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Policy Title: PhD Admission Policy

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Minimum admission requirements for the PhD program are established by the PhD Council of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) Cizik School of Nursing. The PhD Council reviews each applicant on an individual basis according to admissions criteria. To reflect diversity within the school's educational environment, the PhD Council takes into account a multiplicity of factors in the admissions process. The admission factors are not assigned a specific weight or point value. The PhD Council considers the totality of each application.

### Criteria for Admission

One official copy of transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended is required. If the applicant attended any school within UTHealth, it is not necessary to request a transcript. All transcripts must be printed within six months of receipt. Electronic submission is preferred. The application packet must include the following:

- For those applying to the BSN to PhD program, applicants must have a baccalaureate degree in nursing earned from a CCNE accredited program with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- For those applying to the PhD program with a master's degree preferably in nursing from an accredited school, applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- All applicants must have an unencumbered registered nursing license to practice in Texas. Evidence of national certification in a nursing specialty is desired, but not required for admission.
- Three (3) letters of academic/professional references (at least two must possess an earned doctoral degree addressing the applicant's potential to conduct independent research).
- If international applicant, one official copy of TOEFL score. TOEFL scores cannot be more than two (2) years old.
- If applicant is an international student or attended school outside the United States, a course-by-course evaluation of international credentials by Educational Credential

**Evaluators (ECE).**

- **A 500-word statement of area of research interest, career goals, and reason(s) for desiring doctoral study.**
- **A curriculum vitae documenting experience, scholarly activities, publications, and presentations.**