

Associate-to-Bachelor's (ATB) Degree Completion Option – ATB 2.0: **Frederick Community College & Towson University**

General Information for the Primarily Online/Hybrid Model

I. General Program Information

This dual enrollment option is available to eligible students after their first two terms in the Frederick Community College (FCC) Nursing Program. Admission is competitive and based on completed courses, grade point average (GPA) and professional conduct during year one of the FCC program. Students will be dually enrolled as degree-seeking students at both FCC and Towson University (TU). ATB 2.0 students begin their TU courses in the summer or fall term after the second term of the FCC nursing program. Once they earn the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree at FCC, students must pass the NCLEX-RN licensure exam and receive their RN license to continue with their remaining coursework at TU to complete the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

Up to 90% of the TU curriculum may be completed online. The practicum in the final term (NURS 489) requires an in-person component. Other courses are typically offered online; the availability of in-person or hybrid course formats may vary depending on student interest and enrollment.

The ATB program requires year-round attendance, including summer and winter sessions, and takes approximately 2.5 years to complete. It is designed so that students can complete the bachelor's degree in approximately one year after completion of the associate degree. Students also have the flexibility to extend their plan of study after completion of the A.S. degree based on work and personal time constraints. FCC courses will be held at the FCC campus in Frederick, MD. TU courses will be taken online or at the main TU campus in Towson, MD.

Two degrees will be awarded: A.S. from FCC and B.S. from TU. Students must meet all program and degree requirements at both institutions to receive the respective degrees. Advisors will be available at both schools.

II. Program Admission Requirements

- A. Completion of the first term or first two terms of the FCC Nursing Program
- B. GPA of 3.0 or higher and demonstrated professional conduct in Year 1 of FCC nursing courses
- C. Completion of additional required courses by the start of the TU ATB program with a C (2.0) or better:
 - Chemistry (CHEM 101) – 4 credits (must include a lab)
 - Nutrition (NUTR 200) – 3 credits

Students must also complete a statistics course with a C (2.0) or higher before enrolling in the required nursing research course taken after completion of the associate degree. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement prior to starting their nursing program. They may take MATH 120 Statistics or MATH 200 Statistics with Probability at FCC.

III. General Application Procedures

Students must apply to the TU ATB option by the program's deadline. Students who are admitted to the TU ATB option must also apply to Towson University in order to enroll in classes. The TU Department of Nursing will provide instructions to apply and enroll at the university if admission is offered.

Applying to TU ATB

Students must apply and submit all required materials by these deadline to be considered for ATB admission. Applications may be accepted after the deadline depending on space availability and remaining time until the summer term begins.

Application Deadline:

- Summer Start – April 1st

Required Materials:

1. Department of Nursing Application for Admission: Associate to Bachelor's Degree Completion Option (ATB): <https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/nursing/undergrad/degree-options/associate-to-bs/admissions.html>
2. \$50 non-refundable application fee – Submit upon completion of online application form.
3. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended – Submit to University Admissions (electronic transcripts preferred)
 - a. **Electronic transcripts:** Select "Towson University" in Parchment or other electronic transcript service
 - b. **Printed transcripts:** University Admissions, Towson University, 8000 York Road, Towson, Maryland 21252

Admission Decisions

The FCC and TU Nursing Departments will review completed applications for acceptance into the ATB option. Students will be notified by either email and/or letter with their admission decision. Any offer of admission given will be contingent upon successful completion of currently enrolled nursing courses at FCC. Students will be required to submit an updated transcript after the completion of the spring term to verify their nursing grades.

IV. Tuition, Fees, and Financial Aid

Students will be charged tuition and fees based on the policies of each institution. Tuition and fees are subject to change each academic year. If students are using financial aid, it will be processed through the TU Financial Aid Office based on the total enrollment at both institutions. For the purposes of tuition and financial aid, students must be aware that the ATB plan of study involves part-time enrollment (less than 12 credits) for the majority of the program. More information is available online:

- FCC tuition and fees: <https://frederick.edu/financial-services.aspx>
- TU tuition and fees: <https://www.towson.edu/student-university-billing/tuition/>
- TU financial aid information: <https://www.towson.edu/admissions/financialaid/>

V. Non-Nursing Course Requirements

Requirements for the FCC Associate Degree RN Program			Additional Requirements for Admission to the TU Associate-to- Bachelor’s Option		Additional Non-Nursing TU Requirements to Award the Bachelor of Science in Nursing		
ENGL 101	College Composition	3 cr	CHEM 101	General Chemistry	4 cr	Upper-level healthcare ethics	3 cr
MATH	Gen Ed Math*	3 cr	MATH 120	Statistics or		Upper-level elective	3 cr
COMM	Speech/Communication	3 cr	MATH 127	Statistics with Probability	3-4 cr		
ARTT	Arts Elective	3 cr	NUTR 200	Nutrition	3 cr	These courses are not required for admission to ATB. They will be taken at TU during ATB. Students who have already taken an ethics course can take any upper-level elective. Healthcare-related courses are strongly encouraged. Course selection will be made with your TU ATB advisor.	
PSYC 101	Intro to Psychology	3 cr	Courses in this column can all be taken at FCC. All prerequisites must be completed with a C (2.0) or higher.				
SOCY 101	Intro to Sociology	3 cr					
EDPS 210	Human Growth & Dev	3 cr					
HUMN	Humanities Elective	3 cr					
BSCI 201	A&P I	4 cr					
BSCI 202	A&P II	4 cr					
BSCI 223	Microbiology	4 cr					
PHED**	PE/HLTH/NUTR Elective	3 cr					
*Students must take MATH 120 or higher at FCC. MATH 120 Statistics or MATH 127 Statistics with Probability is recommended to satisfy the TU ATB requirement.							
**Students must complete a 1-3 credit PE/HLTH/NUTR course for the A.S. degree. Students should take NUTR 200 Nutrition to meet the TU ATB admission requirement.							
Totals:	34 credits		11-12 credits		6 credits		

V. ATB Program Progression

Students are required to meet regularly with their TU advisor to review their degree plan. Students must follow the TU ATB plan of study, which accounts for factors such as when courses are typically offered and course prerequisite sequences. They may consider taking the upper-level electives in another term only after meeting with their TU advisor.

The completion of the final courses of the ATB curriculum outlined in the plan of study requires successful completion of the A.S. degree and/or active RN licensure. Enrollment in NURS 476, NURS 484, and NURS 489 requires the completion of the A.S. degree. NURS 489 also requires RN licensure and completion of all other courses in ATB curriculum courses (with the exception of NURS 476, NURS 484, and upper-level electives which may be taken concurrently).

VI. Contact Information

- Frederick CC Nursing Questions – Visit <https://frederick.edu/programs/healthcare/nursing.aspx> for current program contact information
- TU/ATB Questions – Contact the Academic Program Manager at nursingdco@towson.edu or 410-704-4170

Frederick Community College - Towson University ATB 2.0 Nursing Plan of Study

Fall ATB Start (Spring FCC Start)

Term 1 Spring 20____	Term 2 Summer 20____	Term 3 Fall 20____	Term 4 Winter 20____	Term 5 Spring 20____	Term 6 Summer 20____
<u>FCC NURS 101</u> Introduction to Clinical Nursing 6 credits/15 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 105</u> Pharmacology for Nurses 2 credits/15 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 211</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing I 7 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 214</u> Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 416 (O)</u> Diversity & Social Justice in Healthcare 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/3 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 212</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing II 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 218</u> Maternal, Child, & Family Nursing 5 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU NURS 333 (O)</u> Writing for Evidence-Based Practice: Issues in Professional Nursing 3 credits/10 weeks <u>TU NURS 460 (O)</u> Nursing & Healthcare IV: Older Adults 2 credits/10 weeks
6 credits	2 credits	13 credits	3 credits	9 credits	6 credits
Term 7 Fall 20____	Term 8 Winter 20____	Term 9 Spring 20____	Term 10 Summer 20____	Term 11 Fall 20____	
<u>FCC NURS 231</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing III 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 261</u> Preparation for Practice 2 credits/15 weeks <i>*A.S. degree awarded upon completion of FCC requirements*</i>	<u>NCLEX – RN</u>	<u>TU NURS 349 (O)</u> Health Assessment & Health Promotion Across the Lifespan 4 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 435 (O)</u> Nursing Research for Evidence-Based Practice 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/5, 7, or 10 weeks	<u>TU NURS 476 (O)</u> Public Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 484 (O)</u> Nursing Leadership & Management 3 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 489 (F)</u> Degree Completion Practicum [Clinical] 3 credits/15 weeks	<i>*B.S. degree awarded upon completion of TU requirements*</i>
6 credits		7 credits	3 credits	9 credits	

Disclaimer: Faculty at both Frederick CC and TU reserve the right to update curriculum plans in response to criteria set forth by accreditation bodies, best practices in nursing education, and the evolving needs of the health care system. The TU plan of study may be adjusted based on course availability and student enrollment needs.

Course Format Key

The letter behind a course title indicates that it can be offered in that format. Listing of multiple formats is not a guarantee that all formats will be available in a given term. Course format availability may vary depending on department resources and student enrollment needs.

- **Face-to-Face (F)** = 50% or more of the classroom activities are completed in an in-person classroom setting
- **Hybrid (H)** = 50% or more of classroom activities are completed in an online setting
- **Online (O)** = all class activities are completed in the online format

Frederick Community College - Towson University ATB 2.0 Nursing Plan of Study

Summer ATB Start (Fall FCC Start)

Term 1 Fall 20____	Term 2 Spring 20____	Term 3 Summer 20____	Term 4 Fall 20____	Term 5 Winter 20____
<u>FCC NURS 101</u> Introduction to Clinical Nursing 6 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 105</u> Pharmacology for Nurses 2 credits/15 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 211</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing I 7 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 214</u> Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks <u>Apply for ATB 2.0</u>	<u>Begin ATB 2.0</u> <u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/5,7, or 10 weeks <u>TU NURS 460 (O)</u> Nursing & Healthcare IV: Older Adults 2 credits/10 weeks	<u>FCC NURS 212</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing II 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 218</u> Maternal, Child, & Family Nursing 5 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU NURS 416 (O)</u> Diversity & Social Justice in Healthcare 3 credits/3 weeks
8 credits	10 credits	5 credits	9 credits	3 credits
Term 6 Spring 20____	Term 7 Summer 20____	Term 8 Fall 20____	Term 9 Winter 20____	Term 10 Spring 20____
<u>FCC NURS 231</u> Medical-Surgical Nursing III 4 credits/15 weeks <u>FCC NURS 261</u> Preparation for Practice 2 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 333 (O)</u> Writing for Evidence-Based Practice: Issues in Professional Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks <i>*A.S. degree awarded upon completion of FCC requirements*</i>	<u>NCLEX – RN</u> <u>TU NURS 435 (O)</u> Nursing Research for Evidence-Based Practice 3 credits/10 weeks	<u>TU NURS 349 (O)</u> Health Assessment & Health Promotion Across the Lifespan 4 credits/10 weeks <u>TU NURS 476 (O)</u> Public Health Nursing 3 credits/15 weeks	<u>TU Upper-Level Elective (F, H, O)</u> Healthcare Ethics or Health-Related Course 3 credits/3 weeks	<u>TU NURS 484 (O)</u> Nursing Leadership & Management 3 credits/15 weeks <u>TU NURS 489 (F)</u> Degree Completion Practicum [Clinical] 3 credits/15 weeks <i>*B.S. degree awarded upon completion of TU requirements*</i>
9 credits	3 credits	7 credits	3 credits	6 credits

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