



## Why the Admissions Essay is Important, and What the Admissions Committee is Looking for in the Essay?

The essay allows the committee to assess the applicant's:

- Command of the English language and writing ability
- Ability to present ideas, organize thoughts, and convey information in a logical, meaningful manner
- Ability to follow directions in providing specific and detailed answers to the questions posed in the instructions
- Mature thought process and commitment regarding the decision to pursue nursing studies
- Confidence in his or her ability to succeed in the program and in the nursing profession
- Vision for his or her future in the nursing profession and goals for continuing education
- Connection to our organization's mission of providing compassionate care to those in need

## Use of the Essay

Beginning with applicants for Fall 2011, the essay will not only be used as a basis for admissions decisions, but will also be used in consideration of scholarships and awards for which a student may qualify.

## Length and Submitting the Essay

The length of the essay should be a minimum of 300 words but can be up to 2 pages double spaced. **You will submit your essay as part of the online application.**

## What Should be Included in the Essay?

The admissions essay should answer the following three questions:

1. Why are you interested in nursing?
2. Which Bon Secours value do you most identify with and why?

The Bon Secours values are: respect, stewardship, compassion, integrity, quality, innovation and growth. These values are the heritage upon which the Bon Secours Health System was founded and the guiding principles upon which our institution operates today.

3. Describe your personal vision of how you plan to impact the profession of nursing.

In addition to the three questions, we encourage you to address academic struggles in the past and how you anticipate being successful in the future. Much like a job application, your application packet should help the Admissions Committee feel confident in your ability to succeed.

As you read over your final essay, put yourself in the shoes of the Admissions Committee. Think about how many applicants will apply for a limited number of spaces and tell us something about you that will convey the thought, effort and preparation you've dedicated to your goal of gaining admission to the College of Nursing.