

# Test of Essential Academic Skills (T.E.A.S.)

[reviewed annually]

You must take the TEAS as part of the application process. The score you receive on the test will be considered as part of the selective administrative process. **If you do not complete the TEAS test, your application will not be evaluated.**

## What is the TEAS test?

The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS®) administered by Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) is a standardized, timed, computer-based exam designed to assess the general academic preparedness of students interested in applying to the Dakota Nursing Program. It measures knowledge in basic essential skills in the academic content areas of Reading, Mathematics, Science and English.

## Who should register for the TEAS test?

All students who apply for admission to the Practical Nursing Program will be required to participate in pre-admission testing prior to the admissions deadline for the program.

## What will I need in order to register for the TEAS?

Students taking the test must have a credit card and an email address to complete the online registration.

## When should I take the TEAS test?

Students must register for and take the TEAS test no less than 5 days prior to the application deadline. Tests taken after the application deadline will not be used for the current admissions cycle. Tests rescheduled due to weather cancellation by the Dakota Nursing Program will be considered even if the rescheduled date is after the admissions deadline.

TEAS TEST DATES	
Program Admission Period	Deadline for PN Application & other required documents
PN Applicants for Fall of 2026	March 5th

## Who long does the TEAS take and when should I arrive?

You will need to schedule at least four hours to take the test. You must arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the test and you must have your ATI username and password. The tests will start promptly at the scheduled times. Late arrivals will not be able to test.

## What should I bring for the test?

You will need a valid photo ID and your ATI username and password. Calculators are NOT allowed. Bring 2 or more #2 pencils and schedule 4 hours to take the test. Scratch paper will be provided by the testing center.

## How much does the TEAS test cost?

Students must prepay and pre-register for the TEAS test. The fee is \$87.00, or \$120.00 for remote testing. Additional proctoring fees may apply, so check with the campus where you will take the exam. Major credit cards are accepted for payment, which is required when scheduling the test date. Be sure to bring a copy of your receipt on the testing day. All costs are subject to change without notice. The first transcript is included in the cost, additional transcripts will cost \$27.00.

NOTE: Students **must** choose DNP-TEAS as the test score recipient.

## I want to study first. Is there a study guide?

As with any standardized test, there are many ways to prepare. ATI, the company that creates and administers the TEAS® test, offers comprehensive study guides which you may purchase at <https://atitesting.com/teas/compare-prep>

## I didn't do so well on the test, can I take it again?

Applicants are allowed two (2) attempts at the TEAS exam with a minimum of 4 weeks (28 days) between attempts. Applicants are not permitted to take the TEAS more than twice in any admission cycle. You are required to pay for the test each time you take the test. The Dakota Nursing Program will use the scores associated with the highest Adjusted Individual Score achieved within 2 years of the application deadline for the TEAS only. Previous versions of the TEAS test are not accepted for admission to the Dakota Nursing Program.



Where do I find my scores?

You will receive a full reports page immediately after taking the exam and can go in and view your results at any time in your ATI account at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) using the login and password created during the test session. If you cannot remember your username/password or if you do not see your test scores, you may contact ATI at the phone number listed on their website.

What should I do with my results?

Print out a copy of your results page and save it to your computer because you will need to upload it to the DNP nursing application when you apply.

I took my test at PSI, Pearson UEI or some other testing site, now what?

It is the sole responsibility of the student to request that a transcript be sent to the specific site where you are applying to attend the Dakota Nursing Program and verify that our office has received a transcript of the TEAS test completed. You should contact ATI testing and request that the transcript be sent to our office. They have our email and contact information on file. We will not process any application without a TEAS score. There may be a charge for the transcript.

What is a passing score?

A minimum TEAS composite score must be 45.0% or greater. Any applicant scoring below this number will not be accepted. For students admitted for the 2024-2025 academic year, the average TEAS score was 64%.

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ATI TEAS Preparedness Categories	
Developmental	Less than 41.3%
Basic	41.3
Proficient	58.7%
Advanced	78.0%
Exemplary	90.7%
Minimum score for application to DNP	45.0%

Will you pick and choose the best scores from all the TEAS test I have ever taken?

The sub-test scores associated with the highest Adjusted Individual Score are the ones that are used. At no time will scores from different tests be combined to produce a single TEAS score. The Dakota Nursing Program will only use TEAS scores from exams completed within two years of the application deadline.

Should I retake the TEAS test each time I apply?

TEAS scores are valid for just two years. If the TEAS exam was taken more than two years before the application deadline, then you will need to re-test. If your scores on the TEAS exam do not meet the required minimums, then we strongly encourage you to re-test. IF YOU TOOK A TEAS OTHER THAN TEAS, IT CANNOT BE USED FOR ADMISSION

How do I register for the TEAS?

An updated list of the dates is on the home page of our website at [www.dakotanursing.org](http://www.dakotanursing.org) for when the TEAS test will be offered at each of our sites and a link where you can purchase and register for the TEAS test or you may visit [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) and click on 'Register for TEAS'.

**The Dakota Nursing Program strictly enforces its Honor Code during testing: "I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on this assignment/examination and that I will report all violations I observe." Any breach of this code will result in the exam being confiscated by the proctor and the tester being asked to leave. Students who are confirmed to have cheated on the TEAS exam will be permanently deferred from admission into the Dakota Nursing Program.**



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