**TO PREPARE FOR A FUTURE AT CNHP**

You must become familiar with the field of study in which you are interested. Contact the department or program of your choice for specific information and ask how best to prepare yourself for admission (about prerequisites, admission requirements, deadlines, health records, immunization requirements, etc.).

**ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**

Students must first be admitted to Arkansas State University through the Office of Admissions. Phone: (870) 972-3074 or 1-800-882-3072 if you are calling from out of town. Admission to Arkansas State University does not guarantee admission to the programs in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Check with the program of your choice for detailed admission requirements and deadlines (which may vary each year).

**ACREDITATION AND REGISTRATION**

The associate, baccalaureate, and master's degree programs in nursing are approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Commission for Accreditation in Education in Nursing (ACEN). The BSN degree is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs. Upon completion of either of the undergraduate nursing programs the graduate is eligible to take the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination (NCELX) and, after passing the examination, to be licensed as a Registered Nurse by the state(s) to which application was made.

The Clinical Laboratory Science programs are accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). Graduates of these programs are eligible to write the national certifying examinations in their specialty through the American Society of Clinical Pathologists or other appropriate agency.

Communication Disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. Graduates are eligible to take the Specialty Area Exam in Speech-Language Pathology (part of the Praxis Series Exam) administered by ETS (Education Testing Service). Graduate students must complete the exam, and have official results reported to CSU prior to graduation with the Master's Degree.

The Physical Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistant programs are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association. Graduates are eligible to take the licensing examination administered by the Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy.

The Radiography, MRI and Radiation Therapy programs are accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT). Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certifying examination of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

The Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant programs are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CODA). Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certifying examination of the American Dental Hygienists Association (ARDHA). Also, faculty members are eligible to sit for the national certifying examination of the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA).

The Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs (CAHPP). Graduates are eligible to sit for the national certifying examinations in abdomen, obstetrics and vascular technology offered by the Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS).

Social Work is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Graduates are eligible to sit for the Licensed Social Worker exam in the profession. The exam is the same exam given nationwide in the field of Social Work.

The Cooperated Program in Dietetics has been granted candidate status by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the national credentialing examination and apply for state licensure.

Accreditation for Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management degrees is not required or universal. However, the DPEM is seeking accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Emergency Management Education. This organization is seeking to be recognized by the Department of Education as the official accreditor for such programs.

The occupational therapy assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is “www.acoteonline.org.” Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant graduate, upon the Board of Nursing approval, eligible to sit for the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT examination to attain state licensure.

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidate Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is “www.acoteonline.org.” The program must have a preaccreditation review complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licensure are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidate Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is “www.acoteonline.org.” The program must have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licensure are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Most state and national board application forms ask if the applicant has ever been convicted of a crime. Certain crimes (e.g. convictions or even use or sale) may make the applicant ineligible to write the examination. If a student has any reason to believe that she/he may be ineligible to write state or national board examinations, she/he should discuss this with the department chair or program director.

State Board defines what social work is and delineates the practice in the profession. The exam is the same exam given nationwide in the field of Social Work.

The Coordinator Program in Dietetics has been granted candidate status by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Graduates of the program are eligible to sit for the national credentialing examination and apply for state licensure.

Accreditation for Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management degrees is not required or universal. However, the DPEM is seeking accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Emergency Management Education. This organization is seeking to be recognized by the Department of Education as the official accreditor for such programs.

The occupational therapy assistant program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is “www.acoteonline.org.” Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapy assistant graduate, upon the Board of Nursing approval, eligible to sit for the NBCOT Certification Examination. After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licensure are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

The entry-level occupational therapy doctoral degree program has applied for accreditation and has been granted Candidate Status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD 20814-3449. ACOTE’s telephone number is (301) 652-AOTA and its Web address is “www.acoteonline.org.” The program must have a preaccreditation review, complete an on-site evaluation, and be granted Accreditation Status before its graduates will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). In addition, all states require licensure in order to practice; however, state licensure are usually based on the results of the NBCOT Certification Examination. Note that a felony conviction may affect a graduate’s ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination or attain state licensure.

Most state and national board application forms ask if the applicant has ever been convicted of a crime. Certain crimes (e.g. convictions or even use or sale) may make the applicant ineligible to write the examination. If a student has any reason to believe that she/he may be ineligible to write state or national board examinations, she/he should discuss this with the department chair or program director.
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING (AASN).

The purpose of the associate level is to prepare graduates in the provision of direct nursing care for clients with common well-defined problems. The graduate is prepared to function as a member of the profession and manager of care in acute and community-based settings. Phone: (870) 972-3074 or e-mail jswiley@AState.edu.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN).

The nurse prepared at the baccalaureate level is a professional who has acquired a well-defined and broad knowledge base for practice. This knowledge base prepares the beginning graduate to manage complex patient care, as well as the support courses. A second degree one-year accelerated program is available for the person with a Bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing. Phone: (870) 972-3074 or e-mail jswiley@AState.edu.

Graduates of both the AASN and BSN programs upon the Board of Nursing approval are eligible to sit for the national licensure examination (NCLEX) to become a registered nurse (RN).

Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN).

The MSN prepares nurses with the complex practice skills and theoretical knowledge necessary for advanced nursing practice in the contemporary health care system. Graduate study in nursing is the basis for professional growth in advanced practice roles and is the foundation for doctoral study. Areas of study for MSN are adult health clinical nurse specialist, nurse educator, nurse administrator, family nurse practitioner and nurse anesthesia. Phone: (870) 972-3074 or e-mail jswiley@AState.edu. For information regarding admission to the Arkansas State Graduate School, Phone: (870) 972-3023.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

The DNP program is offered as a post-master’s Nursing degree for Advanced Practice Nurses. The DNP curriculum builds on traditional master's programs with expanded advanced practice, advanced clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills to design and implement programs of care delivery which significantly impact health care outcomes and have the potential to transform health care delivery. Graduates with this terminal degree practice will be prepared for roles in direct care or indirect, systems focused care. Phone: (870) 972-3074, (870) 972-3074, or e-mail jswiley@AState.edu.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMS

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN (CLT).

This two-year program prepares CLTs to perform a variety of laboratory tests which aid the physician in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. Graduates are eligible to sit for state licensure exams (where applicable) and national registry exams. Phone: (870) 680-8556 or e-mail vlong@AState.edu.

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST (CLS).

A graduate from the Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science program is educationally and professionally skilled to perform in the clinical laboratory. In addition to routine testing, the CLS can assume responsibility for high complexity testing and function in management roles such as a consultant or specialist. Phone: (870) 680-8556 or e-mail vlong@AState.edu.

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS BS IN BCSD.

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication Disorders is a preprofessional degree program which provides academic and practical preparation considered essential for success in graduate programs in Communication Disorders. Phone: (870) 972-3106 or e-mail ashollenbarger@AState.edu.

MASTER OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (MCD).

The MCD educates individuals in all aspects of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of a full spectrum of speech, hearing, language, and swallowing disorders. Graduates receive the necessary academic and clinical practice requirements for the National Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP), and for licensure to practice speech language pathology in Arkansas. Phone: (870) 972-3106 or e-mail ashollenbarger@AState.edu.

COORDINATED PROGRAM IN DIETETICS (BS).

The Coordinated Program in Dietetics provides for the achievement of knowledge and performance requirements of entry-level dietitians through integration of didactic instruction with a minimum of 1200 hours of supervised practice. Upon completion of their BS degree, students are eligible to take the national credentialing examination administered by the Commission of Dietetic Registration (CDR). Phone: (870) 680-8556 or e-mail jpsyer@AState.edu.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT).

The DPT degree prepares students for a professional career as a physical therapist (PT) in evaluation and treatment of patient activities, implements treatment programs according to a plan of care, educates patients in exercises and activities of daily living, conducts treatments using specialized equipment and more. Phone: (870) 972-3951 or e-mail beckwith@AState.edu.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH STUDIES (BSHS).

The Bachelor of Science in Health Studies degree (BSHS) serves a three-fold purpose for students: 1) planning to seek employment in a health or health related position upon graduation; 2) planning for a baccalaureate degree as a foundation in health disciplines and 3) planning a health career that requires a post-baccalaureate plan of study. This degree does not lead to a professional credential or state licensure. Phone: (870) 972-3112 or e-mail vlong@AState.edu.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE (MSHS).

The Master of Science in Health Science degree is a generic graduate degree which allows prospective students who are members of the healthcare workforce to advance their education. This program provides four graduate certificate options - 1) Health Sciences Education 2) Aging Studies 3) Health Care Management 4) Addiction Studies. Phone: (870) 972-3073 or e-mail vlong@AState.edu.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (AAS, BS, MINOR, MS & GRADUATE CERTIFICATE).

Graduates of the Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management programs, in conjunction with the National Response Framework, will be valuable contributors to their community, state and national disaster preparedness and emergency management activities. Employment opportunities include healthcare settings, government agencies, non-government organizations, education, law enforcement, emergency medical services, fire service, and other entities. All geographic areas utilize disaster experts including local, state, regional, national and international locations. Phone: (870) 680-8286 or e-mail dpe@AState.edu.

MEDICAL IMAGING AND RADIATION SCIENCES (MRS).

The BS in Radiologic Sciences degree is designed to build upon the sophomore/junior year of Radiography and prior completion of the general education curriculum. The degree is designed to produce baccalaureate prepared, radiologic science professionals who are multi-skilled, multi-competent practitioners. Specialty areas are: 1) Computed Tomography/Magnetic Resonance Imaging 2) Computed Tomography/Mammography 3) Radiation Therapy 4) Sonography 5) Computed Tomography/Cardiovascular-Interventional Technology 6) Computed Tomography/Medical Imaging Informatics 7) Computed Tomography/Radiology Management Phone: (870) 972-3073 or e-mail radiation@AState.edu.

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK (BSW).

The Bachelor of Social Work degree prepares students for beginning level generalist social work practice which is based on client strengths. Students at the bachelor’s level work in a broad array of settings, as case managers, working with individuals, work in families and groups and intervene with organizations and communities. Phone: (870) 972-3954 or e-mail jsootes@AState.edu.

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW).

The Master of Social Work degree prepares students for graduate level clinical social work practice. Students at the graduate level work in a broad range of settings including: trauma, addiction, substance abuse, and more. Phone: (870) 972-3954 or e-mail lmtrent@AState.edu.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT (OTA).

Occupational therapy assistants (OTA) help patients develop and recover the skills needed for daily living and working. OTAs are directly involved in providing therapy to patients. Graduates from the two-tiered Occupational Therapy Assistant program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapy administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) www.nbcot.org. Most states require licensure.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DOCTORATE (OTD).

Occupational therapists assist people across the lifespan participate in the things they want and need to do through the therapeutic use of everyday activities (occupations). Occupational therapy services typically include an individualized evaluation, customized intervention and an outcomes analysis. Graduates from the Occupational Therapy Doctorate program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for occupational therapy administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) www.nbcot.org. Most states require licensure.

Phone: (870) 972-3112 or e-mail vlong@AState.edu.

For more information on any of these programs, visit our website at AState.edu/CoNHP.