Nursing: RN Program BSN

Official Program Checksheet

Why Choose Nursing?

Nursing is the largest health care profession with workforce shortages anticipated for the next two decades. Earnings are above average, particularly for advanced practice nurses who have additional education and certifications. Graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at Ferris are eligible to write the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN) to become a registered nurse.

Registered Nurses (RNs) with the BSN degree are preferentially hired in a variety of health care settings because they are prepared to provide nursing care for a wide variety of patient populations. The Registered Nursing BSN program at Ferris prepares nurses to promote health, prevent disease and to help patients cope with a variety of health problems. RNs with a BSN degree can anticipate opportunities in hospital nursing with positions to include medical, surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics, psychiatric, emergency or intensive care units. RNs can also work in a variety ambulatory care settings such as clinics, emergency medical centers, surgicenters and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) or in long-term care settings. In addition, BSN prepared RNs can also expand their clinical practice to community settings such as Public Health, home care, hospice or school nursing. BSN prepared RNs are also educated to assume entry level management positions in the health care system.

Students in the Ferris Nursing program engage in a learner-centered approach to the study of nursing theory and skills in the classroom, online and state of the art nursing skills laboratories while also having the opportunity to practice direct patient care in hospital and community settings under the guidance of clinically expert faculty. The nursing program at Ferris is a six semester professional sequence that follows the equivalent of one year of pre-requisite coursework and is intended for traditional students who have not earned a college degree. Graduates are eligible to write the licensure exam to become a Registered Nurse. In addition, graduates of the BSN program can continue their education in the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program at Ferris or at another University setting.

Career Opportunities

Due to the current and projected nursing shortage, faster than average growth is expected through the year 2020 and beyond. This increased need is based on industry growth and the projected replacement of existing practicing nurses.

Average full-time RNs earn $22 - $47 per hour nationally. The median annual salary for a full time staff RN in 2014 was $66,640. Advanced practice nurses with education beyond the BSN can
earn salaries up to $115,000 per year, depending on the specialty and location of employment.

**Admission Requirements**

Students must be admitted to the University. To be qualified to enter the professional sequence of the program, a student must have at least a 2.7 cumulative GPA with a minimum grade of B- in the following courses or their equivalent: MATH 115 or MATH 117, BIOL 108, BIOL 205 & CHEM 114. Students must also complete the following courses or their equivalent with a grade of C or higher: ENGL 150, COMM 105 or COMM 221 or COMM 121, COHP 100, COHP 101, and COHP 102.

To assure all students of quality education in the classroom, laboratory and clinical instructional practice, enrollment is limited based on guidelines set forth by the MI State Board of Nursing. Students who have met or will meet the program's qualification criteria by the end of the Spring semester are required to apply to the program's professional sequence between March 15 and March 30 of the year prior to the academic year they wish to start the program in the Fall (August) or Spring (January) semester in the order they qualify.

**General Education Requirements**

All University General Education requirements can be found here: [http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/requirements/BA-BS.htm](http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/requirements/BA-BS.htm)

Please consult this link for a complete listing of General Education Electives: [http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/courses/index.htm](http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/courses/index.htm)

Consult the official checksheet or program advisor for program specific General Education requirements.

**Graduation Requirements**

Graduation requires a minimum of 2.0 GPA overall. Students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all major (NURS) and core courses and meet all the general education requirements as outlined in the General Education website.

If a student interrupts progression in the professional sequence of the program, re-entry cannot be guaranteed due to space limitations in laboratory and clinical placement sites.

**More Information**

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This program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN.) [http://acenursing.org](http://acenursing.org)
The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing publishes a variety of nursing and nursing education materials, including a list of nursing programs and information on student financial aid. For a complete list of ACEN publications, please direct your request to:

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