



RN to BSN Completion Program | Major

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

Alvernia is a Franciscan university rooted in the Catholic and liberal arts traditions, dedicated to the ideals of service in the helping professions. Our rich heritage of service and strong faith resonates in contemporary ways in our campus life and academic programs. Our faculty and staff are committed to teaching, guiding, and supporting our students in all aspects of their experience at Alvernia University, from course selection and scheduling, to connecting with peers and colleagues.

The RN to BSN Completion Program is designed for Registered Nurses who are graduates of diploma or associate degree nursing programs, or new graduates anticipating taking NCLEX-RN examination. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing is widely considered a standard requirement for RNs seeking broader professional responsibilities and career opportunities.

In order to be conducive to family and work schedules, nursing courses are scheduled throughout the year in a blended format. A blended class meets once a week and the rest of the coursework is completed online. Nursing classes are offered in either a semester long or 8 week format. The 8 week MODULAR (MOD) format (typically 7 weeks in Summer Sessions) offers students the flexibility to move through the program at a faster pace. Courses are predominantly designed to be taken non-sequential. However, it is strongly recommended that students take 300 before 400 level nursing courses because generally 400 courses build on knowledge and skill obtained in 300 level courses. Students typically plan to take the two clinical courses (NUR 403 and 405) back-to-back in fall and spring semesters. NUR 411 and 419 are designed as culminating courses in the RN to BSN Completion Program. Based upon transfer credits and completion of general education and nursing courses, students can complete the program in approximately 2 1/2 years part time.

The primary goal of the RN to BSN Completion Program is to prepare graduates to integrate values, skills, knowledge, and ethical standards of the nursing profession into their nursing practice. The graduates will develop and enhance their expertise to deliver health care to individuals across the lifespan, families, and community groups in a wide range of health care environments.

ACADEMIC QUALITY

The RN to BSN Completion Program is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Accreditation is an indication of public approbation, attesting to the quality of the educational program, and the continued commitment of the sponsoring institution to support the program. For further information about the accreditation of the BSN Program, please contact the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation. The curriculum reflects current national recommendations to increase diversity, safety, technology and evidenced-based practice for the purpose of improving health care outcomes.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students are admitted to Alvernia University and are fully accepted in the RN to BSN Completion Program when the following documentation is submitted:

- RN to BSN Completion Program application
- Official transcript of high school grades or GED scores
- Official transcript of college and/or diploma school
- Photocopy of current Pennsylvania Registered Nurse License (submit after NCLEX is completed)
Students may be admitted to the RN to BSN Completion Program prior to passing the NCLEX; however, students are not permitted to progress and register for the two clinical courses (NUR 403 & NUR 405) without a current and valid RN license.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Each student will be personally advised on what applies to Alvernia University's graduation requirements.

Credit Breakdown:

Diploma or ADN	67-75 credits
Alvernia's Course Requirements	48-56 credits
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BSN Total	123 credits

Liberal Arts Core (27 Credits):

Composition and Research (3 credits)
Communication (3 credits)
Art/Music (3 credits)
Literature (3 credits)
Mathematics - statistics required (3 credits)
History or Social Science (3 credits)
Philosophy (3 credits)
Philosophy/Theology (3 credits)
Medical Moral Theology (3 credits)

Upper Level Nursing Courses (31 Credits):

NUR 303 Preparation for Professional Writing*	1 credit
NUR 307 Concepts and Theories*	3 credits
NUR 316 Health Assessment Across the Lifespan for Professional Nurses*	3 credits
NUR 318 Developing Cultural Competency and Global Awareness*	3 credits
NUR 320 Introduction to Healthcare Informatics*	3 credits
NUR 403 Health Restoration in the Aging Population	6 credits
NUR 405 Health Promotion in Families and Communities	6 credits
NUR 411 Nursing Leadership and Management*	3 credits
NUR 419 Research Methods for Professional Nurses	3 credits

*Blended, online class format, MOD schedule

Six out of the nine upper-level nursing courses are delivered in a blended, online format in an eight-week modular schedule. Approximately 50% of the course content is taught via innovative distance education technologies.

LOCATIONS

Students can choose to take classes where and when it is most convenient. This program is offered on campus at our Reading, Philadelphia, and Pottsville locations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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