Xavier University of Louisiana and Rush University College of Nursing in Chicago has established the Preferential Admission Program whereby Rush will offer admission into the Generalist Entry Master of Science in Nursing (GEM) program for up to 2 (two) qualified Xavier applicants for entry in the fall and up to two (2) qualified Xavier applicants for entry in the spring. The GEM program prepares students for nursing leadership roles and advanced education in nursing (e.g. nurse practitioner, nurse anesthesia, etc.).

The College of Nursing has dedicated financial need and merit scholarships for diverse and underrepresented students in nursing. Students will be eligible for diversity scholarships if they are Black or African-American, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaska Native, specific Asian populations or male (groups underrepresented in nursing) or from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. An individual from a financially disadvantaged background is defined as one who comes from a family with an annual income below a level based on low-income thresholds according to family size published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, adjusted annually for changes in the consumer price index (CPI), and adjusted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for use in health professions and nursing programs.

In order to be reviewed by Rush for admission via the Preferential Admission Program, XU applicants must first apply for endorsement/recommendation by the Premedical Office. Xavier students who wish to be considered for entry into Rush via the Preferential Admission Program must submit the Endorsement Application to the Premedical Office by June 15th (if applying to enter the nursing school in the following spring semester) and by November 15th (if applying to enter the nursing school in the following fall semester). Further, the NursingCAS application, with Rush designated, must be submitted no later than the application deadline indicated at https://www.rushu.rush.edu/college-nursing/programs-admissions/masters-entry-nursing-msn-nurses.

**About the Generalist Entry Master of Science in Nursing (GEM) Program:** The Generalist Entry Master’s (GEM) program at Rush University College of Nursing is designed for students who already have a bachelor’s degree in another field, and want to pursue a career in nursing. Rush's program focuses on clinical leadership and prepares students to successfully sit for the NCLEX (RN licensure exam) and Clinical Nurse Leader certification. In addition to being prepared to function at a high level as a nurse in an inpatient, outpatient or community setting, you will also be poised to pursue an advanced practice DNP or PhD in nursing degree. At Rush, a top-tier academic medical center, you will learn from practitioner-teachers who actually practice what they teach. You will have a different clinical experience every term providing a broad overview of all of the major specialties in which nurses work, as well as a variety of settings across the health care continuum and it starts in the first two weeks. You’ll also have volunteer opportunities to expand your education beyond Rush University Medical Center. Your professional life as a nurse begins on the first day you start as a student at Rush.

**Applicants seeking admission into Rush University College of Nursing through the Preferential Admission Program must meet the following requirements:**

- Overall cumulative GPA: 3.0 minimum GPA (on 4.0 scale); Prerequisite science courses (listed below) GPA: 3.0 minimum GPA (on 4.0 scale)
- Recommendation/Endorsement from XU's Premedical Office
- Acceptable personal interview with RUSH faculty
- Acceptable GRE scores if cumulative GPA is less than 3.00 (GRE is NOT required if cumulative GPA is >/= 3.00)
- Acceptable TOEFL scores, if required (Test of English as Foreign Language)
A completed application must be submitted to NursingCAS by the application deadline for the term of entry (NursingCAS due by August for students who hope to enter the nursing school in the following Spring semester; NursingCAS due by early January for students who hope to enter the nursing school in the following Fall semester).

By the Rush U College of Nursing NursingCAS application deadline, student must have completed the prerequisite courses at XU with a "C" or better (one prerequisite course from another 4-year college or university will be accepted, provided the student earned a "C" or better).

At the time of matriculation into Rush College of Nursing, student must be a graduate of XU, have a minimum of three (3) years from XU OR have at least two (2) years of credit from XU, and have completed ALL of the prerequisite courses.

Prerequisite Courses

- One (1) semester of Chemistry with lab (any general chemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, or biochemistry course with lab are all acceptable to meet the requirement)
- Two (2) semesters of Human Anatomy & Physiology (Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Human Anatomy & Physiology II OR Human Anatomy and Human Physiology)
- Microbiology with lab

Please note: All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better prior to Rush’s NursingCAS admissions deadline.

How does an XU student apply for the program? Students interested in the program and who meet the qualifications listed above must do the following well in advance of submitting the Premed Office Endorsement Application for the Preferential Admission Program:

- Submit nursing school Personal Statement and Post-Secondary Experience Form to the Premed Office for review and revise and re-submit, as needed, well in advance of Endorsement Application due date (June 15th if applying to enter nursing school the following spring semester and November 15th if applying to enter nursing school the following fall semester);
- Collect letters of evaluation specific to nursing school from three (3) faculty members (2 BCPM, 1 non-science BCPM) and request to have them submitted to the Premedical Office by the Endorsement Application due date;
- Complete the Endorsement Application, available at http://www.xula.edu/premed/FrequentDownload.html; and
- Submit your FINAL, signed endorsement application, critiqued/revised personal statement, critiqued/revised post-secondary experience form, and 4-year coursework plan to the PM Office in-person, by mail, or by email NO LATER THAN June 15th (for spring entry) or November 15th (for fall entry); also, ALL evaluations and your XU unofficial transcript are due in the PM Office by June 15th (for spring entry) or November 15th (for fall entry).

NOTE: XU alumni who apply must do so with no more than twelve (12) months lapsing between graduating from XU and matriculation at Rush.

What happens to applications after they are submitted to the Premed Office? Following the endorsement application deadline (June 15th for spring entry and November 15th for fall entry), the Premed Office will review all applications and then choose qualified students to recommend to the admissions committee at Rush for the Preferential Admission Program. It is IMPERATIVE that the email address you check DAILY is on file in the Premed Office since further instructions will be forwarded to applicants by email.

If you are recommended/endorsed by the Premedical Office, you will need to complete the NursingCAS application, designating Rush as a school on the application, and submit NursingCAS by the deadline specified on Rush’s GEM program website. Upon submission of the NursingCAS application, the admissions committee at Rush will consider endorsed students for interviews. After the interviews have been completed, Rush will offer admission into the Generalist Entry Master of Science in Nursing (GEM) program for up to 2 (two) qualified Xavier applicants for entry in the fall and up to two (2) qualified Xavier applicants for entry in the spring.