

Associate-to-Bachelor's (ATB) Degree Completion Option – ATB 1.0: **Frederick Community College & Towson University**

General Information for the Primarily Online/Hybrid Model

I. General Program Information

This dual enrollment option is available to eligible students once they are accepted to the Frederick Community College (FCC) Nursing Program. Admission is competitive and based on completed courses and grade point average (GPA). Students will be dually enrolled as degree-seeking students at both FCC and Towson University (TU). ATB 1.0 students begin their TU courses in the first term of their FCC nursing program. Once they earn the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree at FCC, students must pass the NCLEX-RN licensure exam and receive their RN license to continue with their remaining coursework at TU to complete the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

Up to 90% of the TU curriculum may be completed online. The practicum in the final term (NURS 489) must be completed face-to-face (in person). Other courses are typically offered online; the availability of in-person or hybrid course formats may vary depending on student interest and enrollment.

The ATB option requires year-round attendance and takes approximately 2.5 years to complete. Program length is nine terms, including winter and summer sessions. FCC courses will be held at the FCC campus in Frederick, MD. TU courses will be taken online or at the main TU campus in Towson, MD.

Two degrees will be awarded: A.S. from FCC and B.S. from TU. Students must meet all program and degree requirements at both institutions to receive the respective degrees. Advisors will be available at both schools.

II. Program Admission Requirements

- A. Admission to the FCC Nursing Program (selective process based on courses completed, GPA, and TEAS score)
- B. GPA of 3.0 or higher in FCC required admission courses
- C. Additional required courses (completed by the start of the first nursing course) with a C (2.0) or better:
 - General Chemistry with Lab (FCC CHEM 101) – 4 credits
 - Nutrition (FCC NUTR 200) – 3 credits

Students must also complete a basic statistics course with a C (2.0) or higher before enrolling in TU's required nursing research course (NURS 435). Students are strongly encouraged to take FCC's MATH 120 Statistics or MATH 200 Statistics with Probability prior to starting their nursing program.

III. General Application Procedures

Students must apply to both the FCC A.S. Degree Nursing Program and the TU ATB option by the programs' deadlines. Students who are admitted to the TU ATB option must be eligible to enroll at Towson University, but they do not have to apply to TU by the ATB deadline. The TU Department of Nursing will provide instructions to apply and enroll at the university if ATB admission is offered.

Applying to FCC RN Program

See FCC application deadlines and procedures at <https://frederick.edu/programs/healthcare/nursing.aspx>.

Applying to TU ATB

Students must apply and submit all required materials by the deadline to be considered for ATB admission.

Application Deadline:

- Fall Start – May 1

Required Materials:

1. NursingCAS Program Application for Associate-to-Bachelor's (ATB) – CSM: <https://nursingcas.liaisoncas.org/apply/>
2. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended submitted to NursingCAS

For full instructions to complete the NursingCAS application, visit the TU website:

<https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/nursing/undergrad/degree-options/associate-to-bs/admissions.html>.

Admission Decisions

The FCC and TU Nursing Departments will review completed applications for acceptance into the ATB option. Students will be notified by either email and/or letter with admission decision. TU will only release admission decisions once FCC has released their decisions. Students who do not receive admission to the FCC program will not receive a decision from TU.

IV. Tuition, Fees, and Financial Aid

Students will be charged tuition and fees based on the policies of each institution. Tuition and fees are subject to change each academic year. If students are using financial aid, it will be processed through the TU Financial Aid Office based on the total enrollment at both institutions. For the purposes of tuition and financial aid, students must be aware that the ATB plan of study involves part-time enrollment (less than 12 credits) for the majority of the program.

More information is available online:

- FCC tuition and fees: <https://frederick.edu/financial-services.aspx>
- TU tuition and fees: <https://www.towson.edu/student-university-billing/tuition/>
- TU financial aid information: <https://www.towson.edu/admissions/financialaid/>

V. Non-Nursing Course Requirements

Requirements for the FCC Associate Degree RN Program	Additional Requirements for Admission to the TU Associate-to-Bachelor's Option	Additional Non-Nursing TU Requirements to Award the Bachelor of Science in Nursing
ENGL 101 College Composition 3 cr MATH Gen Ed Math* 3 cr COMM Speech/Communication 3 cr ARTT Arts Elective 3 cr PSYC 101 Intro to Psychology 3 cr SOCY 101 Intro to Sociology 3 cr EDPS 210 Human Growth & Dev 3 cr HUMN Humanities Elective 3 cr BSCI 201 A&P I 4 cr BSCI 202 A&P II 4 cr BSCI 223 Microbiology 4 cr PHED** PE/HLTH/NUTR Elective 3 cr *Students should take MATH 120 Statistics or MATH 127 Statistics with Probability to satisfy the requirements of the TU ATB program. **Students should take NUTR 200 Nutrition to meet the TU ATB admission requirement.	General Chemistry with Lab 4 cr ▪ CHEM 101 General Chemistry I Nutrition for Health Professionals 3 cr ▪ NUTR 200 Nutrition Basic Statistics 3-4 cr ▪ MATH 120 Statistics or ▪ MATH 127 Statistics with Probability Note: Courses in this column can be taken at FCC. Chemistry & nutrition must be completed prior to starting the ATB option. Statistics must be completed prior to taking NURS 435. All prerequisites must be completed with a C (2.0) or higher.	Upper-level Elective (Healthcare Ethics) 3 cr Upper-level Elective (Health-related) 3 cr Note: These courses will be taken during the ATB Nursing option at Towson University. They are not required for admission to ATB and cannot be completed at FCC. Course selections will be made in consultation with the TU ATB advisor.
Totals: 34 credits	11-12 credits	6 credits

V. ATB Program Progression

Students are required to meet regularly with their TU advisor to review their degree plan. Students must follow the TU ATB plan of study, which accounts for factors such as when courses are typically offered and course prerequisite sequences. They may consider taking the upper-level electives in another term only after meeting with their TU advisor.

The completion of the final courses of the ATB curriculum outlined in the plan of study requires successful completion of the A.S. degree and/or active RN licensure. Enrollment in NURS 476, NURS 484, and NURS 489 requires the completion of the A.S. degree. NURS 489 also requires RN licensure and completion of all other courses in ATB curriculum courses (with the exception of NURS 476, NURS 484, and upper-level electives which may be taken concurrently).

VI. Contact Information

- Frederick CC – Kyla Newbould, Nursing Director of Nursing Education, knewbould@frederick.edu or 301-846-2607
- Towson University – Lisa Shue, Academic Program Manager, nursingdco@towson.edu or 410-704-4170

Frederick Community College - Towson University ATB 1.0 Nursing Plan of Study

Fall ATB Start (Fall FCC Start)

Term 1 Fall 20____	Term 2 Winter 20____	Term 3 Spring 20____	Term 4 Summer 20____	Term 5 Fall 20____
<u>FCC NURS 101</u> Introduction to Clinical Nursing 6 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 105</u> Pharmacology for Nurses 2 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 416 (O)</u> Diversity & Social Justice in Healthcare 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/3 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 211</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing I 7 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 214</u> Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU NURS 333 (O)</u> Writing for Evidence-Based Practice: Issues in Professional Nursing 3 credits/10 weeks <u>TU NURS 460 (O)</u> Nursing & Healthcare IV: Older Adults 2 credits/10 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 212</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing II 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 218</u> Maternal, Child, & Family Nursing 5 credits/15 weeks
11 credits	3 credits	10 credits	5 credits	9 credits
Term 6 Winter 20____	Term 7 Spring 20____	Term 8 Summer 20____	Term 9 Fall 20____	Term 10 Spring 20____
<u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/3 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 231</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing III 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 261</u> Preparation for Practice 2 credits/15 weeks <i>*A.S. degree awarded upon completion of FCC requirements*</i>	<u>NCLEX – RN</u> <u>TU NURS 435 (O)</u> Nursing Research for Evidence-Based Practice 3 credits/10 weeks	<u>TU NURS 349 (O)</u> Health Assessment & Health Promotion Across the Lifespan 4 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 476 (O)</u> Public Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU NURS 484 (O)</u> Nursing Leadership & Management 3 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 489 (F)</u> Degree Completion Practicum [Clinical] 3 credits/15 weeks <i>*B.S. degree awarded upon completion of TU requirements*</i>
3 credits	6 credits	3 credits	7 credits	6 credits

Disclaimer: Faculty at both Frederick CC and TU reserve the right to update curriculum plans in response to criteria set forth by accreditation bodies, best practices in nursing education, and the evolving needs of the health care system. The TU plan of study may be adjusted based on course availability and student enrollment needs.

Course Format Key

The letter behind a course title indicates that it can be offered in that format. Listing of multiple formats is not a guarantee that all formats will be available in a given term. Course format availability may vary depending on department resources and student enrollment needs.

- **Face-to-Face (F)** = 50% or more of the classroom activities are completed in an in-person classroom setting
- **Hybrid (H)** = 50% or more of classroom activities are completed in an online setting
- **Online (O)** = all class activities are completed in the online format