

NURSING, PRE-LICENSURE PROGRAM (BSN)

This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2025-Spring 2026 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/>).

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Unit: Nursing (<http://www.louisville.edu/nursing/>)

Academic Plan Code(s): NU_BSN, NURBSN, NU_BSNOW, NURBSNOW

Program Information

The Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is a four-year program that consists of lower division and upper division course work that prepares students for a career in professional nursing by providing a dynamic course of study that is both theoretical and practical. As citizens of a larger community, our focus is to address the complex health care needs of diverse and dynamic populations through nursing education, research, scholarship and service. Our graduates are prepared to demonstrate excellence in nursing science, practice, and leadership in a variety of settings for the benefit of clients across the lifespan and to meet the evolving health care needs of society. Our BSN program also provides the necessary foundation for master's and doctoral degrees in nursing.

Students will use innovative Patient Simulation Centers and conduct clinical in acute care and community-based settings.

By including a core of knowledge in the humanities and the behavioral, physical, and biological sciences, as well as theory and practice of professional nursing, graduates of the BSN program will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	31
	At least 10 hours of General Education requirements may be satisfied through coursework required by the degree program	
	College/School Requirements ^{1,2}	21-22
	Program/Major Requirements	70
Minimum Total Hours		120-121

¹ To complete the degree in the **minimum number of hours** listed, some hours from the General Education Requirements must be satisfied by courses defined by the unit and/or program. Using other courses to satisfy General Education requirements will require additional hours to complete the degree requirements. See the Degree Requirements tab for specific coursework.

² NURS 101 is only required for new students with less than 24 earned college credits.

Specific coursework information can be found on the Degree Requirements tab.

Department Admission Requirements

Admission to the School of Nursing is a two-level process for the traditional degree program: lower division and upper division. Students must be admitted to the lower division to be eligible to apply to the upper division. Admission to the lower division does not guarantee admission to the upper division. Admission to the upper division of the degree program is selective.

Please refer to the catalog pages containing the admissions details for the School of Nursing (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/admission/school-nursing/>).

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	31
The following courses are required by the program and should be taken to fulfill the respective General Education Requirement:		
CHEM 105	Chemistry for Health Professionals - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
	or CHEM 201 General Chemistry I - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
BIOL 257	Introduction to Microbiology - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ²	
BIOL 258	Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory - SL (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
MATH 109	Elementary Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	

Minimum Total Hours **31**

All degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Completion of the BSN degree in the minimum number of hours requires using some credit hours from courses included in the school and/or program requirements to satisfy General Education requirements. Additional General Education requirements may be met in the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree. The degree requirements listed in this catalog are for students pursuing the five-semester Nursing Professional Curriculum progression plan.

College/School Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Nursing Pre-Professional Curriculum		
NURS 101	S.T.A.T. for Nursing Students (Success Tips And Techniques) (not required for students with 24+ hours)	0-1
BIOL 257	Introduction to Microbiology - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
BIOL 258	Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory - SL (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	1
BIOL 260	Human Anatomy & Physiology I ²	3

BIOL 264	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	1
BIOL 261	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3
BIOL 265	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	1
CHEM 105	Chemistry for Health Professionals - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3-4
or CHEM 201	General Chemistry I - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
PSYC 306	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
or ECPY 305	Human Development and Learning	
MATH 111	College Algebra - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ³	see note
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 109	Elementary Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
PSYC 301	Introduction to Social Statistics	
SOC 301	Introduction to Social Statistics	
BSW 204	Introduction to Social Statistics	
PHST 301	Quantitative Methods in Public Health	
HSS 377	Foundations of Quantitative Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	
Electives ⁴		as needed

Minimum Total Hours 21-22

Program/Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Nursing Professional Curriculum		
<i>Sophomore Level</i>		
NURS 250	Foundations for Professional Nursing Practice	5
NURS 251	Wellness and Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 252	Fundamentals for Success in Nursing	2
NURS 253	Health Assessment	3
<i>Junior Level</i>		
NURS 331	Nursing Management of Adult Clients I	3.5
NURS 332	Nursing Management of Adult Clients II	3.5
NURS 333	Population Health Nursing	4
NURS 334	Mental Health Nursing	5
NURS 361	Nursing Management of Adult Clients III	4
NURS 362	Nursing Management of Adult Clients IV	4
NURS 363	Maternal-Newborn Nursing	4
NURS 364	Evidence-Based Practice	2
<i>Senior Level</i>		
NURS 427	Pediatric Nursing	5
NURS 426	Complex Health Nursing	5
NURS 428	Nursing Care of the Older Adult	3
NURS 495	Global Public Health Nursing	3
NURS 496	Role Transition - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	8

NURS 498	Nursing Leadership, Quality, & Policy	3
Minimum Total Hours		70

Code	Title	Hours
Minimum Total Hours, Degree Program¹		120-121

Code	Title	Hours
Culminating Undergraduate Experience (Graduation requirement)		
Requirement fulfilled by completing:		
NURS 496	Role Transition - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	8

- ¹ Completion of the degree in the minimum number of hours requires using some credit hours from courses included in the school and/or program requirements to satisfy General Education requirements. Students using other coursework will require additional hours to complete the degree or will reduce the number of available electives.
- ² BIOL 102 is a prerequisite for BIOL 260, BIOL 264. BIOL 102 is not required if students have satisfactorily completed BIOL 260, BIOL 257, or any other Biology course at the 200 level or above.
- ³ Nursing math competency requirement. This requirement may alternatively be met with a minimum Math ACT sub-score of 25 or an approved higher level mathematics course; however, additional elective course work may be required to meet the 120 minimum credit hour degree requirement.
- ⁴ Students are recommended to complete any electives prior to admission into Upper Division. Students may reserve up to 2 credit hours of electives to complete during Upper Division, which can be fulfilled through completion of NURS 430, to meet the minimum 120-hour degree requirement.

Flight Plan

Flight Plan

Year 1		Hours
Fall		
BIOL 102	Biology: Current Issues and Applications - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
CHEM 105	Chemistry for Health Professionals - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	4
NURS 101	S.T.A.T. for Nursing Students (Success Tips And Techniques)	1
ENGL 101	Introduction to College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
MATH 111	College Algebra - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
PSYC 201	Introduction to Psychology - SB (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
Hours		17
Spring		
BIOL 260	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	3
BIOL 264	Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory	1
ENGL 102	Intermediate College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3

BIOL 257	Introduction to Microbiology - S (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3
BIOL 258	Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory - SL (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	1
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences Historical Perspective US Perspectives - SBHP1		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts/Humanities AH		3
Hours		17
Year 2		
Fall		
BIOL 261	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	3
BIOL 265	Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory	1
MATH 109	Elementary Statistics - QR (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	3
PSYC 306	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Oral Communications		3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts/Humanities AHD2		3
Hours		16
Spring		
NURS 250	Foundations for Professional Nursing Practice	5
NURS 251	Wellness and Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 252	Fundamentals for Success in Nursing	2
NURS 253	Health Assessment	3
Hours		13
Year 3		
Fall		
NURS 331	Nursing Management of Adult Clients I	3.5
NURS 332	Nursing Management of Adult Clients II	3.5
NURS 333	Population Health Nursing	4
NURS 334	Mental Health Nursing	5
Hours		16
Spring		
NURS 361	Nursing Management of Adult Clients III	4
NURS 362	Nursing Management of Adult Clients IV	4
NURS 363	Maternal-Newborn Nursing	4
NURS 364	Evidence-Based Practice	2
Hours		14
Year 4		
Fall		
NURS 427	Pediatric Nursing	5
NURS 426	Complex Health Nursing	5
NURS 428	Nursing Care of the Older Adult	3
Hours		13
Spring		
NURS 495	Global Public Health Nursing	3
NURS 496	Role Transition - CUE (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	8
NURS 498	Nursing Leadership, Quality, & Policy	3
Hours		14
Minimum Total Hours		120

¹ Alternative statistics courses are listed on the degree requirements page.

The Flight Plan outlined above is intended to demonstrate one possible path to completing the degree within four years. Course selection and placement within the program may vary depending on course offerings and schedule, elective preferences, and other factors (study abroad, internship availability, etc.). Please consult your advisor for additional information about building a flight plan that works for you.

Degree Audit Report

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan, and which requirements are still outstanding. Degree audits also take transfer credits and test credits into account. "What-if" reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

Flight Planner

The Flight Planner tool is available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan to graduation. Advisors have access to review your Flight Planner and can help you adjust it to ensure you remain on track to graduate in a timely manner.

To create these reports:

1. Log into your ULink account.
2. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
3. Select the appropriate report.
 - a. To run a Degree Audit report, click on "View my Degree Audit."
 - b. To create a What-if report, click on "What-if Advisement Report."
 - c. To run a Flight Planner report, click on "Use My Flight Planner."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, create a What-if report, or run a Flight Planner report. (<https://ulink.louisville.edu>)

Professional Licensure Information

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs (Louisville or Owensboro) are broken into distinct academic plan codes for lower and upper division requirements. Incoming students complete the lower division preparatory coursework requirements and then apply for selective admission to the Nursing upper division program. Completion of the lower division program does not guarantee admission to the upper division program.

The lower division program does not prepare students for licensure as a nurse. The upper division program is considered a licensure program designed to meet educational requirements for licensure as a nurse. Upon acceptance, enrollment in the upper division program's academic plan code is considered the first term of enrollment in the licensure program under the Program Participation Agreement for Title IV federal financial aid eligible programs of the Higher Education Act (CFR § 668.14 (b)(32)).

Graduates from the UofL School of Nursing are prepared to apply for RN licensure upon graduation; however, educational preparation does not guarantee professional licensure. If you have questions regarding Kentucky RN licensure, please contact the Kentucky Board of Nursing (kbn.ky.gov/Pages/lpn-rn.aspx) (<https://kbn.ky.gov/Pages/lpn-rn.aspx>). For RN licensure questions in other states, please contact the respective state board of nursing (ncsbn.org/contact-bon.htm) (<https://ncsbn.org/contact-bon.htm>).

More information about certification or licensure is available at the following website: <https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information> (<https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information/>) (you may search by school or by the name of the program then click on 'View Details' to display the information).