

Regulations of the New Accelerated Nursing Program (Accredited Hours May 2024)

Ministerial Decree No.(3190) Date :13/12/2023.Implementing
starting from May in the Acadmic Year :2024/2025.

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Introduction

The persistent need for nursing education necessitates an increase in the number of graduates from nursing institutions. This can be achieved by exploring unconventional, innovative, and rapid methods for graduating cohorts of students with bachelor's degrees in other disciplines. These efforts focus on producing qualified nursing professionals through an accelerated program while maintaining the integrity and quality of nursing education. This program is designed to meet the growing and ongoing demand for nurses, addressing the persistent shortage of nursing personnel, facilitating career transitions, and creating new job opportunities, thus contributing to solving unemployment problems.

Therefore, studying in an accelerated or condensed program allows graduates with bachelor's degrees in other fields to study nursing within a shorter timeframe. The accelerated nursing program is designed to provide nursing opportunities in a short period. This innovative approach to nursing education is gaining momentum internationally, as it builds upon prior educational experiences. Individuals with bachelor's degrees in other disciplines can transition to nursing, facilitating career transitions, opening up employment opportunities, and effectively contributing to solving the unemployment problem.

This regulation is prepared and updated regularly with the aim of keeping pace with educational, executive and societal changes, and in a manner that aligns with the needs of the local and regional labor market by providing students with the opportunity to study a range of courses, including mandatory core courses and electives, interspersed with diverse and distinguished student activities, skills and tendencies.

Chapter One

Definitions

The following words and phrases, wherever they appear in these regulations, shall have the meanings assigned to them below, unless the context indicates otherwise.

- **Study Program:** The set of studies and curricula that lead to obtaining an academic degree in a specific specialization.
- **Study Plan:** The set of courses (Mandatory and Elective) for each specialization, distributed across the semesters, which the student must successfully complete.
- **Course Load:** The total number of credit hours that a student is allowed to register for in a single semester.
- **University Degree:** The certificate awarded by the university to a student upon completion of the graduation requirements.
- **Semester GPA**

This is the student's academic achievement level during a semester. It represents a numerical method for evaluating a student's academic performance.

- **Cumulative GPA**

This is the student's academic achievement level across all semesters completed within the program. It represents a numerical method for evaluating a student's academic performance over a specific period. If this period represents the completion of the required credit hours for graduation, then the cumulative GPA is the graduation GPA.

- **Credit Hour**

1. A unit of academic measurement used to determine the weight of a course among other courses. It is equivalent to the number of hours a student attends per week in the course throughout the semester.
2. Course hours are determined according to the following model:

For theoretical courses: One credit hour is awarded for each one-hour lecture per week during a single semester.

- **For practical classes:**

One credit hour is awarded for every two hours of practical work in the lab per week during a single semester.

- **For clinical training:**

One credit hour is awarded for every three hours of training per week during a single semester.

- **For field training:**

One credit hour is awarded for every four hours of field training per week during a single semester.

- **Contact hour:**

The normal time spent in a lecture, lab, or training session.

- **Academic level:**

The level assigned by the program to the student's educational stage. The program consists of two main academic levels (with a mandatory internship year in between). Each level contains three semesters, and each semester includes a number of courses chosen by the student according to the study plan, under the supervision and guidance of the academic advisor.

- **Course:(curriculum)**

The scientific material included in the approved study plan for each academic specialization. Some courses may have prerequisites, which the

student is required to complete and pass before taking and passing the course.

- **Prerequisite:**

This is the course that must be successfully completed before registering for other courses specified by the study plan in subsequent semesters.

- **The struggling student:**

He is the student who did not obtain a cumulative grade point average of 1.6 for the semester, and in this case he is considered an academic monitor and is not entitled to register for more than 18 hours in the main semester.

Chapter Two

Article (1) Program Vision and Mission:

1.1 Vision:

To achieve excellence in nursing education to keep pace with advancements in nursing science at the national and international levels.

2.1 Mission:

This program aims to graduate qualified nurses who contribute to community development by collaborating with the healthcare team to provide exceptional nursing care based on diverse scientific backgrounds. This approach fosters integration and quality in healthcare and helps address community challenge and problems.

Article (2) Objectives of the Intensive Program

The accelerated program aims to:

1. Meet the community's need for qualified nursing specialists to address the nursing shortage.
2. Offer new career paths to contribute to community development.
3. Provide solutions to the unemployment problem by creating a nursing education pathway that integrates various sciences.
4. Assist graduates from other educational systems in obtaining a nursing degree and changing their career paths.
5. Strengthen the connections between different sciences and nursing, contributing to the development of new fields of study to meet community needs.
6. Developing the nursing profession by graduating qualified personnel with diverse scientific backgrounds.

Article (3): Characteristics of the Intensive Program:

The intensive (accelerated) Bachelor's program achieves educational objectives in a shorter timeframe than traditional programs because it builds upon the prior educational experiences of graduates from other educational systems.

Article (4): Program Description:

- A. The program helps university graduates with a Bachelor's degree to change their career path to nursing and obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).
- B. It qualifies graduates from other disciplines to secure excellent job opportunities at the national, regional, and international levels.
- C. It addresses the nursing shortage relative to the population.
- D. It contributes to solving the unemployment problem.
- E. It opens new avenues for innovative nursing programs.

Article (5): Program Duration:

- A. The program duration is 24 months (six semesters without breaks).
- B. The student must complete a mandatory internship (residence) for a period of twelve months (one calendar year) to obtain a Bachelor's degree. Completion of the mandatory internship is a prerequisite for obtaining a professional license. This internship is supervised by the college and hospitals where the student trains and is governed by the Bachelor's Internship Regulations issued under Ministerial Decree No. 4426 of 2022.

The following conditions must be met for admission to the program for both male and female students:

- a) The student must hold a bachelor's degree with a satisfactory cumulative grade point average (GPA) or (D) a high school diploma in science (science/mathematics) or its equivalent (from within or outside the Arab Republic of Egypt), as determined by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education.
- b) The student's first foreign language must be English.
- c) The student must pass the entrance examinations determined by the college.
- d) The student must pass the required medical examination and tests.
- e) The student must complete all preparatory courses for one semester (15 weeks) to enroll in the program if these courses were not studied during their undergraduate studies or in their high school diploma in science/mathematics. The student must register for a biology course (3 credit hours) in the preparatory semester as a prerequisite for the program. These (3) credit hours are not counted towards the total credit hours. The preparatory courses are:
 - 1. Anatomy (3 credit hours)
 - 2. Physiology (3 credit hours)
 - 3. Microbiology and Infection Control (3 credit hours)
 - 4. Medical Terminology (2 credit hours)
 - 5. Biochemistry and Nutrition (3 credit hours)
 - 6. Principles of Statistics (2 credit hours)
 - 7. English Language (2 credit hours)

8. Biology (for students in the Science/Mathematics track) (3 credit hours)

H- Students who fail any of the preparatory courses in the preparatory semester are permitted to retake the exam once before the start of the first semester. If they fail again, they must register for, retake, and re-examine the failed courses. A third failure will result in dismissal.

I- International students from various countries are accepted into the intensive nursing program under the same conditions mentioned above, as well as the admission requirements for international students stipulated by the Supreme Council of Universities.

Article (7) Adopted Academic Reference Standards (Competency-Based Academic Standards):

The program adopts the competency-based academic reference standards issued by the National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education in the Arab Republic of Egypt. These standards represent the primary reference for the program, and all necessary measures are taken to ensure and implement all quality assurance activities in accordance with these standards.

- Professional and Ethical Practice
- Holistic Patient-Centered Care
- Managing People, Work Environment, and Quality
- Informatics and Technology
- Inter-professional Communication and Collaboration

Article (8): Academic Degree:

The University Council, upon the request of the College of Nursing Council, shall award the Bachelor of Science in Accelerated Nursing degree to students enrolled in the program, provided the student fulfills the degree requirements. The minimum study period for the program is two years, with a minimum of 140 credit hours.

Article (9): Graduation Requirements:

To obtain the Bachelor of Science in Accelerated Nursing degree, students enrolled in the program must meet the following requirements:

- a- Successful completion of a total of (140) credit hours, including all courses registered for according to the requirements of these regulations, equivalent to (122) hours, in addition to (18) credit hours studied in the preparatory semester.
- b- Completion of the mandatory internship period (internship), which lasts 12 months and is equivalent to 12 credit hours, or 36 actual hours per week.

Article (10): System and Duration of Study:

- a- Study is conducted using the credit hour system for obtaining the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree for graduates of other colleges enrolled in the program.
- b- The duration of the study is six semesters, equivalent to 122 credit hours, in addition to the preparatory semester hours of 18 credit hours.
- c- Graduation is followed by mandatory internship (residency) equivalent to 12 credit hours, or 36 actual weekly hours for 12 months, in university hospitals/Ministry of Health and Population hospitals or teaching hospitals.

- d- The academic level is divided into three semesters, each lasting 15 weeks.
- e- The program's governing board may decide to teach courses using a hybrid learning model, with 60% of the coursework delivered in person and 40% delivered remotely, subject to the approval of the relevant councils.

Article (11): Course File:

A- A dedicated course file shall be created for each course, containing all relevant course materials, such as the course specifications, reports, exams, surveys, etc. This file shall be prepared at the end of each semester by the course instructor.

B- The academic department has the right to modify the academic content (by no more than 10%) of any course after it has been taught each semester, after considering student feedback, the instructor's input, internal and external references, and local and international developments.

Article (12): Course Load:

The course load is the total number of credit hours a student registers for in a given semester. This load varies from student to student according to their academic readiness and level, as well as the circumstances of the course schedule and any scheduling conflicts. In all cases, the following shall be taken into consideration:

A- The minimum registration requirement is 18 credit hours, with the exception of students who:

- Have less than this amount remaining until graduation in their final semester.

- Have no courses available for registration.

B- If a student is dismissed due to repeated failures and their academic level is deemed weak, they may register for the minimum number of credit hours only.

C- The maximum registration requirement is 24/26 credit hours

D- The number of credit hours in a semester may exceed 28 with the approval of the academic advisor in either of the following cases:

- The student's semester GPA in the previous semester is at least B.
- The student's graduation is contingent upon being allowed to complete 28 credit hours in their graduating semester or the semester preceding graduation.

E- With the approval of the program's governing board and the college council, the number of credit hours may be increased beyond the maximum limit in cases of graduation requirements, academic failure, or dismissal from the college.

Article (13): Registration:

A. The Program Board, based on the recommendation of the College's Student Affairs Committee(add, drop and withdrawal), determines the registration system and proposed study plans, taking into account available resources to ensure the required educational quality.

B. Registration dates are announced in the academic calendar for both new and continuing students. Students register for courses with the assistance of their academic advisor, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the program and the college.

C. Students submit a signed copy of their registration to the Student Affairs Department.

D. At the end of the registration period, the academic advisor reviews student registrations . The Student Affairs Department to create an academic file for each student. This file contains enrollment documents, a copy of their class schedule, add/drop forms, etc. This academic file is updated for each student.

E. Students should not register for a course with a prerequisite unless they have successfully passed that prerequisite.

F. Students in their final semester can take a course they previously failed and a prerequisite for another course concurrently.

F. H- A student may take a course and its prerequisite in the same semester if graduation depends on it, provided that the required faculty member approves (for students) and the program's board of directors, the student affairs committee, and the college council approves.

D- A student may take one or more theoretical courses (up to a maximum of 4 credit hours) in their graduation semester (if they conflict with other courses), provided that they have successfully completed at least the maximum number of courses required by the graduation regulations, and with the approval of the program's board of directors, the student affairs committee, and the college council.

Zh- A student may replace a failed elective course with another elective course from the same elective category According to the study plan in place at the college.

R- Students who register late, by the end of the second week of the semester, will have their cases reviewed by the program's board of directors, the student affairs committee, and then the college council. If the reasons for their late registration are accepted, they will be allowed to register. Otherwise, they will be considered to

have withdrawn from the program, and the college council will be responsible for ensuring the students complete the required coursework for the absent students.

Z- Students who are late in registering until the end of the third week of the beginning of the semester are considered to have dropped out of the study and cannot be registered in this semester. They must submit a request to postpone this semester, including the reason for their dropout and delay, so that they can suspend their registration in this semester after the approval of the program's board of directors and the college council on the reason for the delay in registration.

Article (14): Adding and Dropping Courses

A. The preparatory semester begins twice a year, in May and September.

B. The first semester begins in October for students who started the preparatory semester in May, and in February for those who started in September.

C. Students register for their chosen courses using the registration forms provided by their academic advisor within two weeks before the start of the semester.

D. The student's course load is determined at the beginning of each semester, with a minimum of 18 credit hours and a maximum of 24/26 credit hours.

E. The minimum and maximum credit hours for a semester may be reviewed based on factors such as the student's GPA and graduation requirements, subject to the approval of the program's

board of directors, provided that the maximum number of credit hours does not exceed 28 per semester.

H. After completing the registration procedures, the student may add or drop one or more courses within two weeks of the start of the academic year. This must be done in coordination with the student's academic advisor, provided that the minimum and maximum credit hours, prerequisites, and co-curricular requirements for each course are not violated.

I. The student must submit the registration application form to the Student Affairs Department for official approval after it has been signed by both the student and the academic advisor.

D. A student may not register for a course with a prerequisite until they have successfully passed that prerequisite.

Dh. A student may not add any course that conflicts with the schedule of the core courses for their registered academic level.

R. A student is considered registered upon completion of the registration requirements. The Student Affairs Department of the program must create an academic file for the student containing all student documents, including the application, course registration form, copies of their schedule, and add/drop forms. This file must be updated at the end of each semester.

Article (15): Attendance:

A. Students must maintain an attendance rate of 75% of the total hours for each course. If a student is absent (without an acceptable excuse) for 25% of the total hours in a course, the program's governing board has the right to bar them from taking the final exam in that course. The student will be considered to have failed the courses for which they were barred

from exams unless they provide an excuse accepted by both the program's governing board and the college council.

B. A student will receive a first warning if they are absent for 10% of the total hours in a course.

C. A student will receive a second warning if they are absent for 15% of the total hours in a course, in the form of an official, certified, and documented letter with return receipt requested.

B. A student will receive a third and final warning upon completing 25% of the total credit hours for a course. This warning will be issued via an official, documented letter with proof of receipt, and the student will be barred from taking the exam.

C. A student may apply for a deferral/suspension of enrollment before the start of the semester for a valid reason accepted by the program's board and the college council. The deferral/suspension may not exceed two consecutive semesters or three non-consecutive semesters as a maximum period for the student's enrollment in the program. After this period, the student's enrollment will be cancelled. In cases of extreme necessity, the program's board and the college council may grant exceptions to this rule with the approval of the university council.

H. A student who is absent from the final exam without a valid excuse accepted by the college council will receive a zero for that exam.

Kh. If a student is unable to attend the final exam for any course during the semester due to a valid excuse accepted by the program's board and the college council, the student will receive the grade they earned on the make-up exam, and the grade will be recorded as "IC" (Incomplete). The

make-up exam must be held before the start of registration for the following semester.

Article (16): Student Status:

A- A student is considered to have passed a course if they obtain a grade of at least (D - Pass) equivalent to 60% in nursing and medical courses, and also (D - Pass) equivalent to 50% in supporting courses, university requirements, and elective courses.

B- A student advances to the next semester if they successfully complete all courses in the level with a cumulative grade of at least (D - Pass) equivalent to 60%, or if they fail no more than two courses, provided that these are not nursing courses with practical training. In such cases, the student must study and be examined in these two courses in the following semester, and their grades will be recorded, provided that they do not conflict with the courses of the following semester.

D- If the two courses in which the student failed are a prerequisite for other courses at the same level, he is not entitled to register for those courses and he must choose other courses from higher levels to complete his number of hours, provided that he successfully passes the prerequisite for them in accordance with the student's requirements, with the help of the academic advisor's opinion.

Article (17): Registration of Students on Academic Probation:

A- If a student obtains a cumulative GPA lower than (D/Pass/1.6) for any semester, they will be placed on academic probation and officially notified. The student will not be registered for the next academic level unless they have completed the minimum number of credit hours required for the semester in which they are registered (18 credit hours). This

minimum may only be exceeded with the approval of the program and college boards, and based on the recommendation of the academic advisor.

B- A student on academic probation is permitted to re-enroll in a course they have previously taken and in which they received a grade of Good or lower to raise their cumulative GPA. The grade obtained in the retake will be calculated up to a maximum of Very Good (B+), provided that all grades a student has received are recorded in their academic transcript. When calculating the cumulative GPA, only the most recent grade is used.

C-Students may raise the grades of courses they have previously taken and passed to improve their overall GPA.

D- A previously failed course should not be selected for improvement.

Article (18): Warning and Dismissal from the College:

A- A student will receive a warning if they do not achieve a cumulative GPA of 1.6 for the semester. In this case, they will be placed on academic probation and may not register for more than 18 credit hours in the main semester.

B- A student will receive a warning if their absences are frequent and approach the 25% limit for academic probation. They will receive two warnings before being dismissed.

C- A student will be dismissed from the program in the following cases:

- If a dismissal decision is issued against them due to behavioral or ethical violations, according to the regulations and the Universities Organization Law and its executive regulations.
- If the number of withdrawals/deferrals exceeds the allowed three.

- If the number of failures exceeds the allowed three.
- If a student's semester GPA falls below a D (equivalent to 1.6) for two consecutive semesters, they will be dismissed.
- Graduating students who have completed 60% of the program's credit hours are exempt from dismissal, provided they have attended regularly for two consecutive semesters.
- The program's governing board may grant a student at risk of dismissal for failing to raise their cumulative GPA to 1.6 one final opportunity of one semester to raise their GPA, after reviewing the matter with the college council.

D- A student dismissed from the program may be readmitted, provided the dismissal was not due to a violation of the institution's ethical or regulatory rules, and any courses successfully completed will be credited.

Article (19): Withdrawal:

A- A student may withdraw from a course during the first eight weeks of the semester. They are not permitted to add an alternative course. A student may not withdraw from the same course more than twice; otherwise, they will be considered to have failed the course.

B- Withdrawal is limited to one course per semester and requires the approval of the program's governing board and the college.

C- A student wishing to withdraw from the entire semester due to illness or another valid reason accepted by the college, without being considered to have failed the course, must submit a request, along with the necessary documents, to the intensive program's governing board. Approval for withdrawal can be obtained at any time up to one month before the final exams. The matter will then be presented to the college council. A student

may not withdraw from more than three semesters during their entire course of study, whether consecutive or not.

D- The student receives a grade of "W" in the courses from which they withdraw and must retake these courses in a subsequent semester, both in coursework and examinations.

E- The withdrawal is recorded on the student's academic record.

F- A student is considered to have failed if they withdraw from one or more courses without an excuse accepted by the college and must retake the course, both in coursework and examinations.

G- A student is permitted to withdraw from a course to perform military service and will receive a grade of "Withdrawn for Military Service" (MW). This period is not counted towards the validity period of the courses.

H- A student is considered to have forcibly withdrawn if they do not meet the 75% attendance requirement for both the theoretical and practical hours of the course. They will be treated as having failed the course and will receive a grade of "Denial."

Article (20): Suspension of Enrollment:

A- The program's board of directors may suspend a student's enrollment if they submit an acceptable excuse preventing them from attending classes for two consecutive semesters or three non-consecutive semesters during their years of study in the program. In cases of necessity, the university council may extend the suspension period, in accordance with Article 69 of the executive regulations of the Universities Organization Law.

B- The cases in which students may be suspended are: students detained for political reasons until their release; students suffering from chronic

mental or neurological illnesses until their recovery; childcare; parental care; accompanying a spouse working abroad; or any other excuse accepted by the program's board of directors.

C- The request for suspension of enrollment must be accompanied by a full explanation of the reason cited by the student and be supported by official documents proving its validity.

Article (21): Course Transfer (Transfer from One University to Another):

A- A student may study at another university for one semester, and the grades and credit hours will be recorded in the student's original academic record at the university where the student is enrolled, subject to the approval of the program's board of directors and the college, and under the following conditions:

- These courses must be within the study plan of the program and have the same number of credit hours and academic content.
- The student's grade in all courses taken in the program must be at least a (D)
- The number of credit hours transferred must not exceed 50% of the total credit hours of the study program.

Article (22): Academic Advising:

- a. Students admitted to the program are assigned to faculty members.
- b. The academic advisor remains with the student until the end of the program, assisting them in developing their study plan, monitoring their performance, and guiding them throughout their studies according to their abilities and circumstances.

c. The academic advisor assists struggling students by communicating with the course instructor to monitor the student's performance and progress.

d. The academic advisor creates a file for each student to record and preserve all information related to their academic progress and to address any problems that may hinder them.

e. The academic advisor's opinion is advisory, and the student is responsible for their own choices and decisions.

Article (23): Student Performance Evaluation System (Exams/Grades/GPAs):

A- The maximum grade for courses is calculated according to the number of credit hours for each course, with 50 points allocated per credit hour. The passing grade is calculated out of (60%) D for nursing and medical courses, and out of (50%) D for supporting courses, university requirements, and elective courses.

B- If a student is unable to attend the midterm or final exam in any course of the semester due to a compelling reason (first-degree death, accident, illness, etc.), the Intensive Program Board will accept the excuse based on the documentation submitted by the student within one week of the exam date. An "Incomplete" (IC) will be recorded in the student's record, allowing them to take a make-up exam, provided they have achieved the required passing grade in coursework and have not exceeded the allowed absence rate. This make-up exam will be available two weeks after the start of the following semester.

D- Preparatory courses are included in the calculation of the cumulative average, except for the biology course, and it is only required that the

student successfully pass them (with an acceptable grade D for each course).

Article (24): General Framework for Examinations:

A. Examination hours are calculated at one examination hour per credit hour, provided that no examination is less than two hours and does not exceed three hours.

B. The College Council, after consulting with the relevant Department Council and depending on the nature of the courses, may decide to hold the examination electronically in one or more courses. It may also hold the examination for the entire course or a part thereof, provided that it is graded electronically.

C. The College Council shall issue a decision barring a student from taking the final examination if their absence rate exceeds 25% in any course, and their grade shall be recorded as "Denail".

D. the College Council shall issue a decision barring a student from taking the final examination if they do not achieve the minimum passing grade in practical training (60%) of the total clinical training marks in practical courses. In such cases, the student must repeat the course, both in terms of coursework and examination.

E. The total grade for each course is the sum of the grades for coursework (reports, assignments, research papers, and midterms) and the final exam

F. The exam result for each course is recorded and assigned points to the student on a scale of 1-4, along with the corresponding credit hour (according to the point system).

G. Grades for theoretical and medical nursing courses are calculated as follows:

- 60 %of the total grade is allocated to the final written exam for each course.
- 40 %of the total grade is allocated to coursework, which includes:
 - o 30 %of two written exams during the semester. The first exam is held at the end of the sixth week of the semester, and the second at the end of the twelve week.
 - o 10 %is distributed among reports, assignments, and research papers completed during the semester.

H. If a student receives less than 30% (a university zero) of the total marks for the final written exam for a course, they will fail the exam paper, and no coursework marks will be added to their grade. They will then have to retake the course, both in terms of coursework and exam, in the following semester.

I. Grades for practical nursing courses are calculated as follows:

- o 60 %of the total grade is allocated to coursework, which includes periodic exams (20%) and coursework grades for laboratory assessment and field work (40%).
- o 40 % of the total grade is allocated to the final practical exam.

J. If a student is unable to attend the midterm or final exam for any course due to force majeure (first-degree death, accident, illness, etc.), they are permitted to take a make-up exam (IC).

G. Grades for medical courses are calculated as follows:

60 % of the total grade is allocated to the written exam.

40 %is allocated to coursework.