

Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where do I apply?

If you are applying to Saskatoon or Regina, or both sites, submit **one** application form and \$90 fee to SIAST Kelsey Campus (full address is on form). If you are applying to Prince Albert, submit **one** application form and \$90 fee to First Nations University in Regina (full address is on form).

2. Does the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan consider out-of-province applicants?

Admission to the NEPS program is currently open to Canadian citizens and applicants with landed immigrant status.

3. Does the Prince Albert site accept only Aboriginal applicants?

The Prince Albert site currently considers qualified applicants using the following priorities:

- Priority 1: Applicants of Aboriginal ancestry who are Northern residents
- Priority 2: Applicants of Aboriginal ancestry in Saskatchewan who are not Northern residents
- Priority 3: Saskatchewan applicants who are non-Aboriginal but are Northern residents
- Priority 4: Other Saskatchewan applicants

4. What is the definition of a northern resident?

The Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan defines a northern resident as someone who has resided in Saskatchewan's Northern Administration District (N.A.D.) for a period of 10 years or one-half his/her life-time, whichever is less. A resident is defined as living with parents or guardians, or living in and maintaining one's own personal residence in the N.A.D. for at least 8 months of each year. First Nations University of Canada defines the N.A.D. as communities from Prince Albert northward. Applicants will be required to provide proof that they came from one of the northern communities. Contact the Prince Albert site for additional information.

5. Who should applicants and SIAST counselors contact at First Nations University for information or points of clarification?

Lisa Seesequasis (year 1 counselor at ext 7132)
Jackie Nixon (year 2 counselor at ext 7135)
First Nations University of Canada, Prince Albert site
Phone: (306) 765-3333
Fax: (306) 765-3330

6. Does the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan consider international applicants?

Not currently. International applicants will not be accepted to the NEPS 2009 intake.

7. What steps are in place to assess international credentials for Saskatchewan (Canadian) applicants or Landed Immigrants with international credentials?

Registration Services will check for English proficiency and the Registrar will assist with assessing the international credentials. There is no need to send credentials for NEPS applicants to IQAS for assessment.

8. What types of English proficiency do we accept for the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan?

English is the language of instruction and examination in the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan. Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to provide proof of English proficiency. Any of the following are acceptable:

- A score of at least 550 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 213 on the computer-based TOEFL. Sylvan Learning Centre in Saskatoon offers the TOEFL. Visit www.toefl.com for information about the test, test preparation, and up-to-date test locations around the world.
- A score of 9* on the Canadian Language Benchmarks Assessment (CLBA). The CLBA measures English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- An average score of at least 4.5 in listening and reading and a score of at least 4.0 in writing on the Canadian Test for English Scholars and Trainees (CanTEST). The CanTEST, and CanTEST preparation courses, are offered at the Centre for Second Language Instruction at the University of Saskatchewan.
- Successful completion of the High Advanced Level 50 offered by the University of Saskatchewan's Centre for Second Language Instruction.
- Successful completion of the Advanced Level (ESL 050) of the University of Regina's Intensive English as a Second Language program plus completion of Academic Writing Elective A.
- Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) Assessment score of 60 or higher. The CAEL is primarily offered in Eastern Canada. Visit www.cael.ca for details.
- A score of at least 85 on the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB). This test is primarily offered in the U.S., although there are some Canadian test locations. Visit www.lsa.umich.edu/eli/melab.htm for details.
- A score of at least Band 6.5 on the Academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS). This test is offered throughout the world with a few test locations in Canada. Visit www.ielts.org for details.
- University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) with a grade of C or higher. Visit www.cambridge-efl.org/exam/general/bg_cpe.cfm for details.
- Applicants who have attended secondary or post-secondary institutions where the only language of instruction and examination is English may be considered exempt from the English Proficiency Requirement. For details please contact the SIAST Registrar.

**Applicants who achieve a score of 8+ on a CLB assessment taken at SIAST will be considered to have met level 9.*

9. Is the Nursing Education Program the same at all three sites?

Yes. Students complete the same program requirements and the quality of programming and delivery is monitored by the partners at all three sites.

10. How many seats are available at each site?

(a) Saskatoon has a total of 199* seats distributed as follows:

	Category A	Category B	Category C
Regular	78	63	16
Aboriginal	16	13	3
Disability	5	4	1
TOTAL	99	80	20

(b) Regina has a total of 195* seats, distributed as follows:

	Category A	Category B	Category C
Regular	77	61	15
Aboriginal	16	13	3
Disability	5	4	1
TOTAL	98	78	19

(c) Prince Albert has a total of 40 seats. See question number 3 with respect to priority.

11. What ACCUPLACER cut scores have been established for the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan?

Category C applicants will be required to write the ACCUPLACER, before May 1, 2009. Achieving required cut scores does not guarantee admission to the program – it only guarantees consideration. Applicants who do not meet the required cut scores will be refused. Required cut scores are:

Arithmetic 80
Reading 80

Sentence 80
WritePlacer 8

12. What are the deadlines for required documentation?

*Preliminary Statement of High School Standing	March 31
Final, official transcript (applicants who have completed GR 12)	August 1
Final, official transcripts (post-secondary studies)	January 31

*In order to ensure that Category A applications are assessed according to required timelines, Preliminary Statements of High School Standing **including projected grades must** be submitted by the deadline.