

## **Associate-to-Bachelor's (ATB) Degree Completion Option**

### **ATB 1.0 – Fall or Spring Start**

#### **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 Hagerstown Community College (HCC) Registered Nursing Program. Admission is competitive and based on completed courses and grade point average (GPA). Students will be enrolled as degree students at HCC and Towson University (TU) and begin to take TU courses during the Nursing Program at HCC. Once the Associate of Science (A. S.) Degree is awarded at HCC, students will take the nursing licensure exam (NCLEX-RN) and continue coursework at TU to complete the Bachelor of Science (B. S.) Degree.

Ninety percent of the TU curriculum could be offered online or hybrid depending on student interest and enrollment. The practicum course in the final term (NURS 489) requires an in-person clinical component. Students may choose their preferred course format for the required upper-level electives at TU.

The program length is up to 9 terms, including winter and summer terms. It will take approximately 2.5 years to complete both degrees. HCC courses will be held at the Hagerstown Community College campus in Hagerstown, MD. Most TU courses will be held online or in a hybrid format at the University System of Maryland Hagerstown (USMH) Center in Hagerstown, MD.

Two degrees will be awarded: A.S. from HCC and B.S. from Towson University. A minimum of 30 credits must be completed at TU for the B.S. degree. Advisors will be available from both HCC and TU. Financial aid will be arranged through Towson University Office of Financial Aid.

##### **II. Program Admission Requirements**

- A. Admission to HCC Nursing Program (selective process based on courses completed, GPA, and TEAS score)
- B. GPA of 3.0 or higher in HCC required admission courses
- C. Additional required courses (completed by the start of the first TU nursing course) with a C or better:
  - General Chemistry with Lab (HCC CHM 101 or 103) – 4 credits
  - Nutrition for Health Professionals (HCC BIO 206) – 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 HCC's MAT 116 Statistical Reasoning prior to starting their nursing program.

##### **III. 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 offered and required course sequences.

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).

##### **General Application Procedures**

Students must apply to both the HCC 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 Hagerstown CC RN Program**

See HCC application and program information at <https://www.hagerstowncc.edu/academics/divisions/nursing/nur>.

## Applying to TU ATB

Students must apply and submit all required materials by the deadlines to be considered for ATB admission. Students are responsible for ensuring that their application materials are received. Applications may be reviewed after the deadline on a space-available basis.

### Priority Application Deadline:

- Fall Start – May 1
- Spring Start – October 1

### Required Materials:

1. NursingCAS Program Application for Associate-to-Bachelor's (ATB) – Hagerstown CC:  
<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 HCC and TU Nursing Departments will review completed applications for acceptance into the ATB option. Students will be notified of their admission decision either via email and/or letter. TU will release admission decisions once HCC has released their decisions. Students who do not receive admission to the HCC 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. Regional tuition rates may apply to out-of-state students living in the following counties: Adams, Franklin, and Fulton Counties, PA; Loudon County, VA; Berkley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties, WV. If students are using financial aid, it will be processed through the TU Financial Aid Office based on the total enrollment at both institutions. ATB students may be enrolled part-time (6-11.5 credits) or full-time (12 or more credits) depending on the term. More information is available online:

- Hagerstown CC Tuition & Fees: <https://www.hagerstowncc.edu/financial-aid/tuition-fees>
- TU Tuition & 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<br>HCC Associate Degree RN Program  |      | Additional Prerequisites/Corequisites for<br>the TU ATB Option   |      | Additional Non-Nursing Requirements for the<br>TU Bachelor of Science in Nursing   |      |
|--|------|--|------|--|------|
| ENG 101 English Composition  | 3 cr | General Chemistry with Lab   | 4 cr | Upper-level Elective (Healthcare Ethics)   | 3 cr |
| ENG 102 English Composition & Lit  | 3 cr | ▪ CHM 101 Introductory College<br>Chemistry <u>OR</u>  |      | Upper-level Elective (Health-related course)   | 3 cr |
| BIO 203 Anatomy & Physiology I   | 4 cr | ▪ CHM 103 General Chemistry I  |      | <b>Note:</b> These courses will be taken during the ATB<br>Nursing option at Towson University. They are<br>not required for admission to ATB and cannot be<br>completed at Hagerstown CC. Course selections<br>will be made in consultation with the TU ATB<br>advisor. |      |
| BIO 203 Anatomy & Physiology II  | 4 cr | Nutrition  | 3 cr |  |      |
| BIO 205 Microbiology   | 4 cr | ▪ BIO 206 Nutrition for Health Sciences  |      |  |      |
| MAT Gen Ed Math*   | 3 cr | Basic Statistics   | 3 cr |  |      |
| PSY 101 General Psychology   | 3 cr | ▪ MAT 116 Statistical Reasoning  |      |  |      |
| PSY 204 Human Development  | 3 cr | <b>Note:</b> Courses in this column can be<br>taken at HCC. Statistics is required prior<br>to NURS 435; nutrition and chemistry are<br>required prior to taking NURS 489. These<br>courses must be completed with a C (2.0)<br>or higher. |      |  |      |
| SOC 101 Intro to Sociology   | 3 cr |  |      |  |      |
| Arts/Humanities Elective   | 3 cr |  |      |  |      |
| *Students should take MAT 116 Statistical<br>Reasoning to satisfy the requirements of<br>the TU ATB program. |      |  |      |  |      |
| Totals:  |      | 33 credits   |      | 10 credits   |      |
|  |      |  |      | 6 credits  |      |

### Program Contact Information

- Hagerstown CC – Karen Hammond, Director of Nursing Education, [kshammond@hagerstowncc.edu](mailto:kshammond@hagerstowncc.edu) or 240-500-2241
- Towson University – Dr. Beth Crusse, Dept. of Nursing Assistant Chairperson, [ecrusse@towson.edu](mailto:ecrusse@towson.edu) or 410-704-4205

## Hagerstown Community College - Towson University ATB Nursing Plan of Study Fall ATB Start

| Term 1<br>Fall 20____   | Term 2<br>Winter 20____   | Term 3<br>Spring 20____   | Term 4<br>Summer 20____  | Term 5<br>Fall 20____   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <b>HCC NUR 105</b><br>Foundations of Nursing<br>9 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 333 (O/H)</b><br>Writing for Evidence-Based Practice: Issues in Professional Nursing<br>3 credits/15 weeks | <b>TU NURS 416 (O)</b><br>Diversity & Social Justice in Healthcare<br>3 credits/3 weeks   | <b>HCC NUR 127</b><br>Nursing Care of Children<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 229</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult I<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 349 (O)</b><br>Health Assessment & Health Promotion Across the Lifespan<br>4 credits/15 weeks | <b>HCC NUR 224</b><br>Pharmacology<br>2 credits/10 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 460 (O/H)</b><br>Nursing & Healthcare IV: Older Adults<br>2 credits/10 weeks<br><br><i>*Opportunity to complete remaining corequisite courses at HCC*</i>                           | <b>HCC NUR 126</b><br>Nursing Care of Women & Infants<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 226</b><br>Behavioral Health Nursing<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>TU IDHP 325 (O)</b><br>Ethics for Healthcare Professionals<br>3 credits/15 weeks |
| 12 credits  | 3 credits   | 12 credits  | 8 credits  | 11 credits  |
| Term 6<br>Winter 20____   | Term 7<br>Spring 20____   | Term 8<br>Summer 20____   | Term 9<br>Fall 20____  |   |
| <b>TU Upper-Level Elective (O)</b><br>Health-Related Course<br>3 credits/3 weeks  | <b>HCC NUR 228</b><br>Contemporary Trends in Nursing & Leadership<br>2 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 230</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult II<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 231</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult III<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><i>*A.S. degree awarded upon completion of HCC requirements*</i> | <b>NCLEX – RN</b><br><br><b>TU NURS 435 (O/H)</b><br>Nursing Research for Evidence-Based Practice<br>3 credits/10 weeks<br>(Statistics required prior to enrollment in NURS 435)<br><br><i>*Opportunity to complete remaining corequisite courses at HCC*</i>                                 | <b>TU NURS 476 (O/H)</b><br>Public Health Nursing<br>3 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 484 (O/H)</b><br>Nursing Leadership & Management<br>3 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 489 (F)</b><br>Degree Completion Practicum [Clinical]<br>3 credits/15 weeks | <i>*B.S. degree awarded upon completion of TU requirements*</i>   |
| 3 credits   | 10 credits  | 3 credits   | 9 credits  |   |

**Disclaimer:** Faculty at both Hagerstown 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 the classroom activities are completed in the online format
- **Online (O)** = all class activities are completed in the online format



Department of Nursing

## Hagerstown Community College - Towson University ATB Nursing Plan of Study Spring ATB Start

| Term 1<br>Spring 20____   | Term 2<br>Summer 20____   | Term 3<br>Fall 20____   | Term 4<br>Winter 20____  | Term 5<br>Spring 20____  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>HCC NUR 105</b><br>Foundations of Nursing<br>9 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 333 (O)</b><br>Writing for Evidence-Based Practice: Issues in Professional Nursing<br>3 credits/15 weeks | <b>HCC NUR 224</b><br>Pharmacology<br>2 credits/10 weeks<br><br><b>TU IDHP 325 (O)</b><br>Ethics for Healthcare Professionals (Healthcare Ethics Upper-level Elective)<br>3 credits/10 weeks<br><br><b>TU Upper-Level Elective (O)</b><br>Health-Related Course<br>3 credits/5, 7, or 10 weeks<br><br><i>*Opportunity to complete remaining corequisite courses at HCC*</i>         | <b>HCC NUR 127</b><br>Nursing Care of Children<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 229</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult I<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 349 (O)</b><br>Health Assessment & Health Promotion Across the Lifespan<br>4 credits/15 weeks | <b>TU NURS 416 (O)</b><br>Diversity & Social Justice in Healthcare<br>3 credits/3 weeks  | <b>HCC NUR 126</b><br>Nursing Care of Women & Infants<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 226</b><br>Behavioral Health Nursing<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 435 (O)</b><br>Nursing Research for Evidence-Based Practice<br>3 credits/10 weeks<br><i>(Statistics required prior to enrollment in NURS 435)</i> |
| 12 credits  | 8 credits   | 12 credits  | 3 credits  | 11 credits   |
| Term 6<br>Summer 20____   | Term 7<br>Fall 20____   | Term 8<br>Winter 20____   | Term 9<br>Spring 20____  |  |
| <b>TU NURS 460 (O)</b><br>Nursing & Healthcare IV: Older Adults<br>2 credits/10 weeks<br><br><i>*Opportunity to complete remaining corequisite courses at HCC*</i>                            | <b>HCC NUR 228</b><br>Contemporary Trends in Nursing & Leadership<br>2 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 230</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult II<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><b>HCC NUR 231</b><br>Nursing Care of the Acute & Chronically Ill Adult III<br>4 credits/7.5 weeks<br><br><i>*A.S. degree awarded upon completion of HCC requirements*</i> | <b>NCLEX – RN</b>   | <b>TU NURS 476 (O)</b><br>Public Health Nursing<br>3 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 484 (O)</b><br>Nursing Leadership & Management<br>3 credits/15 weeks<br><br><b>TU NURS 489 (F)</b><br>Degree Completion Practicum [Clinical]<br>3 credits/15 weeks | <i>*B.S. degree awarded upon completion of TU requirements</i>   |
| 2 credits   | 10 credits  | 0 credits   | 9 credits  |  |

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**Department of Nursing**