NURSING (MSN)

Master of Science in Nursing
Unit: School of Nursing (http://louisville.edu/nursing) (GN)
Program Website (https://louisville.edu/nursing/academics/mepn-program/mepn)
Academic Plan Code(s): NURSMSN

Program Information

The Master’s Entry into Professional Nursing (MEPN) is designed for individuals with a baccalaureate degree in another area who want to pursue a career in nursing. The program provides the student with a general foundation in nursing with additional skills in the application of evidence based practice and leadership. Upon completion of the program, the student receives both Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing Degrees.

The University of Louisville School of Nursing is an essential partner of a research intensive academic health science center in a nationally recognized university serving a metropolitan community. The School of Nursing is a community in which faculty, staff and students collaborate to promote excellence in the profession of nursing. This is accomplished through research and scholarship that inform undergraduate and graduate education, support evidence-based practice and foster advances in nursing science.

Students are prepared to demonstrate excellence in nursing science, practice and leadership, in a variety of settings for the benefit of clients across the lifespan and to meet the evolving health care needs of society.

Program-Specific Academic Policies

Academic Progress in the Graduate Program

Satisfactory academic progress in a program involves maintaining the academic and professional standards expected in a particular discipline or program and may include a demonstration of the ability to function as a professional practitioner. Failure to maintain these standards or demonstrate such abilities may result in the termination of the student’s admission to the program.

Removal From Clinical

A student who is unsafe in a clinical area or research setting is subject to academic action including dismissal from the program.

Clinical Laboratory Fee

All graduate students enrolled in clinical programs in the School of Nursing will be charged instructional and clinical fees. These fees cover costs associated with clinical laboratory instruction, including clinical laboratory supplies, clinical equipment, support of simulation equipment, preceptor placement coordination and clinical visitations.

Course Offerings

Course offerings are subject to cancellation due to insufficient enrollment. Preceptorship/clinical experiences are scheduled on any day of the week based on availability of clinical sites and preceptors. Limited evening and weekend preceptorship experiences may be available. Preceptorship experiences throughout the state are also possible but not guaranteed. The office of the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs oversees student placement with preceptors, in collaboration with the Clinical Placement Coordinator and course faculty.

Late Complete Withdrawal after the Deadline

Upon proper documentation of extreme circumstances, decision for approval of late complete withdrawals may be made by the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs. Late complete withdrawals are those requested after the deadline has passed and before the instructor has assigned a grade.

Students may not withdraw from any course after the published deadline in the online Schedule of Courses without the approval of the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs. This is granted only because of illness or conditions beyond the student’s control. The grade report would reflect a grade of W.

Student Health Services Requirements

Each student must comply with the current student health policy of the Health Sciences Center. All costs associated with compliance are the responsibility of the student. Because of contractual agreements with agencies and the changing needs of society, this policy is updated periodically. The current health policies are listed below. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain his/her health in order to ensure safety for other students and clients. If faculty or the agency deems that any student creates a health risk, the student may be excluded from the clinical experience and/or the program.

Note: Health policies are constantly under review by faculty based on CDC changing requirements and community expectations. Students will be notified of any policy changes, and compliance will be required.

Clinical Requirements

Detailed information is provided at student orientations and is provided in the School of Nursing Student Handbook.

Repeating Nursing Courses

MSN students who receive a grade of C+ or below in a required program course at the University of Louisville must repeat the course. Students who receive more than one C+ or below in the required MSN curriculum will be dismissed from the program. Students are allowed to repeat a course on a space-available basis.

Probation and Dismissal

If the cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0, the student will be placed on academic probation for the next regular semester. If the cumulative grade point average is not raised to a minimum of 3.0 by the end of the probation semester, the student will be dismissed from the program. The dismissal will be reflected on the student’s transcript. If a student wishes to continue at the university, he/she must apply and be accepted to another unit in order to continue to enroll in classes.

Permission for Visiting Student Status at Another Institution

Students may apply for visiting student status should they wish to enroll in a nursing course at another institution while a student at the University of Louisville. If the course is being taken to apply toward the University of Louisville degree requirements, it is the student’s responsibility to check with OSS to confirm the equivalency of the course before they enroll. Students must provide OSS with the most recent copy of the course syllabus so that University of Louisville faculty can evaluate the course for equivalency. Once the equivalency status of the course has been determined, the applying student will be sent a letter of permission for visiting student status. Students are responsible for requesting that an
official transcript be sent to the Graduate School, Graduate Admissions, upon completion of any transfer work.

**Admissions Policies—MSN/School of Nursing**

Students may be admitted into the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program for the Master’s Entry into Professional Nursing (MEPN) for a summer term only. The Master’s Entry into Professional Nursing (MEPN) is a graduate program for entry into practice, not advanced practice.

The Master of Science in Nursing, Certificate in Health Professions Education, admits for a fall term only.

**Application Deadlines for Degree-Seeking Students**

- **Summer Semester for MSN/MEPN**: October 15
- **Fall Semester for MSN, with Certificate in Health Professions Education**: February 1

**Criteria for Admission to the Master of Science in Nursing**

A holistic review process is used when considering applications for admission to the master’s program. The holistic review considers multiple criteria for admissions, such as: the applicant's professional goals, academic capabilities, grade point averages, and quality of interview. The MEPN program also considers the number of completed prerequisite courses.

To be considered for admission to Degree Status, the following items must be submitted:

**To the Graduate School**

- Completed online University of Louisville Graduate Admissions Application (https://louisville.edu/graduate/apply), including an application fee.
- Official transcripts representing all college coursework with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. A bachelor's degree must be earned from a regionally accredited institution. Students in the health professions education concentration must have a bachelor of science in nursing from a regionally and CCNE, ACEN, or NLN accredited institution.
- Applicants who have attended a college or university outside the United States are also required to submit an evaluation of their transcript through World Education Services (WES) (http://wes.org) or Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) (http://ece.org). Please note that transcript evaluations can sometimes take several weeks.
- Two references from individuals who can speak to your academic and/or professional nursing capabilities and potential. Each person providing a reference for you must complete the University of Louisville, Graduate School, Graduate Admission recommendation form (http://louisville.edu/graduate/apply).
- Submit a goal statement, 500 words or less, explaining your reasons for seeking the program, including short and long term professional goals. Describe how past educational, work, and/or life experiences have prepared you for this next step in the career. Upload on the admission application.
- Resume, upload on the admission application. For MSN, Certificate program include your RN license number on your resume.
- Verification of licensure from the Board of Nursing required for the MSN, Certificate. Upload on the admission application.
- Proof of English Proficiency: International students for whom English is not their primary language must show English language proficiency by 1) demonstration of a degree awarded from an acceptable English language institution or 2) acceptable examinations: TOEFL; International English Language Testing System (IELTS); successful completion of the exit examination for the advanced level of the intensive English as a Second Language Program. Recommended test scores are available on the University International Student website.
- To the School of Nursing, Office of Student Services
  - Completed Legal Questionnaire (available at louisville.edu/nursing)
  - Criminal background check submitted through CertifiedBackground.com (http://certifiedbackground.org)
  - An interview with faculty may be required.

Students who do not meet admission requirements may contact the University of Louisville School of Nursing Office of Student Services for an advising appointment.

**Conditional Admission to MSN Degree Program**

Students who do not meet these admission requirements may be considered for admission in **conditional** status.

Applications will not be considered for Full or Conditional Degree status unless all application materials are available to the review committee by the application deadline.

**Criteria for Admission in Visiting Student Status to the Graduate Nursing Program**

Students admitted as visiting students are non-degree. Students admitted in non-degree status may not be eligible for some financial aid sources. Visiting students from other schools may apply each semester for non-degree status by submitting the following:

**To the Graduate School**

- Graduate Admissions Application including an application fee.
- A letter of good standing from student’s home school or transcripts from graduate school in which the student is currently enrolled verifying a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

**Important Note**: All applicants, regardless of their application status, are required to submit official transcripts for all college work completed. An application fee is required of all applicants regardless of where previous degrees were earned.

**The Master of Science in Nursing Curriculum**

The faculty have moved to decrease barriers, provide a climate responsive to individual student needs, and to move towards graduating the most well-prepared practitioners in the Kentuckiana area. With the University of Louisville mission directed toward research, teaching,
Nursing (MSN) and the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD.) In order to earn the MSN, students must complete the requirements for the Certificate in Health Professions Education (HPE).

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>LEAD 665</td>
<td>Foundations of Health Professions Education</td>
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<td>LEAD 675</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning in Health Professions</td>
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<td>or ELFH 675</td>
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<td>Instructional Strategies in Health Professions Education</td>
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<td>NURS 605</td>
<td>Theoretical Application for Practice</td>
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<td>Foundation Concepts of Evidence Based Practice</td>
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<td>Healthcare Systems and Economics</td>
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<td>NURS 652</td>
<td>Advanced Statistical Application</td>
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<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Culturally Diverse and Vulnerable Populations.</td>
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<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
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<td>Advanced Physical Assessment</td>
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<td>NURS 745</td>
<td>Health Information Technology</td>
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MSN, Certificate in Health Professions Education

The Master of Science in Nursing, Certificate in Health Professions Education degree program is a partnership between the School of