Admission to the nursing program is limited and competitive.
Admission to NIU does not guarantee admission to the nursing program.
Students not directly admitted to nursing will be admitted as Health Science majors-general emphasis.

1. Transfer and re-entering applicants to the university with 24 or more postsecondary semester hours, who are not registered nurses, will be considered transfer applicants and will be considered as a separate applicant pool. Transfer students are encouraged to contact a program advisor before enrolling to determine whether prior course work satisfies prerequisites. Prospective students who are not RNs should contact an advisor from the College of Health & Human Sciences at (815) 753-1881, chhsadvisinghelp@niu.edu.

2. Applicants must complete a minimum of five (or preferably more) of the prerequisite courses by the January 15 deadline. Additionally, applicants must achieve a minimum of a C or better in all attempted prerequisite courses.

3. All applicants (who are not RNs) must submit an official copy of the ACT Reading Score of 24 or higher, an SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing score of 570 or higher, or pass the Accuplacer Reading Examination. Arrangements for taking the Accuplacer Reading Examination must be made through the NIU Office of Testing Services (815) 753-1203. Applicants with a baccalaureate or higher degree from a U.S. Institution are exempt from the reading score requirement. Reading scores must be submitted by January 15.

4. Admission to the nursing program is competitive and will be based primarily on the GPA in the prerequisite courses, the number of prerequisites completed by the end of the fall semester, and the overall GPA (as calculated by NIU).

5. Enrollment in Nursing courses will be contingent upon the successful completion of all prerequisites. The following prerequisite courses must be completed within seven years of admission to the nursing program: BIOS 213 or BIOS 313; and BIOS 357.

RN students will be considered for admission as soon as the NIU application process is complete. Admission requirements are: graduation from an accredited School of Nursing, admission to NIU as a regular degree-seeking student, licensure to practice Nursing in the state of Illinois, practice as a Registered Nurse within the past five years or provide evidence of a refresher course, GPA from a college or university consistent with the standards required by the NIU School of Nursing and Health Studies, completion of a goal and expectancy statement, and two letters of recommendation – one from a previous faculty member and one from a Nursing supervisor. Goal statement and reference forms are available on-line: http://chhs.niu.edu/nursing/mbs/admission.asp. RNs are restricted to completion of no more than 6 semester hours of NIU Nursing courses prior to admission to the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Please refer to the course catalog for details about NIU’s R.N. – B.S. in Nursing Degree Completion Program. Prospective RN-BS students should contact Merlynette Griffin at (815) 753-6557, mgriffin2@niu.edu for advising.

Program application deadline for freshmen and transfers: January 15
RNs only: Meet regular admission deadlines for each semester. Submit all application materials to the Office of Admissions.

Students intending to transfer to NIU should seek academic advisement from their community college counselor.