College of Nursing

Sarah E. Shannon, Dean of the College of Nursing
Susan Raph, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Martha Peters, Director of Administration
Paul Swift, Director of Academic Programs & Evaluation

General Information

Degree Programs

- Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) (p. 1)
- Master of Nursing (MN) (http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/#text)
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) (http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/#text)

Vision

The Montana State University College of Nursing transforms lives and communities in the people's interest.

Mission

The Montana State University College of Nursing enhances the health of the people of Montana, our nation, and the global community through education, creation of knowledge, and service.

Undergraduate Programs

The undergraduate professional Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is approved by the Montana State Board of Nursing and is nationally accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The Traditional BSN Program (https://www.montana.edu/nursing/undergraduate/traditional-bsn-program.html) is designed for college students pursuing their first undergraduate degree. The curriculum is composed of two blocks: pre-nursing courses and nursing courses. The nursing courses are offered to students receiving placement at one of five MSU nursing campus sites: Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Kalispell, and Missoula. It is possible for a student to complete all of the required pre-nursing coursework at institutions other than Montana State University and apply for placement in the nursing courses.

The College of Nursing at Montana State University offers an Accelerated BSN (ABSN) Program for students to earn a second baccalaureate degree in nursing. This option is available only to students who already have earned a baccalaureate degree in a discipline other than nursing. Students are required to have completed the same pre-requisite courses as the traditional students except for WRIT 101 and CLS 101. Once admitted to the nursing major, they complete the BSN degree in an accelerated 15 month schedule. The ABSN nursing courses are offered to students receiving placement at one of five MSU nursing campus sites: Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Kalispell, and Missoula.

Pre-Nursing Courses

All pre-nursing courses must be completed with a grade of C- or better. A student is allowed to retake up to two courses in the pre-nursing curriculum. A student with more than two retakes in pre-nursing courses must petition for excessive retakes to be considered for placement into nursing.

Academic Policies

Application to the Traditional BSN Program

All students must apply for placement into the nursing courses. The number of available placements in nursing courses are regulated to provide the best utilization of financial, clinical, and faculty resources. Applications to the Traditional BSN Program are open twice a year, with corresponding admissions in both the Fall and Spring semesters. Application timelines and requirements can be found on our Traditional BSN Application website (https://www.montana.edu/nursing/undergraduate/placement.html).

Application to the Accelerated BSN Program

All students must apply for placement into the Accelerated BSN Program. The number of available placements in nursing courses are regulated to provide the best utilization of financial, clinical, and faculty resources. Applications to the Accelerated BSN Program open once a year, with corresponding admissions in both the Fall and Spring semesters. Application timelines and requirements can be found on our Accelerated BSN Application website (https://www.montana.edu/nursing/undergraduate/acceleratedbsnapp.html).

Transfer Students

The above criteria and procedures for application and progression through the nursing curriculum apply to transfer students as well as MSU-Bozeman students. Students who have been enrolled as nursing students at any other institution (have nursing courses on their transcripts) must provide a letter from their Dean or Director regarding their academic standing at the time of transfer. In order to facilitate transcript evaluation, all transfer students must provide a copy of the original transcript(s) from all institutions of higher education they have attended to the College of Nursing. Out-of-state transfer students are encouraged to work with a MSU-Bozeman College of Nursing Adviser well before application to the program of nursing.

Expenses

Nursing students have additional expenses beyond those normally required in other curricula. They include but are not limited to, uniforms,
immunizations, background checks, drug screening and current professional healthcare provider CPR certification before beginning nursing coursework. Special purchases include, but are not limited to, stethoscope and other clinical equipment.

There is an additional nursing program fee each semester which covers such costs as specialized equipment, and distance delivery support when enrolled in clinical nursing courses.

**Undergraduate Programs**
- Nursing ([http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/nursing/nursing/](http://catalog.montana.edu/undergraduate/nursing/nursing/))

**Graduate Programs**
- Master of Nursing (MN) ([http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/clinical-nurse-leader/](http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/clinical-nurse-leader/))
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree ([http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/dnp/](http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/dnp/))
- Nursing Education certificate (non-degree option) ([http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/online-certificate-nursing-education/](http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/nursing/online-certificate-nursing-education/))
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Adobe Garamond Pro.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.