

**Copper Mountain College**

**Registered Nursing Program**

Copper Mountain College (CMC) offers an Associate of Science-Registered Nursing (ADN) degree.

The Registered Nursing (RN) Program is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN).

**TRAINED MILITARY HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL**

**CHALLENGE/ADVANCED PLACEMENT ADMISSION POLICY**

**(Senate Bill 466)**

Effective December 15, 2023

Applicants choosing to enter as an advanced placement student must schedule an appointment with the Copper Mountain College (CMC) RN Program Director or Assistant Nursing Director to obtain an evaluation of previous military education and experience or other acquired knowledge in the field of nursing. The school will determine whether course credit can be awarded for partial course credit and/or which nursing courses and other required college courses will be required for program completion and college graduation.

Eligible Military Applicants/Advanced Placement students may challenge any Registered Nursing Course according to Copper Mountain College Administrative Procedure (AP) 4235 Credit for Prior Learning.

Honorably discharged individuals who have held Military Health Care Occupations equal but not limited to [Basic Medical Technician Corpsman (Navy HM or Air Force BMTCP), Army Health Care Specialist (68W Army Medic) or Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician (IMDT 4N0X1C)] may apply for Advanced Placement into RN Program

**Advanced placement definition**: A student who is seeking to enter the RN nursing program at a level higher than the first semester.

**Copper Mountain College Nursing Department offers Advanced Placement Opportunities:**

The Advanced placement option at CMC provides individuals with acquired knowledge in the field of healthcare (i.e., Military education and experience, Licensed Vocational Nurses, and other healthcare workers) an opportunity to obtain credit for previous education in an effort to enter into the RN nursing program at a level higher than the first semester. A challenge exam may be required for students seeking advanced placement.

If you would like to learn more about Advanced Placement into the Copper Mountain College RN Program, send an email to [nursing@cmccd.edu](mailto:nursing@cmccd.edu) or call directly to the nursing office at (760) 366-5241 to schedule an appointment with the RN Nursing Program Director.

A. Acceptance of Military Challenge applicants into the RN Program is contingent upon space availability, a minimum score of 70 on the approved admission formula, achieving the required HESI-A2 exam scores, successfully scoring 75% or above on the written challenge exam for each course challenged, scoring 90% or above on the written dosage calculation exam, and successful demonstration of skills for each course being challenged in the CMC RN Programs.

B. Interested Military Challenge candidates must request an appointment with the RN Program Director to discuss Military Challenge/Advanced Placement eligibility requirements for the RN Program.

C. Applicants who may be eligible for Military Challenge/Advanced Placement include those individuals who have satisfactorily completed, education and work experience equal but not limited to the following:

* Basic Medical Technician Corpsman (Navy HM or Air Force BMTCP)
* Army Health Care Specialist (68W Army Medic)
* Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician (IMDT 4N0X1C)

D. Applicants applying for Military Challenge/Advanced Placement must submit the following materials verifying education and experience:

* Official Joint Services (SMART) Transcript from appropriate military education program(s) demonstrating satisfactory completion of coursework and clinical experience within the last two (2) years;
* Documentation of military work experience in the Military Health Care Occupation;
* Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) documenting Honorable Discharge.

**TRAINED MILITARY HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL CHALLENGE**

**RN PROGRAM ADVANCED PLACEMENT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

A. All prerequisite courses required for the RN Program must be completed within nine (9) years of application for admission.

B. Most prerequisite courses must be completed with a ‘B’ or better (See Item “F. Required Registered Nursing Program Courses” below), and all college-level coursework must be completed with a cumulative 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) or better. All college-level attempts at courses taken at any accredited school will be used to calculate the GPA, including those with grades of I, W, D and/or F.

C. All co-requisite coursework required for the ADN degree must be completed by the end of the semester during which the application for admission to the RN Program is submitted.

D. Proof of high school graduation or equivalency demonstrated by providing any of the following: An official high school transcript **or** an official transcript demonstrating a passing score on the California High School Proficiency Examinations **or** an official General Education Development (GED) transcript. Foreign high school transcripts must be evaluated and determined to be equivalent by an international evaluation service approved by Copper Mountain College (CMC). Schedule an appointment with a CMC counselor for details regarding the foreign transcript evaluation process.

E. Official transcripts must be submitted for ALL college (including CMC) and post-secondary (after high school at a technical school, ROP program, etc.) coursework attempted or completed must be presented at the time of application to the RN Program. It is the Military Challenge applicant’s responsibility to provide official transcripts and any additional requested evidence (such as a course syllabus) of meeting all admission criteria. Foreign transcripts must be evaluated by a Foreign Transcript Evaluator approved by CMC.

F. REQUIRED REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM COURSES

Many of these courses have prerequisites. Please see the CMC catalog for details.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * BI-022 Human Anatomy with lab \*\* | 4 units |
| * BI-023 Human Physiology with lab \*\* | \*\*\*4/5 units |
| * BI-015 Microbiology with lab | \*\*\*4/5 units |
| * ENG-003A College Composition | 3 units |
| * PSY-003 Developmental (Lifespan) Psychology | 3 units |
| * MATH-040 Intermediate Algebra \* | \*\*\*3/4 units |
| * PSY-001 General Psychology | 3 units |
| * SOC-001 Intro to Sociology   or ANTH-002 Cultural Anthropology | 3 units |
| * SP-001 Interpersonal Communication   or SP-004 Public Speaking  or SP07 Decision-Making and Advocacy  or SP-015 Intercultural Communication | 3 units |
| * One course which meets the Humanities requirement | 3 units |

|  |
| --- |
| * prerequisite courses which must be completed with grade of ‘B’ or better prior to submission of an application. * required courses which must be completed with a grade of ‘C’ or better.   **\*** Due to AB 705 and AB 1705 regulations, the District no longer offers MATH 040. CMC is proactively accepting course substitutions for MATH 040 in the RN degree for the 23-24 academic year. Students may substitute MATH 014, MATH 010, SOC 003, or any Math course higher than MATH 010 in the College Algebra Sequence, or MATH 016 for MATH 040. If a student requests a substitution of MATH 016 for MATH 040, the student will need to complete one additional unit to fulfill the required 73 minimum degree units. The additional unit can be from another transfer level course a student has on their transcript.  **\*\*** Students with transfer credit of 4 units for BI 015 and/or BI 023 satisfy the prerequisite requirement. The student will need to complete each additional unit to fulfill the required 73 minimum degree units. Additional units can be from other transfer level course(s) a student has on their transcript. |
| **\*\*\***If a student requests a substitution of MATH 016 for MATH 040, and/or has transfer credit of 4 units for BI 015 and/or BI 023 satisfy the prerequisite requirement, the student will need to complete each additional unit to fulfill the required 73 minimum degree units. Additional units can be from other transfer level course(s) a student has on their transcript. |

The Application form and instructions for submission are posted on the Registered Nursing Program – Military Challenge portion of the CMC website Health Sciences page at <https://www.cmccd.edu/programs/registered-nursing/>

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

You have two (2) options for turning in your application:

1. Applicants may send the application packet via USPS addressed as follows:

Copper Mountain College

Attention: RN Program Admissions Committee

PO Box 1398

Joshua Tree CA 92252

Please note we do not sign for applications sent via FedEx, UPS, or any USPS method of shipment requiring a signature. We suggest you choose a method to track your application when you send the packet. Please contact the carrier for guidance.

1. If you wish to drop off your application packet, it must be in a sealed envelope. On the front of the envelope, print:

Your Name  
RN Program Admissions

Military Challenge Applicant

The packet may be mailed or dropped off in the Health Science Office, Room 214, or placed into the white drop box located in the 100-quad in front of the Academic Services office (Monday through Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except holidays and weekends).

A. Upon receipt, the application will be screened for eligibility. If the applicant is eligible, they will be contacted and offered the course material (i.e., textbook, syllabus, and any resources necessary in preparation to take the course(s) final exam, math exam, and skills competencies).

Written and skills competency examinations will be administered at a date to be coordinated between the nursing department and the applicant.

Evidence of completion of prerequisites and co-requisite coursework is required for the Associate of Science-Registered Nursing (ADN) Degree. This is evaluated using the Chancellor’s Office Predictor of Success Formula (Community College Nursing Prerequisite Validation Study) (Formula). All prerequisite coursework must be completed within nine (9) years of application for admission to the RN Program in line with the GPA requirements of this policy.

Military Challenge applicants are required to meet the minimum score of seventy (70) on the Formula to be considered for admission. Data elements entered into the Formula are:

* GPA from ALL colleges attended
* GPA in ALL English coursework
* GPA in sciences: Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology
* The number of times Microbiology, Anatomy, and Physiology courses have been repeated within the seven (7) years prior to application for admission (repeats after a withdrawal have the same negative impact as repeats after a failure).

B. Military Challenge applicants will be ranked in order of Formula score, and applicants receiving the highest Formula scores will be considered for conditional admission. Military Challenge applicants who are considered for conditional admission are notified via e-mail. Failure to respond by the specified deadline results in the removal of the Military Challenge applicant from consideration.

Military Challenge applicants who meet admission criteria for the RN Program and have successfully passed the Challenge Course Exam(s) and Skills competencies for challenged course(s) may be placed contingent upon space available in the qualifying course(s).

C. Military Challenge applicants who have been dismissed from an Allied Health/Health Sciences/ Nursing Program for the following reasons may be ineligible for admission to the CMC RN Program.

* Academic and/or clinical failure (failure = D or F grade)
* Unsafe clinical performance
* Acts of dishonesty or unethical behavior
* Violation of program professional conduct standards.

The student may initiate an appeal process by making an appointment with the RN Program Director to discuss entry into the RN Program. For consideration, the applicant must submit documentation from the previous school with the reason for dismissal and include an essay with corrective action(s) you will take in the future if you are accepted into the RN Program. The applicant's request for consideration into the RN Program will be reviewed by the Nursing Department and CMC Administration. The final decision for entry will be at the discretion of the RN Program Director.

D. The RN Program requires a criminal background check and drug screen.  Military Challenge applicants who have a felony on their background check and/or fail the drug screen are ineligible for admission to the RN Program. Military Challenge applicants who have a misdemeanor on their background check may be ineligible for admission to the RN Program.

E. Military Challenge applicants must take the HESI Admission Assessment Exam (HESI-A2 Exam). The following sections of the exam are required:

* Reading Comprehension (must achieve a minimum score of 75%)
* Vocabulary & General Knowledge (must achieve a minimum score of 75%)
* Grammar (must achieve a minimum score of 75%)
* Basic Math Skills (must achieve a minimum score of 80%)
* Anatomy and Physiology (must achieve a minimum score of 80%)
* Learning Style (not scored)
* Personality Profile (not scored)

Military Challenge applicants who achieve the highest Formula scores and who demonstrate minimum HESI Exam scores on each section (see above) of the exam will be considered for admission.

F. Military Challenge applicants who do not achieve the minimum HESI Exam scores in the respective scoring sections will be given the opportunity to retest (within three weeks) the section(s) of the HESI where the minimum score was not achieved for the same-term admission consideration. If the Military Challenge applicant does not pass all sections of the HESI on the second attempt, the Military Challenge applicant will not be considered for admission. The military applicant may reapply during the next open enrollment cycle.

Military Challenge applicants reapplying must follow the admission requirements in effect at the time of reapplication.

G. The following order of priority will be used to determine admission selection for Advanced Placement applicants:

1. Returning CMC students who left with passing grades
2. Military Challenge Applicants
3. LVN student(s) wishing to enter the program
4. Returning CMC students who left with failing grades
5. Transfer applicants (i.e., another nursing program) who left passing grades

H. After a review of the Military Challenge applicant’s documentation, and upon the determination that the applicant has met the educational, experience, Chancellor’s Office Predictor of Success Formula, and HESI examination requirements, as well as the additional RN Program admission requirements, the Military Challenge applicant will be required to take the written challenge examination(s), the written dosage calculation exam(s) and successfully demonstrate skills required in N-010 Nursing Foundations and any other nursing course being challenged.

I. The following materials will be available to the Military Challenge applicant once eligibility to challenge is determined:

* Course syllabus, including course objectives and outcomes
* Textbook list
* Other available resources in the course

J. Written and skills competency examinations will be administered at a date to be coordinated between the nursing department and the applicant.

K. Based on the results of the written challenge exams and successful demonstration of skills required in N-010 Nursing Foundations and other courses challenged, placement will be determined.

L. If a Military Challenge applicant is offered admission, additional requirements must be met prior to enrollment in nursing courses. These requirements include health screenings, a criminal background check, and drug screening–any potential Military Challenge applicant who fails to meet the requirements will not be allowed to enroll in nursing courses, and the offer of RN Program admission will be withdrawn.

M. If it is deemed to be in the best interests of the RN Program’s success, the Program Director may determine that vacant seats will not be filled, even in the presence of qualified Military Challenge applicants.

N. A waitlist may be maintained at the discretion of the RN Program Director.

Military Challenge applicants who do not receive an offer before the course start date may elect to reapply and are subject to conditions of the admission policy in effect at the time of reapplication.

O. Any Military Applicant may challenge any Registered Nursing Course according to Copper Mountain College’s Administrative Procedure (AP) 4235, Credit for Prior Learning.