PennState
Ross and Carol Nese
College of Nursing

The Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

Accepted Student Program

2022

www.nursing.psu.edu

Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

For more information: **www.nursing.psu.edu**
Visit us on facebook: www.facebook.com/pennstatenursing
Please call: 814-863-2229

General Bachelor of Science Handbook: https://www.nursing.psu.edu/student-handbooks/

Student Success Center

Email: nursing@psu.edu
Visit us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/psunursingadvising

Kris Conn, Student Success Center Manager, krisconn@psu.edu
Sara Becker, Academic Adviser, sbb132@psu.edu
Rachael Lorenzo, Academic Adviser, rlb5068@psu.edu
Devan Miller, Academic Adviser, drb5232@psu.edu
Michael Woytowich, Student Services Associate, maw175@psu.edu
Kimberly Hodges, Records Specialist ksw118@psu.edu

Resources

Admissions (admissions.psu.edu)..... 814-865-5471
Bursar (bursar.psu.edu) 814-865-6528
Disability Services (http://equity.psu.edu/student-disability-resources) 814-863-1807
Housing and Food Services (on-campus) (hfs.psu.edu) 814-865-7543
Penn State Learning (pennstatelearning.psu.edu)..... 814-865-1841
Student Aid (studentaid.psu.edu/) 814-865-6301

Frequently Asked Questions for the General Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing

What is the General Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing?

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) General Option is a 4-year program that combines foundational science and liberal arts courses with nursing courses that include hands-on experience in clinical settings. Graduates are prepared to sit for the national exam (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as registered nurses.

Where is the Nursing Program offered?

The 4-year B.S.N. is offered at University Park (includes Hershey Medical Center campus), Altoona, Behrend (Erie), Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, and Scranton.

Can I change campuses?

Students may not change campus locations for the nursing degree. Students must complete the program at the campus where they begin. However, students admitted to University Park will spend one year at the Hershey Medical Center campus as part of the University Park program.

Is the Nursing Program accredited?

Yes, the B.S.N. program is accredited by the CCNE:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
One Dupont Circle, NW
Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036
202-887-6791

How competitive is the Nursing Program?

Admission is competitive. In a typical year, The Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing receives upwards to 4,000 applications, with the intent to yield 160 students at University Park and an additional 250 students across the other campuses where the B.S.N. program is offered.

When does the Nursing Program begin?

The program begins every year in the fall. There is no spring admission.
However, students may elect to begin University coursework in the summer. First-year nursing students at University Park have the option to participate in the following unique summer opportunity:

- LEAP (Learning Edge Academic Program) is an optional summer program reserved for first-year students to assist with the transition to college. LEAP is an opportunity for new students to start their Penn State career in a small-college atmosphere within the larger University. Students enroll in a LEAP section of two courses with a small group, or “pride”, who live together in the same dormitory area and have an upper-class student mentor to guide them through their first semester. LEAP will complete the first-year seminar requirement. More information can be found at http://summersession.psu.edu/leap/. The Nese College of Nursing does not recommend a specific LEAP section, but Nursing students may find the sections offering ENGL 15, CAS 100, HDFS 129 or STAT 200 particularly helpful in completing their degree requirements.

Will applying for the summer semester at University Park improve my chance of being admitted to the Nursing Program?

Students applying to the Nursing Program may be considered for admission to the summer session at the University Park campus; however, application to the summer session does not provide an advantage towards being accepted into the Nursing Program at University Park.

What are the admission requirements?

The following high school courses (or a college equivalent) are required:

- four years of English
- three years of science
- three years of math (algebra, geometry, or trigonometry)
- three years of social studies/art/humanities combined
- two years of a single world language other than English. Students lacking two years of the same world language who graduated from high school after 2001 will be required to take one course in a world language within the first two years.
-

Are students admitted directly into the Nursing Program?

Yes, first-year applicants are admitted directly into the Nursing Program. Transfer students are eligible to apply to the four-year B.S.N. program at one of the six Commonwealth Campuses through a competitive entrance-to-major process. Transfer students should contact their campus of interest to discuss admission requirements.

CAMPUS	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OR ADULTS WITH LESS THAN 18 COLLEGE CREDITS	PENN STATE STUDENTS OR ADULTS WITH 18 OR MORE COLLEGE CREDITS
Altoona, Behrend (Erie), Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, Scranton	**First-year direct admission into the major**	**Must have earned C or higher in Anatomy and Physiology (or A&P I and II) and at least 9 other non-remedial credits**
University Park	**First-year direct admission into the major**	**Not eligible for admission**
		Entrance to major information

What are the average SAT or ACT scores and the average high school GPA for students offered admission into Penn State?

The ranges in the chart below represent the middle 50 percent of students offered admission to Penn State for Fall 2021 – they are not cutoffs or averages. Nursing students typically place in the upper end of these ranges. Additional information is available at http://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/.

Academic Scale	University Park	All other Campuses
High School GPA (unweighted 4.0 scale)	3.56-3.91	3.06-3.65

Summer/Fall 2021 Middle 50% GPA Statistics based on an unweighted 4.0 scale.

Academic Scale	University Park	All other Campuses
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing + Math	1280-1450	1090-1300

Summer/Fall 2021 Middle 50% SAT Statistics

Scores computed based on a 1600-point scale.

**Test scores represent students admitted to their first-choice campus*

Through Summer/Fall 2023 First-Year applicants to Penn State will be able to choose whether to submit SAT or ACT scores as part of their applications. More information can be found at https://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/.

What is the deadline for application?

The deadline for application for the Nursing Program is December 1 and admission is competitive. Late applications are typically considered on a space-available basis only. We recommend that students strive to meet the Admissions Early Decision deadline of November 1.

Who makes admissions decisions?

Penn State admissions decisions are made through our centralized Undergraduate Admissions Office for all Penn State campuses and programs. The Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing does not evaluate applications. If you have questions about your application or the decision-making process, please contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office by email at admissions@psu.edu, by phone at 814-865-5471, or through your MyPennState account.

Is special housing available for first-year nursing students at University Park?

First-year students are required to live on campus and may be assigned to any residence hall. However, there are Special Living Options (SLO) that are available to students who would like to live and learn with classmates who share their interests. For example, Health and Human Development (HHD) House is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a health-related major, as well as students who are committed to healthy living. Students **do not** need to be in the College of HHD to be eligible to live in this SLO. Students live with other members of their SLO in close-knit communities ("houses") located in the residence halls, where they have the opportunity to participate in field trips, group dinners, and other social and educational activities. SLO options are limited. Contact Penn State Housing Services http://www.housing.psu.edu/ for more information if you are interested.

How much is tuition?

Tuition and fees are available at http://tuition.psu.edu/. A tuition calculator is available here: http://tuition.psu.edu/costestimate.aspx .

Consistent with other academic institutions, Penn State charges lower-division and upper-division tuition based on credits earned. Students with 59.1 earned credits will be charged upper-division tuition, which is based on the primary campus designation and the program of study. Information on these rates for the current academic year can be found at http://tuition.psu.edu/tuitiondynamic/tuitionandfees.aspx by selecting applicable state residency and campus. Tuition and fee rates are subject to change.

Are there any additional costs or requirements?

1. Nursing students must purchase a personal laptop computer to participate in classroom-based assignments and Nursing examinations throughout the course of the program.
2. In addition to standard tuition and fees, Nursing students may expect to spend approximately $4,500 or more throughout the program for textbooks, uniforms, curriculum support materials (such as ATI software and simulation lab supplies), and clinical compliances, which include child abuse and criminal clearances, fingerprinting, liability insurance, a completed physical, and other costs.
3. Clinical sites require anyone working on their premises to be appropriately vetted. In the Nese College of Nursing, we refer to these requirements as “compliances”. Each May following the nursing students’ first year of enrollment, students must complete the following requirements:
    - Pass an annual physical examination, which includes one-time antibody titers, vaccination history, and immunizations. Please be aware that insurance may or may not provide coverage for these medical requirements
    - **Students must be fully vaccinated to participate in clinicals**. Required vaccinations include COVID and all boosters.*
    - Complete Pennsylvania and federal criminal background checks (fingerprinting is required and students must be free of felony convictions in the past ten years)**
    - Complete Pennsylvania child abuse background checks
    - Provide proof of medical coverage (student insurance policies are available)
    - Purchase professional liability (malpractice) insurance
    - Complete the American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR course
    - Complete a 10-point drug test

*All program requirements must be met and submitted **on time each year** in order to progress in the program.*

Required vaccines include all childhood vaccinations AND COVID vaccinations with current boosters. While Penn State has a process for religious, medical, or other exemptions, our clinical sites do not. Since clinical participation requires all vaccines and the Nursing Program requires clinical in order to be eligible for licensure, only fully vaccinated students will be successful in completing the Nursing curriculum. Questions regarding how criminal history affects nursing licensure should be directed to the student's state board of nursing.*

What financial aid is available?

If you are enrolled as a degree-seeking student, you may be eligible for various federal and state grants or loans. Contact the Office of Student Aid at http://studentaid.psu.edu/ for more information.
Completion of the FAFSA form automatically enters students into consideration for scholarships offered by the Nese College of Nursing. Information is available at http://www.nursing.psu.edu/undergraduate/financial-aid.
It is the student's responsibility to look into various hospitals, professional associations, military groups, community or other organizations which may also offer scholarships or low-interest loans.

How will transfer credits and Advanced Placement (AP) credits fit into the nursing curriculum?

Transfer credits and AP credits may sometimes be applied to general education or elective credits. Admissions determines whether credits from other institutions will be accepted. The Nese College of Nursing determines how these credits are applied towards your degree. Keep in mind that these credits will not impact your GPA at Penn State. These credits have the potential benefit of decreasing course load, which could provide students with the opportunity to explore a minor or other interests if desired. *However, please note that a tuition increase takes place when a student reaches 59.1 credits. Students bringing in credits may reach this tuition "bump" earlier.* Please communicate with the Academic Advising Office if you plan to bring in college-level credits. Additional information on how Penn State awards credits for AP exams can be found at http://admissions.psu.edu/academics/credit/ap/.

What and where are clinical courses?

Clinical courses typically involve a lecture and a hands-on component in a clinical setting. Clinical sites may be anywhere within a 50-mile radius of campus. Clinical experiences and schedules vary each semester, but they are typically offered in six- to eight-hour blocks between 6:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M. Nursing students participate in nearly 900 hours of diverse and educationally rewarding clinical experiences. University Park students spend one or more years (third and/or fourth year) at the Hershey Medical Center Campus. Housing is reserved for nursing students at Hershey. Our state-of-the-art simulation labs provide confidence-building practice to students beginning your third semester. Our labs include:

- Health Assessment/Skills Lab
- Home Health
- Critical Care
- Pediatrics
- Maternity/Newborn
- Advanced Practice Primary Care Labs.

Examples of B.S.N. Clinical Sites

Clinical locations may include:

- Geisinger-Lewistown Hospital
- Mount Nittany Medical Center
- Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
- Philhaven Behavioral Healthcare
- The Meadows Psychiatric Center
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Altoona
- Doctors' offices
- Schools or prisons
- Assisted living facilities

Will I need to have my own car?

Nursing students are required to have their own transportation starting in the spring semester of second year. Carpooling may be an option during the second year, *but students should not rely on this option*. Students are responsible for getting themselves to their clinical sites throughout the Nursing Program.

Will I go to Hershey Medical Center?

Hershey Medical Center (HMC) is a Level I Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric populations. Nursing students at University Park are required to spend one academic year in Hershey, PA studying at HMC. In second year, students are assigned via modified lottery to third or fourth year at HMC. Possible exceptions to this requirement may be Schreyer Scholars, Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), and student athletes who fall under the NCAA requirements in order to maintain eligibility (this does not include cheerleading, the Lionettes Dance Team, club sports, or the Blue Band). Students may request to spend both their third and their fourth year in Hershey. Commonwealth Campus students participate in clinical experiences within a 50-mile radius of their campus.

Are meal plans and housing offered while I'm at Hershey?

Students are responsible for providing their own meals during their time at Hershey. There is not a meal plan option. Grocery stores are within a five- to ten-minute drive. Penn State provides apartment-style housing that is a short walk to the Hershey Medical Center. There are four nursing students in each apartment. Each student has his or her own bedroom and shares a common bathroom, kitchen, and living area. Students also have the option to live off-campus if desired. There is no additional fee for parking for students at Hershey.

Am I able to complete the Pre-medicine program with the nursing degree?

With careful planning and collaboration with the program of interest, it may be possible to complete the Pre-medicine curriculum concurrent to the Nursing Program. The traditional medical model approaches patient health. Because the Nursing Program is highly structured, students should discuss any plans for the Pre-medicine curriculum with their Academic Adviser as soon as possible.

Am I able to complete a minor/certificate with the nursing degree?

With careful planning and collaboration with the program of interest, it may be possible to complete a minor or certificate concurrent to the Nursing Program. Because the Nursing Program is highly structured, students should discuss any plans for a minor or certificate with their Academic Adviser as soon as possible.
We are often asked for "typical" minors and certificates completed by Nursing students. Typical minors include Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS), Child Maltreatment and Advocacy (CMAS), Psychology (PSYCH), and Deafness and Hearing Studies (DHS). The Nese College of Nursing offers two Nursing Certificates, Nursing Forensics and Nursing Informatics, through the World Campus. However, students may complete any minor or certificate available at University Park, provided they meet minor requirements.

Can I specialize?

Upon graduation, Penn State entry-level nurses are prepared to practice as generalists and can work in any number of settings. True specialization requires graduate education.

Are there any social/professional groups for Nursing students?

Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing Student Ambassadors (CONAm)

This student group represents the Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing and provides a student perspective at information and recruitment events. Ambassadors embody Nursing students of varied interests, activities and backgrounds and volunteer to share their love of Penn State and all things nursing.

Men in Nursing

Men in Nursing facilitates opportunities for networking and mentoring and assists interested males with information about the nursing major. Additionally, Men in Nursing actively promotes men's health, influencing factors that affect men as nurses, and joins with all nursing students and nurses in providing services and support for the underprivileged. For more information or to join, go to https://orgcentral.psu.edu/organization/men-in-nursing.

The Multicultural Student Nursing Association (MSNA)

MSNA was recently formed to provide an inclusive environment to multicultural students and allies in the Nursing major. MSNA coordinates social events and educational opportunities that create a safe space for students to strengthen community and develop professional skills for career success.
https://news.psu.edu/story/605856/2020/01/29/new-student-group-launches-multi-cultural-student-nursing-association

Sigma Theta Tau

Students with outstanding records of scholarship and leadership are invited to join Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society for nursing. Penn State is home to the Beta Sigma chapter, one of more than 150 chapters of Sigma Theta Tau located at colleges and universities throughout the world.

SNAPS

Each campus has a chapter of the Student Nurses Association of Penn State (SNAPS), the state-approved organization of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA). SNAPS activities include professional development, community service and outreach, as well as social activities. Penn State's chapter of SNAPS also actively participates in THON, which is the largest student-run philanthropic event in the world to raise money to fight pediatric cancer. See http://www.nsna.org/ or http://www.snap.psu.edu/ for more information.

Can I study abroad?

Nursing students who wish to study abroad have the following options:

- Penn State Nese College of Nursing faculty offer short-term international experiences called "Embedded Programs". Experiences vary each year. Students are sent information on available opportunities for the upcoming academic year.
- Global Penn State offers experiences during the summer or other breaks. Information can be found at http://global.psu.edu/going-abroad.
- Other opportunities are available through student organizations, such as the PSU Global Brigades. Information on this organization can be found at http://www.psugmb.org/.
- One minor that Nursing students interested in studying abroad may want to consider is the Global Health Minor. This minor allows students to explore health issues and challenges affecting populations across the globe and incorporates a 6-week international "Global Health Fieldwork Experience" course. More information can be found at http://bbh.hhd.psu.edu/globalhealth.

Due to the sequenced nature of the nursing curriculum, nursing students can complete traditional study abroad only during the summer or other breaks. Students who complete traditional study abroad programs during fall or spring semesters will find themselves a year behind in the curriculum.

How will Penn State prepare me for the NCLEX-RN exam?

The National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) is the national licensing examination for all registered nurses. Passing this exam after graduation is the final step in becoming a nurse. Penn State prepares nursing students early for their licensing examination by introducing Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Nursing Education beginning second year. The ATI software incorporates practice exams and focused NCLEX-RN preparation. Additional information about ATI Nursing Education can be found at https://www.atitesting.com/Home.aspx.

Currently, the first time pass rate for Penn State Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing students is 93% based on statistics from the Pennsylvania Department of State. According to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, the national average first time pass rate in 2021 was 86% (https://www.ncsbn.org/Table_of_Pass_Rates_2021_Q4.pdf). While these numbers change slightly from year to year, Penn State Nursing students' pass rate is consistently above the state and national averages.

What other supports does Nursing offer to students?

Just as you're invested in your education, we are invested in your academic, personal, and professional success. In addition to the technology, clubs & organizations, student services and resources that Penn State offers to all students, Nese College of Nursing students have access to:

Academic Advising- You will be assigned an academic adviser at New Student Orientation (NSO), and will remain with that adviser through graduation. Advisers are similar to your high school counselors, but different in that you are expected to take responsibility for regularly checking in with your adviser. At minimum, plan to schedule an appointment with your adviser once per semester for an academic and scheduling check-up, but your adviser can also explain and facilitate Penn State policy and processes, help you connect to resources, advocate for and support you. Advisers offer weekly Office Hours, regular Walk-In/Zoom-In ours at key times of the year, and group advising. Our advisers' backgrounds are in counseling and education.

Faculty Advising- In your third year, you will also be assigned to a nursing faculty adviser. Your faculty adviser may be based at Hershey or at University Park, and is available to discuss career planning and professional development. In your professional development coursework, you will create your resume for your job search, and participate in a brief mock interview.

Academic Success Coach- Students may contact the Success Coach on their own, and may also be referred by faculty or advisers. The Success Coach can help with time management, study skills, and course content, in addition to referring you to other resources.

Career Fair- A Nursing Career Fair is sponsored each fall for Nursing students to connect with recruiters and companies from Pennsylvania and some surrounding states. Additionally, Penn State's Bank of America Career Services Office hosts career fairs each semester. All of these events offer both internship/externship and job opportunities.

Alumni Mentoring Program- Rising third-year students (juniors) may apply for the Alumni Mentoring Program to be matched with a Nese College of Nursing Alumnus through the students' graduation. Mentoring pairs are required to attend a kick-off event, meet at least once a month with at least one meeting per year being in-person.

CONversations with Dr. Brown- These monthly, open-forum Zoom-In sessions with our Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs and the UP and Hershey Nursing Programs Coordinators Dr. Nelson and Dr. Barton will provide updates on the Nursing program, respond to questions, and elicit your thoughts on programmatic topics, students' needs and concerns, and any other topics that arise. CONversations are a great way to connect with Nese leadership and have your voice heard.

What does a typical day look like for a Nursing student?

The chart below shows examples of a typical "day in the life" of two of our students. Ellen is a first-year student involved in Nese CON Ambassadors and SNAPS. Freda is a second year ROTC student who also finds time for Nese CON Ambassadors, SNAPS, Christian Organizations, and THON.

Ellen

8:30am wakeup, 8:30am-10:00am	Get ready, breakfast, relax, last minute studying
10:00am-11:30am/12:30pm	First class or two of the day
11:30am-1:00pm	Gym for a lift or cycling class
1:00pm-1:30pm	Lunch (sometimes studying) with friends at the HUB
1:30pm-2:30pm	Study/homework
2:30pm/4:00pm-3:30pm/6:00pm	Last class/lab
6:00pm	Dinner
7:00pm	Club meetings (if there are)
7:00pm-11:30pm/12:00am	Studying, homework, reviewing notes
12:30am-1:00am	Bedtime

Freda

4:30am wakeup, 5:30am-7:00am 6:30am wakeup	ROTC physical training If no ROTC, personal workout, get ready/eat
9:00am-11:00am	Class
11:00am-1:25pm	Study, eat, meetings
1:30pm-3:30pm	Class
3:30pm-6:00pm	Study, meetings
6:00pm-8:00pm	Clubs/Organizations
9:30pm-12:00am	Bedtime depends on ROTC physical training in the morning

Our students participate in Greek life, ROTC, Athletics, Schreyer Honors College, and numerous clubs, groups and activities. Many hold part-time jobs or volunteer while in school. Setting realistic involvement goals and managing time wisely are key.

Class sizes at Penn State can vary from as few as 25 for English, Speech and Language classes and Science labs to as many as 800 for large lectures such as Anatomy & Physiology. Nursing class sizes range from 8-10 in clinicals to 75-80 in lectures, with one third-year course, Professional Role Development I (NURS 250), for the entire second-year Nursing cohort (150-160).

What graduate programs are available at Penn State?

Ph.D. and D.N.P. Programs:

- Penn State offers a B.S.N. to Ph.D. degree program for highly qualified students to pursue doctoral study directly from their B.S.N. program. This program incorporates a Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) degree, which prepares nurse scientists and clinical scholars to continue on for the Ph. D. in Nursing. There is also an M.S.N. to Ph.D. degree program for students with an M.S. degree. Nursing Ph.D. students may pursue additional trainings in bioethics through the dual-title Ph.D. program in Nursing and Bioethics.
- Penn State offers a D.N.P. degree program online through Penn State World Campus with two entry options: directly from the B. S.N., or post-M.S.N. The D.N.P is a professional, practice-focused doctoral degree.

M.S.N. Programs:

- Penn State offers an M.S.N. degree program at selected Penn State campus locations with three Advanced Practice options: Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.
- Penn State offers an M.S.N. degree program online through Penn State World Campus with two Advanced Role options: Nurse Administrator and Nurse Educator.

A B.S.N. is required for admission to a graduate program of study in Nursing at Penn State. Graduate-level nursing certificates are also available. Additional information on the graduate programs can be found at http://nursing.psu.edu/graduate.

Helpful Websites:

Admission and University Statistics: http://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/
ATI Nursing Education: https://www.atitesting.com/Home.aspx
Nese College of Nursing: http://www.nursing.psu.edu/
Nese College of Nursing Financial Aid Opportunities: http://nursing.psu.edu/undergraduate/financial-aid
Credit from Advanced Placement (AP) Exams: http://admissions.psu.edu/academics/credit/ap/
Graduate Programs: http://nursing.psu.edu/graduate
Housing: University Park: http://www.housing.psu.edu/
LEAP: http://summersession.psu.edu/leap/
New Student Orientation: https://orientation.psu.edu/up
Office of Student Aid: http://studentaid.psu.edu/
Penn State Office of the Bursar: http://www.bursar.psu.edu/
Penn State Undergraduate Admissions: http://admissions.psu.edu/
Residence Life: http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife/
SNAPS: http://www.nsna.org and http://www.snap.psu.edu/
Study Abroad: http://global.psu.edu/going-abroad, and http://www.psugmb.org/
Tuition: http://tuition.psu.edu/
Tuition Calculator: http://tuition.psu.edu/costestimate.aspx

For more information:

Please email nursing@psu.edu or call 814-863-2229.

SUGGESTED ACADEMIC PLAN for B.S.N. Degree in Nursing (NURS/GNURS)

for students at University Park, Altoona, Erie/Behrend, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, and Scranton

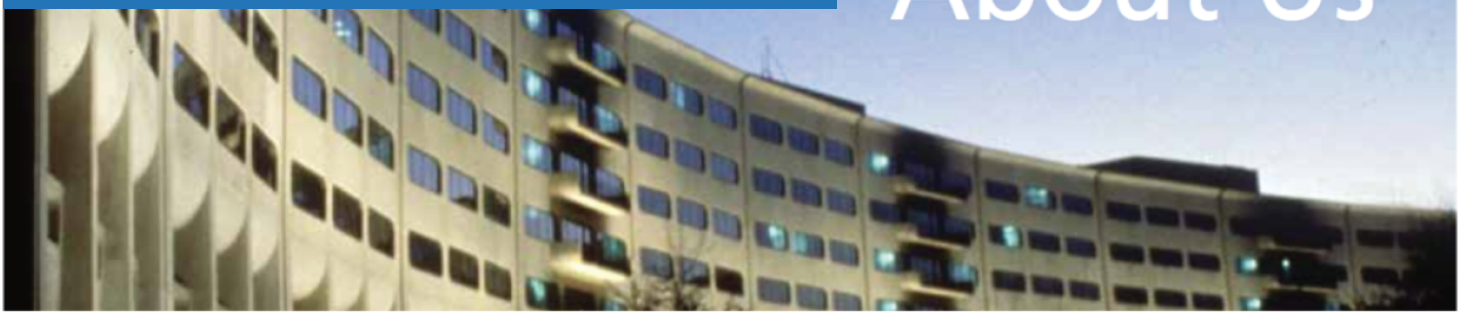
Effective Fall 2021/ NEW Curriculum & Integrative Studies. See IMPORTANT NOTES on back.

Semester 1	Credits	Semester 2	Credits
BIOL 161 & 162 (GN) **Anatomy & Physiology I (Lecture & Lab)**	4	***BIOL 163 & 164 (GN)*** **Anatomy & Physiology II (Lecture & Lab)**	4
ENGL 15 (GWS) or ENGL 30 (GWS) Rhetoric & Composition/Honors Rhetoric & Composition	3	***HD FS 129 (GS)*** **Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies**	3
PSYCH 100 (GS) **Introductory Psychology**	3	***NUTR 251 (GHW)*** **Introductory Principles of Nutrition**	3
NURS 100 First-Year Seminar (if required by campus)	1	**CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C (GWS) Effective Speech**	3
Integrative Studies: Inter-domain course, WITH Humanities (GH) OR Arts (GA) *	3	**Quantification (GQ) (selected MATH based upon ALEKS score)**	3
Humanities (GH) (**NOT** Integrative Studies)	3		
Total Credits:	17	Total Credits:	16
Semester 3	**Credits**	**Semester 4**	**Credits**
CHEM 130 (GN) **or** ***CHEM 110 (GN) & CHEM 111 (GN)*** **Introduction to General, Organic, and Biochemistry /Chemical Principles with lab**	3-4	***SOC 1 (GS)*** **or** ***SOC 5 (GS)*** **Intro to Sociology/Social Problems**	3
MICRB 106 (GN) **Elementary Microbiology**	3	***STAT 200 (GQ)*** **or** ***STAT 250 (GQ)*** **Elementary Statistics/ Introduction to Biostatistics**	3-4
MICRB 107 (GN) **Elementary Microbiology Laboratory**	1	**NURS 225 Pathophysiology (PATHO)**	3
NURS 250 (US) Professional Role Development I: Intro to Professional Issues in Nursing Practice and Nursing Informatics	2	**NURS 230 Introduction to the Fundamentals of Nursing**	4
NURS 251 Health Assessment	3	Integrative Studies: Inter-domain course (any combination) *	3
Elective	2-3		
Total Credits:	14-16	Total Credits:	16-17
Semester 5	**Credits**	**Semester 6**	**Credits**
NURS 301 Nursing Care of the Adult Client Requiring Medical-Surgical Intervention (MED-SURG)	4	**NURS 200W Principles of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice**	3
NURS 305 Introduction to Pharmacological Concepts (PHARM)	3	**NURS 302 Clinical Judgement in Nursing (MED-SURG Immersion)**	1
NURS 310 Therapeutic Nursing Care of the Older Adult Client in a Variety of Settings (GERO)	3	**NURS 306 Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents (PEDS)**	3
NURS 350 Professional Role Development II: Ethics, Legal and Genetic Issues	2	**NURS 320 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family and Gynecological Client (OB)**	3
Arts (GA) (**NOT** Integrative Studies)	3	**ENGL 202A, ENGL 202B, ENGL 202C, or ENGL 202D (GWS) Effective Writing**	3
		Elective	3
Total Credits:	15	Total Credits:	16
Semester 7	**Credits**	**Semester 8**	**Credits**
NURS 405A Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part A (MED-SURG)	4	**NURS 405B Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part B (MED-SURG)**	4
NURS 450A Professional Role Development III: Leadership and Management	2	**NURS 450B Professional Role Development III: Clinical Capstone**	3
NURS 415 (US; IL) Community and Family Health Nursing	4	**NURS 420 Mental Health Nursing (PSYCH)**	4
Elective	3	**NURS 480 Preparation for Nursing Licensure Exam (NCLEX Prep)**	2
Total Credits:	13	Total Credits:	13

See IMPORTANT NOTES on back **See IMPORTANT NOTES on back** **See IMPORTANT NOTES on back**

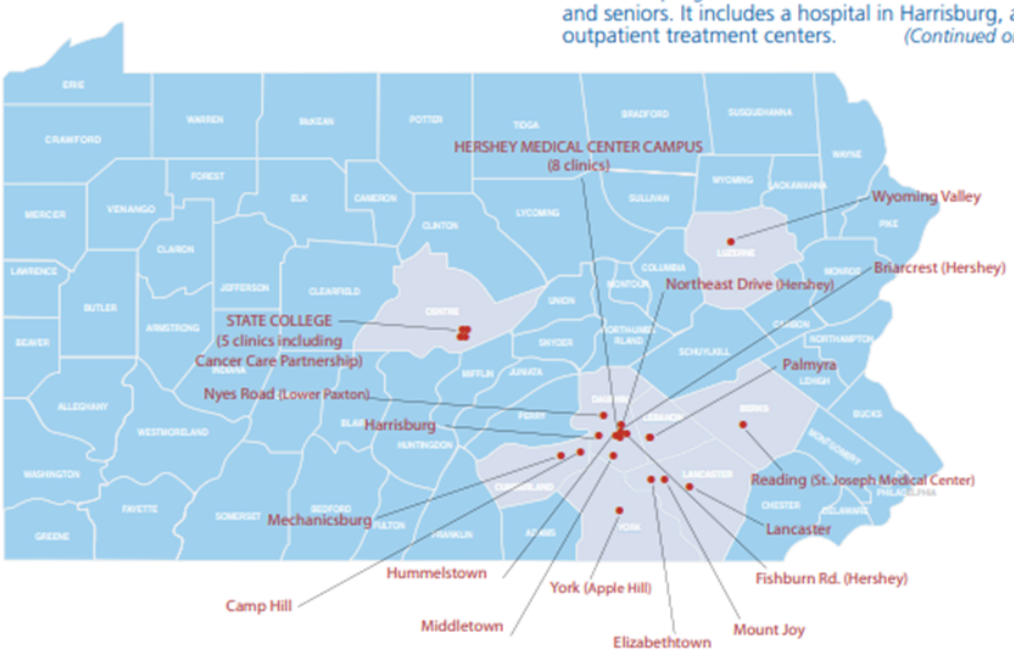
Accepted Student Program 2022

About Us



PENN STATE HEALTH MILTON S. HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER

- Founded in 1963 through a gift from The Milton S. Hershey Foundation, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center is one of the leading teaching and research hospitals in the country.
- Six institutes: Penn State Cancer Institute, Penn State Heart and Vascular Institute, Penn State Bone and Joint Institute, Penn State Neuroscience Institute, Penn State Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and Penn State Institute for Personalized Medicine.
- 12,000+ employees and a combined budget of approximately $1.7 billion.
- Three times designated as a Magnet® hospital, and achieved highest level of recognition for nursing excellence from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.
- Second in the nation to use a new robotic surgical device for head and neck surgery. The Flex Robotic System makes it possible to easily access locations in the body that were previously difficult or impossible to reach using minimally invasive techniques.
- Image-guided radiation treatment services, using the advanced technology of our Trilogy™ system and Gamma Knife®, represent the region's first-of-its-kind collaborative approach between radiation oncology and neurosurgery.
- The University Technology Center opened in 2016, greatly expanding Penn State Health's ability to gather and analyze big data that can serve as the foundation for precision medicine and population health.
- The only medical facility in Pennsylvania to be accredited as both an adult and a pediatric Level 1 trauma center.
- Life Lion Critical Care Transport is accredited by The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS), a prestigious accreditation held by only six other services in Pennsylvania.
- More than 1,100 primary and specialist physicians and advanced practice clinicians care for patients through the Penn State Medical Group, which includes 63 specialty practices located at 24 clinics in eight central Pennsylvania counties.
- An 98-bed rehabilitation hospital in partnership with Select Medical combines the convenience and comfort of community-based care with clinical expertise and national experience in comprehensive medical rehabilitation, transitional care, outpatient services and wound care.
- Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute, a partnership with PinnacleHealth, creates specialized mental health treatment programs for children and adolescents, adults and seniors. It includes a hospital in Harrisburg, and two outpatient treatment centers. *(Continued on next page)*



PENN STATE HEALTH MILTON S. HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER *(Cont'd)*

FAST FACTS (FISCAL YEAR 2017)

Annual admissions Hershey Medical Center and Children's Hospital	29,098
Annual admissions Psychiatric Institute	2,237
Annual admission Rehab Hospital	1,610
Annual outpatient visits	1,116,012
Annual emergency visits	74,526
Births	2,074
Total surgical cases	33,145
Licensed adult beds	423
Licensed pediatric beds	128
Licensed adult psychiatric beds*	80
Licensed pediatric psychiatric beds*	16
Licensed adult rehab beds**	88
Licensed pediatric rehab beds**	10
Neonatal ICU and Critical Care Nursery beds	42
Medical Group practices	63
Life Lion helicopter transports	1,174
Life Lion critical care ambulance transports	741
Faculty physicians/advanced practice clinicians	1,300+
Residents and fellows	586
Nurses	2,547
Total staff	12,000+

** at Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute*
*** at affiliated rehabilitation hospital*

Penn State Hershey Medical Center encompasses several specialized institutes and departments:

- **Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital**
  The region's only children's hospital fully equipped to treat the most severely ill and injured children with both a Level IV neonatal intensive care unit and a Level I pediatric trauma hospital. Named a national leader in eight pediatric specialties by U.S. News and World Report's 2015-2016 Best Children's Hospital rankings.
- **Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute**
  The region's only comprehensive cancer center, with access to internationally recognized cancer specialists and scientists delivering a multidisciplinary approach and advanced medical technology. Earned the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons.
- **Penn State Hershey Heart and Vascular Institute**
  Central Pennsylvania's only heart transplant center and the regional center for extra corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO).
- **Penn State Hershey Neuroscience Institute**
  Joint Commissioned-certified Comprehensive Stroke Center. Home to the only three board-certified pediatric neurosurgeons between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.
- **Penn State Hershey Bone and Joint Institute**
  Leader in the care of patients with common or complex disorders, with specialists in orthopedics, sports medicine, spinal disorders, hand surgery, metabolic bone disease and osteoporosis, rheumatology, radiology, chronic pain management and therapy services.
- **Penn State College of Medicine**
  The College of Medicine and the School of Nursing collaborate on a growing interdisciplinary curriculum that allows medical, physician assistant and nursing students to learn some clinical skills together, facilitating better communication between the professions.
- **Research at Penn State Hershey**
  Through numerous projects, PSU Hershey boasts more than $98.3 million in funded medical research annually.

PennState Health
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

MAGNET RECOGNIZED

PennState
College of Medicine

For more information on any of the topics listed in this publication go to **PennStateHershey.org**.

PennStateHershey.org/followus

Our social media outlets help you stay current with health care news from Penn State Health.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

Education Abroad Opportunities Compatible with Nursing

B.S.N. students in the General Nursing option have the opportunity to study abroad through programs offered by the Nese College of Nursing and related disciplines. Due to the sequential nature of the Nursing curriculum, students who wish to stay "on time" with their program may study abroad only during the summer or semester breaks, or with an embedded program of shorter duration. There are numerous ways to complete a study abroad experience.

- An embedded program is a course taken at a Penn State campus that includes an international, credit-bearing travel component. The embedded programs described below are ***examples*** of programs currently or previously offered through Penn State. Program availability varies from year to year. Students may earn credit for participation in some of the programs. In the rare event that programs are oversubscribed, students are selected by lottery. Costs range from $1,500-$8,000 or more depending upon destination, credits allotted, and duration of the program.
- Students can consider joining the Penn State chapter of Global Brigades, the world's largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization. Global Brigades offers Medical, Public Health, and other chapters that are relevant for Nursing students. Trips are offered all over the world and can focus on water, the environment, nutrition, education, or health care. For more details, visit https://fundraise.globalbrigades.org/chapters/university/pennsylvania-state-university
- Other summer international experiences can be arranged through Penn State Global. More information can be found at https://global.psu.edu/students

NOTE: **Students who pursue abroad experiences during the full fall or spring semesters will find themselves a year behind in the curriculum.**

Chile

Students will spend two weeks in Santiago observing and touring community health sites, such as a rural health care clinic, a local public and private hospital, and an older care home. These experiences include a mix of middle class and less affluent citizens. Students will come away with a realistic portrayal of a typical Chilean healthcare experience and will participate in both classroom and observed clinical experiences. They will be hosted by the Escuela de Enfermería (School of Nursing) at the Universidad de Santiago de Chile.

Honduras

In collaboration with the MAMA Project, Inc., Penn State Nursing students, primarily third and fourth years, serve native Hondurans by working in a nutritional rehabilitation center. During this seven-day program, students will assist with medical, dental, and construction brigades and encourage micronutrient, deworming, and vitamin A promotion. Students earn credit for a three-credit course. For more information, visit http://schuylkill.psu.edu/honduras

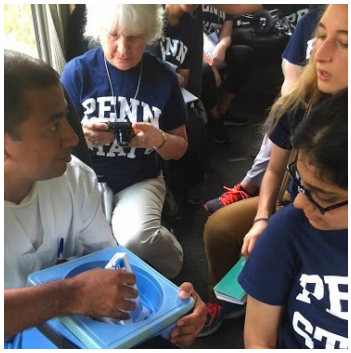
Education Abroad Opportunities Compatible with Nursing

Costa Rica

This one-week program explores the health care system in Costa Rica. Students meet with policy makers, administrators, physicians, and other providers of care to learn how Costa Rica is able to achieve impressive health outcomes. Students analyze information obtained on the trip and develop a presentation upon return to the United States. Students earn credit for a three-credit course. For more information, visit http://hhd.psu.edu/hpa/Costa-Rica

Cuba

This experience to Havana, Cuba is organized through CIEE, an outside travel organizer, and led by Penn State Nursing faculty. A minimum of ten Nursing students participate in this eight-day program exploring community and family health nursing in Cuba through observational clinical experiences, cultural activities, and lectures.



Hong Kong

A limited number of seniors are selected to participate in this ten-day spring semester program. This experience enhances students' abilities to experience a different culture and learn about the health care system, Eastern medicine, and the nursing education system in Hong Kong. Students will participate in both classroom and clinical observations.

Thailand

Arrangements are being made for a trip to Thailand. Check https://www.nursing.psu.edu/study-abroad/ regularly for more information.

For additional information on Nese College of Nursing travel opportunities, contact Darlene Clark (dac128@psu.edu), Global Studies coordinator for the Nese College of Nursing.

PennState
Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

The facts.

Programs offered

UNIVERSITY PARK AND HERSHEY
+ Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
+ BSN to PhD in Nursing
+ PhD in Nursing
+ Dual-title PhD in Nursing and Bioethics
+ Dual-title PhD in Nursing and Clinical and Translational Sciences
+ Post-graduate Nurse Practitioner certificate

OTHER PENN STATE CAMPUSES
+ RN to BSN *(six campuses)*
+ BSN *(seven campuses)*
+ Second Degree BSN *(two campuses)*

WORLD CAMPUS (ONLINE)
+ RN to BSN
+ Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)
  (Nurse Educator and Nurse Administrator Options)
+ Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
  (Leadership, Gerontological Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and Family/Individual Across the Lifespan Nurse Practitioner)
+ Undergraduate certificates in Nursing Forensics, Nursing Informatics, and Nursing Management
+ Graduate certificates in Gerontology, Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator, and Primary Palliative Care
+ Various continuing education opportunities

1964 Program established in the College of Health and Physical Education
- 22 students admitted

1968 First two students received B.S. degrees in Nursing

2013 School of Nursing becomes the **College of Nursing**

TOP 10 Nationally ranked online program: Penn State World Campus

✓ **Accreditation**: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education B.S.N., M.S./M.S.N., D.N.P.

ALL Full-time Ph.D. students are eligible for funding

2021 Through a transformational gift, the college is renamed the Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

Degrees awarded

BACCALAUREATE **536**

MASTER'S **54**

DOCTORAL **12**

data based on degrees conferred in summer 2020, fall 2020, and spring 2021

Faculty Profile

20	Tenured and Tenure-track
3	Clinical track
9	Research
87	Teaching
2	Endowed professors
11	Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing

Research Profile

Over $17 million in research expenditures since the college's inception

Over $8 million awarded for gerontology research

Over $4 million awarded for the development of a sexual assault forensics training center (SAFE-T Center)

Approx. $1.5 million awarded to support clinical and translational science

Enrollment

2,241 total enrollment

1,991 students enrolled in a baccalaureate program

1,291 students enrolled at a Commonwealth Campus

686 students enrolled at University Park

264 students enrolled in an online degree program

Based on fall 2021 official enrollment and includes pre-nursing students

Updated on January 27, 2022

Our Students By The Numbers

3.56-3.91
HIGH SCHOOL GPA (UNWEIGHTED 4.0 SCALE)
MIDDLE 50% GPA UNIVERSITY PARK PENN STATE
SUMMER/FALL 2021

3.07-3.60
HIGH SCHOOL GPA (UNWEIGHTED 4.0 SCALE)
MIDDLE 50% GPA OTHER CAMPUSES PENN STATE
SUMMER/FALL 2021

1280-1450
MIDDLE 50% SAT STATISTICS UNIVERSITY PARK
EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING +
MATH (1600 SCALE) PENN STATE SUMMER/FALL
2021 ADMISSIONS

1090-1300
MIDDLE 50% SAT STATISTICS OTHER
CAMPUSES EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND
WRITING + MATH (1600 SCALE)
PENN STATE SUMMER/FALL 2021 ADMISSIONS

93%
NCLEX PASS RATE
FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS (2021)

Current Initiatives

Community Health Needs Assessment Alignment
The college is prioritizing the health of our community by strategically focusing our teaching, research, and service on the medical needs identified by the community through surveys conducted at local medical facilities.

The Tressa Nese and Helen Diskevich Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (CGNE)
is a community of nurse educators, clinicians, and researchers whose leadership is actively improving health care for older adults in America.

MINDSTRONG/MINDBODYSTRONG is a cognitive behavioral skills building (CBSB) program that provides a theory-based approach to improve mental health, healthy lifestyle beliefs and behaviors, and job satisfaction in clinicians.

Nursing Research Network
The college has received funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to develop networks for community-based nursing research throughout Pennsylvania.

Person-Centered Care Collaboration is a program that was established by the college and the Polisher Research Institute in North Wales, Pennsylvania. The program will expand on the college's current focus on research in aging and person-centered care — a model of elder care that seeks to improve quality of life by focusing on the patient's own lifestyle preferences.

THON Medication Administration
Under the supervision of nursing faculty, BSN students enrolled in NURS 306 (Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents) administer medications for the dancers in the IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) as part of their required clinical hours.

Age-Friendly Care, PA is a collaborative for age- and dementia–friendly care that is a dedicated group of diverse professionals from different backgrounds working together to improve the lives of older adults in Pennsylvania, with special attention to older adults living in rural parts of our state.

Two-Step Delirium Identification Tool
Supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging, a four-year interprofessional project, "Researching Efficient Approaches to Delirium Identification," aims to improve the care of older adults by developing and testing a two-step bedside tool to detect delirium in hospitalized adults age 70 and older.

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Telehealth (SAFE-T) Center
This project uses telehealth technology to enhance access to sexual assault forensic exams in underserved populations. Through live-examination videoconferencing with high-resolution image display, the SAFE-T Center improves the quality of services afforded to victims of assault in rural hospitals across Pennsylvania.

www.nursing.psu.edu

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. U.Ed. NUR 21-17

SNAPS

The Student Nurses' Association at Penn State (SNAPS)

WHAT'S SNAPS?

SNAPS is an award-winning preprofessional organization open to all nursing students at Penn State that provides professional development and service opportunities. SNAPS is also actively involved on the state and national level, attending conventions and presenting nursing legislation.

HOW TO JOIN

- *Attend bi-weekly meetings and participate in SNAPS events.*
- *Follow SNAPS on Instagram (**@snappennstate**) and join our group on Facebook (**SNAP-Penn State Chapter**).*
- *Check out our website snap.psu.edu.*

LEADERSHIP

- *Represent Penn State at state and national conventions.*
- *Serve in Leadership roles as an officer at University Park or on the state and national level.*
- *Attend SNAPS events such as our resume workshop, career fair, and guest speaker series.*

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Serve the local Penn State community through various events and programs.

- *Red Cross Blood drives*
- *Sending care packages and letters to military troops*
- *Sexual assault clothing drive*
- *Spending time with residents at Juniper Village Senior Living*
- *Participating and raising funds for the Walk to End Alzheimer's*
- *Community health fairs*

SOCIAL

- *Meet lifelong friends in your nursing cohort.*
- *Seasonal activities such as pumpkin picking and formal.*
- *Join our mentor/mentee program to connect with an upperclassman for advice and tips.*

THON

- *THON is the largest student-run philanthropy.*
- *Throughout the year help raise money for our THON families so they never have to pay a single bill.*
- *Our THON partner is Club Kinesiology.*