

BSN HESI A2 Exam - Frequently Asked Questions

What is the HESI A2 Exam?

The HESI A2 Exam is a high school level pre-admission exam used by the College of Nursing to evaluate applicants for admission to ECU's BSN program. It is a computerized, proctored exam you take on site at a Prometric Testing Center (located all over the country) or remotely through the ProProctor system offered by Prometric.

What subjects does ECU require on the HESI A2 Exam?

Nursing schools can choose which subject areas to include on their unique version of the exam. ECU has chosen to test applicants on these five areas:

- *Basic Math*
- *Vocabulary & General Knowledge*
- *Reading Comprehension*
- *Biology*
- *Anatomy & Physiology*

NOTE: Chemistry, Physics, and Grammar are also sections that are part of the HESI A2 Exam options, but ECU does NOT test students on these subjects, and they should be ignored in all study materials used.

How are HESI A2 scores used in the BSN admission process?

Students will earn points in the College of Nursing Ranking formula for their highest average score on the HESI A2 exam. A minimum score of 75 is recommended but not required on all five sections. Points are awarded based on the chart below:

97 – 100%	6 points
93 – 96.9%	5 points
89 – 92.9%	4 points
85 – 88.9%	3 points
81 – 84.9%	2 points
75 – 80.9%	1 point
0 – 74.9%	0 points

How many times can I take the HESI A2 Exam?

Students are limited to two (2) exam attempts total in applying to the BSN program. There is a mandatory three month waiting period before completing a second and final attempt. Students should complete all five sections on each attempt of the exam.

Additional attempts for the HESI A2 exam do NOT reset with each admission cycle. If re-applying to the program, you must use your previous HESI A2 scores from your first two attempts.

If two HESI A2 attempts are completed, the average will be super scored using the highest score for each of the five required sections to calculate the highest possible average score for the ranking formula. Example:

HESI A2 Section:	Attempt 1	Attempt 2
Reading	90%	77%
Vocabulary	68%	82%
Math	94%	56%
Biology	54%	72%
A & P	74%	96%

$$90 + 82 + 94 + 72 + 96 = 434 / 5$$

$$86.8\% = 3 \text{ points}$$

Is the HESI A2 Exam administered by ECU or the College of Nursing?

No. Registration and testing for the HESI A2 exam are administered by third party companies:

- Elsevier (exam registration)
- Prometric (exam scheduling & testing)

When do I take the HESI A2 Exam?

Reference your intended BSN application deadline in the chart below to confirm your HESI A2 Exam registration and testing window. Students are highly encouraged to complete their first attempt early in their testing window to allow room for unexpected issues and avoid last minute retake attempts.

Application Deadline:	HESI Registration & Testing:
Feb 1st	Sept 2nd - Feb 1st
Sept 1st	Feb 2nd - Sept 1st

Example: Your intended BSN application deadline is February 1, 2024. This means your HESI A2 registration and testing window is September 2, 2023 - February 1, 2024.

How much does the HESI A2 Exam cost?

The current approximate exam fee is \$115-\$120 per exam attempt. The registration and testing fees required by Elsevier and Prometric are what comprise this total exam fee. The fees are not charged by ECU.

How do I register, schedule, and pay for my exam?

Registration is a two-step process. First, you register for "HESI A2 Access" through Elsevier. Once registered for access, you will receive instructions from Elsevier via email including a link to Prometric's website to schedule your exam date and time. Your exam fee is paid during step two with Prometric.

A registration screenshot tutorial can be found on the College of Nursing website [HERE](#).

Where can I take the HESI A2 Exam?

Prometric offers both in person and remote proctored exam options and either format is acceptable for applying to ECU's BSN program.

However, the College of Nursing strongly advises students to complete their HESI A2 exam attempts in person, if possible, to significantly reduce the likelihood of technical issues occurring before or during your exam. Prometric offers in person testing locations all over the country. There is a Prometric testing center in Greenville, NC where many students complete their exam.

Students who choose to complete the HESI A2 exam through the remote proctored option do so at their own risk. Technical issues that arise prior to or during your remote exam may negatively impact your timeline for completing the exam in time for your application deadline. Because applicants can choose when and how they complete their exam, the College of Nursing does not grant exceptions or extensions for students who encounter difficulty in completing their exam.

How long should I wait before retaking the HESI A2 Exam?

ECU requires a three (3) month waiting period between exam attempts.

Students should complete their first attempt on the exam early enough in their assigned testing time frame to ensure room for this waiting period in case they need to take it twice. The college strongly advises that students take the exam early in their testing window to avoid last minute retake attempts. The college will not grant exceptions or extensions to students who encounter difficulty in completing two exam attempts prior to their BSN application deadline.

When should I begin studying for the HESI A2 Exam and what should I use to study?

While you have an assigned window to register for and complete the HESI A2 exam, you can begin studying for it at any time. We recommend you begin studying 1-2 months out from your anticipated first exam attempt.

The College of Nursing does not endorse any specific study resource for the HESI A2 exam. Students are encouraged to search the Internet, Amazon, and the app store on their mobile device for current editions of study guides, practice exams and other tools to help prepare for the exam.

NOTE: Chemistry, Physics, and Grammar are also sections that are part of the HESI A2 Exam options, but ECU does NOT test students on these subjects, and they should be ignored in all study materials used.

Can I use a calculator on the math section?

Yes, but you are not permitted to bring your own calculator or use your phone. A basic calculator is built into the math section of the exam that you can pull up on the computer screen. Scratch paper may or may not be provided. Students should contact their selected Prometric Testing Center location to confirm this information prior to their exam.

When do I receive my exam scores?

You will receive your score at the end of each section of the exam. This means you will know how you're doing while you're taking the exam.

Does the College of Nursing automatically receive my exam scores?

No. Students are responsible for uploading their individual score report(s) with their online BSN application.

Where can I get a copy of my PDF score report(s) for my BSN application?

To view and download a PDF of your Summary Score Report:

- Log into your MyEvolve account
- Click on the "Student Access" link
- Click on the "My Exams" tab
- Click on blue link in the "Exam History" section toward the bottom of the page

This is the file you will need to include with your nursing application.