

1. How do I apply to the BTC Nursing Program?
 - The APL-N will only accept applications during the core program admissions application window. The application window for this program opens in January and will remain open until July 31. The first sorting of seat offers will happen in April and a second sorting of seat offers will happen in July. More information is posted on the [BTC RN Program website](#).
2. How does the online application work? Will I need to upload any documents?
 - No. Applicants will not need to upload any documents. The online application is a form that applicants fill out online from any location, and it is mobile-friendly.
3. Who do I reach out to request an audit to make sure I am Program-ready?
 - Students are encouraged to conduct a self-audit before submitting their application to their intended program. These [Self-Audit Instructions](#) serve as a guide to ensure they meet all requirements and are fully prepared to apply.
4. If I will not get done with my foundation coursework before the Application Window opens, should I wait until next year to apply to the program?
 - All applicants must be *Program-Ready* before they may apply.
5. Is it true that the BTC Nursing Program admissions process includes ranking applicants?
 - Yes. Points will be awarded for the number of credits of nursing foundational prerequisite courses successfully taken at BTC, completing the Nursing Assistant certificate or another Allied Health Program at BTC, and for having applied previously with a complete application.
6. Does BTC rank applicants by grade point average or previous degree?
 - No. BTC does not rank applicants by their overall GPA or whether they have a previous degree.
7. Does BTC offer veteran students an additional point on the application?
 - No. While Bellingham Technical College does allow veterans early course registration, this does not apply to the Nursing Program which uses an application process.
8. If I have never taken any classes at BTC, will I still be able to apply to the Nursing Program?
 - Yes. While most cohort seats will be offered to those who applied first and took classes at BTC, some cohort seats may be available for those who have not.
9. Is the COVID-19 vaccine required for clinical placement?
 - Yes. All health students must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by the first day of the quarter in which they start. You will be required to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine during respiratory illness season. Proof of vaccination must include current season, the date of vaccination, and practitioner/location where your vaccination was administered.
10. Are any COVID-19 vaccine exemptions accepted by the program?
 - Personal exemptions are accepted in place of seasonal COVID-19 vaccination. Contact clinicalinfo@btc.edu for information about the personal exemption.

Bellingham Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, gender identity or expression, citizenship or immigration status, national origin, age, religion, disability, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, genetic information, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, pregnancy, marital status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law in its programs, activities, and services. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director for Human Resources, 360.752.8354, or hr@btc.edu. For Title IX/Section 504 compliance, contact: Vice President of Student Services, 360.752.8440, or title9@btc.edu. Mailing address: 3028 Lindbergh Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225. BTC publications are available in alternate formats upon request by contacting the Accessibility Resources office at 360.752.8576.

Version date: October 2025

11. What qualifies as Healthcare Experience? Other healthcare experiences not noted below will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ▪ Nursing Assistant | ▪ Paramedic | ▪ Radiology Technologist |
| ▪ Medical Assistant | ▪ Emergency Medical Technician | ▪ Surgical Technologist |
| ▪ Home Care Aid | ▪ Emergency Medical Responder | ▪ Healthcare Specialist |
12. Does healthcare experience training expire?
- Yes. Starting in October 2021 applicants must have completed their training in an allied health field in the last five years.
13. Does my healthcare certification have to be active in Washington State?
- No. If you have held a medical-related certification but it is no longer active it will still qualify as medical experience for application to the nursing program if no action has been taken against that certification.
14. Do I need to get my Healthcare Experience Form “preapproved” before I submit my application?
- Yes. You are required to email your form and attached documents to the Nursing Department before you apply.
Healthcare Experience forms must be submitted before applying to the program.
15. If I completed Nursing Assistant or another health program at BTC, do I still need to submit the Healthcare Experience Verification form?
- No. This information is in your BTC Unofficial Transcript.
16. Does my Healthcare Experience Verification form approval expire?
- Yes. Your Healthcare Experience form is good for five years from the date of approval.
17. Do I need to complete the transcript evaluation process before I submit my application?
- Yes. For students taking courses at another college. Visit the [BTC Future Students website](#) for details. Plan ahead as it can take up to ten business days to evaluate your transcripts and additional time for the sending school to process your request. **All transcripts must be submitted prior to applying to the program.**
 - **Please note that it may take 6-10 weeks to process transcripts once they arrive at BTC.**
18. Does my general education prerequisite (example: BIOL& 242) courses “expire”?
- No. General education courses are accepted no matter when they are completed if they meet the transfer course requirements.
19. What does a limited waitlist mean?
- The Annual Program-Ready List for Nursing (APL-N) is a limited waitlist because the list is only maintained for one academic year. At the end of that academic year, the waitlist is closed and wiped. Applicants not awarded cohort seats will need to reapply online during next year’s Application Window.
20. Can I defer my enrollment to a different quarter if I can't begin the quarter you've offered me?
- Yes, but you will go on to our alternate program list. If a seat becomes available in the quarter you prefer and you are next on the alternate list, a seat will be offered.
21. When offered a cohort seat, can I choose the quarter I wish to start in if openings exist in multiple quarters?
- No. Applicants will be offered a seat in one of the three cohorts (fall, winter, or spring).
22. Can I know where I am on the annual program list?
- We are unable to disclose waitlist information to applicants.

Have more questions?.....come to a [Nursing Info Session](#)!