\$47,552.15

UCLA School of Nursing Financial Aid- MECN Important Dates

November 1, 2025	Submit 2026-2027 Graduate Fellowship Application Application is part of the Graduate Admissions online application. For additional information check www.grad.ucla.edu , click prospective students, support for entering students.
March 2, 2026	Submit FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Apply online: www.fafsa.gov (school code: 001315)
May 30, 2026	School of Nursing scholarship applications will be emailed to admitted students who have indicated intent to register. Always keep your contact information (address, phone, email) up to date to ensure receipt of communication from the Student Affairs Office.

UCLA Registrar's Office

Annual Academic Calendar 2026-27

FALL QUARTER 2026	
Quarter begins	Monday, September 21
Instruction begins	Thursday, September 24
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, October 9
Veterans Day holiday	Wednesday, November 11
Thanksgiving holiday	Thursday-Friday, November 26-27
Instruction ends	Friday, December 4
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, December 5-6
Final examinations	Monday-Friday, December 7-11
Quarter ends	Friday, December 11
Christmas holiday	Thursday-Friday, December 24-25
New Year's holiday	Thursday-Friday, December 31-January 1
Winter campus closure	TBD
WINTER QUARTER 2027	
Quarter begins	Monday, January 4
Instruction begins	Monday, January 4
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, January 15
Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday	Monday, January 18
Presidents' Day holiday	Monday, February 15
Instruction ends	Friday, March 12
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, March 13-14
Final examinations	Monday-Friday, March 15-19
Quarter ends	Friday, March 19
SPRING QUARTER 2027	
Quarter begins	Wednesday, March 24
César Chávez holiday	Friday, March 26
Instruction begins	Monday, March 29
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, April 9
Memorial Day holiday	Monday, May 31
Instruction ends	Friday, June 4
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, June 5-6
Final examinations	Monday-Friday, June 7-11
Quarter ends	Friday, June 11
Commencement Ceremonies 2027	Commencement website
SUMMER 2027	
Juneteenth holiday	Friday, June 18
Summer session begins	Monday, June 21
Independence Day holiday	Monday, July 5
Labor Day holiday	Monday, September 6
Summer session ends	Friday, September 10



School of Nursing

Disclaimer

THE POOL OF APPLICANTS IS
EXTREMELY COMPETITIVE.

WHILE WE CAN DO OUR BEST
AND PROVIDE ADVICE, OUR
GUIDANCE IS SIMPLY ADVICE
AND WILL NOT GUARANTEE
ADMISSION