

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF BACCALAUREATE & GRADUATE NURSING  
ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION  
R.N. STUDENTS

**Admission and Advisement**

Registered Nurse students apply for admission to the University in the same manner as other transfer students (see Transfers From other Colleges and Universities or Other Nursing Programs section in this handbook). Students applying for admission to the University must have official copies of all non-EKU transcripts sent to the Admissions Office as part of the admissions process. R.N. Evaluation of all transfer courses for equivalency with required major, support, or pre-requisite courses must be completed before the student undertakes course work in the curriculum. The student should also submit evidence of the required current free and unrestricted Kentucky Registered Nursing licensure. Advisors are responsible for helping the student to plan a course of study which will permit the student to successfully complete the baccalaureate nursing program in the most expeditious manner. Outreach students may contact these advisors through the department or the extended campus centers.

Students may qualify academically for full-time or part-time status. Changes do occur in the curriculum. Students are responsible for maintaining contact with their advisors and keeping informed on changes.

**Curriculum**

Registered Nurse students, like all other baccalaureate nursing students, must successfully complete a minimum of 128 hours for graduation. Many of these hours can be transferred from other academic institutions. In addition, students can earn academic credit through extension courses, correspondence courses, Kentucky Virtual University courses, Kentucky Educational Television (KET) programs and/or credit by examinations. Advisors will provide additional information on any of these methods of earning credit hours. All support course and nursing major courses must be completed with a grade equivalent of 2.0 or better.

**Completing the Nursing Major**

Before entering the nursing sequence the R.N. student must have completed the Associate Degree (or 3 year diploma program), and have a current free and unrestricted Kentucky R.N. license. Registered Nurse students in the junior year complete NSC 381 (Perspectives in Professional Nursing I) and NSC 385 (Perspectives in Professional Nursing II).

Completion of STA 215 or an approved substitute is a prerequisite to enrollment in NSC 390 (Nursing Research). NSC 340 (Health Assessment) NSC 390 may be taken in the summer before, at the same time as, or the summer after the senior clinical nursing courses, as long as pre-requisites are met (see Course Offering Schedule). The senior clinical sequence begins with enrollment in NSC 486 (Public Health Nursing) and NSC 440 (Leadership and Management). During the second semester of the senior year, R.N. students complete a second clinical course, NSC 442 (Complex Client Health Care) and also complete NSC 445 (RN Professional Role Transitions). **Students entering the program are required to submit evidence of current free and unrestricted Kentucky Registered Nurse license and must maintain a current, free, and unrestricted license while enrolled in the program. For students who have completed most or all general education requirements, an accelerated plan is available to complete the nursing major courses in one year if full time.**

Registered Nurse students are required to complete all University requirements for graduation, including general education requirements. Specific requirements are listed in the University catalog. In order to receive a degree, all students must pay the required fee and submit an application for graduation to the Office of the Dean of the College of Health Sciences. **Students completing requirements for graduation in December should apply for graduation before the end of the preceding April. May and August graduates should apply by the end of the preceding October.**

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**Diploma Program Prepared Registered Nurses**

Registered Nurses with a diploma instead of an Associate's Degree can also transfer courses and receive college credit for previous work. Individualized evaluation and specific information can be obtained through ECU's Admissions' Office and the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing.

**Course Offering Schedule**

All course offerings depend upon student enrollment as well as faculty and clinical availability. To increase accessibility for Registered Nursing students, the R.N. bridge courses (NSC 381) and NSC 385) and the other required upper division nursing courses for R.N. students are usually offered in the evenings through distance learning. Clinical experiences for the senior clinical courses (NSC 486 and 442) are individualized for R.N. Students. Students' advisors can provide specific information on course scheduling.

**Credit for Upper Division NSC Courses**

R.N. student are required to complete NSC 381, NSC 385, NSC 340, NSC 390, NSC 440, NSC 486, NSC 442, and NSC 445.

Upon successful completion of NSC 385, R.N. students will receive credit for 19 additional upper division nursing hours (NSC 380, 386, and NSC 484).

**Application for Readmission**

If an RN-BSN student fails any Nursing course, that student must go through the Department of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing' Admissions/Readmissions Committee prior to registering for the next nursing course. Please see the section the Baccalaureate Student Handbook which provides specific details on this policy and obtain an application packet from the BSN Office.

(Revised Fall 2009)