Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS®) Entrance Exam FAQs

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences at University of Massachusetts Boston is requiring the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) as part of the admission process to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. We have compiled a list of questions and answers regarding the exam and our policies regarding taking this exam. If you have further questions regarding the exam itself, please go to www.atitesting.com. If you have questions regarding the admissions criteria as it relates to the exam, please contact the Admissions office at 617-287-6000 or go to http://www.umb.edu/academics/cnhs.

What is TEAS? The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS®) administered by Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) is a standardized, timed, computer-based exam designed to assess the general academic preparedness of students interested in applying to the CNHS Undergraduate Nursing Program. It measures knowledge in basic essential skills in the academic content areas of Reading, Mathematics, Science and English.

Which students need to take the TEAS? Inter-College Transfers, 2nd Degree, and Transfer applicants applying for fall 2013 and beyond must take the TEAS exam. For applicants to the Accelerated Option, this exam will be required starting with those seeking admission to the summer 2014 class.

Which version of the exam must be taken? How many sections are required? CNHS only accepts Version V of this exam. You must complete all four sections (math, English, reading, and sciences).

What is considered a passing score for consideration of admission into CNHS Undergraduate Nursing Program? To have a competitive application, applicants should strive to achieve a minimum score of Proficient.

Why (and How) is TEAS used? TEAS is designed to evaluate the academic readiness of candidates as one of the criteria to determine admission into the CNHS undergraduate nursing program. The results also provide useful documentation for advisement. TEAS scores will be used as part of the application process but will in no way be the sole criteria for admission to the UMB nursing program.

Where do I register to take the TEAS®? There are currently 12 testing centers throughout the state of Massachusetts, in addition to UMass Boston. As this test is given nationwide at various collegiate institutions, you may also choose to take this test out of state. This test is not offered internationally. To locate an exam center near you, go to www.atitesting.com. In the lower right hand corner, select “Register for TEAS®”. You may only register for the exam at the ATI website.

What is the fee of the exam? Depending on the site you choose this cost differs. Please note if you take the exam at UMass Boston, your transcript of scores will automatically be sent to UMass Boston.

How do I prepare? As with any standardized test, there are many ways to prepare. ATI, the company who creates and administers the TEAS® test, offers comprehensive study guides for the various versions of the test. You may purchase prep manuals via www.atitesting.com/ati_store/, or you may find other options at local/online bookstores and libraries. As a courtesy, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences has placed a few TEAS® preparatory books on reserve in the Healey Library.

What does the test consist of? The test consists of 170 multiple-choice questions (150 are scored). It contains four sections: reading, English, math and sciences; basic understanding of these subjects has been deemed important for success in nursing school. Each of the four areas of the test are graded and given a scored percentage, and composite scores are computed in each of the four weighted areas.
The **Math** subtest measures knowledge of whole numbers, metric conversions, fractions and decimals, algebraic equations, percentages and ratio/proportion.*Calculators are NOT allowed*

The **Science** subtest covers science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy, and physiology, basic physical principals and general science.

The **English** subtest measures knowledge of punctuation, grammar, and sentences structure, contextual words, and spelling.

The **Reading** subtest covers paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area</th>
<th>Number or Test Items</th>
<th>Amount of Time Allotted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>56 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>38 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>English and Language Usage</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>65 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td><strong>209 minutes</strong></td>
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How many times may I take the TEAS? Students may only take the test once per application period. If the test is taken twice in the same application period, we will use the first score only. If the test is taken in two separate application periods, we will use only the most recent score (the one taken right before deadline for which you are applying).

How do I get access to my scores? Scores are available immediately for viewing purposes only after you take the exam. Applicants may view and print a copy of their test scores anytime at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) using the login and password created during their test session. Please note that although CNHS will have access to view these scores, we are not able and will not submit scores on your behalf to the admissions office. All scores must be submitted as an official transcript with your application in sealed envelope from ATI. Opened envelopes containing scores will not be accepted.

How long are test scores valid? TEAS V scores are valid for just two years. If the TEAS V exam was taken more than two years before the application deadline, then you will need to re-test. If your scores on the TEAS exam do not meet the recommended or required minimums, then we strongly encourage you to re-test.

- **IF YOU TOOK TEAS 4 AND ARE APPLYING TO A PROGRAM WITH A DEADLINE AFTER APRIL 15, 2011, you must re-test regardless of the two year time frame.**

Where can I find more information? All information regarding the TEAS® can be found at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com). In addition, more information will be included on the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at [http://www.umb.edu/academics/cnhs](http://www.umb.edu/academics/cnhs).