

Kentucky State University
College of Mathematics, Science, Technology, and Health
SCHOOL OF NURSING

The School of Nursing offers the Associate in Applied Science (ADN), the LPN-RN Bridge and the RN-BSN Completion programs in Nursing. The ADN program is approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing (KBN) (312 Whittington Parkway, Suite 300, Louisville, KY 40222; 502/329-7000). Upon successful completion of the ADN program and successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination – RN, graduates qualify to practice as licensed registered nurses in Kentucky. The ADN and the RN-BSN programs are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (61 Broadway, 33rd Floor, New York, New York, 10006; 800/669-1656, ext. 153).

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING (ADN)

The ADN curriculum is divided into liberal studies, support, and Nursing components. The liberal studies and support course components comprise approximately one-half of the total semester credit hours and focus on the development of critical skills in English composition and mathematics and on the acquisition of basic knowledge in the biological, behavioral, and social sciences. The Nursing component concentrates on nursing concepts and clinical practice.

To satisfy the graduation requirements for the Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing, a student must complete a minimum of 70 semester credit hours with a grade-point average of 2.0 or better, complete a Comprehensive Nursing Review, and obtain a satisfactory score on a comprehensive exit examination. The required Nursing courses are NUR 111, 112, 211, 212, and 203. The required liberal studies and support courses are BIO 107, 108, and 204; ENG 101 and 102; FNU 104; MAT 115; PSY 200 and 303; SOC 203; and 3 semester credit hours of free electives. Students may fulfill general studies requirements of ENG 101/102 by choosing the WYS Honors component of HON 143, HON 144, and either HON 211/213 or HON 212/214. Students must receive a grade of “C” or better in all required courses in the curriculum. Oral communication competency is fulfilled through the completion of Nursing classroom activities, on-campus Nursing laboratory experiences, and clinical assignments, emphasizing the use of verbal and nonverbal communication skills.

The School of Nursing is responsible for all components of the program, including the selection, supervision, and evaluation of Nursing students, and the curriculum—both didactic and clinical. The Nursing curriculum ladder is the recommended sequence of liberal studies, support, and Nursing courses. This ladder applies only to students who are directly admitted into the day program (full-time) and who successfully complete all required courses in the curriculum in two years.

The School of Nursing has developed flexible course schedules for students who must work while pursuing a nursing degree. Students may obtain a degree in nursing by enrolling on a full time or part time basis and by attending classes in the daytime or the evening, whichever meets their individual needs. Students taking evening classes may be required to attend classes that begin prior to the traditional “5:00 P.M. evening” hour. Students attending evening classes can expect to be enrolled for a minimum of three academic years and must complete all support and liberal studies courses in the curriculum (BIO 107, 108, and 204; ENG 101 and 102 or the WYS Honors component; FNU 104; MAT 115; PSY 200 and 303; SOC 203; and 3 semester credit hours of free electives) before enrolling in NUR 111 (Nursing I).

Admission Requirements

- Admission the University;
- Application to the School of Nursing;
Transcripts of high school coursework and/or any previous college/university coursework;
- Minimum ACT composite score of 21 earned within the last five years (The Career Planning Program – Level II Test (CPP-2) is not accepted by the School of Nursing);
- Eligibility for ENG 101 and MAT 115 as determined by the University;
- Minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.3 in high school course work and/or a 2.75 in any previous college/university course work taken.

Application to the School of Nursing, transcripts, and ACT scores must be submitted to the Chair, School of Nursing, Kentucky State University, 400 East Main Street, Frankfort, KY 40601. The deadline for receipt of these documents by the School of Nursing for the Fall semester is March 1 of each year. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all required credentials are on file in the School of Nursing. Applicants will be notified in writing whether or not they have been admitted to the Nursing program.

Applicants not meeting the admission criteria may choose to complete a Pre-Nursing curriculum and then re-apply for admission to the Nursing program. *Successful completion of the Pre-Nursing curriculum does NOT guarantee acceptance into the Nursing program.* To be evaluated for admission, Pre-Nursing students must have a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.75 and must have completed each of the following required courses with a grade of “C” or better: BIO 107, 108, and 204; ENG 101 and 102; FNU 104; and MAT 115. If the grade awarded for BIO 107, 108 or 204 is older than five years, then the course must be repeated. For applicants wishing to enroll in the fall semester, the deadline for receipt of grades for these courses by the School of Nursing is March 1.

Pre-Nursing students should be aware of the following School of Nursing Policies:

1. Students applying for admission to Nursing may repeat one of the two Anatomy and Physiology courses (BIO 107/108) no more than one time to be considered.
2. Microbiology (BIO 204) or Nutrition (FNU 104) may only be repeated one time to be considered.
3. Students failing the same liberal studies course for the second time will not be admitted to Nursing.
4. Students must obtain a letter grade of “C” or better in all courses required in the nursing curriculum (nursing, liberal studies, and support courses). A cumulative grade-point average of 2.75 is required for consideration for admission.

Admission into the Nursing program is competitive; meeting the minimum admission requirements by either of the routes described above does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Applications are NOT carried over from year to year. Applicants must reapply for admission into the Nursing program.

Admission Requirements for LPN-RN Bridge Program

The School of Nursing has an Articulation Agreement with Kentucky Tech–Jefferson State–Shelby County Extension for Licensed Practical Nurses. Graduates from the Shelby County LPN program, as well as graduates from other LPN programs, having been out of school less than three years must meet the following admission criteria to be admitted to NUR 211:

- Admission to the University;
- Application to the School of Nursing;
- Transcripts of high school coursework and/or any previous college/university coursework;
- Minimum ACT composite score of 21 earned within the last five years (The Career Planning Program – Level II Test (CPP-2) is not accepted by the School of Nursing);
- Completion of the following liberal studies and support courses: MAT 115, ENG 101, ENG 102, BIO 107, BIO 108, and PSY 200;
- Have GPA of 2.75 or better;
- Completion of NUR 103 with a grade of “C” or better;
- Proof of license to practice as an LPN in Kentucky.

Nursing 103 is offered in May for a three-week duration. This course includes a brief overview of medical, surgical, and psychiatric nursing. At the successful completion of Nursing 211, the student will be awarded 14 credits for the first-year nursing courses.

If the LPN has an ACT below 21, the student must complete the above courses plus BIO 204 and FNU 104 with a GPA of 2.75 or better prior to being admitted to NUR 211.

If the LPN has been out of school longer than 3 years, the applicant must meet the admission requirements for the LPN-RN Bridge Program. In addition, the applicant must take the Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) I and receive a Decision Score of 70 or better (Total Percentage of Questions Answered correctly). This test may be retaken one time. Failure to receive a Decision Score of 70 or better results in the applicant being required to enroll in Nursing 112 if space is available. The School of Nursing must have the Decision Score by April 1. Once the Decision Score of 70 is obtained, the applicant will be required to perform a skills test which includes vital signs, administering oral and parenteral medications, foley catheter insertion, sterile dressing change, insertion of a nasogastric tube, and colostomy care. This must be completed by May 1. Failure of the skills test will require the student to enroll in Nursing 112 if space is available. Successful completion of the skills exam allows the student to be eligible for NUR 103.

The application deadline is March 1. Further information may be obtained from the School of Nursing, 2nd Floor Betty White Health Center, (502) 597-5957. Information about the ACE test may be obtained from the Office of Testing at (502) 597-6206. Information about the skills test may be obtained from the School of Nursing.

Applicants to the ADN Program with Baccalaureate or Graduate Degrees Outside Nursing

Applicants with a baccalaureate or graduate degree outside the field of nursing must fulfill the following admission criteria:

- Admission to the University;
- Application and transcripts to the School of Nursing;
- Minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.75 in any previous college/university course work taken;

Evaluation of the transcript will be in accordance with University policy. In addition to the liberal studies courses transferred/accepted, the following support courses are required: BIO 107, 108, and 204; FNU 104, PSY 200, and PSY 303. The Nursing courses will follow the established curriculum ladder.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Criminal Background Check

Kentucky Board of Nursing (KBN) requires all misdemeanor and felony convictions occurring in Kentucky or any other states well as federal and military convictions be reported to the KBN. Conviction of certain felonies will cause a "Notice to Deny Licensure" to be issued to applicants seeking to write the nursing licensure examination. In accordance with this policy, the School of Nursing requires that each student submit an undated criminal background check to the School of Nursing annually.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

All students enrolled in Nursing Courses are required to have CPR for the Healthcare Provider certification. This training must be from an approved CPR curriculum (American Heart Association is recommended). Each student must keep a current CPR card on file in the School of Nursing.

Immunizations

In addition to the health form submitted to the University Student Health Services, each nursing student must have a completed School of Nursing immunization form on file. All immunizations required by the clinical facility must be current. The immunization form will be provided by the School of Nursing.

Expenses

Nursing students pay the same general fees and tuition as do other students at the University. However, students in the Nursing program incur additional expenses for uniforms, name badge, nursing emblem, liability insurance, stethoscope, bandage scissors, white nurse's shoes, white hosiery, wrist watch with second hand, testing, laboratory, travel fees, multiple criminal background checks, and the Nursing Comprehensive Review.

Re-Admission

After any interruption of studies at Kentucky State University, a Nursing student may be required to audit classes that were previously taken. Also, any student whose Nursing studies have been interrupted for one semester or more must demonstrate sufficient recall of concepts and information from prior courses before a decision on re-admission is made. A score of 79% must be obtained on the re-admission exam and a successful completion of the skills exam. The written readmission exam is given once.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (RN-BSN) COMPLETION PROGRAM

The RN-BSN completion program is designed to allow associate degree registered nurses to continue their education to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. To allow the maximum flexibility to students, the nursing courses are divided into eight week blocks allowing students to take fewer classes at one time, yet taking a full load for the semester.

The curriculum is divided into liberal studies courses and nursing courses. The liberal studies requirement may be met through the traditional liberal studies core or through the WYS Honors Nursing Core. The liberal studies courses make up 29 credit hours of the program. Nursing courses comprise 30 credit hours of the RN-BSN curriculum. The total credit hours in the RN-BSN completion program (59 credit hours) will be added to the total credit hours transferred from the student's associate degree nursing program. The student must have a minimum of 128 degree hours in order to graduate with a BSN degree from Kentucky State University.

The courses required in the RN-BSN program are:

Liberal studies courses: ART 130 or MUS 130, ENG 211, HIS 103, foreign language (6 credit hours of the same language), IGS 200, HED 221 or PHE (2 credit hours), POS 101 or ECO 200, SPE 103, and a free elective (3 credit hours); or the "WYS Honors Nursing Core" designed for nursing students who would fulfill their general education requirement through an honors track, offers a package of integrated interdisciplinary courses that requires fewer credit hours (24) than the regular general education core (29). The curriculum consists of liberal studies seminars (HON 101, 102, 201) and language courses (HON 141, 142, and either 211/213 or 212/214) and HED 221 or PHE (2 hours).

Nursing courses: NUR 301, 313, 315, 306, 307, 310, 401, 412, 413, 404, 407, 408, and 410. Students must achieve a letter grade of "C" or better in all courses in order to remain in the program.

RN-BSN students may enroll either part-time or full-time and begin the program any semester. The liberal studies courses may be taken at any time during the program. The nursing courses offered in eight week sessions do not have to be taken in sequence, with the exception of NUR 301 and NUR 410. NUR 310 is offered very semester ONLY in the first eight weeks and the student must take this course when they take the first nursing course. NUR 410 is offered very semester ONLY in the last eight weeks and the student will be required to take this class with the last nursing course. Students are expected to graduate from the RN-BSN Completion program within a 5-year period.

Admission Requirements

In order to be admitted to the RN-BSN program the applicant must:

- Be a graduate of an accredited associate degree nursing program or a diploma program.*
- Be admitted to the University and submit an application to the School of Nursing. (Official transcript[s] must be sent to the University and to the School of Nursing.)
- Have a GPA of 2.0 or better.
- Submit a copy of a current license to practice nursing in the state of Kentucky. Registered nurses with a license that has been limited, suspended, or revoked are not eligible for admission.
- Have a CPR for the Healthcare Provider certification (American Heart Association is recommended). Each student must keep a current CPR card on file in the School of Nursing.

*Nurses graduating from a diploma nursing program will be awarded 35 credits in nursing after successfully completing 14 hours of upper level (300/400) nursing courses.

Applicants with a Baccalaureate or a Graduate Degree outside of Nursing

Applicants for RN-BSN Completion program, who have a Bachelor/Master's degree from a regional accredited institution in another area, are required to complete only the 30 hours of upper division nursing courses and a two hour elective. This allows the student to meet the residency requirements for graduation as stipulated in the Catalogue.

Practicum

NUR 313, NUR 315, NUR 412, and NUR 413 require 48 hours of practicum each. The student will select a practicum area of concentration and develop objectives based on the objectives of the class. The practicum and the objectives must be approved by the instructor.

In order to do the practicum the student must have:

- A current TB skin test (within 1 year).
- Immunizations and criminal background check as required by the institution in which the student is utilizing as a practicum.
- A copy of Professional Liability Insurance. (If the student does not have professional liability insurance, the student may purchase liability insurance at the time of registration.)
- A name badge which identifies the student as a RN-BSN student at Kentucky State University.

Variance to University Policy on Credit Hours

Since the RN-BSN completion program is a transfer (second-degree) program, RN-BSN students are not required to complete the requisite 45 credit hours of upper-division courses. All RN-BSN students must complete at least 30 credit hours of upper-division courses.

Expenses

RN-BSN students pay the same general fees and tuition as do other students at the University. However, students in the RN-BSN program incur additional expenses for name badge, liability insurance, and travel fees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kentucky State University
School of Nursing
400 East Main Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 597-5957
www.kysu.edu