1. **What is the Valley Foundation School of Nursing website and address?**
   www.sjsu.edu/nursing  We are located in Health Building, Room 420, near 9th and San Carlos St. in San Jose, CA 95192-0057. The Nursing department has limited hours; it will be open 10-12 and 2-4 pm, Mondays-Fridays. Please check website for current hours or call first before coming to campus. We are closed on holidays.

2. **How do I apply to the nursing program, if I haven’t applied to the University yet?**  Students must apply to the University, prior to applying to the Valley Foundation School of Nursing. Potential students can only apply online to the University at www.csumentor.edu in **Oct/Nov** for the following August University enrollment. When you sign in, you must select a major. This would be “Undeclared Pre-nursing”. If you are a freshman student, your second choice should be “undeclared” (FYI: transfer students cannot select “undeclared”). This does not guarantee you acceptance as a nursing major. Additionally, not all students who apply to the University are accepted. (See [Http://info.sjsu.edu](http://info.sjsu.edu)). The nursing application is separate and is found on The Valley Foundation’s School of Nursing web page under “forms” or the “student hyperlink” at the top of the School’s web page. Your nursing application can be in process while waiting
to hear the University’s decision. The University sometimes opens admissions for the following Spring semester as well (depending on CSU funding). Check on csumentor.edu in August to apply for the following Spring.

3. How do I apply for the nursing major?

You are applying to the nursing program, but you will be applying as a undeclared pre-nursing student. Please read about “prospective student” information and the B.S. Information packet on the School’s nursing website. You apply using the nursing application (see website under “forms”) by February 15 for acceptance for the following Fall University enrollment or by September 15 for the following Spring University enrollment. A student self check cover sheet is required when you submit your application. Applications are accepted 1 month prior to the due dates. The Valley Foundation School of Nursing admits twice a year - regardless of the University admission cycle. You must have applied to the University with your files being reviewed by the University, as a provisional acceptance. If the University is not admitting for the Spring semester, you need to be an enrolled student the previous Fall of the semester which you are applying for a nursing Spring enrollment. The University does accept prior Baccalaureate degree students for nursing only (and you would likely not need to take additional SJSU general studies courses, such as those in areas R, S, and V requirements to graduate). All nursing majors are required to take specific courses in area Z (HProf 100W/ NURS 100W).

4. Can I change my major, if it is not undeclared pre-nursing?

The University limits the number of students in other majors wishing to switch to undeclared pre-nursing, because all majors are impacted. That means that students must have not achieved 9 units in their prior major (if anything other than “undeclared”, and if you are “undeclared” as a major, then you can have no more than 60 units completed if you began the University as a freshman). Transfer students should submit their change of major to the pre-nursing major request after 1 semester of grades (including documentation on unofficial transcripts of at least one or two science prerequisite courses).

5. What paperwork is required for a “Change of Major” request?

Go to the web site www.sjsu.edu/registrar and complete a Change of Major form. It must be accompanied by unofficial transcript from all colleges and Universities, including SJSU. Submit the form to The Valley Foundation School of Nursing. The GPA for the nursing prerequisite courses should be 3.0 and above. When you finally apply to the nursing major, you are included in an applicant pool and there are no waitlists or lottery systems, such as in the community college system of selection.

6. I have heard other friends say that you use lottery and wait lists for students wishing to get into the nursing major. Is this true?

That is incorrect. Student selection is based on an impaction score that is clearly outlined on the B.S. information packet on our nursing website under the “student” hyperlink
Frequently Asked Questions about the SJSU Valley Foundation School of Nursing

(http://www.sjsu.edu/nursing/students/prospective/index.html). Admission is primarily based on academics and is quite competitive. Most students have high B's and A's in many of the prerequisite courses, although the specific minimum GPAs for the applicant pool are in the B.S. information packet (under “student” on the website).

7. Where do I find a list of the 8 pre-requisites and the co-requisite courses?

This information is located in the “B.S. information packet” on our website under the “student” hyperlink at the top of the nursing web page. All eight of the prerequisites must be completed to apply.

8. Are there individual advising sessions available? Yes. We recommend all students first attend one of our monthly 2-hr group advising sessions. The advising slides used for this session are found on the Nursing website, on the top left under the “advising” hyperlink – The dates/times/and places of the advising sessions are posted here. Anyone is welcome to attend these 2 hour group advising sessions (Sept- May ), including high-school students and parents. Ninety five percent of the concerns/questions can be answered at this in-person session and you do not need an individual advising appointment. Once you have attended one of these sessions, you can call the main nursing office, Health Bldg. Rm 420, at 408-924-3131, to ask when advisers are available. Advisers are available in the summer for GE advising in the University regular 10th street garage Student Services Center or the CASA Student Success Center. During the academic year, General Education (GE) advising can be done through the CASA Student Success Center in MacQuarrie Hall, Room 533 – Call 408-924-2910 for an appointment.

9. Can I enroll for what is now known as “SJSU Studies” (used to be called upper GE or advanced GE courses) prior to completing a minimum of 60 units of lower GE courses? Not without a signed “less than 60-unit waiver” petition (found at the Undergraduate Studies web site http://www.sjsu.edu/ugs/students/petitions/list/ ). The nursing adviser must sign this completed form and the adviser will need to write a letter to accompany the request. The nursing advisor will need to meet with you and see your unofficial transcripts and page 1 of degree progress report, and a list of the nursing 8 prerequisite courses remaining to be taken, as well as other lower GE. After the forms have been signed by the nursing adviser, the student will pick up forms from the Health Bldg. 420 office, to hand-deliver the completed forms, with a stamped return address envelope, to the Undergraduate Studies office. If you have less than 60 units, you will not be able to enroll for advanced G.E. courses until the first day of the academic calendar (on a space available basis). You cannot enroll in SJSU Studies (designated upper division) courses until the first day of classes, if you have less than 60 lower division units.

10. Do you have an accelerated B.S. program? No, but several local universities do; they usually require a prior baccalaureate degree. We encourage you to check other programs such as Samuel Merritt (Oakland); USF; UCSF; and San Francisco State University. Individuals, who have prior Bachelor’s degrees and/or a Masters in other fields, seldom want to spend 5 years to completing an additional SJSU B.S. nursing degree. Community colleges offer a 2 yr. Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) degree as another option. The University is currently only accepting
prior B.S. degree students for undeclared pre-nursing. Apply to the University in October, for
the following August SJSU University enrollment. The Nursing application is due to the School of
Nursing the prior February (pending all requirements completed).

11. **How do I join the applicant pool?** See the *B.S. Information packet* handout with the
heading, “IMPACTON SCORING”. “In order to join the applicant pool, students should do the
following”:
   o Complete specific nursing requirements (listed on the BS Information packet- page 2) & apply
to SJSU.
   o Complete the WST exam 2-3 months prior to applying (and TEAS exam at least 2 weeks prior
to deadline)
   o Be a student in good standing at SJSU with a GPA of 3.0 or above.
   o Attend one of the monthly advising sessions at least 6-9 months to applying to the nursing
major

12. **How do I study for the Teas 5.0 test and how many times can I take it?** (See the *B.S.
Information packet* handout with the heading, “IMPACTON SCORING”- TEAS test)
   o There is a site, [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) that can provide a “TEAS Test Study and Review Guide”.
   o We only will use the highest of the first or second TEAS exam score. For SJSU, the TEAS test
can only be taken twice for the TEAS 5.0 version. It can be taken at places other than SJSU
but you will need to research the ATI vendor’s web site for this information. You must
achieve the minimum TEAS score of 75 or above.

13. **Where do I find the TEAS score and how do I report it?** The ATI vendor for the TEAS test
has a place on their website to obtain a paper and pencil ID #. Return to that website to
print out your score 7-10 working days after the date when you completed the exam.
Provide this ATI TEAS test form with your application to the Valley Foundation School of
Nursing if you meet the minimum score.

14. **Where can the information for registering for the SJSU Writing Skills Test (WST) and TEAS
be obtained?** (see the *B.S. Information packet* handout with the heading, “Where can I find
the required tests, such as the Writing Skills Test (WST), TEAS, ELM, and English Placement
Tests?)
[http://testing.sjsu.edu/](http://testing.sjsu.edu/) This web site also has sample test questions and registration
deadlines, not to mention sample WST test blueprint questions. Those who need special
accommodations for the exam should also go to this site, or contact the testing office
directly.

15. **Why is are the most recent 30 semester (or 45 quarter) units GPA excluded form the
scoring as of Fall 2013?** Each CSU has their own method of determining impaction criteria.
It is then submitted to the CSU Chancellor for permission. The SJSU Nursing program
decided to avoid artificially inflating the impaction score for the last 30 units by not
including these scores, since most applicants were straight A’s in these courses.

*FAQs revised 6.1.13.docx*
16. **How soon can I apply to the School of Nursing?** The applications are accepted approximately one month prior to the deadlines for the School of Nursing. You would have already applied to and have your application being processed for the University acceptance via csumentor.edu (So often you will be in a provisional acceptance by the University as a “self report” status until the admissions staff can fully review all of the transcript information). All of the requirements are outlined in the B.S. information packet.

17. **Speaking of transcripts, do I really have to have sealed transcripts from all of my colleges, including SJSU to apply to nursing?**
Yes, you should have all transcripts sent to your home (or pick them up) and leave them in a sealed envelope to accompany your application packet materials.

18. **Can I use any AP courses for my nursing application of the 9 pre-requisites?**
Yes. We accept AP for English 1A, Psychology and Stat 95 (when asking about the 8 pre-requisite course substitutions). You will need to submit a copy of your college board scores, with a prerequisite substitution form for the AP English, Psychology, and Stat 95 either with your application or before that date. If we have scores for BOTH Stats and English 1 A, we will include only one of those 2 into our impaction scoring.

20. **How should I deliver my application?** You should drop off the application in person, to the Health Building - Room 420, with all materials typed (except for the functional competencies form, which requests for signatures and initials) and those documents all will be attached together with a binder clip. If you are comfortable using the U.S. mail, make sure to send your material registered or certified (approximately 4-5 days prior to the nursing school’s deadline). If the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be due the following day the School is open, by 4 pm.

21. **What if my impaction score is tied with someone else, and there are only limited spots?**
We usually accept 60 students/semester, regardless of the University’s acceptances. All students must have an application to the University in progress. If we are limited in acceptance slots, and we have a tie score for the last spot, we will use the highest supplemental GPA to determine the tie-breaker. If we also have more than one person with that same tied supplemental score, then we will use overall GPA as the final tie-breaker.

22. **Do you also use other criteria, such as second languages and health care experiences, for your applicant decisions?** Currently we do not use other criteria.