NURSING, B.S. (ACCELERATED)

Saint Louis University's accelerated B.S.N. option (ABSN) is an intensive three-semester, 12-month Bachelor of Science in Nursing program designed for students who already have a bachelor's degree in another area of study. However, undergraduate students who have at least 77 credits may be eligible to apply for the junior-entry accelerated option.

Saint Louis University School of Nursing created the Accelerated BSN in 1971, which was the first and only program of its kind in the United States. The School of Nursing developed the program to specifically meet the growing demands of students who choose to pursue nursing after completing their undergraduate study.

Saint Louis University's School of Nursing offers students state-of-the-art classrooms and clinical labs, excellent clinical experiences in a wide variety of settings and a low student-to-faculty ratio for all clinical courses. The ABSN program begins once a year in May with a summer session and extends through two additional semesters. Course requirements total 53 credits and include practice lab and clinical work. In 2018, our NCLEX pass rate was 91.3 percent. Students who are reviewing our ABSN program may also consider our direct entry 21-month accelerated MSN program (http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/nursing/nursing-ms-nurse-practitioner).

Due to the accelerated pace of the ABSN program, it is strongly recommended that students do not work while attending school.

Curriculum Overview

Our one-year bachelor of science in nursing program has the same outcomes as the traditional four-year option. It incorporates an integrated approach to learning, early synthesis and application of concepts and concentration on the nursing major.

Careers

Nursing graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN, an exam that measures the competencies needed to perform as an effective entry-level nurse. The School of Nursing expects its graduates to be successfully hired after graduation or accepted into graduate programs.

Admission Requirements

Saint Louis University School of Nursing adheres to the principles of a holistic admission process in which selection criteria are broad-based and linked to our University's and School's mission and goals. While we do consider academic metrics we also look at applicant experiences, attributes, potential for success, and how applicants may contribute to the school's learning environment and to the profession.

Students with a Non-Nursing Baccalaureate or Higher Degree

To be considered for admission, you must have completed a baccalaureate or higher degree at a regionally accredited (p. 2) U.S. college or university, or an international equivalent, with a grade point average of 3.20 on a 4.00 system in previous college work. All international coursework must be evaluated by an approved evaluation agency (WES or ECE).

Prior to beginning the program, you must also have successfully completed the following general requirements or comparable courses with a grade of "C" or higher from a regionally accredited university, college or community college:

- Chemistry (3 credits)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology (6-8 credits)
- Microbiology (3 credits)
- Inferential and Descriptive Statistics (3 credits)
- Theology or Religion (3 credits)
- Ethics (3 credits)
- Human Growth and Development - Lifespan (3 credits)
- Social Behavioral Science (3 credits)

Contact Scott Ragsdale at sragsda2@slu.edu or 314-977-8995 for an unofficial transcript review.

Requirements for Undergraduate Non-Degreed Students (Junior Entry)

To be considered for admission, you must have completed a baccalaureate or higher degree at a regionally accredited (p. 2) U.S. college or university, or an international equivalent, with a grade point average of 3.20 on a 4.00 system in previous college work. All international coursework must be evaluated by an approved evaluation agency (WES or ECE).

You must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.20 on a 4.00 system in previous college work and at least 77 transferable credit hours from a regionally accredited (p. 2) university, college or community college (a maximum of 64 credit hours can be transferred from a community college.)

The 77 credit hours must include all courses necessary to meet Saint Louis University School of Nursing requirements. A minimum of 126 semester hours are required to graduate from the ABSN program. Prior to beginning the program, you must also have successfully completed the following general requirements or comparable courses with a grade of "C" or higher from a regionally accredited (p. 2) university, college or community college:

- Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research (3 credits)
- Literature (3 credits)
- History (3 credits)
- Fine Arts (3 credits)
- Philosophy (3 credits)
- Theology (3 credits)
- General Psychology (3 credits)
- Introduction to Sociology (3 credits)
- Chemistry (3 credits)*
- Human Anatomy and Physiology (6-8 credits)*
- Microbiology (3 credits)*
- Inferential and Descriptive Statistics (3 credits)
- Medical Ethics (3 credits)
- Human Growth and Development Across the Lifespan (3 credits)
- Elective (3 credits)

* Laboratory components are not required for science courses. Transcripts are evaluated on an individual basis; however, it is
recommended and may be required that all sciences are completed within the previous 10 years.

**What is "Regionally Accredited?"**

The six regional accrediting bodies are:

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSCHE)
- New England Association of Colleges and Schools (NEASC)
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC) (formerly known as the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools)
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NCCU)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

Per section 335.066 RSMo of the Missouri Nursing Practice Act: Completion of the nursing program does not guarantee eligibility to take the licensure examination.

**Application Process**

Applying for the accelerated BSN option requires careful planning to ensure that all admission requirements are met. You may experience a significant delay in processing if the application instructions are not followed exactly as listed. Although there is no official application deadline, we encourage you to complete the application process as soon as possible, as space is limited.

The application review process begins in October and applications are reviewed monthly until the program is full. Decisions for junior entry students begins in late-December/early-January, once your unofficial fall transcript is on file with Christina Butler at xtina.butler@slu.edu.

Please follow the steps outlined below:

- Complete the online transfer application.
- Submit your official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended in sealed envelopes to:
  
  **Saint Louis University Office of Admission**
  
  DuBourg Hall, Room 119
  
  One North Grand Blvd.
  
  St. Louis, MO 63103

Current or past Saint Louis University students may not need to request an official transcript. Please note this when submitting your personal statement or contact Christina Butler at xtina.butler@slu.edu so your transcript can be added to your file.

- If you have completed college credits outside of the U.S., you must submit an official evaluated transcript from an accredited credential evaluation service (WES or ECE).
- Submit two recommendation forms. Have the letter writer send the letter of recommendation to Christina Butler at xtina.butler@slu.edu. The subject line should read, "Letter of Recommendation for (student’s name)" and the letter should be included as an attachment.
- A goal statement that 1) describes your community service or life experiences that have prepared you for a career in nursing; and 2) outlines how your individual values and beliefs will help you contribute to the field of nursing. The statement should be one-to-two pages and double spaced. Email the personal statement to Christina Butler at Xtna.Butler@slu.edu. The subject line should read, "Personal Statement for (student’s name)" and the document should be included as an attachment. If you are a junior-entry applicant, note it at the top of your personal statement.

A review of your official transcripts will be conducted when every item above has been received. Notification of your eligibility for consideration for admission to the accelerated BSN program will be sent to you from the School of Nursing’s Office of Baccalaureate Admissions. This correspondence will include a list of any required course prerequisites that you must complete prior to full admission to the accelerated option.

For more information, contact Scott Ragsdale, recruitment specialist, at 314-977-8995 or slunurse@slu.edu.

**Scholarships and Financial Aid**

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at http://finaid.slu.edu.

**Accreditation**

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice at Saint Louis University School of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation) and approved by the Missouri State Board of Nursing. To achieve its educational objectives, the School uses the hospitals within the Health Sciences Center and many health care organizations of greater St. Louis.

The School of Nursing is fully approved by the Missouri State Board of Nursing.

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Graduates will be able to relate to people as unique individuals possessing worth, dignity, and potential for self-actualization.
2. Graduates will be able to synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge from the humanities and natural, social, behavioral, and nursing sciences to provide safe, effective nursing care.
3. Graduates will be able to establish relationships based on understanding of self and others, and of interpersonal and group dynamics.
4. Graduates will be able to practice in a variety of settings with clients of all ages and diverse sociocultural backgrounds.
5. Graduates will be able to utilize critical thinking and problem solving skills in application of the nursing process, to achieve optimal client adaptation.
6. Graduates will be able to assist clients, at any point on the health-illness continuum, to mobilize and use adaptive resources for promotion, maintenance and restoration of health.
7. Graduates will be able to collaborate with interprofessional colleagues, community representatives, and consumers to enhance health care.
8. Graduates will be able to apply evidence-based knowledge as the basis for safe, effective nursing practice.
9. Graduates will be able to apply the professional code of ethics and professional standards to clinical practice.
10. Graduates will be able to demonstrate personal and professional responsibility, accountability, and self-direction.
11. Graduates will be able to demonstrate leadership principles in professional and interprofessional practice.
12. Graduates will be able to demonstrate understanding of health care policy issues, trends and strategies as they influence accessibility, accountability and affordability in health care delivery.
13. Graduates will be able to utilize appropriate information and healthcare technologies to enhance the delivery of client care.

**Continuation Standards**
The School of Nursing requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50.

**Roadmap**
Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

**Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2500</td>
<td>Clinical Concepts in Nursing Practice</td>
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<td>NURS 2515</td>
<td>Health Promotion Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>NURS 3200</td>
<td>Health Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 2520</td>
<td>Foundations for Nursing Care</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3360</td>
<td>Pathophysiology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3330</td>
<td>Pharmacotherapeutics for Nursing Care</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>NURS 3565</td>
<td>Adult/Older Adult Health I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3575</td>
<td>Adult/Older Adult Health II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>NURS 2705</td>
<td>Interprofessional Issues in Evidence Based Care</td>
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<td>NURS 4105</td>
<td>Leadership and Management</td>
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<td>NURS 3375</td>
<td>Essentials Of Therapeutic Nutrition: A Nursing Approach</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3435</td>
<td>Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing or Public Health Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3445</td>
<td>Public Health Nursing or Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing</td>
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<td>NURS 3485</td>
<td>Maternal/Neonatal Nursing</td>
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<td>NURS 3495</td>
<td>Child Health Nursing</td>
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<td>NURS 4305</td>
<td>Complex Care Theory</td>
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<td>NURS 4355</td>
<td>Complex Care Practicum</td>
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<td>NURS 4405</td>
<td>Synthesis of Nursing Concepts</td>
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**Program Notes**
The ABSN program begins in the summer term. With the exception of NURS 2500 Clinical Concepts in Nursing Practice (3 cr), NURS 3200 Health Assessment (0-3 cr), NURS 3330 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nursing Care (3 cr), NURS 3360 Pathophysiology (4 cr), NURS 3435 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing (0.4 cr) and NURS 3445 Public Health Nursing (0.4 cr), courses are offered only once per year.

**Second Degree Students**
Previous completion of a prior baccalaureate or higher degree at a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university, or an internationally equivalent degree, GPA 3.20 or higher on a 4.00 system in previous college work, completion of the following pre-requisite courses:

- Chemistry (3 credits)
- Human anatomy and physiology (6-8 credits)
- Microbiology (3 credits)
- Theology (3 credits)
- Ethics (3 credits)
- Human growth and development (3 credits)
- Social behavior science (3 credits)
- Inferential and descriptive statistics (3 credits)
Undergraduate Non-Degreed Students (Junior Entry)
Completion of at 77 transferrable credits from a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university or community college (a maximum of 64 credits can transferred from a community college) with a GPA of 3.20 on a 4.00 system in previous college work, completion of the following pre-requisite courses:

- Advanced strategies of rhetoric and research (3 credits)
- Literature (3 credits),
- Fine arts (3 credits),
- Philosophy (3 credits),
- Theology (3 credits),
- Ethics (3 credits),
- General psychology (3 credits)
- Intro to sociology (3 credits)
- Chemistry (3 credits)
- Human anatomy and physiology (6-8 credits)
- Microbiology (3 credits human growth and development (3 credits)
- Inferential and descriptive statistics (3 credits)

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (http://www.slu.edu/admission)

For additional admission questions please contact,
Scott Ragsdale
Recruitment Specialist
SLU School of Nursing
(314) 977-8995
slunurse@slu.edu