

Application for Admission

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

GRADUATE PROGRAMS



An Education in the Franciscan Tradition

ALVERNIA
UNIVERSITY

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Quality of Previous Undergraduate and Graduate Work

The minimum requirements necessary for admission to Alvernia University's Master of Science in Nursing program will include an official transcript indicating that the applicant has earned a baccalaureate degree in nursing from a NLNAC or CCNE accredited program at a college or university. A grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for all previous undergraduate and graduate work is normally required for full acceptance. Also, the completion of an undergraduate statistics course and undergraduate research course with a grade of "C" or better is required. A minimum of one year recent relevant practice in nursing is required.

Three Reference Forms

MSN applicants must obtain references using specific forms supplied with the admission packet. The strength of three references from persons competent to judge the applicant's probable success in graduate school will be evaluated. References are preferred from professional nurses with graduate degrees, but can also come from former professors, employers or supervisors. All forms must be placed in envelopes with a signature across the seal and forwarded to the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies at Alvernia University. This requirement will be waived for Alvernia University BSN graduates.

Scores on Nationally Standardized Examinations

Applicants must submit scores from examinations such as the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) within the past five years. Scores will be used to evaluate the applicant's potential for meeting the demands of coursework at the graduate level. The GRE or MAT will be waived with a grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale and all other admission criteria is satisfactory. This requirement will also be waived for Alvernia alumni, and other students who have earned a bachelor degree five years or more prior to submitting an application.

Applicant's Essay

Applicants must submit a two-page entrance essay. Also note that applicants must follow specific guidelines for both the content and the format of the entrance essay. Guidelines are available from the program coordinator if not included in the application packet. This requirement will be waived for Alvernia University BSN graduates.

Personal Interview

After all the required application materials have been received, each applicant will be contacted to arrange for a personal interview. The interview will be conducted by the MSN program director/faculty or a designated representative.

Résumé

Applicants are required to submit a current résumé outlining their professional, educational, and volunteer experiences.

Proof of Valid Registered Nurse License

Applicants must submit a photocopy of their current RN License.

Special Consideration of Applicant's Potential

Alvernia will weigh the evidence submitted by each applicant to assess the candidate's strengths and academic potential. Special consideration will be given to applicants who will enrich the diversity of Alvernia's community. Applicants to the MSN Program will be admitted as described below:

Full Graduate Status: Students admitted to full graduate status must have completed all admission requirements. Students may opt for full time or part time enrollment.

Non-Degree Status: Students may enroll in graduate courses to earn graduate credit for professional certifications or professional development activities in their chosen field. These students must have earned a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from an accredited college or university. Other students may be admitted with non-degree status with the approval of the Director of MSN program.

Retention, Completion, and Degree Requirements

Students who receive a letter of acceptance must respond to a written offer of admission that specifies the date of entrance into the MSN Program. This admission letter will serve as a permit-to-register for courses. In most cases, students will be offered admission for a five-year period.

Progress toward completing the graduate degree will be evaluated by each student's advisor on a regular basis. Students with full graduate status must achieve and thereafter maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher to be retained in the program. Students will not be allowed to participate in capstone activities unless they have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Academic records of all graduate students will be reviewed at the end of each semester. Students should schedule two meetings with their advisor each year.

Additional Information

Students who have additional questions, or would like more information, should contact Graduate Admissions at 1.888.ALVERNIA (1.888.258.3764/1.610.796.8228) or graduate@alvernia.edu. More information on Alvernia's MSN Program can be found on the University's website at www.alvernia.edu/academics/graduate/msn/index.html.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES (the below must be submitted all at once as a complete packet; transcripts can be sent directly to the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies)

- Completed application form accompanied by a non-refundable \$50 application fee mailed to **Alvernia University, School of Graduate and Continuing Studies, 540 Upland Avenue, Reading, PA 19611**. Please make check payable to Alvernia University.
- Official college/institution transcripts.
- Three references using specific form and sealed with a signature across the seal. (waived for BSN graduates of Alvernia University)
- Scores from a nationally standardized examination, if applicable. (waived if applicable - see above for details)
- Applicant's essay. (waived for BSN graduates of Alvernia University)
- Personal interview (scheduled after entire application packet is received).
- Résumé.
- Photocopy of RN license.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in Alvernia University. We are pleased that you have decided to apply.

Applications should be completed in ink or typed, and a non-refundable \$50 application fee should accompany the application.

Should you have questions about the application or Alvernia University's admission process, please feel free to contact the School of Graduate Studies.

PERSONAL DATA

Name Miss Ms. Mrs. Mr. _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE (JR., ETC.)

MAIDEN/FORMER _____ NICKNAME _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Social Security # _____

Are you a U.S. citizen or legally authorized to attend an institution of higher education in the United States? No Yes
 U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident Other _____
 Country of Citizenship _____ (Additional documentation may be requested to supplement your application.)
 Visa Status _____

Address _____
NUMBER/BOX STREET

_____ CITY STATE ZIP/POSTAL CODE COUNTRY

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____ E-Mail Address _____

Employer _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Practice/Work Focus Acute Care Home/Community Long Term Care Education Other

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

<p>Gender</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p>	<p>Ethnic Origin</p> <p>Are you Hispanic/Latino? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><small>Regardless of your answer to the previous question, please select one or more of the following ethnicities that best describes you:</small></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White</p>	<p>Marital Status</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed</p>	<p>Religion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Islam <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish <input type="checkbox"/> Protestant</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Baptist <input type="radio"/> Lutheran <input type="radio"/> Presbyterian <input type="radio"/> UCC</p> <p><input type="radio"/> United Methodist <input type="radio"/> Other Protestant _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
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EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTION <small>(List all attended)</small>	LOCATION <small>(City/State/Country)</small>	DATES ATTENDED <small>(Month/Year)</small>	DEGREE EARNED	CREDITS <small>(completed)</small>
_____	_____	/ TO /	_____	_____
_____	_____	/ TO /	_____	_____
_____	_____	/ TO /	_____	_____

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

EMPLOYER NAME AND ADDRESS	DATES	POSITION
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

Master of Science in Nursing

MILITARY INFORMATION

Are you currently serving or have you ever served with any branch of the United States Armed Forces? Yes No

Will you be receiving Armed Forces educational benefits? Yes No

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Please indicate the semester and year you plan to enroll. Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____
YEAR YEAR YEAR

Expected student status: Full Time Part Time

Have you previously applied for admission to Alvernia? Yes _____ No
SEMESTER/YEAR

OTHER COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

Please tell us about other colleges and/or universities to which you have applied, or plan to apply, for graduate admission.

Have you visited Alvernia? Yes No

Please identify siblings, parents, or close relatives who are current students or graduates of Alvernia.

Name _____ Years attended _____ to _____ Relationship _____
YEAR YEAR

Name _____ Years attended _____ to _____ Relationship _____
YEAR YEAR

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY? (check and fill out information about all that apply)

- Television Friend Billboards Internet _____
- Alumni Co-worker College Fair Newspaper _____
- Magazine Open House Radio _____
- Alvernia Website Mailings Other _____

SIGNATURE

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is true.

I agree that, if accepted, I will comply with the rules and regulations of Alvernia University.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Please complete in ink or type. Enclose a completed application form accompanied by a non-refundable \$50 application fee mailed to Alvernia University, School of Graduate and Continuing Studies, 540 Upland Avenue, Reading, PA 19611. Please make check payable to Alvernia University.

Alvernia University complies with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws in the administration of its educational programs and services and in its employment relationships.

Official Office Use Only

Application Fee pd not pd waived Application Rec'd _____ Accept Date _____ Confirm Date _____