Pre-Nursing at Illinois College

There are many options available for students who wish to enter the nursing field. Most IC students graduate first and then enter a 2-year MSN program, a 2-year BSN program, or an accelerated BSN program.

The GEM (Generalist Entry Master of Science in Nursing) Program with Rush University College of Nursing is an excellent way to enter the field of nursing. Open only to students who have already completed their bachelor’s degree, this fast-paced program is 7 quarters in length. Upon completion of the program students receive the MSN degree and are eligible to take the national licensing exam to become an RN. Entry is competitive; the minimum gpa for admission is 3.0.

Prerequisite IC Courses for the Rush University GEM Program

CH 111, 112. General Chemistry I, II
   (MA 133, Intro. to Functions, is a pre-or co-requisite.)
CH 203. Organic Chemistry I
BI 315, 316. Anatomy and Physiology I, II
BI 245. Microbiology
BH 225. Nutrition
MA 123. Statistics
PS 101. Intro. to Psychology
PS 275. Developmental Psychology OR PS 276. Lifespan Development

*Note: Most accelerated BSN programs have similar requirements.
Sample Course Schedule for the  Rush University GEM Program
Major: Biology/Exercise Science

First Year

Fall  Spring
BI 110 Biological Investigations  PS 101 Intro. to Psychology
First Year Seminar  EN 121 Principles of Writing
CO 101 Speech Fundamentals  MA 133 Intro. to Functions
BLUEPrint / elective  BLUEPrint / elective

Second Year

Fall  Spring
CH 111 General Chemistry I  CH 112 General Chemistry II
Foreign Language I  Foreign Language II
BH 335 Personal Wellness and Fitness  BLUEPrint connected course
MA 123 Statistics  PS 276 Lifespan Development

Third Year

Fall  Spring
PY 181 General Physics I  BI 245 Microbiology
BH 225 Nutrition  EDPE 308. Athletic Injuries and First Aid
CH 203 Organic Chemistry I  BLUEPrint/elective
*BH 240 Strength Training  BLUEPrint/elective or internship

Fourth Year

Fall  Spring
BI 315. Anatomy and Physiology I  BI 316. Anatomy and Physiology II
Exercise Science elective  BH 340 Exercise Phys/Kinesiology
BLUEPrint/elective  BLUEPrint / elective
BLUEPrint Senior Capstone  BLUEPrint Senior Capstone

Where do Illinois College graduates go to nursing school?
In the past fifteen years IC graduates have attended the following nursing programs:
Rush University GEM Program
Accelerated BSN Programs:
  Barnes/Jewish Goldfarb College of Nursing  SIU-Edwardsville
  Valparaiso University  University of Missouri-St. Louis

BSN Programs
  St. Francis College of Nursing  St. John’s College of Nursing
  Mennonite College of Nursing  St. Joseph’s College of Nursing
  Millikin University