

ABOUT THE NURSE ENTRANCE TEST

The actual test takes approximately 2½ hours to complete. The test is taken on a computer in the Testing Center which is located on the southwest side of the Scharbauer Student Center. The test is offered **every Thursday at 8:30, 11:15 and 1:45**. To reserve a time to take the NET, you must first request a NET ticket from the Health Sciences Admission Office, located in the Davidson Family Health Sciences Building, next pay for the NET at the cashier in the Scharbauer Student Center, and then take your ticket and receipt to the **Testing Center (685-4504)** to set up a time to take the test. **You must register at least one day in advance at the Testing Center.** Please keep in mind that all the Health Sciences programs use this entrance test for admission, so you should schedule a day and time as early as possible. As deadlines for admission approach, you may not be able to schedule a time.

Applicants who want to take the NET exam out of town can have a school in their area contact Mr. Arnold (Educational Resources) at 800/292-2273 and he will make arrangements to send the test to the school. The student will have to pay the cost of the test (\$17 - \$20) plus \$10 to have the scores sent to Midland College. Mr. Arnold can also tell you where the test is given closest to where you live.

Any applicant may retake the NET, regardless of the score, after one month has passed since the first test date. After the second test, the applicant must wait six months to retake the test. Any subsequent retakes require prior approval by the Program Director. The highest composite score will be used for admission purposes.

The purpose of the test is to evaluate your ability to do the work that will be required of you in a health science program. If you obtain a low score on an area (math or reading), you would probably have trouble with some of the material in school. So finding out you need help in an area is to your advantage. For example, you need satisfactory math skills, especially when preparing and administering medications. As a student and health care professional, you will be required to read complex material. Our textbooks are written on a college level. Good reading skills will maximize your study time and your understanding of the material presented.

TESTING CENTER GUIDELINES

The only items you may bring with you to the testing center are picture identification and car keys. All other items (i.e. purses and backpacks) must be left either in your vehicle or at your house. Midland College is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

1. You may not bring a cell phone, pager or alarm watch with you into the testing room.
2. If you are bothered by peripheral noises while testing, you may be more comfortable bringing earplugs to ensure complete silence while testing.
3. If you have any comments or concerns, they must be addressed to the Testing Center Counselor in writing. These concerns must be reported through the Testing Center prior to being considered by the Health Sciences staff.
4. Please see your NET information handout for retesting rules. These rules apply for all colleges.
5. Consult the Health Sciences Division for evaluation of scores.

It will be important to familiarize yourself with these guidelines before the test. If you have any questions about them, feel free to call the Testing Center at 685-4504.

THESE GUIDELINES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

TEST CONTENT

Reading Rate and Reading Comprehension - This test measures your reading rate within the first minute of the 30 minute test. During the test, you will be asked to draw a conclusion from what you read, identify the main idea of the passage, and/or predict what would happen based on an understanding of the content. If you believe you need help with reading skills, it is advised you contact Ms. Jennifer Key, Midland College Reading Instructor, at 685-4718 in the Reading Lab, 238 LRC (second floor) **PRIOR** to taking NET. Working a few hours in the Reading Lab can help you achieve a higher percentage on this important test section, as well as help you become a more successful student. The Reading Lab is only open during the Fall and Spring semesters. See PLATO NET Test Preparation on the last page of this packet for further help.

Essential Math Skills - Basic operations in mathematics are evaluated on a 60 problem test that is taken in 60 minutes. **No calculators are allowed.** Sample problems are included in this packet. If you have difficulty with the problems, the Math Lab offers a *Math for Health Science Majors* for a fee. For more information contact Dr. Margaret Wade, Math/Sciences Division Dean, 685-4612. See PLATO NET Test Preparation on the last page of this packet for further help.

Social Interaction Profile - This test provides insight into your passive/aggressive leadership style and social interaction skills. There are no right or wrong answers in this section and your score is not computed into the score used for admission placement.

Stress Level Profile - This inventory produces a self-perceived stress profile for five areas in personal coping: Family Life, Social Life, Money/Time Commitments, Academic Stress, and Stress in the Workplace. It is helpful to realize that we all experience stress. This profile helps you identify particular areas of stress in your own life so that you might be motivated to develop meaningful coping strategies. School, especially when enrolled in a demanding health sciences program, can be quite stressful in itself. Other personal stressors compound the problem. Stress management information is available from Midland College counselors. This score, like the one above, is not figured into your score for admission placement.

Learning Style - This assessment helps you identify the mode you predominately use when learning new material. Most people have very definite preferences. For example, some have a strong visual orientation, others learn best by hearing. Some learn best in social situations others learn best when alone. One learning style is not better than another. Sometimes we feel frustrated when we have to learn in a mode that is not our mode of preference. Midland College counselors have information on learning styles if you want to accentuate your dominate style or learn to improve your ability to learn in another style. The score on this area is not figured into your test for admission placement.

Remember: The percentage achieved on Reading Comprehension is averaged with the Essential Math Skills percentage to give your Composite Percentage on NET. See program admission information for calculation of admission points and/or minimum scores required for program admission.

MATH PROBLEMS

The following math problems are similar to those found on the NET:

Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing Whole Numbers

1. $5694 + 2311 =$
2. $2031 - 1260 =$
3. $7913 \times 8 =$
4. $9015 \div 4 =$
5. $15,392 \div 32 =$

Decimal Operations

6. Write $\frac{3}{8}$ as a decimal.
7. $.37 + 5.471 + .7 + 8 =$
8. $.12 \times 1.2 =$
9. $.072 \div .02 =$
10. $2.1326 - .57 =$
11. $.3 \times 125 =$
12. $.54 \div 8 =$

Fractional Operations

13. $1\frac{3}{5} + 2\frac{9}{10} + 3 =$
14. $7\frac{1}{6} - 4\frac{5}{9} =$
15. $\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{9}{10} \times 6 =$
16. $\frac{7}{8} \div 3 =$
17. $8\frac{3}{4} + 2\frac{5}{6} =$
18. $18 - 3\frac{1}{3} =$
19. $1\frac{2}{3} \times 3\frac{3}{4} =$
20. $1\frac{1}{9} \div 1\frac{2}{3} =$

Percent Operations

21. 82% of 36 =
22. 22 = _____% of 55
23. 1.2% of 750 =
24. Ratio of 3 to 5 = _____%
25. 12 = _____% of $20 \times 1\frac{1}{4}$
26. 20% of _____ = 14.4
27. 54 = 90% of _____

Number System Conversions

28. Write $\frac{1}{5}$ as a decimal
29. Write 3.75 as a percentage
30. Write .21 as a percentage
31. Write 9:18 as a percentage
32. Write $\frac{6}{10}$ as a percentage
33. Write 75% as a decimal

Simplifying Algebraic Equations

34. $2x - 3x + x$
35. $(a^2 + 5a + 6) - (a^2 + 3a + 6)$
36. $9 - 10b = 99$
37. $-5(x-3) = -x - 21$
38. $-2ax^2 - 4ax^2$
39. $-5(a-2) + 10 + 2(a-1)$
40. $2x + 4 = 3$
41. $2(4h - 1) - h = 3(h - 2)$

Answers to Math Problems

1. 8005
2. 771
3. 63304
4. 2253.75
5. 481
6. 0.375
7. 14.541
8. .144
9. 3.6
10. 1.5626
11. 37.5
12. .0675
13. $7\frac{1}{2}$
14. $2\frac{11}{18}$
15. $3\frac{3}{5}$
16. $\frac{7}{24}$
17. $11\frac{7}{12}$
18. $14\frac{2}{3}$
19. $6\frac{1}{4}$
20. $\frac{2}{3}$
21. 29.52
22. 40%
23. 9
24. 60%
25. 48%
26. 72
27. 60
28. .2
29. 375%
30. 21%
31. 50%
32. 60%
33. .75
34. Zero
35. 2a
36. -9
37. 9
38. $-6ax^2$
39. $-3a + 18$
40. $-\frac{1}{2}$
41. $h = -1$

PLATO

NET Test Preparation

Introduction:

Welcome to the Plato class: “NET Test Preparation.” This class has been designed for students who are preparing to take their Nursing Entrance Exam. The primary focus of this activity is Math assessment and practice. After the lab instructor has enrolled you in Plato, begin by taking the assessment in the Fastrack Math curriculum. This test is designed to find out what you already know and to identify areas that may require additional attention. When you finish, Plato will determine what areas you need to study and place you in appropriate lessons. Go to your curriculum screen and open the first activity you have not completed or received exemption credit for, and start the tutorial. When you have successfully completed the Mastery Test that follows, move on to the next activity. Your minimum goal should be to complete all activities through Level G. If you should choose to work beyond this level, all the better. The more you put into preparation, the greater the reward.

Commonly asked questions:

How long will this take?

The assessment can run anywhere from 20 minutes to two hours. The duration of the assessment depends on how much you demonstrate you know. Typically, the more you know, the longer it takes. Remember, though, that the better you do on the assessment, the less time you’ll have to spend working on the lessons. Sometimes the assessment may require more than one visit (depending on how much time you have per visit). This is not unusual – Plato will remember where you left off and start you at that point when you return.

The time it takes to complete your lessons depends on how many activities Plato assigns to you, and on how far you are willing to go. Try not to get frustrated if the amount of courseware seems overwhelming. Keep in mind, that what you can accomplish on Plato in a matter of days, normally takes years of schooling to achieve.

What do I do if I don’t understand a lesson or tutorial?

Ask your lab instructor for help. You shouldn’t, however, receive any help on the assessment or Master Tests. These are intended to measure what you know, not what someone else knows. When you take the NET test, all that will matter is what you know.

If I complete my Plato assignments, does that guarantee I’ll pass the test?

There are no guarantees that you will pass, but reviewing subject matter on Plato has been proven to help improve student performance.

What else, in addition to Math, can I do on Plato to improve my skills?

The NET Test Preparation Class also includes a Reading Strategies assignment. Although not as comprehensive as the math section, this activity can assist you in developing the kinds of reading comprehension skills that are required by the NET test.

Where can I use the Plato program?

The program has been installed on computers in labs on campus. First, try to use the computer lab in room 244 in the Davidson Health Sciences building. Should this lab be full, try room 149 or room 170 in the Technical Center.