

NURSING (RN TO BSN)

Registered nurses who enroll at The University of Alabama may opt to pursue one of two options toward the completion of a higher degree or degrees. Both programs of study allow students to continue working while completing coursework online.

RN to BSN

The RN to BSN program of study is specifically designed for the registered nurse student to earn a bachelor's degree. The program consists of a minimum of 50 semester hours of lower-division coursework and 30 semester hours of upper-division coursework. Lower-division studies include courses that meet University Core Curriculum requirements for a bachelor's degree. Upon admission to the University as a RN to BSN student, credit for 40 hours of NUR courses is awarded.

RN to BSN		Hours
Lower Division courses		
BSC 215 & BSC 216	Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Human Anatomy & Physiology II	8
BSC 242	Microbiology And Man	4
EN 101 & EN 102	English Composition I and English Composition II	6
BSC 114 & BSC 115	Principles Of Biology I and Laboratory Biology I (or other approved Natural Science)	4
HD 101	Life Span Human Development (or other approved Social Behavioral Science course)	3
MATH 110	Finite Mathematics (or higher)	3
PHL 223	Medical Ethics (or other approved Humanities course)	3
PY 101	Intro To Psychology (or other approved Social Behavioral Science course)	3
Fine Arts or other approved Humanities ¹		3
Literature ¹		3
History ¹		3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		43
Upper Division courses		
NUR 319	Nrsg Informatics for RNs	3
NUR 348	Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur	5
NUR 329	Inq. Evidence Based Pract RNS	4
NUR 449	Community Health For RNs	6
NUR 455	Leadership & Management Roles	6
NUR 465	Complex Client Sys RNs	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		30
Total Hours		73

Footnotes

¹ List of approved Fine Arts, Literature, and History courses can be found here.

Promotion to Upper Division

Every effort will be made to promote all applicants who meet the criteria. The number of applicants promoted is dependent on the educational resources available to support this program. The application for promotion is due in the Office of Nursing Student Services by April 15 for summer promotion, July 15 for fall promotion and November 15 for

spring promotion. Applications submitted after the deadlines may be considered.

Following promotion to the upper division, students are required to submit to a drug screen and background check which must be renewed annually. Costs for background check and drug screen are billed directly to the student by a third party vendor. Instructions regarding this process will be sent upon promotion to the upper division.

Promotion Criteria

To be eligible for promotion to the upper division, a registered nursing student must have the following:

- all lower-division coursework requires a grade of C- or higher
- no more than 2 outstanding prerequisites
- an overall grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale on the required lower-division courses
- an overall grade point average of 2.0 on all required science courses
- an unencumbered RN license in the state where experiential learning requirements will be completed
- graduation from an ACEN or CNEA accredited school of nursing
- applicants must reside and be licensed in one of the states in which the Capstone College of Nursing is authorized to provide online education. To view the list of approved states click here.

Advanced degree opportunities for Registered Nurses

The Capstone College of Nursing has a pathway for RNs that hold an associate degree or diploma in nursing to attain their BSN and MSN degrees. The pathway is divided into two specific phases, undergraduate and graduate. Students who are accepted for this pathway will earn the BSN degree and the MSN degree upon successful completion of the plan of study. The concentration areas offered for the MSN portion are Nurse Executive and Nurse Educator. Nurse Educator will begin admission Summer 2026.

This RN to BSN/MSN pathway requires a minimum of 50 semester hours of lower-division undergraduate coursework (see lower division courses above) in addition to undergraduate and graduate nursing upper-division coursework. Enrollment in this pathway is only considered for summer admission.

Click the "Plan of Study Outline" tab above to view the sequence of courses for phase 1 of the curriculum.

Eligibility requirements for this pathway:

- all lower-division coursework requires a grade of C- or higher
- no more than 2 outstanding prerequisites
- acceptance to the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs
- an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on the required lower-division courses
- an unencumbered RN license in the state where clinical course requirements will be completed
- graduation from an ACEN or CNEA accredited school of nursing
- applicants must reside and be licensed in one of the states in which the Capstone College of Nursing is authorized to provide online education. To view the list of approved states click here.

RN to BSN Plans of Study

Full-Time enrollment		Hours
Semester 1		
NUR 319	Nrsg Informatics for RNs	3
NUR 348	Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur	5
Credit Hours Subtotal:		18
Semester 2		
NUR 329	Inq. Evidence Based Pract RNS (W)	4
NUR 449	Community Health For RNs (U.S. & Global Citizenship)	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		12
Semester 3 (graduating semester)		
NUR 455	Leadership & Management Roles	6
NUR 465	Complex Client Sys RNs	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		12
Total Hours		30
Part-Time enrollment		
Semester 1		
NUR 348	Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur (First Year Compass Course)	5
Credit Hours Subtotal:		5
Semester 2		
NUR 329	Inq. Evidence Based Pract RNS (W)	4
Credit Hours Subtotal:		4
Semester 3		
NUR 319	Nrsg Informatics for RNs	3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		3
Semester 4		
NUR 449	Community Health For RNs (U.S. & Global Citizenship)	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		6
Semester 5		
NUR 465	Complex Client Sys RNs	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		6
Semester 6 (graduating semester)		
NUR 455	Leadership & Management Roles	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		6
Total Hours		30

RN/BSN Pathway to MSN (Phase One)

[Click here to view the Phase Two plan of study](#)

Nurse Executive		Hours
Summer 1		
NUR 319	Nrsg Informatics for RNs	3
NUR 348	Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur (First Year Compass Course)	5
Credit Hours Subtotal:		8
Fall 1		
NUR 449	Community Health For RNs (U.S. & Global Citizenship)	6
NUR 737	Interdisciplinary Leadership and Role Development for Practice Excellence ^{1,2}	3
NUR 506	Advanced Clinical Foundations	3

Credit Hours Subtotal:		12
Spring 1		
NUR 727	Foundations of Implementation Science and Evidence-Based Practice ¹	3
NUR 740	Health Policy & Politics: Implications in Health Care ¹	3
NUR 465	Complex Client Sys RNs	6
Credit Hours Subtotal:		12
Complete BSN requirements; BSN awarded		
Total Hours		32
Nurse Educator		
Summer 1		
NUR 319	Nrsg Informatics for RNs	3
NUR 348	Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur (First Year Compass Course)	5
Credit Hours Subtotal:		8
Fall 1		
NUR 449	Community Health For RNs (U.S. & Global Citizenship)	6
NUR 737	Interdisciplinary Leadership and Role Development for Practice Excellence ^{1,2}	3
NUR 531	Nursing Faculty Roles and Responsibilities	3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		12
Spring 1		
NUR 727	Foundations of Implementation Science and Evidence-Based Practice ¹	3
NUR 740	Health Policy & Politics: Implications in Health Care ¹	3
NUR 465	Complex Client Sys RNs	6
NUR 506	Advanced Clinical Foundations	3
Credit Hours Subtotal:		15
Complete BSN requirements; BSN awarded		
Total Hours		35

Footnotes

- ¹ Course counts towards completion of BSN & MSN
- ² W designated course for RN to BSN/MSN students only

Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Schools, Higher Education, Government Policy Development, Home Health, Public Health Departments, Physicians Offices, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Leaders, Case Management, Doctor of Nursing Practice.

Types of jobs Accepted

Many of our graduates accept positions in hospitals to begin with. From there, they will go on to graduate programs or other areas of practice. The career opportunities are limitless.

Learn more about opportunities in this field at the Career Center