

## **Requirements for taking online courses**

### **What is an online course?**

An online course is the term used to describe educational systems that make use of Internet technology. To engage in this mode of learning, it is necessary for the student to have access to a computer with an Internet connection, computer literacy, and the ability to navigate resources through the Internet.

The online course format has the advantage of allowing students to take the course from the comfort of their home without the need to adhere to a fixed schedule.

To access their courses, students must log in to the website <http://interbb.blackboard.com> and register with their student number and assigned password. Once they have entered the system, students can check the classes they have available, their progress, and the results of any assessments they have submitted. In addition, they can utilize text content, lectures, assignments, discussion forums, chat rooms, and other multimedia technologies. Most courses require the use of a textbook and other supplementary educational material, which can be purchased online.

### **Courses that require in-person activities**

Nursing courses at levels 3 and 4 require students to perform laboratory work, as these are mandated by the courses and are conducted in real-life settings, such as visits to hospitals or institution laboratories.

### **Academic Integrity**

The Guayama Campus promotes academic honesty. As an online student, we urge you to use the SafeAssign program, a tool provided by the Blackboard platform, which evaluates your assignments to identify potential plagiarism. This ensures compliance with copyright and intellectual property laws. Failure to comply with these laws will result in sanctions as outlined in the General Student Regulations, Chapter V.

### **What do I need to access my online course?**

The courses at the Campus are designed through the Blackboard platform, which is a system that enables online teaching. To achieve the highest level of learning, students need to have their own computer and meet some minimum requirements. These include:

- Fast Internet connections, preferably DSL or Cable.
- Internet browser: Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome.
- A webcam or headset.
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (latest version).
- Microsoft Office programs.
- Pop-up blocker disabled.
- Enabled cookies.

Note: Guayama Campus students have access to Microsoft® Office Web Apps through their official email. They can also download Microsoft Office software from their email and install it on their computer, among other programs requested by the online course instructor.

Important: For students outside of Puerto Rico, it is a requirement to download and install the Respondus Lockdown Browser and RP Now system, which facilitates access to their exams from the comfort of their home. To use this system, a video camera (webcam) and microphone are required, which will record the session and ensure secure exam taking.

***Download of software used for Online Education:***



Adobe Acrobat Reader



Google Chrome



Firefox

**Respondus®**

Assessment Tools for Learning Systems