

BOSTON COLLEGE
WILLIAM F. CONNELL SCHOOL OF NURSING

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING
INTERNAL TRANSFER TO CSON FROM CSOM, LSOE, & MCAS
FOR THE 2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR

(Please note: Some of these guidelines do not apply to students who were counselled and/or evaluated for transfer before August 2017.)

As Boston College regulations specify, on a limited basis, it is possible for undergraduate students to transfer across schools at BC subject to the availability of space. Because the BS (nursing) program requires skills laboratories and clinical placements in which there is limited space, slots in any given year/class are capped and vary from year to year. Transfer is NOT guaranteed. At the Connell School of Nursing (CSON), we strive to help BC students wanting to pursue a nursing career after entering as first-year students in other schools. We have to balance our wish to help as many students as possible find a path into the profession with very high levels of student interest and our need to be fair and consistent in handling transfer applications. In addition to implementing a more formal application process, we are also now unable to provide one-on-one advising for students interested in exploring transfer options.

Overview

In a change that took effect in August 2017, students in either their **first or second** years in another BC undergraduate day school program can apply to transfer into the sophomore year nursing sequence for Fall 2019. Application forms will be available in mid-January and can be submitted any time up until March 15, 2019 at 5:00 PM. **Effective immediately and until further notice, there is only one transfer point into the program—Fall of each year.**

PLEASE NOTE: Applications from students who have completed more than 4 semesters of college in the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences (MCAS), Carroll School of Management (CSOM) or Lynch School of Education LSOE (i.e. who are in their 3rd or higher year in their studies) will **NOT** be considered. Our program as currently designed is an 8-semester full-time program and involves courses that, because of prerequisites, require a minimum of 5 semesters after all freshman requirements are met. For educational and practical reasons, we can no longer accept students entering their third or later years of college because we can't let students take courses out of sequence or outside the regular academic years and given our curriculum we would be extending such students' programs of study beyond reasonable timelines. We encourage upperclassmen and second semester sophomores with gaps in the prerequisite courses listed under Question #2 to contact us at ugnurse@bc.edu to find out about nursing

education options for students who have completed a bachelor's degree in another field, also known as post-baccalaureate programs.

Students from the Woods College of Advancing Studies should send an e-mail to ugnurse@bc.edu to inquire about considerations around nursing prerequisites and potential transfer into the program. According to Boston College policy, WCAS students follow the process for external transfers (i.e. those from other colleges and universities) managed by the Office of Admissions. Please contact Mary French at frenchmb@bc.edu

To transfer into CSON and enroll in the sophomore year nursing courses, students must have:

- a) Been offered a place in the sophomore year subject to the selection process described below; AND,
- b) Completed two semesters of anatomy and physiology with lab; and,
- c) Completed one semester of general or life science chemistry with lab; and,
- d) Completed NURS 2070, Introduction to Professional Nursing (offered only in the Spring semesters) with a minimum grade of C-.

by mid-August 2019.

Until they are notified otherwise, transfer applicants should assume that they will remain registered in their current/home schools for the 2019-20 academic year, plan their courses carefully to continue progressing towards graduation requirements for those programs and pre-register for Fall 2019 courses in their current home schools.

The Application Process in Brief

Applications will consist of the following elements and will be available on the CSON website at the beginning of the Spring 2019 semester:

- a) CSON internal transfer application form
(<http://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/offices/stserv/pdf/CSONint.pdf>)
- b) A personal statement
- c) A recommendation from a faculty member or advisor
- d) A supplemental statement (for students with any science grades below C)

Student academic records as of March 15, 2019 will be reviewed and all applicants will sign a waiver allowing for their Spring semester professors (particularly in the sciences) to provide progress reports.

All applications will be evaluated by a panel consisting of undergraduate program officials, a representative from the CSON Office of Student Services, Diversity and Inclusion, a CSON faculty member, and university administrators from the Admissions Office and the Provost's Office. The applicants and their academic records will be reviewed to assess academic merit and likelihood of success in the program, demonstrated interest and commitment to nursing and

potential contributions to the sophomore class and the profession. Applications will be reviewed in a holistic manner and the applicants will be rank-ordered by the committee.

Students will be accepted in transfer in the order of the selection committee rankings as places become available in the months leading up to the Fall 2019 semester. Students who still have chemistry or anatomy and physiology courses to complete in the summer will be accepted and will be formally transferred (i.e. will have CSON designed as their home schools) and registered in the sophomore nursing sequence upon receipt of acceptable summer grades by our office.

Questions and Answers

All Applicants/Students (First-Years and Sophomores)

1. I've talked to students in nursing who have transferred into the program in previous years—this isn't how it worked before. Why the changes?

In recent years we have had unprecedented interest in the program—in terms of both traditional applicants admitted as first-years from high school and from transfer applicants inside and outside BC. Our lab places and access to hospitals and other clinical agencies where students receive their practical portions of their educations are capped and in the case of clinical placements are getting tighter. We can't offer places in the program to everyone who might like one. We have also made changes in how our sophomore year courses are scheduled to give our students who start in first year or transfer in before the second year more options and a better experience within the program--unfortunately, these changes have decreased options for transfer students. Finally, with the large number of students coming in over the course of the academic year to talk about internal transfers, we're no longer comfortable with a first-come, first-served approach with arbitrary cut dates and we saw a need to provide clearer guidelines and somewhat stricter rules about prerequisite courses in order to be fairer to students.

Another separate development is that with the high number of students contacting us we are also no longer in a position to offer one-on-one pre-application counselling regarding internal transfers—which is why we're offering detailed information in this document as well as information sessions at key points in the Fall and Spring semesters. Check our website or write ug nurse@bc.edu for details about the information sessions. We look forward to meeting you.

What hasn't changed is that the Connell School of Nursing is still committed to helping anyone from the BC community interested in careers in nursing find an appropriate path into the field, to educating a diverse pool of future nurses at CSON, and to being as transparent as possible in how we're allocating the scarce resource of spots in the program. Furthermore, we still share everyone's commitment at BC to having undergraduate students finish their bachelor's degrees from the University in a timely manner without unnecessary detours and delays.

2. What courses do I need to take to transfer into the program? What should I be taking if I'd like to apply?

To be eligible for 2nd year courses and to transfer into the second year of the nursing program, students who receive an offer to join the class must have:

Normally first (fall) semester or at summer school:

- BIOL 1300 Anatomy & Physiology I Lecture OR BIOL 2000 Molecules and Cells for MCAS science students) (3 credits)
- BIOL 1310 Anatomy & Physiology I lab* (1 credit)
- CHEM 1161 Life Science Chemistry Lecture (equivalent to General Chemistry I Lecture CHEM 1111) (3 credits)
- CHEM 1163 Life Science Chemistry Lab* (1 credit) (equivalent to General Chemistry I Lab CHEM 1113) (1 credit)

Normally second (spring) semester or at summer school:

- BIOL 1320 Anatomy & Physiology II Lecture (3 credits) (equivalent to BIOL 3030 Introduction to Physiology for MCAS science students)
- BIOL 1330 Anatomy & Physiology II Lab* (1 credit)

* NB: Both lecture and lab components of the science courses are mandatory. Students may take Anatomy & Physiology II with lab prior to taking Anatomy & Physiology I with lab.

Always in the spring semester:

- NURS 2070 Introduction to Professional Nursing (2 credits)--here the minimum acceptable grade for a current CSON or aspiring transfer student to nursing is C-. This course is only offered in the spring semester.

3. I'm currently a science major (or am an intended science major) and/or am weighing pre-med options and I'm also thinking about transfer into nursing but am not sure what do. What do you suggest?

If you're not sure in this situation, we would recommend you take General Chemistry I with lab and Molecules and Cells in your first semester of freshman year. If you're very serious about nursing, you can think about taking Anatomy and Physiology II with lab in your second semester (spring) of first year and you should definitely register for NURS 2070 if you hope to transfer in and file an application for transfer by the March 2019 deadline. If by middle of Spring semester, you're still interested in nursing, you should consider summer school for any lecture course labs, or other requirements you haven't picked up (see Question #11).

Some clarifications about equivalences: The Life Science Chemistry course and the Anatomy and Physiology sequence taken by nursing students are rigorous courses (although most consider them somewhat less difficult than MCAS science courses). They are intended to build a foundation for studying clinical sciences and learning clinical nursing, not as the basis for advanced study in the sciences and as a result do not normally meet Natural Science core requirements outside CSON. They are not recognized as meeting science requirements for applying to medical school. If you would like leave the door open to as many career pathways as possible, it is wise to take the science sequence for MCAS students at least at through freshman year at BC.

Some caveats: Molecules and Cells and Introduction to Physiology do not have a separate lab component and so if taken as substitutes for Anatomy and Physiology I and II lecture courses, students must complete Anatomy and Physiology I lab and Anatomy and Physiology II lab either during the academic year or the summer session at BC or at another college or university. Some colleges/universities other than BC do not allow students to take Anatomy and Physiology labs independently of the lecture courses, so students should be forewarned that if they wait to take the lab courses during the summer and do not stay at BC to complete them, they may be committing to 8 credits rather than 2 credits of summer coursework. (Please also see Question #13.)

4. What about the mathematics core requirement? Do I need to take MATH 1180 (the math core course that nursing students take in second semester of first year)?

Before graduation, all BC undergraduates must fulfill the University's math core requirement. MATH 1180 is taken by CSON first-year students and fulfills both the University's math core requirement and the requirement for an introductory course in statistics and data analysis as a component of a bachelor's education in nursing (and a prerequisite for graduate programs in nursing). ***However, as of the 2017-18 academic year, for a variety of reasons, we will no longer allow non-CSON students to take MATH 1180.*** We strongly recommend that first- or second-year students contemplating transfer to CSON take Calculus or Finite Probability (i.e. a math core course recognized by their home schools) as early as possible--unless their University math core requirement has been satisfied with a sufficiently high score on the AP Calculus exam.

Upon acceptance to/enrollment in CSON, students who have completed their math core will be asked to also complete an applied Statistics course (for instance in Psychology, Sociology, etc) before graduation. If you have completed a math core and/or applied stats course by the time you file a transfer application, that grade or those grades will be taken into consideration in the internal transfer review process. *However, a math core course is not essential for transfer into the sophomore year. Students could hypothetically complete math core and statistics requirements after acceptance into the nursing major, normally Finite Probability with Applications followed by applied statistics course once accepted into the nursing major.*

5. How do I get into first-year nursing courses offered during the year? They seem to be reserved for nursing students.

The science courses--Life Science Chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology I and II and their accompanying laboratory classes--are indeed reserved for nursing students. Normally the lecture sections can accommodate additional students who are not in the program. Where there are often space constraints is in the laboratory courses, but there are usually some leftover seats. Places in the laboratory classes are assigned on more or less a first-come, first-served basis and are coordinated through the relevant MCAS science department offices. For Anatomy and Physiology, this is the Biology department--Seth Robertson (seth.robertson@bc.edu, 617 552-2292) and for Chemistry, the Chemistry department--Professor Lynne O'Connell (oconnell@bc.edu, 617 552-3626). After all current CSON students have been registered in the relevant courses, places normally open up. (Please note that General Chemistry I lab and Life Science Chemistry lab are interchangeable classes and differ only in title--for aspiring or actual transfer students, we consider them identical--non-CSON students/prospective transfers are often tracked into General Chemistry I lab.) Places in Anatomy and Physiology II with lab in the Spring will be allocated somewhat more carefully: Please see Question #6 for an explanation about the need for approval from the Associate Dean of your current school for permission to register in it in the second semester.

Please also note that Anatomy and Physiology I and II cannot be taken by students who have received credit in Molecules and Cells or Introduction to Physiology, respectively and/or by students who are biology, biochemistry or chemistry majors. It is also important to know that Anatomy and Physiology I and II and Life Science Chemistry NOT normally considered science core courses for students outside the School of Nursing. **As a matter of policy, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences will NOT consider nursing science courses taken by MCAS students considering transfer into CSON as meeting Natural Science core.**

As just stated, as of 2017-18 and going forward, no students outside of CSON are allowed to register in MATH 1180--this is a course reserved for nursing majors in their first year of college. Please see Question #4 regarding meeting math core requirements as a transfer student into nursing.

6. Am I guaranteed a place in all of the nursing prerequisite courses offered during the regular academic year?

Unfortunately, no. Space in the science courses and, in particular, the lab classes are limited. We first have to ensure access to these courses to all of the students currently enrolled in the first year nursing sequence: students in other schools are allowed to register in them as space allows. Seats/places in lecture classes are generally not a problem, but slots in lab classes can definitely be and are allocated on more or less on a first-come, first-served basis but with a twist: Effective 2017-18, permission for non-CSON students to enroll in Anatomy and Physiology II

lecture and lab will be given only to students who have been approved by the academic deans in their home schools after review of Fall grades (and grades for 2017-18 for second-year students). **Students will be notified during the Winter Break.** Students with credit deficits and/or very low GPAs will likely be told that they cannot enroll in these classes to avoid creating or worsening credit deficits or causing delays in their progress in their degrees in their home school degrees.

Therefore, all students wanting a place in Anatomy and Physiology II as part of a plan for a transfer application should send an email with the header "Requesting a place in Anatomy and Physiology II for the Spring semester" to ugnurse@bc.edu explaining their request and providing their EagleID. In mid-January, after Fall 2018 grades are in but before the beginning of classes, students will be informed whether the academic Associate Dean in their current schools has provided permission to register in Anatomy and Physiology II (subject to availability of space).

NURS 2070, Introduction to Professional Nursing, is a 2 credit-lecture course, that is (to our knowledge) fairly specific to BC and is only offered in the Spring semester. It is a prerequisite for the nursing courses in the second year of the program. It is the only NURS course in the BS (nursing) program officially open to non-majors as an elective. Under normal circumstances all students asking for a place in it will be given one. Contact Amy Gribaudo (gribaudo@bc.edu), Assistant Director for the Undergraduate Program in CSON if you have any difficulty registering in this course.

If it is too late to add Anatomy and Physiology I or Life Science Chemistry to your schedule in the fall and you are a strong science student, Molecules and Cells and General Chemistry I are also offered in the spring. However, as noted above, Molecules and Cells and General Chemistry I are very challenging courses at BC that are intended to be the foundation for advanced studies in both of those sciences--nonetheless, this is an option. See Question #3.

An important option for meeting prerequisite requirements if for whatever reasons you don't take them in the regular academic year is summer school. Anatomy and Physiology I with lab, Anatomy and Physiology II with lab and General Chemistry I with lab are offered at BC summer school and at summer schools in colleges and universities around the country. We will accept courses completed at other accredited four-year schools (but not online courses), consistent with current BC practices across all the undergraduate colleges. See Question #11 for more details about summer courses.

7. What grades do I need to get in these courses to be able to transfer to nursing?

At the very minimum, you must pass (retain credit in) each science class--meaning a grade of D- or better in each course. Beyond this, we normally require a minimum weighted GPA of a C (2.0) in required science and math courses of our CSON first-year students before allowing them to progress to the sophomore year, so we ask the same level of performance of transfer

students as well. Normally, a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better in all courses (science and non-science) is normally required for transfers at Boston College. Note that these are minimum grades and meeting them does NOT guarantee admission. In NURS 2070, a grade of C- or better is required to transfer (if students do not end up transferring, a grade of D- or better will let students use the course as 2 elective credits in their home school degrees).

It is important to note that grades below C- in summer courses at BC or other universities are not normally accepted for transfer credit.

Therefore in terms of individual course grades, D- is a minimum passing grade for BC academic year courses, C- for NURS 2070 if it is to be used in the nursing major, and C- is the passing grade for summer courses anywhere. *At the risk of being repetitive, these are minimums--higher grades are strongly preferred for your sake and ours.*

8. Why is the minimum grade passing grade for transferring different for NURS 2070-- Introduction to Professional Nursing?

There is a long-standing policy in the Connell School of Nursing that nursing majors must receive grades of C- or better in all NURS courses (i.e. courses that have an NURS prefix and are given by the school of nursing in the nursing sequence for majors--but not science courses offered by other departments for nursing students) to be allowed to progress to more advanced courses in the program. Therefore, aspiring transfer students hoping to enter the second year of the BS (nursing) program must have passed this course at the level required of nursing majors. Anyone who gets a D- or better in the course can use it as an elective outside a CSON degree, though.

9. Am I guaranteed a place in the program if I can pass all of the required courses?

No. For the foreseeable future we expect to have more applicants than places and have had to institute a selection process, which includes review of grades as well as other characteristics and considerations by a committee with representation from CSON and other areas of the University. Furthermore, as noted above, science GPAs of 2.0 and cumulative GPAs of 3.0 are normally expected of internal transfer candidates.

Students should also be aware that the courses in the nursing major, beginning in sophomore year with NURS 2080--Pathophysiology are science-based and content-heavy--and the minimum passing grade in all of these classes is 70 (C-). Out of respect for students' time and money, we want to avoid students needing to leave our program for academic reasons, especially into their 3rd or 4th year of college. Everything considered, because the demands and responsibilities of nursing careers are so high and because of the high academic demands of our program, we expect transfer students to show more than minimally acceptable performance in prerequisite courses.

10. Shouldn't you be guaranteeing me a place in your program if I'm taking all these prerequisite courses?

Sadly, we're unable to make such guarantees. Any courses you take to prepare for transfer should be thought of as tests of the fit of your interests and abilities with our program, as well as your interest in pursuing a nursing career even if studying nursing might have to wait until after your (first) bachelor's degree. Even if you do well in prerequisite classes, you may decide that you don't really enjoy the courses or the content and decide against transferring in even if offered a place. So, uncertainty here runs a few ways. In the end, the unpredictability of available slots and our commitment to being fair to applicants (including not having arbitrary cutoff dates) preclude us from making guarantees--at least right now.

11. Is there anything else I can do with these courses if I don't end up transferring to CSON (if I don't get selected or I choose not to come in if offered a place)?

Yes, there is. There are many nursing programs in around the country for holders of bachelor's degrees in other fields. Some are fast-track bachelor's programs, others are graduate entry programs. All of these programs require a semester of general or life science chemistry with lab and a full year of anatomy and physiology with lab--as well as other courses, like lifespan human development and microbiology with lab. There are a number of other graduate entry health professions programs that require similar courses.

Here is a link that can take you to up-to-date lists of nursing programs:

<http://www.aacnnursing.org/Nursing-Education>

Search for "Accelerated BSN" programs and "Master's Entry" programs.

CSON has a direct-entry master's program. Information is available on our website and at

https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/schools/cson/admission-aid/how-to-apply.html#direct_master_s_entr

more specifically.

It is also important to realize that as long as you earn passing grades (by your school's standards) in the prerequisite courses to transfer into nursing, they will count as electives in your home school degree even if you don't end up transferring to nursing.

12. If I don't know I'm getting in for sure, why would I bother taking these courses?

That's a great question. If you take courses you wouldn't normally register for in order to keep open the possibility of majoring in nursing and/or that are an academic stretch for you, you're definitely taking a chance/risk. This is especially the case if the courses you're *not* taking in order to make room for the nursing prerequisites are ones that would help you complete your core requirements and/or move towards the requirements of your major in your current home

school. Taking on this type of risk/expense is something you should discuss with your advisor(s) and family.

Unfortunately, transferring into nursing is a privilege, not a right, and is contingent on the availability of places. At some point in the past, you decided not to apply to CSON or another nursing program as a student straight from high school or were not accepted to a nursing program originally--now you are applying to merge into a nursing program already in progress and need to pick up courses you're missing. A committee that includes representatives inside and outside the nursing school will give every application a fair and holistic reading but we cannot make any guarantees. As we note in the answer to Question #11, these courses are the prerequisites for any nursing program (including the highly selective master's-entry program in nursing here at BC) as well as a number of other post-baccalaureate health professions schools.

13. What about the option that students have to take microbiology with lab over the summer between freshman and sophomore years? How does that apply to me?

You will hear our current CSON first-years talk about an option we put out for students to take microbiology with lab (a second year course in general or medical microbiology that has first-year sciences as a prerequisite) at BC or another college/university over the summer to create breathing room in the first semester of the sophomore year. Not all CSON students are able to take advantage of this option or want to. It is important to note that all CSON sophomores (including students transferring into CSON) are guaranteed a place in microbiology with lab in the fall semester--and that taking microbiology over the summer is an option, not an obligation. As an accepted (or conditionally accepted) sophomore transfer student, you can certainly take microbiology in the summer (and it is a prerequisite for essentially all post-baccalaureate nursing programs at BC and elsewhere in the event that you didn't transfer into CSON in the fall) but it's your choice.

14. Can I take prerequisite courses in the summer before I transfer?

The short answer is yes. However, you should keep in mind applicants who have completed at least some science/math courses that address the program requirements listed in Question #2 by the time of application will be evaluated more favorably. Furthermore, even if they come up on the waitlist, students who have not completed the science courses needed to begin the second year of the program by the beginning of the Fall term will be turned away and not allowed to transfer in. Please also note that, NURS 2070 can't wait until the summer. (See the answer to Question #14.) You need to take NURS 2070 (a 2-credit course) in Spring 2019 to be eligible for transfer if you haven't taken it already.

Some issues to keep in mind:

- Summer school has to be the right option for you financially and practically to make this work. If financial need is an issue, students should apply for needs-based summer tuition

remission at BC through the Bowman AHANA and Intercultural Center (BAIC) as soon as possible. Deadline is usually mid-March (determined by the BAIC office).

- Scheduling of necessary courses has to work to make it possible to finish nursing prerequisites in the summer (General Chemistry I with lab tends to conflict with one of the Anatomy and Physiology courses/labs in the summer at BC, for instance).
- We cannot take any responsibility for finding summer courses that meet program requirements at universities outside BC or making arrangements that allow students to complete prerequisites on schedule. However, we will review any requests to look at course descriptions and/or syllabi and will help where we can.
- Following current BC policies in the undergraduate schools, only face-to-face (not online) summer courses at regionally accredited four-year schools will be accepted.
- Students must fill out this [course approval form](#) and have it signed by their current school's Associate Dean.

15. Why should I plan on going to summer school to complete any science courses that I didn't pick up during the regular academic year if I'm not guaranteed of a place in the program? I have to find and register for these courses so early and I might find out I have limited chances of transferring into nursing long afterwards. If I'm not getting into nursing, I might take different courses in the summer or not go to summer school at all.

We sympathize with your dilemma. Unfortunately, while this is not an ideal situation, there's not much we can do about it. Prerequisites for the sophomore year in nursing cannot be modified and all prerequisites must be completed by August 2019. By the end of April, we will be able to give you a pretty good idea of where you stand in the pack of transfer applicants relative to the available number of places. If you sign up for summer school at BC to take science courses and then find out it's highly unlikely you'll get a spot in sophomore year (and don't want to stay in the course(s) to keep your place on the waitlist and/or to get a jump on nursing prerequisites for post-baccalaureate programs), normally it's possible to switch to another class that you'd rather take or would be better off taking (such as a core course) and sometimes refunds are possible. Other universities have different policies about drop dates and refunds in their summer schools--you should find out the details in advance. It's a difficult personal decision you'll need to make.

16. I'm not nearby an acceptable summer school offering the courses I need and/or cannot afford the tuition or lost income to go to summer school near where I'll be this summer. What can I do?

Unfortunately, there's not a lot we can propose because the prerequisites for the sophomore year nursing courses are fixed and we must hold students to the same standards. Policies around online courses for undergraduates may change in the future at BC, but those currently in place do not allow us to count online courses outside BC at all.

17. I just realized I want to apply for transfer to the sophomore year in nursing but we're into the Spring semester. It's too late to register in NURS 2070, Introduction to Professional Nursing. Can I still apply for transfer?

Unfortunately, no. NURS 2070 is a prerequisite for the Health Assessment courses in the first semester of sophomore year in the nursing program and it is only offered in the Spring semester at BC. To our knowledge there are no summer versions of this course offered at other universities. We will notify any students who have applied for transfer but are not taking NURS2070 in the Spring that their applications are not being reviewed. The upshot is that you may decide you potentially want to transfer into the nursing program for next year by the first day of classes in the Spring/January 2019 semester or soon after and must register for NURS2070 in that semester.

18. What if I'm accepted as a transfer student in the Spring but haven't completed all of the required courses by the end of the summer?

Any student who has not completed all of the courses listed in #2 but has been told they have a committed slot in the program will be *conditionally* accepted until transcripts from other colleges (or updates on your grades at BC) confirm they have completed all prerequisite courses. With this confirmation, they will be moved to CSON as their home school and registered for the sophomore year nursing sequence. If for any reason a student who has been accepted conditionally does not take or does not pass required summer classes with acceptable grades, s/he will not be transferred over to CSON as their home school, and their place will be given to the next student on the waitlist who has completed all the classes required to begin the second year of the program.

19. Will you be selecting only on the basis of grades?

No. Our internal transfer selection process will be holistic--it will consider multiple factors. However, students should keep in mind that the BS (nursing) is a very academically demanding program and review of grades will definitely be part of the discussions and decisions. A pattern of improving grades will be considered very favorably. We will also be looking at demonstrated interest in and commitment to a nursing career (a good statement and strong early grades in NURS 2070 would help in this respect) as well as the contributions a student's background and experiences could make to the class and the profession (as shown in the statement and recommendation from a professor or advisor).

20. Can you give me a sense of the chances I will get in if I do apply for internal transfer?

Unfortunately we really can't. Low science grades and/or low cumulative GPAs will definitely decrease the likelihood of acceptance but as long as students' records meets minimum cutoffs or are near them, they won't necessarily be decisive. Similarly, high grades are not a guarantee of acceptance. Much will depend on the availability of places in the second-year class as a

function of the number of students who decide that they would like to leave CSON after first year, on our places in labs and clinical placements and on the pool of students who apply for transfer. It is really impossible to say anything at this point.

21. How long will it take me to finish the nursing program if I get in? Can I keep my graduation date that I was given at the time of my acceptance to BC if I am accepted and transfer into CSON?

Our current program of study requires courses in a sequence that requires at least five semesters to complete after the first-year course sequence. A Class of 2022 first-year student who is accepted into the program and starts the second year of the nursing program in their second year at BC (is selected and meets all requirements by the beginning of the Fall 2019 term) can complete all program requirements in nursing and still make their original graduation date. They can even consider studying abroad for a semester or any of the other options that students coming in after high school use their junior year flexibility for. Current second-year students (those in the Class of 2021) accepted in transfer who start the sophomore nursing sequence in their 3rd year at BC should expect to add an extra semester to their graduation date (normally the fall after their originally projected graduation date). They will normally be December (rather than May) grads in their original graduation years. See the information for Sophomore/Second-Year transfer applicants at the end of this document.

22. When will I know if I'm in the program?

Towards the end of April, after the selection committee has met and reviewed all applications and ranked applicants and we have a fairly good sense of how many students in CSON are not returning for second year, we will be able to give students a tentative sense of whether they are extremely likely, somewhat likely or unlikely to receive a place in the second year. We're hoping that this assessment will help students make decisions about summer courses. Acceptances of students ranked at the top of the transfer applicant pool will be contingent on our receipt of acceptable final grades for the Spring 2019 semester in May. Students who have been given places as of May and meet all requirements to begin second year as of the end of Spring semester will be transferred over in late May or early June. Students who are accepted as of May but still have prerequisites outstanding will stay conditionally accepted until transcripts/grades for summer courses are in.

The remaining students will be placed on a waitlist and informed that they will be accepted into the sophomore class as places become available depending on their place on the waitlist as we get word of students not returning to BC Nursing for the sophomore year between June and August.

Again, accepted students will not be formally transferred until their grades for any outstanding prerequisite courses taken during the summer become available and we can confirm that they're eligible to start second year.

23. When I receive my first notification in April about the status of my application, what can/should I do if I'm not immediately accepted?

If you have completed all your science courses, you will wait through the summer to see if your number comes up on the waitlist. If you have science courses left to complete and do not yet have a guaranteed slot in the program, you have a choice to make--whether or not you want to go to summer school to finish the courses and keep your place on the waitlist. We will inform people of their places on the wait lists at the beginning of the summer and let them know when they move up.

Normally by mid-August, no new slots open up. Students on the waitlist who have not been given spots in the program by that point will keep the course selections they originally registered for in the spring in their original programs and keep moving forward in those programs. If they're still interested in nursing, they can consider next steps--see Question #24.

24. How can I go up on the waitlist?

Applicants move up on the waitlist when current CSON first-year students leave and/or if other aspiring transfer students higher on the waitlist either don't take or fail to complete summer courses. We will confirm your continuing interest in staying on the waitlist over the summer as we inform you of any developments--there's no need to re-contact us.

25. Can I re-apply for transfer if I don't get in this year?

If you will be are a current freshman and will be a sophomore in 2019-20 and don't get into CSON as a transfer student for 2019-20, you will likely have one more chance to apply (full details will be available in late August/early September 2019). However, you should keep in mind that your graduation date will likely be pushed back by a semester if you're accepted to come in after your second year. If you're starting your sophomore year now, it's highly doubtful that you'll be allowed to apply for transfer into the sophomore year in 2020-21--you should count on finishing the bachelor's program you're currently enrolled in (or pursuing other alternatives) rather than the CSON BS (Nursing) program. (If you're serious about the profession.) You could explore post-baccalaureate nursing programs (See Question 11.)

Questions for Second-Year Applicants Only

1. Will I get preferential treatment in the internal transfer application process because I'm a sophomore and I'm that much further along in my studies?

No. The same holistic examination of grades/potential for success in the program, demonstrated interest in/commitment to nursing and characteristics/background that would add to the class/profession used for first-year transfer applicants will be used to evaluate

second-year applicants. Second-year applicants with uneven first-year grades will normally be expected to have shown significant improvement in their grades over the course of their semesters at BC.

2. If I'm accepted in transfer after my second year at BC, can you guarantee me access to a course sequence that will help me graduate sooner than five semesters after transfer?

No. There is a predetermined course sequence in our program with prerequisites for various courses in the nursing major. The whole sequence requires at least five semesters to complete after the first year course requirements are met and CSON does **not** currently offer undergraduate clinical courses during the summer. Furthermore, availability of clinical placements and clinical supervision has become tighter and class sizes have increased to the point that we can no longer offer alternative course sequences to transfer students. Therefore, transfer students entering the program in 2019-20 and beyond will **not** be offered an August graduation option that has been used for students who have taken leaves of absence and/or have failed courses. Consequently, students hoping to transfer into CSON after a second year at BC should count on delaying graduation by one semester. Given this reality, current sophomores outside CSON should confer with their financial aid officer at BC and/or their families about the implications of an extra semester of tuition **before** making any firm decisions about applying for transfer and/or accepting offers of transfer admission to CSON.

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