

# Nursing (MSN)

This program is offered by the College of Science and Health. It is available in the Live Virtual Modality, to students licensed as RNs in MO, NC, SC, and KS. Students complete online modules each week, which may include recorded lectures, videos, readings, case studies, podcasts and more to meet the lesson and course objectives/outcomes for the week. In addition, students meet weekly for two hours of live virtual (Zoom) classroom experience on their assigned night of the week, as well as completing other course related assignments. In many courses, students complete face-to-face practice experiences with clients and/or preceptors.

## 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 an educator or leader track. Courses are scheduled in an eight-week format, five terms a year. The MSN is designed to be a year-round part-time program that students complete in 2.5 years.

The master's nursing program at Webster University located in Saint Louis, Missouri is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)  
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400  
Atlanta, GA 30326  
404-975-5000  
www.acenursing.org

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the master's nursing program is continuing accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at <http://www.acenursing.com/accreditedprograms/programsearch.htm>.

## Learning Outcomes

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

- Evaluate organization and systems leadership skills necessary for quality health care.
- Examine quality and safety principles of a health care organization.
- Analyze evidence and research for improvement of practice.
- Implement the use of information and other technologies into practice.
- Apply knowledge of policy and advocacy strategies to influence health and health care.
- Examine the impact of inter professional collaboration on quality care.
- Apply prevention and population health concepts to implement culturally relevant care.
- Integrate advanced knowledge and skills in a Nurse Leader or Educator 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 and Application 1 (3 hours)
- NURN 5390 Pathophysiology and Application 2 (3 hours)
- NURN 5550 Translating Evidence to Practice (3 hours)

In addition, students must complete one of the following tracks:

### Educator Track

Students selecting this option must complete the following courses:

- NURN 5220 Curriculum and Program Design (3 hours)
- NURN 5230 Practicum in the Nurse Educator Role I (3 hours)
- NURN 5240 Practicum in the Nurse Educator Role II (3 hours)

### Leader Track

Students selecting this option must complete the following courses:

- NURN 5420 Financial Issues for Nurse Leaders (3 hours)
- NURN 5440 Practicum in the Nurse Leader Role I (3 hours)
- NURN 5450 Practicum in the Nurse Leader Role II (3 hours)

## Dual Degree Option: MSN/MHA

### 60 credit hours

### Program Description

The MSN/MHA dual degree is designed for the nurses desiring to earn a master's degree, and who have interest in nursing leadership and healthcare administration. The program focuses on the business of healthcare with an emphasis on high quality and safe patient care delivery and outcomes. Students will attain a broad conceptual understanding of the health care industry and develop specific, focused administrative skills that will help them to guide health care organizations toward greater efficiency, effectiveness and positive patient and organizational outcomes.

Students will complete the MSN and MHA courses simultaneously and courses are offered in the Live Virtual format. Graduation will take place once all course requirements for the dual degree have been completed, approximately four years. Current MSN or MHA students who meet the admission requirements and wish to switch to the dual degree will follow the same MSN/MHA dual degree program requirements and course schedule. It may be possible students that switch to the dual degree that have already completed coursework will accrue greater than the number of courses/credit hours needed to complete the dual degree as not all courses already completed will apply to the dual degree; the courses required for the MSN/MHA dual degree were designed per accreditation requirements. Should a student decide to drop one of the programs, the courses completed to that point would be transferable and count toward the single degree completion at the discretion of the individual program. Additional single program course requirements may be required by the department.

### Course Requirements

MSN Degree Course Requirements (24 credits)

- NURN 5005 Collaboration and Communication (3 hours)
- NURN 5210 Strategies to Facilitate Learning (3 hours)
- NURN 5340 Population Health (3 hours)
- NURN 5370 Quality and Safety in Healthcare (3 hours)
- NURN 5380 Pathophysiology and Application 1 (3 hours)
- NURN 5390 Pathophysiology and Application 2 (3 hours)

# Nursing (MSN)

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- NURN 5550 Translating Evidence to Practice (3 hours)

\*NURN 5450 Practicum in the Nurse Leader Role II (3 hours)

## *MHA Degree Course Requirements (36 credits)*

- HLTH 5000 Organization and Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- BUSN 6150 Business Communications and Technology (3 hours)
- HLTH 5040 Human Resources Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5050 Financial Management in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5070 Financial Analysis in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5120 Issues in Health Policy (3 hours)
- HLTH 5100 Statistics for Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5130 Healthcare Strategy and Marketing (3 hours)
- HLTH 5140 Health Administration Law (3 hours)
- HLTH 5150 Process Improvement in Health Administration (3 hours)
- HLTH 5160 Health Informatics (3 hours)
- \*HLTH 6000 Integrated Studies in Health Administration (3 hours)

\*Practicum Requirements/Prerequisite: MSN students will complete HLTH 6000 followed by NURN 5450.

## 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

See the Admission section of this catalog for general admission requirements. Students interested in applying must submit their application online at [www.webster.edu/](http://www.webster.edu/) apply. Transcripts should be sent from your institution electronically to [transcripts@webster.edu](mailto:transcripts@webster.edu). If this service is not available, send transcripts to:

Office of Admission  
Webster University  
470 E. Lockwood Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63119

## Additional Requirements

Requirements for admission to the master of science in nursing (MSN) program include:

- A bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) from an accredited program (ACEN, CCNE).
- Progression through the program is contingent on maintenance of an unencumbered Nursing license.
- A minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A minimum of one year of nursing practice as an RN within the last three years.
- Completion of the online graduate application.
- Official transcripts reflecting Bachelor of Science in Nursing attainment.
- Three recommendations using the MSN recommendation form (one from an educator, one from a current supervisor, and one other professional recommendation).
- A curriculum vitae or résumé\* describing the scope, responsibilities and function of all work experience.
- A 300 - 500-word essay\* describing the educational and professional objectives for graduate study.
- An interview (upon request) with a nursing faculty member.
- 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, Covid-19 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.

**\*These required materials must be electronically uploaded to the application account.** A screenshot of the licensure report from the Nursys QuickConfirm website must be uploaded to the application file.

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

Admission to the MSN program does not guarantee eligibility for employment in all areas of nursing.

Note to prospective students - the MO State Board of Nursing requires the following for appointment to a faculty position after graduation:

- Current active RN license.
- No disciplinary action currently on license.
- If there is past disciplinary action, it may have NO nexus to patient safety.

## Application Process

All applicants are invited to apply to begin the program in the Fall 1 (August) OR Spring 1 (January) terms each year.

All documents must be received by the first Monday in August for Fall 1 term admission or by the second Monday in December for the Spring 1 (January) term.

## 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

# Nursing (MSN)

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with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. In specialized programs, courses required as prerequisites to the program do not count toward the 12 credit hours required for advancement.