

PRELICENSURE PROGRAMS

RN-TO-BSN TRACK

Overview

Program Description

The RN-to-BSN Track is a BSN program option designed to further develop skills, reasoning, and attributes of licensed professional registered nurses (RNs). The RN-to-BSN curriculum is grounded in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education (2021) and meets the requirements of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

A total of one hundred twenty (120) semester credits is required for the conferral of the BSN degree. Upon enrollment, learners are granted forty-eight (48) semester credits of lower-division core nursing coursework pursuant to the RN licensure. The RN-to-BSN Track consists of twenty-four (24) semester credits of upper-division nursing coursework. In addition, the completion of the BSN degree requires forty-eight (48) semester credits of general education. Learners who hold an Associate of Science in Nursing Degree and transfer a minimum twenty-seven (27) semester credits of general education, including the required physical sciences credits, can complete the RN-to-BSN Track within three (3) academic semesters, or forty-eight (48) academic weeks of instruction. Learners who have not completed any general education requirements and elect to complete all GE coursework at the College can complete the RN-to-BSN Track within five (5) academic semesters, or eighty (80) academic weeks of instruction. The table below illustrates the estimated program completion time based on the number of general education credits transferred in upon enrollment.

Number of GE Credits Transferred In	Semesters to Complete RN-to-BSN Track	Weeks of Instruction to Complete RN-to-BSN Track
0-10	5	80
11-26	4	64
27-41	3	48
42-48	2	32

The RN-to-BSN Track uses full-distance delivery of instruction where learners engage in online didactic and capstone project experiences in community nursing, leadership, policy, ethics, critical care, gerontology, health promotion, disease prevention, informatics, and other key nursing concepts. For learner residency and course delivery modalities definitions, see the [Learner Residency and Course Delivery Modalities](#) section of this Catalog. The curriculum is specifically constructed to promote career mobility in nursing. Upon satisfactory completion of the prescribed RN-to-BSN curriculum and other graduation requirements, the learner will earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Degree.

Note: The Program only enrolls residents in states where it is fully authorized. If a learner enrolls in the Program and subsequently moves to a state where the Program is not authorized, the learner will not be able to continue enrollment until such authorization is obtained. Learners must notify the Registrar immediately upon relocation.

Program Objectives

- Graduate baccalaureate-level nurses who will improve individual, family, and community health and wellness by applying clinical reasoning, evidence-based skills and knowledge, and leadership in practice.
- Facilitate career mobility of graduates and help meet the demand for professional nurses.
- Increase the availability of advanced nursing education opportunities for qualified learners.
- Improve access to nursing education, course scheduling flexibility, and learning efficacy through various innovative instruction delivery methods and learning modalities, including synchronous and asynchronous online engagements, capstone activities, and distance learning.

Program Outcomes

RN-to-BSN Outcomes are aligned with the Institutional Effectiveness Plan and measure the degree to which the Program achieves its stated mission. For current RN-to-BSN Program Outcomes benchmarks, see the [RN-to-BSN Program Outcomes Benchmarks Catalog Insert](#).

RN-to-BSN Learner Outcomes

The RN-to-BSN Track, in alignment with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs, has identified program outcomes, including program-level learner outcomes and competencies, alumni outcomes, and faculty outcomes to evaluate Nightingale College's RN-to-BSN Track effectiveness. The learner

outcomes include program completion and employment rates, achievement of Nightingale College's undergraduate general education goals, achievement of expected learner outcomes, satisfaction with courses and instruction, and satisfaction with overall program effectiveness.

At Program completion, as measured by evaluation activities throughout the RN-to-BSN Track, the graduate will:

1. Exemplify quality, competent, client-centered care while demonstrating awareness of the physical, psychological, spiritual, emotional, cultural, and environmental aspects of the clients' needs.
2. Demonstrate intentional learning, clinical reasoning, and reflection to purposefully lead in the profession and provide holistic care to their clients.
3. Integrate and perform research in nursing's identified best practices and demonstrate the ability to practice based on evidence they have analyzed and applied in their profession.
4. Synthesize clinical reasoning into daily nursing practice, while integrating ethical, moral, legal, and evidence-based principles.
5. Exemplify leadership and management skills and attributes appropriate for their role as BSN-level registered nurses.
6. Engage in effective communication—therapeutically and professionally—with and without the use of technology.
7. Integrate components of quality and best safety practices into the daily nursing work environments.
8. Integrate collaborative leadership skills when leading and functioning as a member of interdisciplinary teams.

Core Competencies

1. Client-Centered Care
2. Intentional Learning with Reflection
3. Evidence-Based Practice
4. Decision-Making and Clinical Reasoning
5. Organizational, Local, and Global Leadership
6. Communication and Informatics
7. Quality and Safety Assurance
8. Teamwork and Collaboration

Admissions Requirements

Requirements and Procedures

All applicants work closely with an Admissions Advisor to assess career goals, motivation, and commitment to learning.

To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Pay the \$150 non-refundable application fee (the application fee is waived for all Nightingale College's prelicensure programs alumni, applicants from institutions with a valid articulation agreement, active duty servicemembers, and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.
2. Complete Application for Admissions (the application and the paid fee are valid for one (1) year).
3. Submit a copy of a high school diploma equivalent, as described below, one week prior to the first day of attendance. Several equivalents to a high school diploma may be submitted:
 - A GED certificate.
 - A certificate or other official completion documentation demonstrating that the learner has passed a state-authorized examination such as the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), or, in California, the California High School Proficiency Exam, that the state recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma (certificates of attendance and/or completion are not included in this qualifying category).
 - An associate degree
 - Successful completion of at least sixty (60) semester or trimester credits or seventy-two (72) quarter credits that does not result in the awarding of an associate degree, but that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree at any institution, or
 - Enrollment in a bachelor's degree program where at least sixty (60) semester or trimester credits or seventy-two (72) quarter credits have been successfully completed, including credits transferred into the bachelor's degree program.
 - A "secondary school leaving certificate" or similar document from the proper government agency for learners who completed secondary school in a foreign country, accompanied by a foreign credentials evaluation.
4. Submit proof of current active unencumbered registered nurse (RN) licensure from any U.S. jurisdiction and disclose any encumbered licenses. Nightingale College's prelicensure programs graduates may enroll in the RN-to-BSN Track, on a non-matriculated basis, upon providing proof of submitting the RN licensure application and passing the NCLEX-RN®. Learners must become licensed within the first academic semester of the Program to matriculate and progress within the RN-to-BSN Track.
5. If requesting transfer of credit, submit official college transcripts for the previous post-secondary coursework by the deadline in accordance with the [Transfer of Credit](#) section of the Catalog.
 - Forty-eight (48) general education credits are required for the BSN Degree. Learners may refer to the table below for the minimum number of credits required in each of the five (5) general education breadth areas. General education requirements may be met either through completing the course work at the College or through the transfer of credit (see [Transfer of Credit](#) section of this Catalog for more information). Up to twenty-one (21) GE semester credits can be completed during the RN-to-

BSN Track. Applicants who do not have the minimum twenty-seven (27) GE semester credits upon admission may extend their enrollment in the RN-to-BSN Track to fulfill all general education requirements.

- Official transcripts are required for matriculation into the RN-to-BSN Track.
- The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and all credits earned at other post-secondary institutions or through course challenge exams.

6. Complete Smarter Measure Assessment for evaluation of online learning readiness.

7. Meet with a Learner Funding Advisor to initiate the Financial Aid process.

8. Be in good financial standing with the College and have \$0 account balance.

Note: The highest level of academic integrity is expected throughout the admissions process. Violations of the academic integrity policy at any point in the admissions process will result in automatic denial of admission. See the [Academic Integrity](#) section of the College Catalog for more details.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Table

Total Credits Attempted	Financial Aid Warning or Probation if CGPA is below	Financial Aid Warning or Probation if course completion rate is below
1-12	2.0	67%
13-24	2.0	67%
25-36	2.0	67%
37-48	2.0	67%
49-60	2.0	67%
61-72	2.0	67%
73-84	2.0	67%
85-96	2.0	67%
97-108	2.0	67%
109-120	2.0	67%

Tuition and Fees

Tuition for the RN-to-BSN Track is \$645 per semester credit. The College reserves the right to change its tuition and fees at any time with a 30-day notice. Audit fees are non-refundable and cannot be paid with Title IV funding.

Item	
General Education Fee per Course (except SCI 220, SCI 221, and SCI 251)	\$125 ¹
SCI 220, SCI 221, SCI 251 Learning Resource Fee per Course	\$200
Resource Fee per Semester	\$450
Course Audit Fee	\$200

¹In lieu of the \$125 course resources fee, learners may elect to personally purchase all general education required materials.

Nightingale College Alumni Tuition Reduction

A tuition reduction of \$295 per semester credit will be applied to the accounts of the College's associate degree graduates at the time tuition is charged. The Nightingale College Alumni Tuition Reduction is not applicable to repeat coursework.

Estimated Total Program Cost

The estimated total program cost for a learner who holds an associate degree in nursing and transfers in sixty-eight (68) semester credits is \$31,250. Learners may use this [calculator](#) to get a customized estimate of the total program cost.

Curriculum Plan

General Education Requirements

A combination of forty-eight (48) semester credits of general education and elective courses is required for graduation. Up to twenty-one (21) of these semester credits may be completed during the RN-to-BSN Track. Applicants who do not have the minimum twenty-seven (27) combined general education and elective semester credits upon admission may extend their enrollment in the RN-to-BSN Track to fulfill all requirements. Learners may refer to the Admissions Requirements and Procedures section above for more information.

Physical & Life Sciences

A minimum of fifteen (15) semester credits is required in this category. The courses listed below as well as other college-level physical and life science courses are considered for the fulfillment of the GE requirements.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Course	Semester Credits
Human Anatomy with lab*	4
Human Physiology with lab*	4
Pathophysiology*	3-5
Microbiology with lab	3-5
Biology	3-5
Chemistry	3-5
Environmental Science	3-5
Physics	3-5

English & Communication Arts

A minimum of six (6) credits is required in this category.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Course	Semester Credits
Technical Writing*	3-5
English Composition*	3-5
Academic Writing	3-5
Communications	3-5

Mathematics

A minimum of six (6) credits is required in this category.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Course	Semester Credits
Statistics*	3-5
College Algebra*	3-5

Human Behavior & Social Sciences

A minimum of six (6) credits is required in this category.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

Course	Semester Credits
Psychology*	3-5
Human Growth & Development	3-5
Sociology	3-5

Abnormal Psychology	3-5
Cultural Anthropology	3-5
Organizational Behavior	3-5
Macroeconomics	3-5
United States History	3-5
Humanities & Fine Arts A minimum of six (6) credits is required in this category. Courses marked with an asterisk(*) are mandatory.	
Course	Semester Credits
Religion	3-5
Applied Ethics	3-5
Western Civilization	3-5
Other Electives A minimum of six (6) credits is required in this category. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.	
Course	Semester Credits
Nutrition*	3-5
Upper-Division Elective(s) A minimum of three (3) semester credits of any additional upper-division elective course(s) is required in this category.	
Upper-Division Elective	3-5
A combination of forty-eight (48) semester credits of general education and elective courses is required for graduation. Up to twenty-one (21) of these semester credits may be completed during RN-to-BSN Track. Applicants who do not have the minimum twenty-seven (27) combined general education and elective semester credits upon admission may extend their enrollment in the RN-to-BSN Track to fulfill all requirements. Refer to the Admissions Requirements and Procedures section above for more information. A combined total of forty-eight (48) general education (GE) and elective credits is required for the BSN Degree.	

Curriculum

The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education “provides a framework for preparing individuals as members of the discipline of nursing, reflecting expectations across the trajectory of nursing education and applied experience” (AACN, 2021). Evolving from separate Essentials for baccalaureate, graduate, and doctorate preparation, the 2021 Essentials provide a competency-based approach to nursing education in the setting of changes in higher education, learner expectations and a quickly changing healthcare system to prepare professional nurses of the future. Because professional nursing practice in all settings requires consideration of the individual, family, community, and population as client, these competencies are essential to baccalaureate nursing education offered by Nightingale College.

- **Domain 1:** Knowledge for Nursing Practice
- **Domain 2:** Person-Centered Care
- **Domain 3:** Population Health
- **Domain 4:** Scholarship for Nursing Discipline
- **Domain 5:** Quality and Safety
- **Domain 6:** Interprofessional Partnerships
- **Domain 7:** Systems-Based Practice
- **Domain 8:** Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
- **Domain 9:** Professionalism
- **Domain 10:** Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development

The RN-to-BSN Track consists of nine (9) upper-division nursing courses delivered over three (3) academic semesters and forty-eight (48) academic weeks, for a total of twenty-four (24) semester credits. There are three hundred sixty (360) didactic contact hours total. The RN-to-BSN Track does not have any experiential learning contact hours assigned. However, the Track requires the completion of community- and employer-based learning projects. The Curriculum Plan table presented below represents a Program Plan for learners who transfer in twenty-seven (27) general education semester credits.

GE Breadth Area	Number of Semester Credits Transferred In
Physical & Life Sciences	15*
English & Communication Arts	3
Mathematics	3
General Electives**	6

*Science credits include human anatomy, human physiology, and pathophysiology.

**Depending on a learner's state of residence, SCI 251 and SCI 131 may need to be taken as elective courses due to specific State Board of Nursing requirements.

The RN-to-BSN Track is a full-distance program option where all didactic instruction is delivered via asynchronous online learning modalities. For learner residency and course delivery modalities definitions, see the [Learner Residency and Course Delivery Modalities](#) section of this Catalog. A sample curriculum layout is presented in the table below.

Sample Curriculum Plan

RN-to-BSN Track Sample Curriculum Plan

Course Number	Course Name	Delivery Modality	Semester Credits	Didactic Learning			Remote	Experiential Learning				Total
				CBT	ISBP	VCBP		ISB	VCBC	DFC	IP	
MAT 220		Distance	3	45								45
ENG 311		Distance	3	45								45
COM 301 ¹		Distance	3	45								45
BSN 235		Distance	3	45								45
BSN 355		Distance	1	15								15
BSN 435		Distance	3	45								45
Total			16	240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240
HUM 301 ²		Distance	3	45								45
SOC 220 ³		Distance	3	45								45
BSN 325 ⁴		Blended	4	52.5							22.5	75
BSN 375		Distance	2	30								30
BSN 425		Distance	3	45								45
Total			15	217.5							22.5	240
ANT 300 ³		Distance	3	45								45
HUM 110 ²		Distance	3	45								45
BSN 445		Distance	3	45								45
BSN 465		Distance	3	45								45

				CBT	ISBP	VCBP	ISB	VCBC	DFC	IP	AFE	
BSN 485 ⁴		Blended		15							45	60
Total			14	195							45	240
Total Program			45	652.5							67.5	720
Nursing Courses Total			24									
General Education			21									
RN-to-BSN Track Total			45	652.5							67.5	620
BSN Degree Nursing Courses			72									
BSN General Education			48									
BSN Degree Total			120									

Pre-Dispute Arbitration and Class Action Waiver Disclosure

Nightingale College seeks to resolve disputes or claims between any learner and the College in an efficient, cost-effective, and timely manner. A learner who enrolls at Nightingale College agrees, as a condition of their enrollment, to resolve any dispute through mandatory arbitration that shall not be adjudicated as a class action or a consolidated class arbitration proceeding. However, the College cannot require a learner loan borrower to participate in arbitration or any internal dispute resolution process offered by the institution prior to filing a borrower defense to repayment application with the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e); the College cannot, in any way, require learners to limit, relinquish, or waive their ability to pursue filing a borrower defense claim, pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e) at any time; and any arbitration, required by a pre-dispute arbitration agreement, tolls the limitations period for filing a borrower defense to repayment application pursuant to 34 CFR 685.206(e)(6)(ii).