

BACHELOR

of science in nursing

RN to BSN



You've already taken the first step toward optimizing your nursing career by earning your RN license, but now you're ready to go further. As industry demand for bachelor's degree RNs continues to climb, there has never been a more opportune time to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The Changing Job Market

As job growth in the nursing sector flourishes, your qualification as a bachelor's degree RN will open the door to a proven number of future job opportunities. In today's economic conditions, nursing remains the single most secure occupation, ranking #1 for job growth and employment status on *U.S. News & World Report's* "25 Best Jobs of 2012."¹

In order to serve the aging population, job opportunities in nursing are expected to grow 26% by 2020.² And despite the 2.7 million nurses on the job today, healthcare researchers predict a national shortage of up to 1,000,000 nurses by 2020–2025.³

A Call for More BSNs

In response to the growing demand for nurses, industry standards for nursing credential requirements are in the midst of a historic change. According to the Institute of Medicine (IOM), 80% of registered nurses in the United States will need to hold a bachelor's degree or higher by the year 2020 in order to meet national demand. In order to adjust to the changing needs of the patient population, the IOM report suggests that all nurses will be required to achieve higher levels of education and practice to the full extent of their training.⁴

By pursuing your Bachelor of Science in Nursing today, you can secure your position as a qualified candidate and prepare yourself for future changes in the healthcare job market.

80%



The percentage of registered nurses in the United States who will need to hold a bachelor's degree or higher by the year 2020.⁴

Program Overview

Indiana State University, in partnership with The College Network®, offers a Bachelor's Degree program designed for today's busy nurse. The RN to BS in Nursing program is a well-rounded curriculum in a format that allows you to complete your upper-level nursing courses in just 12 to 20 months. In addition, all practicum courses are mentored by local preceptors, eliminating the need for travel. After completion of Anatomy & Physiology and Microbiology, you can begin your upper-level online nursing courses (30 credit hours) immediately.

Indiana State University

Recognized as one of the nation's premiere online nursing programs, Indiana State University's College of Nursing, Health and Human Services is a member of the National League for Nursing (NLN) and is ACEN accredited (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing—formerly known as the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)). Indiana State University has been named a "Best College in the Midwest" (Princeton Review, 2013) and one of "America's Top Colleges" (Forbes, 2012).

The College Network

The College Network's online program enables you to continue your education and earn college credit from the comfort of home. Satisfy your general education and elective requirements using The College Network's online program and exams, then transfer to Indiana State University to complete the rest of your degree.

Most of your general education and elective requirements may be fulfilled using The College Network's online program and exams. In some situations, you may be required to take a DSST®, Excelsior College®, or CLEP® exam for certain courses.

Program Progression

The RN to BS in nursing degree program is divided into two phases with a minimum of 124 semester hours required for program completion.

Indiana State University has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) since 1915.

Phase I

Step 1: Receive a preliminary course analysis from The College Network®.

Step 2: Complete your general education courses by any combination of the following:

- Using The College Network's Comprehensive Learning Modules™ to prepare for and pass equivalency examinations
- Transfer credits from an accredited college/university
- Taking courses online at Indiana State University
- Taking courses on campus at Indiana State University

Phase II

During Phase II, you will apply for admission into the RN to BS degree program in nursing. This is a two-step process. You must first apply to Indiana State University as a degree-seeking transfer student. The application for admission can be accessed at: www.indstate.edu/admissions/applications/transfer-distance.htm

Upon receipt of acceptance into Indiana State University, you may apply to the College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services. The application for admission to the College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services can be accessed at www.indstate.edu/m-bs/rn-bs-admission-criteria.htm.

Upon receipt of acceptance into Indiana State University's College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services, you will complete the remainder of The College Network's Comprehensive Learning Modules (if applicable). Also, you will complete eight (8) online nursing courses in addition to your clinicals.

Note: General admission decisions are determined by Indiana State University and nursing program admissions are determined by the College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services based on published admission requirements.

Clinical Nursing Courses

To supplement the theory portion of the nursing core requirements, students will engage in three separate clinical learning experiences in NURS 304, NURS 450, and NURS 484. Since each experience is distinct in its goals and applications, the student will be given the opportunity to explore different aspects of the multifaceted health care industry. The student will complete these experiences under the supervision of faculty-approved preceptors.



Course Descriptions (Phase II)

(courses are listed in order of completion)

NURS 300 Transition to Professional Nursing Practice (4 SH)

Exploration of the role transition process as well as issues within nursing and the health care system are the focus. Examination of the theoretical basis for professional nursing practice and review and expansion of computer skills are emphasized. 4 classroom hours per week.

NURS 304 Comprehensive Health Assessment for Nursing Practice (4 SH)*

Comprehensive health assessment skills are applied to nursing practice with clients throughout the life span. Three classroom hours and three clinical hours per week.

Pre- or co-requisite: NURS 300 or consent of instructor

Involves 45 hours of clinical education in the comprehensive health assessment of clients throughout the lifespan.

NURS 318 Nursing Care of Families in Stress and Crisis (3 SH)

The role of the professional nurse in providing therapeutic nursing interventions for families experiencing significant life changes is emphasized. Three classroom hours per week.

Pre- or co-requisite: NURS 300 or consent of instructor

NURS 322 Research/Theoretical Basis for Nursing Practice (3 SH)

The course focuses on examination and application of clinical scholarship through evidence-based practice. Emphasis is on skills for research applied to clinical practice. Three classroom hours per week.

Pre- or co-requisites: Educational Psychology 302 or Health and Safety 340 (or any college-level statistics course)

NURS 450 Population-Focused Community Health Nursing (6 SH)*

The focus of this course is the professional nurse's role in working with aggregates in the community. Three classroom hours and six clinical hours per week.

Prerequisites: NURS 300, 304, 318, and 322

Involves 90 hours of clinical learning experience outside of the online studies in a community agency, such as a local health department, school nurse station, or occupational health-nursing agency.

NURS 470 Nursing Leadership (3 SH)

Emphasis is placed on examining leadership and management roles. Factors that influence quality of care delivery are examined. Three classroom hours per week.

Co-requisite: concurrent enrollment in NURS 484 or 486 or consent of instructor

NURS 484 Reflective Nursing Practice (3 SH)*

This clinical concentration course provides opportunity for synthesis and evaluation of professional nursing role behaviors essential to care of clients experiencing complex care needs in a variety of settings. Nine clinical hours per week.

Prerequisite: NURS 446; Pre- or co-requisite: NURS 470

Involves 135 hours of clinical learning experience only. This clinical concentration course provides an opportunity for synthesis and evaluation of professional nursing role behaviors essential to the care of clients experiencing complex health needs across the lifespan in a variety of settings.

NURS 486 Professional Nursing Synthesis (3 SH)

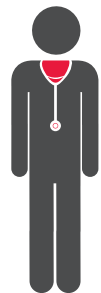
This course serves as the capstone course for the integration, synthesis, and reflection of professionalism, professional goals, and professional nursing practice informed through multiple ways of knowing and experiences grounded in historical, literary, artistic, scientific, and technological perspectives. Issues and trends germane to contemporary nursing are explored. Three classroom hours per week.

Prerequisite: NURS 446 (NURS 470 and 484 must be taken prior to or concurrently with NURS 486.)

98.1%

Did you know?

The current employment rate for recent nursing graduates with previous field experience is 98.1%.⁶



SH = Semester Hours
* Clinical courses

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ACE® Transcript Services

For the benefit of our learners, The College Network® participates in the American Council on Education's (ACE) Transcript Service. The ACE Transcript Service offers a lifelong record for students who have successfully completed our courses that have been reviewed by ACE CREDIT. This service enables adult learners to present a nationally recognized transcript to the college or university of their choice for the potential award of academic credit. For more information, visit the ACE CREDIT Transcript Service web site at www.acenet.edu/credit/transcripts.

For more than 30 years, colleges and universities have trusted ACE CREDIT to provide reliable course equivalency information to facilitate their decisions to award academic credit. For more information, visit the ACE CREDIT web site at www.acenet.edu/credit.

Admissions Criteria

Indiana State University evaluates your total application package. Once your application is complete, the program director will weigh all aspects, including professional experience and activities, to arrive at a decision based on an assessment of your capacity for study.

Applicant requirements:

1. Apply and be granted admission to the university as a degree-seeking transfer student.
2. Have proof of current licensure as a registered nurse in the United States. Applicants must have a current RN license in the state where the clinicals will be completed.*
3. Have completed an associate's degree with a major in nursing from a program accredited by the ACEN in an accredited collegiate institution.**

4. Have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for admission into the College of Nursing, Health, and Human Services.

* An applicant may be admitted conditionally with formal admission pending receipt/verification of licensure no later than the time of enrollment in the first clinical nursing course.

** The application of a graduate from an accredited diploma program or an associate degree program that is not accredited will be evaluated through Admission Portfolio review.

Did you know?



Nursing ranks #1 for job growth and employment status on *U.S. News & World Report's* "25 Best Jobs of 2012."¹



Sources:

- ¹ U.S. News & World Report: *Registered Nurse: Job Profile & Salary*, <http://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/registered-nurse>
- ² American Association of Colleges of Nursing: *Nursing Shortage*, <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/media-relations/fact-sheets/nursing-shortage>
- ³ HealthAffairs: *Education Policy Initiatives To Address The Nurse Shortage In The United States*, <http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/28/4/w646.full>
- ⁴ Institute of Medicine: *The Future of Nursing: Focus on Education*, <http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health/Report-Brief-Education.aspx>
- ⁵ The Daily Beast: *13 Most Useful College Majors: Nursing, Math, and More*, http://www.thedailybeast.com/galleries/2012/04/25/13-most-useful-college-majors-nursing-math-and-more-photos.html#slide_11