

Registered Nursing Program

Application Information

Created August 2026

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for choosing University of Arkansas Rich Mountain (UARM) to pursue your nursing education. Please review the following information and use as a checklist for the items needed for the application process.

The following pre-requisite courses must be completed prior to the first semester of core nursing classes:

BIOL 24003	Human Anatomy
BIOL 24001	Human Anatomy Lab
NURS 20373	Math for Nurses
PSYC 11003	General Psychology
ENGL 10103	English Composition I
HIST 21103	U.S. History to 1877
	OR
HIST 21203	U.S. History from 1877
	OR
PLSC 20003	American National Gvt

These pre-requisite courses must be completed from an accredited college/university with a grade of "C" or higher. You must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or above on the pre-requisite courses.

You must take the Nursing Entrance Exam (NEX). The NEX exam will be scheduled at designated times and administered by the testing center. Allow approximately three hours to complete. The fee for the NEX exam is currently $52.50 (subject to change). For more information on the NEX exam, please visit https://nln.org.

Please submit the attached application to the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) office at any of our three campuses: Mena, Mount Ida, or Waldron. Following completion of the application and all admission requirements by the designated deadline of Thursday, October 1 no later than 4:30pm, the applicant will be considered for the selection pool. An applicant's file is not complete until all admission requirements have been submitted.

Items need for submission to the **Admissions Office**:

1. Application for Admission to University of Arkansas Rich Mountain
2. High school transcript or GED
3. Official transcripts from all colleges attended
4. ACT or ACCUPLACER scores
5. Proof of Measles/Rubella Immunization*

*Upon acceptance to the nursing program, proof of additional vaccines (as well as TB testing) may be required for clinical sites. Clinical facilities that partner with UARM have their own policies and may require that nursing students have certain vaccines/testing in order to attend clinical at their facility. Per facility policies, waivers are not accepted for all vaccines. If a student chooses to opt out of a vaccine, they may be excluded from certain clinical experiences based on the clinical facility's policy. This could affect the student's ability to fulfill clinical hours which are required to meet course/program outcomes and progress in the program.

Admission

Students chosen for admission to the nursing program will be notified by letter via email to the email address provided on your application. Admission will be contingent upon completing a criminal background check. Background checks will be reviewed by the Director of Nursing and/or the Nursing Program Advisory Committee before final admission into the program. After graduation from the nursing program, students may apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a registered nurse. Persons convicted of a crime may not be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN. Graduation from the registered nursing program does not guarantee the graduate will be allowed to take the NCLEX-RN.

Please read the following section of the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act regarding licensing restrictions.

17-3-102. Licensing restrictions based on criminal records.

(a) An individual is not eligible to receive or hold a license issued by a licensing entity if that individual has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or been found guilty of any of the following offenses by any court in the State of Arkansas or of any similar offense by a court in another state or of any similar offense by a federal court, unless the conviction was lawfully sealed under the Comprehensive Criminal Record Sealing Act of 2013, § 16-90-1401 et seq., or otherwise previously sealed, pardoned or expunged under prior law:

(1) Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
(2) Murder in the first degree and second degree as prohibited in §§ 5-10-102 and 5-10-103;
(3) Manslaughter as prohibited in § 5-10-104;
(4) Negligent homicide as prohibited in § 5-10-105;
(5) Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;
(6) False imprisonment in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-11-103;
(7) Permanent detention or restraint as prohibited in § 5-11-106;
(8) Robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-102;
(9) Aggravated robbery as prohibited in § 5-12-103;
(10) Battery in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-201;
(11) Aggravated assault as prohibited in § 5-13-204;
(12) Introduction of a controlled substance into the body of another person as prohibited in § 5-13-210;
(13) Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility as prohibited in § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;
(14) Terroristic threatening in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-13-301;
(15) Rape as prohibited in § 5-14-103;
(16) Sexual indecency with a child as prohibited in § 5-14-110, if the offense is a felony;
(17) Sexual extortion as prohibited in § 5-14-113;
(18) Sexual assault in the first degree, second degree, third degree, and fourth degree as prohibited in §§ 5-14-124 — 5-14-127;
(19) Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
(20) Offenses against the family as prohibited in §§ 5-26-303 — 5-26-306;
(21) Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
(22) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205;
(23) Permitting the abuse of a minor as prohibited in § 5-27-221;
(24) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print media depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 — 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403;
(25) Possession or use of child sexual abuse material as prohibited in § 5-27-603;

(26) Computer exploitation of a child in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-605;
(27) Felony adult abuse as prohibited in § 5-28-103;
(28) Theft of property as prohibited in § 5-36-103;
(29) Theft by receiving as prohibited in § 5-36-106;
(30) Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301;
(31) Burglary as prohibited in § 5-39-201;
(32) Felony violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, § 5-64-101 et seq., as

prohibited in the former § 5-64-401, and §§ 5-64-419 — 5-64-442;
(33) Promotion of prostitution in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-70-104;
(34) Stalking as prohibited in § 5-71-229;
(35) Criminal attempt, criminal complicity, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy, as prohibited in §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202, 5-3-301, and 5-3-401, to commit any of the offenses listed in this subsection; and
(36) All other crimes referenced in this title.

(b)
(1) If an individual has been convicted of a crime listed in subsection (a) or subsection (e) of this section, a licensing entity may waive disqualification or revocation of a license based on the conviction if a request for a waiver is made by:
(A) An affected applicant for a license; or
(B) The individual holding a license subject to revocation.
(2) A basis upon which a waiver may be granted includes without limitation:
(A) The age at which the offense was committed;
(B) The circumstances surrounding the offense;
(C) The length of time since the offense was committed;
(D) Subsequent work history since the offense was committed;
(E) Employment references since the offense was committed;
(F) Character references since the offense was committed;
(G) Relevance of the offense to the occupational license; and
(H) Other evidence demonstrating that licensure of the applicant does not pose a threat to the health or safety of the public.
(3) The waiver requirements of this section are not required for a renewal of a license if an individual has been convicted of a crime listed in subsection (a) of this section and has either:
(A) Completed the waiver requirements of this section at his or her initial licensure;
(B) Been licensed in this state before the enactment of subsection (a) of this section; or
(C) Attended a professional or occupational school, program, or training in pursuit of an occupational license before the enactment of subsection (a) of this section and would have been qualified to hold an occupational license on or before July 24, 2019.

(c) If an individual has a valid criminal conviction for an offense that could disqualify the individual from receiving a license, the disqualification shall not be considered for more than five (5) years from the date of conviction or incarceration or on which probation ends, whichever date is the latest, if the individual:
(A) Was not convicted for committing a violent or sexual offense; and
(B) Has not been convicted of any other offense during the five-year disqualification period.
(d) A licensing entity shall not, as a basis upon which a license may be granted or denied:
(1) Use vague or generic terms, including without limitation the phrases “moral turpitude” and “good character”; or
(2) Consider arrests without a subsequent conviction.
(e) Due to the serious nature of the offenses, the following shall result in disqualification for licensure, regardless of the date of conviction or the date on which probation or incarceration ends unless a waiver is granted under subsection (b) of this section:
(1) Capital murder as prohibited in § 5-10-101;
(2) Murder in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-10-102 and murder in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-10-103;
(3) Kidnapping as prohibited in § 5-11-102;

(4) Aggravated assault upon a law enforcement officer or an employee of a correctional facility as prohibited in § 5-13-211, if a Class Y felony;
(5) Rape as prohibited in § 5-14-103;
(6) Sexual extortion as prohibited in § 5-14-113;
(7) Sexual assault in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-14-124 and sexual assault in the second degree as prohibited in § 5-14-125;
(8) Incest as prohibited in § 5-26-202;
(9) Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-201;
(10) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree as prohibited in § 5-27-205;
(11) Adult abuse that constitutes a felony as prohibited in § 5-28-103;
(12) Arson as prohibited in § 5-38-301; and
(13) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print media depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 — 5-27-305, 5-27-402, and 5-27-403.

(f) This chapter does not preclude a licensing entity from taking emergency action against a licensee as authorized under § 25-15-211 for the sake of public health, safety, or welfare.

(g) The disqualification for an offense listed in subsection (a) of this section and the disqualification for an offense listed in subsection (e) of this section do not apply to:
(1) An individual who holds a valid license on July 24, 2019;
(2) An individual who holds a valid license on or before July 24, 2019, but failed to renew his or her license for any reason; or
(3) An individual who was a student on or before July 24, 2019, in a professional or occupational school, program, or training in pursuit of an occupational license and would have been qualified to hold an occupational license on or before July 24, 2019.

(h) This section does not apply to licensure or certification:
(1) Of professions not governed by this title;
(2) Of polygraph examiners and voice stress analysis examiners under § 17-39-101 et seq.;
(3) Of private investigators and private security agencies under the Private Security Agency, Private Investigator, and School Security Licensing and Credentialing Act, § 17-40-101 et seq.;
(4) Of body artists under § 17-26-601 et seq. who hold a valid license on or before July 1, 2024; or
(5) Of cosmetologists licensed under Title 17, Chapter 26, Subchapter 3.

17-87-312. Criminal background checks.

(a)
(1) Each first-time applicant for a license issued by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall apply to the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal background check, to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
(2) At the time a person applies to an Arkansas nursing educational program, the program shall notify the applicant in writing of the provisions and requirements of this section.

(b) The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards and shall include the taking of fingerprints.

(c) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board and shall be responsible to the Division of Arkansas

State Police for the payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.
(d) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police shall forward to the board all releasable information obtained concerning the applicant.
(e) For purposes of this section, the board shall follow the licensing restrictions based on criminal records under § 17-3-102.
(f)

(1) The board may issue a nonrenewable temporary permit for licensure to a first-time applicant pending the
results of the criminal background check.
(2) The permit shall be valid for no more than six (6) months.

(g)

(1) Any information received by the board from the Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police
under this section shall not be available for examination except by:
(A) The affected applicant for licensure or his or her authorized representative; or
(B) The person whose license is subject to revocation or his or her authorized representative.
(2) No record, file, or document shall be removed from the custody of the Division of Arkansas State Police.

(h) Any information made available to the affected applicant for licensure or the person whose license is subject to revocation shall be information pertaining to that person only.
(i) Rights of privilege and confidentiality established in this section shall not extend to any document created for purposes other than this background check.
(j) The board shall adopt the necessary rules to fully implement the provisions of this section.
(k)

(1) The board may participate at the state and federal level in programs that provide notification of an arrest
subsequent to an initial background check that is conducted through available governmental systems.
(2) The board may submit an applicant's fingerprints to the federal Next Generation Identification system.
(3) The fingerprints may be searched by future submissions to the Next Generation Identification system, including latent fingerprint searches.
(4) An applicant enrolled in the Next Generation Identification system is not required to re-fingerprint when a
subsequent request for a state or federal criminal history background check is required if:
(A) A legible set of the applicant's fingerprints is obtained when the applicant enrolls in the Next Generation
Identification system; and
(B) The applicant is subject to the Rap Back service of the Next Generation Identification system.

(l) The Identification Bureau of the Division of Arkansas State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation may maintain fingerprints in the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.
(Updated 9/26/2023)

Class of 2028 Registered Nursing Admission Application

Applicant Name_____
Last First Middle

Mailing Address_____
Street City State Zip

Email_____

Telephone_____

Emergency Contact_____
Name Relationship Phone

Social Security #_____ Date of Birth_____

DATE AND LOCATION of High School Graduation/Completion of GED_____

Date Location

PREVIOUS COLLEGES ATTENDED

College Name *College Credits Obtained

_____

_____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (Include your last two employers beginning with present employment)

Employer City, State **Dates of Employment*** Job Responsibilities

_____

_____

***MUST LIST DATES OF EMPLOYMENT AND JOB RESPONSIBILITIES**

EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES

Name Email Address Phone

_____

_____

Are you currently a Certified Nursing Assistant?_____

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? (If YES, include year) _____

**With the exception of DUI, traffic violations DO NOT constitute a crime. Any individual having been convicted of a crime may not be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN for licensure.*

It is the policy of University of Arkansas Rich Mountain not to discriminate on the basis of sex, color, religion, age, national origin, veteran, or qualified disability in educational programs, activities, admission or employment practices.

My signature indicates that I understand and agree to all admission requirements presented in this application packet.

Signature_____Date_____

***Return application to the Educational Opportunity Center office by Thursday October 1, 2026**