

Challenge Policy

In accordance with the BRN regulation and De Anza College policy, students entering or enrolled in the nursing programs at De Anza College have the right to challenge courses in subject matter fields in which they are qualified through previous education, training or experience for which credit or advanced placement has not previously been given.

The process that must be followed in order to challenge a course is as follows:

1. The challenge applicant must be enrolled in the course to be challenged.
2. The challenge applicant must arrange an appointment with the Director of Nursing and present documentation substantiating his or her qualifications for challenging the course.
3. The challenge applicant must arrange an appointment with the course instructor(s) regarding specific course challenge requirements.
4. The course instructor reviews with the challenge applicant the challenge policy, including time line for meeting the requirements for the course to be challenged.
5. The challenge applicant successfully completes all of the challenge requirements which may include theory examinations and/or quizzes, scheduled clinical time, skills components (including skills testing, drug calculations, nursing care planning, and/or other indicators of proficiency, or other requirements appropriate for the course.)
6. The course grade is recorded on the student's permanent record at the end of the quarter, and a notation is made that the credit was earned by challenge process.
7. The student will progress to the next course in the program on a space available basis as long as any other co-requisites have been completed.

Note: If the student is unsuccessful in the challenge process, the student may not continue in the course. Policies regarding progression through the nursing program as stated in the Department of Nursing Student Handbook will apply.

Additional regulations for challenging a course: (per De Anza College Catalog)

- No course may be challenged after the class has met twice the number of class meetings per week
- No course may be challenged during the summer session.
- Credit by examination will not be granted in a course for which the student has already received a grade.
- Units of credit received through this procedure may not apply toward the minimum of 24 resident units at De Anza for the Associate Degree.
- A maximum of 45 units of credit may be earned by challenge examination. Special limitations apply to challenging courses in sequence. Students challenging a course successfully cannot challenge a course which normally precedes the course challenged.
- Acceptance of challenged credit by a transfer institution depends upon the policies of that institution.