

Indiana University Kokomo School of Nursing  
ATI Implementation Policy for Testing, Remediation, and Program Evaluation  
Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing

### **What is ATI?**

- ATI stands for Assessment Technologies Institute, and ATI offers an Assessment-Driven Review (ADR) program designed to increase student pass rates on the nursing licensing exam and lower program attrition.
- At IU Kokomo we use ATI as a comprehensive program from the sophomore to the senior year.
- Used as a comprehensive program, ATI tools can help students prepare more efficiently, as well as increase confidence and familiarity with content.
- Is it a book? Well, the ATI program includes books, DVD's, and online practice and proctored testing over the major content areas in nursing. It also is a program that includes testing of indicators of academic success in nursing school, tests critical thinking, and tests the student comprehensively on a test that is like your NCLEX state board exam
- You will order your ATI program each semester in nursing school online using a MasterCard or Visa through the ATI website.

### **I am a Sophomore in my first nursing class. How can ATI help?**

During your first semester in nursing school, you will take the "TEAS" (Test of Essential Academic Skills) and a test of critical thinking. The TEAS will provide important information about student strengths and weaknesses that may affect performance. The critical thinking score is a baseline measure. You will take a similar test near graduation to see how you may have grown. The course instructor and BSN program faculty may use this information to counsel students regarding remediation, and the course instructor will require completion of the TEAS for a passing course grade. However, TEAS scores will not be counted in the course grade, since these scores do not reflect content directly taught in the course. In the first semester you will also get a booklet about academic success in nursing.

### **Now I am taking my Fundamentals of Nursing Courses in the Sophomore year. How should I use my ATI materials?**

You will get a soft cover review book and DVD. You can review what you are learning by using these resources as a way to help you study all through the course. Use it after completing your textbook reading. You will also get an "online practice code" that you can use to test yourself. Near the end of the Fundamentals of Nursing Course, you will take a comprehensive online proctored test (usually in a computer lab). This will tell you how you did in comparison to other nursing students from around the country. A part of your course grade will reflect this performance (see the section on grading). You may be asked to remediate, which means to review what you did not know and test again. That is further explained under remediation. During the junior and senior years, use of the ATI materials is similar. Some semesters you will take several ATI tests, depending on the content areas you studied.

### **What is Remediation?**

Remediation means to go back over what you did not learn/did not get correct to clarify areas in which your knowledge is lacking. Your ATI Comprehensive Exam Results will show a printout of the topics you need to review, in a list format. You should print these results at home, and use them to study. Then, you will be asked to complete a further check on your knowledge to see if your remediation has paid off with better performance. When completing remediation activity that is not proctored (i.e. on the internet at home or out of the classroom) the instructor has access to detailed information about the timing and duration of remediation activity, and if the course instructor believes that the student has not taken the time to remediate seriously, the instructor has the authority to have the student come to campus to take another remediation test in a proctored environment. Remediation is intended to help the student recover important information that was missed on the initial test.

## What about when I am a Senior preparing to graduate?

During your last semester in nursing school, you will get soft cover review materials that are relevant to the courses you take in that semester, as well as pharmacology (which is taught throughout the curriculum and reviewed in the final semester). As you will see in the syllabi for the courses that semester, a portion of your grade will be based on ATI performance. You will also take a critical thinking test and a comprehensive predictor test, which are very important in preparing you to take the NCLEX State Board Exam. The Comprehensive Predictor Assessment is an 180-item assessment designed to reflect the content areas of the current NCLEX<sup>®</sup> (RN licensing examination) blueprint. This tool provides information on the student's probability of NCLEX<sup>®</sup> success, as well as detailed information about strengths and weaknesses. These tests are not a part of a course grade, but must be completed.

## Purchasing Your ATI Materials

Each semester in nursing school you will be directed to purchase the ATI program online for the upcoming semester (six payments). NOTE: you cannot "borrow" the ATI program from a buddy or "purchase" a used ATI program because a lot of what you pay for is the TESTING SERVICE.

Your syllabus for each semester course in nursing school will include ATI ordering instructions that include your cohort name and a list of materials that are associated with that semester. It is extremely important to order the correct materials. If not, you may incur additional charges if you need to re-order due to your error. If you need assistance, please contact Debbie Horoho, office KE318, or at [dhoro@iuk.edu](mailto:dhoro@iuk.edu)

**If you are a first semester sophomore**, you will need to place your online order with ATI no later than September 25 (for fall admits) or February 10 (for spring admits). This later order deadline is to allow for any questions you may have before ordering (and since you will not require your materials immediately).

**For all the other semesters**, you will need to place your online order with ATI no later than September 5 (each fall semester) or January 20 (each spring semester). On this date, the faculty will check the list of paid orders for accuracy and completeness. Students that have not ordered by September 5 (fall semester) or January 20 (spring semester) will incur a significant late fee paid to ATI. Any student that does not order by October 31 (fall) or March 8 (spring) will have to purchase their ATI package at market value, which is up to three times the school rate. **No testing will be allowed until we have verification of your payment for that semester. No exceptions will be allowed under any circumstances.**

The materials will be distributed early in each semester in one of your nursing courses. You must pick up your own materials and sign for them. You cannot pick up a classmate's materials. It does not matter if you won't be testing until later, you still need to purchase on time.

Unless you are ordering after October 31 or March 8, Do NOT go online to purchase an individual ATI package (they do sell to individuals, but if you purchase this way it is **much** more expensive and **your testing environment will not be set up correctly for IU Kokomo**).

## How do I place my online order?

Go to [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com),

- Each semester you will receive instructions including codes for ordering online (oncourse). Please wait until you receive the instructions before ordering.
- Enter your user name and password in the sign in box on the left hand side of the screen. If this is the first time you are ordering from ATI, you will need to create a username and password. Please keep this safe and use a password that you will be able to recall, as you will need it each time you log on. When you register, please use your university ID number in the space provided. This will allow us to match class rosters with individuals
- Check your profile to be sure you are associated with Indiana University at Kokomo
- Select “semester payment” from the main menu and enter payment code and class number, for that semester. Then click on submit. The school name will appear in the institution field.
  - The ATI material that is scheduled to be shipped will be listed on this page. You need to confirm the material is correct for the classes you are enrolled in for that semester. Click on continue **IF YOU PAY FOR THE WRONG SEMESTER YOU WILL RECEIVE THE WRONG MATERIAL and will not be refunded.**
    - Each class of nursing students is assigned to a cohort name and number by your expected graduation date—for example—if you will graduate in May 2010 your cohort number is 0510; if you will graduate in December 2011 your cohort number is 1211. If your graduations date changes you will be moved to a different cohort group to match your graduation date
- Enter your credit card information and click on process card. The system will charge your card for the amount of payment and give you the option to print a receipt.
- Material will be shipped to the school and distributed early in each semester in one of your nursing courses.
  - You must pick up your own materials and sign for them. You cannot pick up a classmate’s materials. It does not matter if you won’t be testing until later, you still need to purchase on time
- Payments must be made before midnight of the date listed in Purchasing Your ATI Materials. Note if you have not made your semester payment the system will not allow you to take any tests and material will be shipped separately at a later time.

## What if I have a Disability or I am an ESL Student?

If you have a disability/ESL status that will affect test taking, you should bring your letter documenting your approved accommodations to Debbie Horoho (office KE318, or [dhorocho@iuk.edu](mailto:dhorocho@iuk.edu)) promptly at the beginning of each semester. We will discuss how to best help you succeed in your state board exam, and set a plan for ATI testing that facilitates this. Arrangements may be made, but require extra planning time (i.e. we need to meet at the beginning of the semester when materials are ORDERED, not just prior to the exam).

## ATI Testing for Competence in Major Nursing Courses: BSN

Students in the undergraduate nursing major will be required to take ATI competency tests pertaining to each of the major courses/content areas throughout the curriculum. The ATI test or tests will be given toward the end of each Nursing course. The test will be scheduled outside of lecture class time and the student is required to attend. If testing is scheduled during clinical time, the student will be released to test. Testing will take place on campus, will be proctored, and the testing schedule will be provided early in the course.

COURSE NUMBER AND PLACEMENT	ATI TESTS PLANNED
Sophomore B232	TEAS Critical Thinking Entrance
Sophomore Semester 2 B248	Fundamentals of Nursing
Junior H353 Alterations in Health 1	Medical Surgical Focused Assessments
H351 Alterations in Neuro-Psychological Health	Mental Health Nursing
Junior H361 Alterations in Health 2	Medical Surgical Focused Assessments
H363 Developing Family	Nursing Care of Children Maternal Newborn Nursing
Senior S472 Health of the Community	Community Health Nursing
S470 Restorative Health	Medical Surgical Focused Assessments
Senior S482 Management	Leadership in Nursing Comprehensive Predictor Critical Thinking Exit Exam
S483 Capstone	Pharmacology in Nursing Comprehensive Medical Surgical Nursing

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### **How the ATI Test Counts in the Course Grade**

- Ten percent of the Course Grade will be tied to performance on Content Mastery Tests and the focused Medical Surgical Assessments for ATI
- If there are 2 Content Mastery ATI tests in a particular course, each will take 5%.
- A few tests are required but do not count in the grade for a course: Critical Thinking Tests, TEAS, Comprehensive Predictor.

### **What is a Proficiency Level?**

Expert professors from around the USA have agreed upon the ATI scores on each Content Mastery Test that relate to different levels of proficiency. Since these exams are fairly difficult, the use of a pure percent score would not be fair in our grading scale. We use the proficiency level as a way to assign a course grade for your performance on a test. Listed below you will find a description of what each proficiency level means and how you will receive grades for the tests you take:

#### **For students reaching proficiency level 3: earn all of the 10% (eg 10/10 or 100%)**

Proficiency Level 3—indicates student is likely to exceed NCLEX-RN® in this content area. Students are encouraged to engage in continuous focused review to maintain and improve their knowledge of this content.

*No remediation necessary*

#### **For students reaching Proficiency level 2: earn 9/10 or 90%**

Proficiency Level 2--indicates a student is fairly certain to meet NCLEX-RN® standards in this content area. Students are encouraged to engage in continuous focused review in order to improve their knowledge of this content.

*No remediation necessary (our goal at IU Kokomo is to have you reach proficiency level 2 or 3)*

#### **For students reaching Proficiency level 1: earn 7.5/10 or 75%**

Proficiency Level 1-- indicate a student is likely to just meet NCLEX-RN® standards in this content area. Students are encouraged to develop and complete a rigorous plan of focused review in order to achieve a firmer grasp of this content.

*You will have to remediate.* Students at this level are expected to fully remediate according to your instructor's directions and this will bring the grade to a passing level (80% or 8/10).

#### **For Students not reaching Proficiency Level 1: earn 70% or 7/10.**

Below Proficiency Level 1-- indicate a need for thorough review of this content area. Students are strongly encouraged to develop and complete an intensive plan for focused review.

*You will have to remediate.* Students at this level are expected to fully remediate according to your instructor's directions and this will bring the grade to a (75% or 7.5/10).

## Focused Assessments Grading

At IU Kokomo, the medical surgical content is taught over several semesters in order to allow adequate time for full and deep learning to take place. This content is essential to your nursing career. However, there is only one comprehensive proctored ATI test over this material. Consequently, the plan for testing with ATI is slightly different for this content area. There are Focused Assessments that address certain topical areas that you will take in your medical surgical nursing courses. For these Focused Assessments, you will only get a percent score, the proficiency level is not reported. Your course instructor will either grade you on a curve for these tests or according to the plan below.

Percent Correct Score on the ATI Focused Assessment	Contribution to your grade: Please note that if more than one focused assessment is used, the 10% will be divided among the tests in a fair manner.
0-40.9% Correct: Equivalent to Competency level 0	7 points of 10 or 70%
41-55.9% Equivalent to Competency level 1	7.5 points of 10 or 75%
56-65.9 Equivalent to Competency level 2	9 points of 10 or 90%
66-100% Equivalent to Competency level 3	10 points of 10 or 100%

These tests cover a great deal of content (wide range) and tend to be more challenging than many of the course specific exams. The generous translation for your grade is to make the grading reasonable within our current grade criteria. Your course instructor will advise regarding remediation.

## **Remediation**

To remediate means to go back to an area that you did not fully understand and review. Your instructor will provide you with a description of the remediation plan for each course you are in. Generally, remediation is required for achievement of proficiency level 0 or 1. The way that remediation occurs may be different on a course by course basis, but if your performance indicates you must remediate, the remediation is mandatory. You may be given an incomplete or a 0 on the assignment if you do not remediate according to the instructor's direction.

### **Remediation Strategies that May Be Used (these are examples, not a complete list):**

#### **1. Small Group Review Session:**

A group session for remediation may be held, and the instructor may assist the group to review the topics that were commonly missed. The format for this may vary. A post test may or may not be used after the session.

#### **2. Online Practice Test Remediation**

You will get an online test code for a non proctored exam and you will be given no more than 1 week to complete remediation. You must achieve a score at or above 90% correct in order to qualify for the additional points.

#### **3. Short Answer Remediation**

Print out your results from the ATI test that you must remediate on. Use the list of items/topics that you missed and go back to the ATI book and find the material for each item. Write out a paragraph about what you missed/and what was the correct answer for every item missed. Put the page numbers from the ATI book that you referred to. You will turn this in to your instructor by a due date.

#### **4. Proctored Test Remediation:**

When you find out you need to remediate, print your test results and study the materials indicated in your ATI materials. You will be given a testing time and location, usually after allowing some study time. You should study all the ATI materials for the course/test, and you will come in and take a second proctored exam.

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Initial all boxes:

- I have received a copy of and have read the ATI Implementation Policy for Testing, Remediation, and Program Evaluation.
- If I have a disability I understand that it is my responsibility to make an appointment with D Horoho promptly.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to purchase ATI online at [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com) by the dates indicated in the policy every semester.

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Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Student Printed Name

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Date

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Witness Signature

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Date

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Witness Printed Name

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