



## ASSESSMENT TESTING FOR ARC NURSING PROGRAM ENROLLMENT



The Governor has signed legislation that requires students who attend California Community College Nursing Programs to take assessment/readiness tests before or shortly after entering a nursing program. Only California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO)-approved assessment tests may be used by registered nursing programs. The assessment tests will be used to identify areas of academic weakness that may require remediation for successful performance in the program. The tests generally include reading, math, science, and English. The passing standard and parameters for implementation of assessment testing have been developed by the CCCCCO. Each community college is working on specific processes to implement assessment testing utilizing the CCCCCO guidelines.

American River College (ARC) began implementing the "Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)" developed by Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI) in fall 2008. You may find out more information about ATI and the TEAS test by viewing their website at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com).

### CHANGES TO ASSESSMENT TESTING CRITERIA FOR ENROLLMENT BEGINNING SPRING 2010

1. All applicants will be screened for program eligibility.
2. The class plus alternates will be selected utilizing computerized random selection.
3. Selected students and alternates will be assigned a mandatory TEAS test date. This is a proctored exam. **Note: ARC will only provide TEAS testing for students and alternates selected for the program.**
4. All selected and alternate students will complete the TEAS test. A composite score (average of the four test elements) of 67 will be required for program enrollment. Note: This score is required for California Community College Nursing Programs only. Private and California State Universities may have different testing requirements and passing scores.
5. The TEAS test will be provided at no cost to all ARC selected students and alternates. Additionally, students may *borrow* a TEAS study guide in advance of the testing date.
6. Selected students who have already completed TEAS testing **do not need to retake the test**. The CCCCCO has no recency requirement for assessment testing. ARC will accept the FIRST/EARLIEST TEAS scores. For this reason, there is no need to take multiple tests to improve scores. Students will be required to go onto the ATI website and electronically transfer their TEAS scores to ARC. Paper copies of test results will not be accepted. Please visit the ATI website for more information on transferring scores to ARC.
7. Only selected students with an overall composite score of 67 on their first test attempt will enroll in the nursing program. Alternates who achieve the 67 composite score on first test attempt will remain on the alternate list. Should program spaces become available, alternates will be offered program enrollment. Alternates who are not enrolled are guaranteed enrollment in the next available nursing semester.
8. Students who meet the 67 composite score on first test attempt, but **fall below norms for individual testing components**, will have the opportunity to meet with a Nurse Retention Specialist. This is not mandatory, but highly recommended. The Nurse Retention Specialist will provide specific suggestions for course work, support services, etc. Students will enroll in the nursing program, but may benefit from concurrently enrolling in additional academic skill-strengthening course work.
9. Selected students and alternates who do not meet the 67 composite score on first test attempt will:
  - a. Confer with a Nurse Retention Specialist to review test results. After analysis, a specific and individualized remediation plan will be developed.
  - b. Have one year to complete the remediation plan.
  - c. Retake the TEAS test at ARC when remediation plan is completed. A minimum composite score of 67 will be required.
  - d. Be placed on the ARC Nursing Program alternate list upon completion of the remediation plan and successful retaking of the TEAS test. Timing of program entry is dependent upon when the remediation plan is completed with satisfactory results. Students will be notified of the expected semester of program entry when placed on the alternate list.
  - e. Students who do not complete the remediation requirements within the one-year time frame and/or do not achieve the 67 composite score on retake will forfeit their nursing program space and will be required to restart the application process as a new student.