



**Pre-Health Advising**  
*Pre-Professional Advising Office*  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

# **Introductory Orientation**

## **For Pre-Nursing Students**

**Casey Ellis**

Pre-Allied Health & Nursing Advisor | Pre-Professional Advising Office

*Office of the Vice President for Instruction*



# About the Pre-Health Advising Office

- Our office advises all UGA students interested in healthcare careers.
  - Medicine, dentistry, vet, optometry, allied-health (GC, PT, OT, AA), physician's associate and nursing.
- We are located at 130 Memorial Hall
  - **Website:** [ppao.uga.edu](http://ppao.uga.edu)
  - **Email:** [premed@uga.edu](mailto:premed@uga.edu)
  - **Phone:** 706-542-0444
- Visit our [website](http://ppao.uga.edu):
  - To join our [Pre-Health UGA listserv](#).
  - To check out our [Pre-Health Event Calendar](#) for upcoming meetings/workshops/events.
  - To make an appointment with a [Pre-Health Advisor](#).
  - To check out our [Study Abroad programs](#).



Scan to join the  
UGA Pre-Health  
listserv



# Meet Your Advisor!



Hi! My name is Casey Ellis. I am your pre-allied health and nursing advisor. I am here to help you be the most well-rounded applicant you can be.

I am here to encourage and advise, not decide. On your way to nursing school, you will focus on grades, involvement, leadership, volunteering, and shadowing. You can find a little bit more about me on our [website](#).



# How to Contact Me

- Email me at [cme18@uga.edu](mailto:cme18@uga.edu) for a quick question
- Make an appointment with me in SAGE.
  - Appointments are 45 minutes in length and can be either in person or over Zoom (your choice)
  - By [FERPA](#) rules, meetings are with you only. If you must Zoom in a public space, find a quiet area and use earbuds.
- Visit my [walk-in](#) hours.

**Mondays at 11:00 A.M.**

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97286645570>

**Wednesdays at 3:00pm**

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99960233323>



# Orientation Overview

- UGA and Nursing
- Nursing Pathways for UGA Students
- Selecting a Major
- Prerequisite Courses
- Creating a Nursing School List
- Clinical Experiences
- Extracurricular Activities
- Exams
- Applying to Nursing Programs

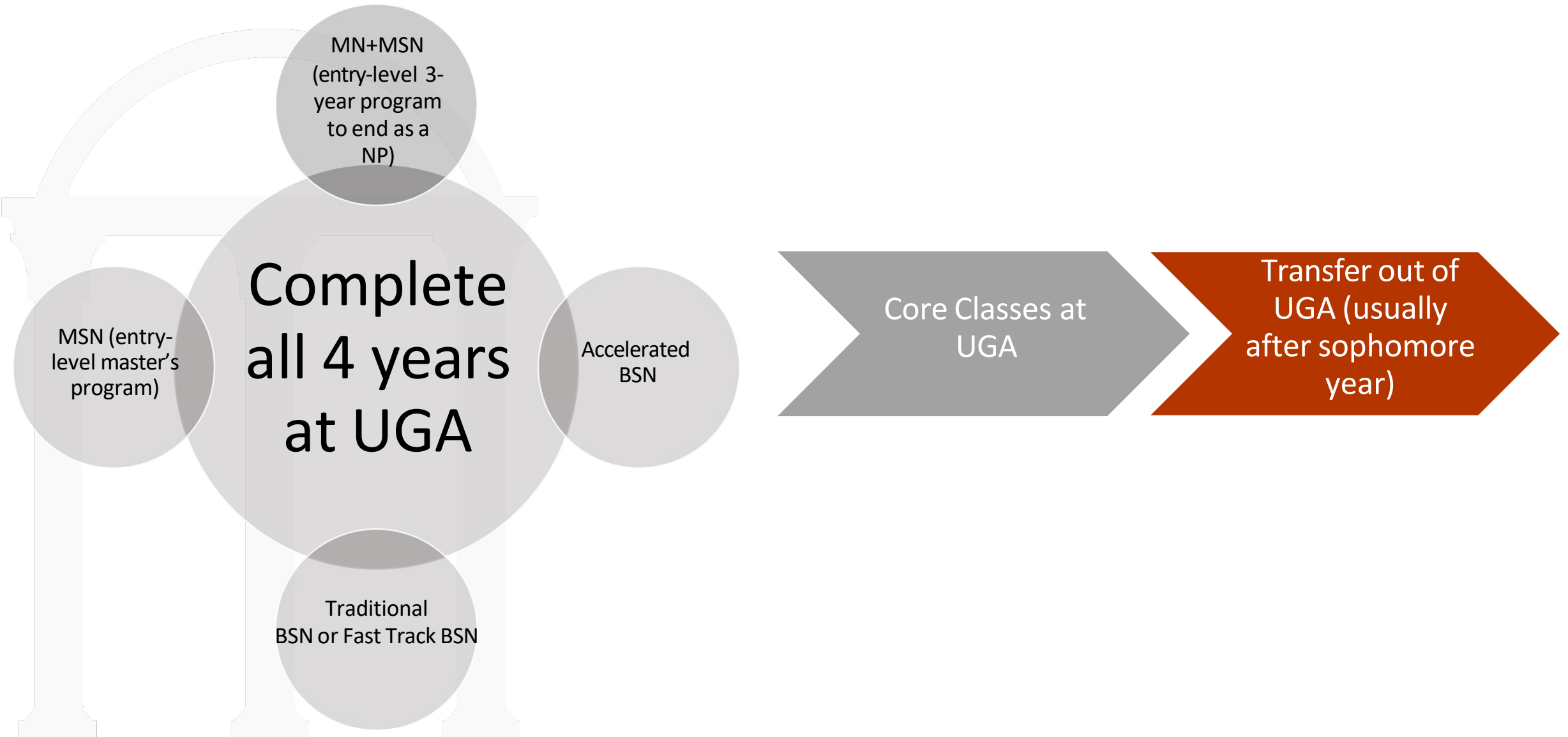


# UGA and Nursing

- UGA does not have a nursing program currently but will be starting in the Fall of 2027.
- UGA does not have a partnership with any nursing program meaning guaranteed acceptance.
- UGA does not have a nursing major. However, there will be a pre-intended nursing major created.



# Pathways to Nursing School outside of UGA





# Nursing Options

**BSN:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Transfer into a BSN program after completing the pre-requisites and core classes. Normally students transfer out after their first two years at UGA.

Starting in the *fall of 2027* students will be able to enroll in nursing at UGA.

**ABSN:** Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Can be completed after earning a four-year bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing. Pre-requisite courses can be completed alongside the regular undergraduate coursework.

**MSN:** Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing: Can be completed after earning a four-year bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing. Pre-requisite courses can be completed alongside the regular undergraduate coursework.

**MN+MSN:** Three-year direct entry program. The first two years are the normal Master of Nursing, and the third year is to take your specialty boards and become a licensed NP in your specialty. Most of the time you must decide on your specialty when applying.

## **INEMORY MN+MSN:**

The 15-month InEmory MN program option for second-degree students with cohorts beginning annually in January. Students enrolled in this program will have the opportunity to learn from nationally renowned nursing faculty at Emory University while being immersed in clinical rotations focused in the Emory Healthcare system. Students will receive up to \$10,000 in scholarships and will be hired by Emory Healthcare to practice in adult acute care in its hospital system following graduation and successful completion of licensure examinations.





# What Should I Major In?

- •Major does not matter!

It is more important to pursue a major that interests you as you are far more likely to succeed in a major you enjoy. Pick a major that aligns with your passions. It is true that certain science majors require the nursing pre-requisites and therefore completing your plan on degree works more efficiently but that does not mean that is the best choice for you.

- Need help selecting a major? Visit our Exploratory Center.

Information about courses, majors, minors, and certificates can be found on the UGA Bulletin website:

<https://bulletin.uga.edu/>

Undecided and/or Exploring? Visit the Career Center <https://career.uga.edu/> and/or the Exploratory Center:

<https://advising.uga.edu/exploratory-center/what-we-do/>

- You will take your prerequisite courses alongside major courses. Your primary advisor can help you balance your schedule.



# UGA Minors & Certificates

**Minors:** UGA has tons of minors to choose from but some that may interest you are:

- Biology
- Biomedical Physiology
- Cellular Biology
- Public Health
- Nutritional Sciences
- Human Development

**Certificates:** UGA has many certificates to choose from but some that may interest you are:

- Disability Studies Global Health
- Infectious Diseases
- One Health (Biomedical Physiology)
- Child Life



# Pre-Professional Advising Office Certificates

AI: Friend or Foe? (Spring)

Bioethics & Healthcare (Fall)

First Responder Health Disparity Awareness (FRHDA) – (Fall)

Health Disparities & Equity Service (HD&E) – (Spring)

Students from all majors and degree levels are welcome to participate. Registration will be sent out through the [PPAO listserv](#) and is on a first come, first serve basis.



# Typical Prerequisite Courses

- Anatomy & Physiology I and II (CBIO 2200/L & CBIO 2210/L)
- Microbiology (MIBO 2500/L or 3500 and Lab)
  - Statistics (STAT 2000 or BIOS 2010)
- Lifespan Development (HDFS 2200)

One science sequence (BIOL 1103/L & BIOL 1104/L – Augusta University is the only one that accepts this) or (BIOL 1107/L & BIOL 1108/L) or CHEM 1211/L & CHEM 1212/L

- Psychology (PSYC 1101)

## **Other Suggested Classes:**

- Psychology (PSYC 3230)
- Nutrition (FDNS 2100 – needed for Emory & Piedmont)
  - Behavioral Science (ANTH 1102 or SOCI 1101)
- Medical Terminology (CLAS 1030 – needed for Brenau)



# Create a Nursing School List


- Make a list of schools you would like to apply to What are their requirements for admission? What are their deadlines? What tests do they require?

Schools	Deadlines	Prerequisites	Test Needed	Supplemental Info
Augusta BSN	March 14th	BIOL 1103/L & 1104/L	TEAS	Essay
Brenau MSN	July 26th	CHEM 1211/L & 1212/L	HESI	Essay



# Shadowing & Clinical Experiences

- Shadowing/Observation Hours
- Clinical Work or Clinical Volunteering - Hospice, Piedmont, St. Mary's, etc.
- Medical Certifications/Licenses: C.N.A, M.A., EMT, Phlebotomist, Scribe, Interpreter, etc.
- You can keep up with these experiences in a journal, excel sheet, or in the UGA Pre-Professional Planner App!



The image shows a smartphone screen displaying the UGA Pre-Professional Planner app. The app icon is a red square with a white building icon and the letters 'PPAO'. The screen shows the app's name, version (0.1.0), and an 'OPEN' button. Below the app card, there are sections for 'App Information', 'App Details', 'Automatic Updates', 'Notifications', and 'Previous Builds'. A red box highlights the 'Define your competencies' section, which includes a lightbulb icon and a 'HOURS' button.

**DOWNLOAD IT TODAY**

Simple. Easy. Professional.  
Digitally log your experiences from freshman year on.

Track your involvement  
**ORGANIZE**

Prepare for your future  
**SUCCEED**

BY UGA PPAO



# Community Involvement

- Hospitals/Clinics/Hospice – I am happy to send you a list.
- Non-Medical Volunteering – Pick an organization to volunteer with consistently with an underserved community in a face-to-face manner. I am happy to send you a list of examples.

Volunteer experiences do not have to be in a healthcare setting! No minimum hours, simply show a consistent level of commitment. Find something where you're helping regularly, not just one-offs. Follow your passion! Keep a record of experiences. Dates, location, who you worked with, what you did, etc. You will not be able to simply upload a resume to most applications.

- Interested in getting a medical certificate/license? I can help set you up.
- Clubs/Organizations at UGA: <https://uga.campuslabs.com/engage/ORGANIZATIONS>





# Pre-Nursing Society

Pre-Nursing Society at UGA has been created in order to enable Pre-Nursing students at UGA to learn more about the nursing profession, connect with other pre-nursing students, and receive guidance on classes to take as well as the application process for nursing school.

We host monthly meetings at which we discuss different nursing schools and programs, common prerequisites for these programs, details regarding the entry examinations, and volunteer opportunities. We also invite guest speakers, whose credentials vary from practicing nurses, nursing students, and faculty from nursing schools.

E: [prenursinguga@gmail.com](mailto:prenursinguga@gmail.com)



# Minority Student Science Association

The Minority Student Science Association is a UGA student-run organization that strives to "[bring] excellence and diversity to the sciences by providing resources and fostering relationships between minorities at the university and professionals in the community," as per our mission statement. We serve minority students with intent in pre-health pathways or in the science-based disciplines. This organization serves as a liaison to ensure our members have reliable access to proper resources and events that will enhance their academic and professional careers. MSSA is dedicated to ensure we fulfill the needs of our minority student members exceed expectations, especially since we are founded upon the principles of educating and preparing members to be leaders for tomorrow.

E: [ugamssa@gmail.com](mailto:ugamssa@gmail.com)



# PPAO Study Abroad

- Health in Belize (Maymester & 2 week June option)
- Health in Cuba (13 days in June)
- Health in South Africa (Winter Break)
- All programs meet UGA's Experiential Learning requirement
- All programs require BIOL 1107/L complete and to be enrolled in BIOL 1108/L by the time of application.



# TEAS

- Take the TEAS no later than the semester before you plan to apply

Registration is rolling and can be completed via the ATI website

- Courses you need before the exam

Anatomy & Physiology 1 (CBIO 2200/L) & (CBIO 2210/L)

- Teas Scores range from 60-100%

The average matriculant score is a 75%. Please aim for an 80 or above.

- Self-study for the TEAS should be sufficient.

Check out free study materials from the PPAO Resource Library: <https://ppao.uga.edu/resources/reslib/>



# HESI

- Take the HESI no later than the semester before you plan to apply

It is offered regularly, and registration is rolling. Registration can be completed via the HESI website.

- The HESI contains nine specific subjects:

vocabulary and general knowledge, reading comprehension, grammar, basic math skills, biology, anatomy and physiology, chemistry, and physics.

- The average matriculant HESI score is 75% or higher.
- Self-study for the HESI should be sufficient.

Check out free study materials from the PPAO Resource Library: <https://ppao.uga.edu/resources/reslib/>



# GRE

- Most schools do not require this.
- If they do, Take the GRE four to six weeks before you plan to apply.
- **\*Please note that many nursing schools do not require the GRE**  
It is offered regularly but can take 4 to 6 weeks to receive scores and up to 10 business days for scores to be received by schools after they have been sent  
**any more so check with the school.**
- There are no specific courses you need to take before the exam.
- GRE scores range from 260-340  
Try to score at least 300 (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) as a composite (combined) score. This would come out to ~150 for quantitative and ~150 for verbal, ~ 4.0 writing
- Self-study is sufficient for the GRE.

Check out free study materials from the PPAO Resource Library: <https://ppao.uga.edu/resources/reslib/>



# Primary Components of the Application

- Academic History

Overall GPA, Science GPA, Prerequisite GPA

Transcripts

- Exam Performance (TEAS/HESI/GRE)
- Activities/Experiences
- Personal Statement/Essays
- Letters of Evaluation (start building relationships now!)





# Pre-Professional Student Ambassadors (PPSA)

- PPSAs connect students to campus resources, provide peer mentorship, professional development opportunities, and support/guidance.
- Connect with an ambassador who can help you navigate your path at UGA!

*Connect with a*  
**PRE-PROFESSIONAL  
STUDENT AMBASSADOR**

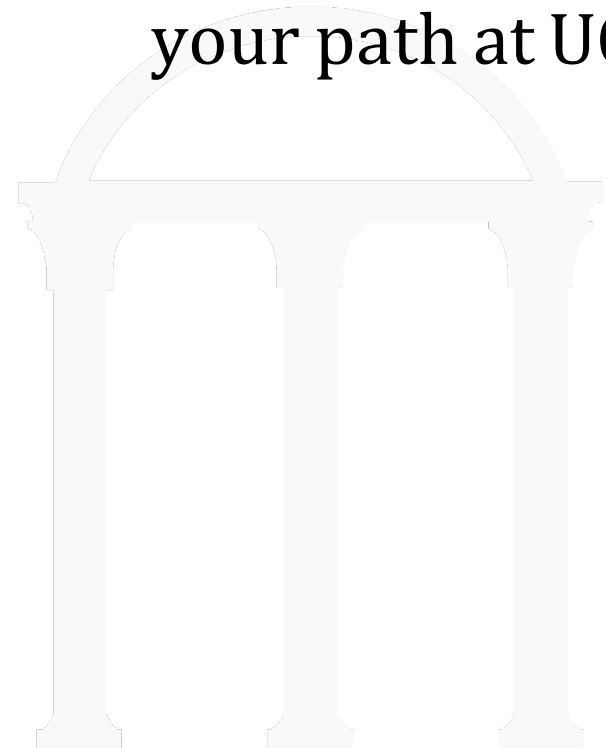


*A PPSA who shares  
your professional goal  
will reach out to you!*



  
**PRE-HEALTH**

  
**PRE-LAW**



# What Should I Do Next?

- Make an appointment with me in SAGE
- Meet with your primary advisor
- Research ways to get involved
- Research nursing programs
- Visit our website

Join the Pre-Health listserv

Review relevant information for your field

Attend our events



# Questions?

**Pre-Professional Advising Office**

**Website: [ppao.uga.edu](http://ppao.uga.edu)**

**Email: [premed@uga.edu](mailto:premed@uga.edu)**

**Phone: 706-542-0444**

**To make an appointment with me, please visit our website or log onto SAGE.**

