

Nursing (MSN)

This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences. It is available at the St. Louis home campus and at select St. Louis-area corporate partner sites.

Program Description

The master of science in nursing (MSN) program is designed for registered nurses with a BSN who wish to pursue advanced knowledge necessary for the professional roles of nurse educator or nurse leader.

The program requires the completion of 36 credit hours with a Nurse Leader or Educator focus. Courses are scheduled in an eight-week format. The MSN is designed to be a part-time program that students complete in three years.

Webster's MSN program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
404-975-5000
www.acenursing.org

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the MSN program, students will be able to:

- Apply organizational and systems leadership skills to promote quality health care.
- Apply quality and safety principles within an organization.
- Analyze evidence and research for improvement of practice.
- Evaluate information and health care technologies to coordinate care.
- Apply knowledge of policy and advocacy strategies to influence health and health care.
- Collaborate with other health professionals to coordinate care.
- Apply prevention and population health concepts to implement culturally relevant care.
- Integrate advanced knowledge and skills in a practice role.

Program Curriculum

The following core courses must be completed for the MSN:

- NURN 5005 Collaboration and Communication (3 hours)
- NURN 5050 Policy and Politics in Nursing (3 hours)
- NURN 5210 Strategies to Facilitate Learning (3 hours)
- NURN 5340 Population Health (3 hours)
- NURN 5360 Organization and Systems Leadership (3 hours)
- NURN 5370 Quality and Safety in Healthcare (3 hours)
- NURN 5380 Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, and Advanced Assessment I (3 hours)
- NURN 5390 Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, and Advanced Assessment II (3 hours)
- NURN 5550 Translating Evidence to Practice (3 hours)

In addition, the MSN-seeking student must complete one of the following focus areas:

Educator Focus

Students selecting this option must complete the following courses:

- NURN 5220 Curriculum Development and Evaluation (3 hours)
- NURN 5230 Teaching Practicum in Nursing I (3 hours)
- NURN 5240 Teaching Practicum in Nursing II (3 hours)

Leader Focus

Students selecting this option must complete the following courses:

- NURN 5420 Financial Issues for Nurse Leaders (3 hours)
- NURN 5440 Leadership in Nursing Practicum I (3 hours)
- NURN 5450 Leadership in Nursing Practicum II (3 hours)

Requirements

The student in this graduate program is subject to the policies and procedures for graduate studies and the MSN program.

Continuous Enrollment

Students in the MSN program must maintain continuous and consecutive enrollment in this program at Webster University. Students who do not enroll for three or more consecutive eight-week terms will be withdrawn from the program. The student may request a waiver of this requirement.

Practicum Evaluation

In courses with a clinical/practicum/practice experience component, students must receive a grade of "Satisfactory" in the clinical/practicum/practice experience portion to pass the course. Unsatisfactory completion of the clinical/practicum/practice experience component of the course results in automatic failure of the course.

Admission

Students who are interested in applying to this degree program should see the Admission Section of this catalog for general requirements.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MSN program is based on intellectual capacity, academic record, professional performance, clarity of goals, initiative and other qualities appropriate to graduate study in nursing. These qualities are difficult to measure in absolute terms, and the decision to offer admission is based on appraisal of the total application record.

The specific requirements for admission to the MSN program are as follows:

- A bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) from an accredited program (NLNAC, ACEN, CCNE, or NLN CNEA).
- Current, unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse in the United States and eligible for licensure in Missouri.
- A minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Completion of an undergraduate statistics course with a grade of C or better.
- A minimum of one year of nursing practice as an RN within the last three years.
- Completion of the online application.
- Official transcripts from all colleges, universities and schools of nursing.
- Three academic and/or professional recommendations using the MSN Recommendation Form (at least one recommendation must be from a supervisor, manager or administrator with whom the applicant has worked in the past 3 years).
- A curriculum vitae or résumé describing scope, responsibilities and function of all work experience.
- A 300- to 500-word brief essay describing the educational and professional objectives for graduate study.
- An interview with a nursing faculty member.

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- Successful and satisfactory completion of a drug screen and criminal background check, plus submission of other required documents including, but not limited to, a health history; a complete vaccination/immunization profile (influenza, HepB, TDap/Td, MMR, and varicella); annual TB test/screen; evidence of American Heart Association CPR certification; a copy of current personal health insurance card; and signed student contract are required for full admission.

Special consideration may be given to applicants who excel in some criteria but do not meet all minimum requirements.

Send all admissions materials to:

Office of Admission
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63119
or submit electronically at gadmit@webster.edu

Advancement to Candidacy

Students are admitted to their graduate program upon completion of all admission requirements. Students are advanced to candidacy status after successfully completing 12 credit hours of graduate credit, with grades of B- or better. In the MBA program and other specialized programs, courses required as prerequisites to the program do not count toward the 12 credit hours required for advancement.