

NURSING (B.S.)

Nursing is an interdisciplinary program grounded in the liberal arts. Nursing majors are undergraduate students who do not have an RN license. First year students are admitted to the College as Nursing majors and progress to upper level nursing courses in the junior year if all progress criteria are met. The nursing program is designed to ensure that graduates possess the knowledge, skill, and attitude reflecting the standards of the State of New Hampshire Board of Nursing (BON) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The program of study in nursing, with the identified course learning outcomes, expectations, and cumulative semester competencies is designed to reflect the academic integrity expectations of all Keene State College programs while also achieving the requirements of state and national accreditation for our nursing graduates.

Fees

Additional expenses associated with the Nursing program include payment for immunizations, differential fees for clinical courses, travel expenses to and from off-campus clinical assignments, uniforms, professional memberships, and occasional conferences and workshops.

Admission and Progression Criteria Nursing Major

Because of the professional nature of nursing and its responsibility to the public, the Nursing program has established the following admissions, progression, and graduation standards for student selection and progression toward earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Admitted Freshmen - Declared Nursing Majors

First-year students/freshmen are conditionally admitted to the College as Nursing majors. Each cohort is limited to 32 students. Students in the Nursing major are advised and assisted with program planning throughout the program of study by nursing faculty. Nursing graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensing Exam for RNs (NCLEX-RN) upon program completion of the Nursing major and graduation requirements.

Admission Criteria

Entering first-year students must meet minimum entry requirements of the college and have a minimum high school GPA of 3.25. Admission to the Nursing major guarantees progression to clinical nursing course sequence starting in junior level if at the end of the sophomore spring semester year, the student has met the following progress criteria.

Progression Criteria

- Attending a mandatory nursing orientation meeting in the spring of their sophomore year.
- Successful completion of the ISP and Allied Discipline requirements by the end of the sophomore year.
- Successful completion of the nursing Basic Math Competency requirement.
- A minimum overall GPA of 3.4 to progress to junior level nursing courses.
- A minimum course grade of 3.0 (B) and a cumulative GPA of 3.25 in the following required science classes: INCHEM-111 General Chemistry, BIO-230 Human Anat & Phys I, BIO-332 Human Anat & Phys II, and HLSC-240 Microbio for Health Profession.

Additional Expectations and Responsibilities for Nursing Students

- Each semester, students must successfully (90%) complete the Nursing Clinical Calculation Competency assessment test as one of the required components for administering medications to clients in clinical.
- Students must earn a 3.0 (B) or higher in each required nursing (NURS) course.
- Students must achieve a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 to earn the bachelor of science degree in nursing (BSN).
- Students are responsible for the purchase of nursing apparel, professional memberships, ATI Nursing Education materials and expenses associated with required background checks and drug testing prior to clinical placement.
- Students must submit a satisfactory background check with results indicating no findings that could compromise clinical placement eligibility.
- Students must provide proof of immunization prior to clinical placement. Immunizations include: 2-step Tb, Varicella, MMR, Hepatitis B series (HEPVAC). HEPVAC requires that the series start around the time of application submission to ensure the six-month series is entirely completed before clinical practice begins.
- Students must provide proof of certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for health care providers at the point of application and must maintain certification until after graduation.
- Travel outside of the Keene area is required for clinical experiences, and students are responsible for their own transportation.

Non-Nursing Majors (Internal or External Transfer Students)

Each cohort of nursing majors is limited to a maximum of 32 students; a limited number of openings for transfer students may occur. Should openings be available, individual non-nursing major students may apply to become Nursing majors.

Application to the Nursing major for Non-Nursing majors (internal transfers) and transfer students from other institutions (external transfers) can occur at the end of the freshman year, but must be started prior to the beginning of spring semester sophomore level.

Admission Criteria

- Students transferring from other institutions must apply to the College and be accepted.
- All interested students must contact the Nursing program director by email at nursing@keene.edu.
- Transfer students must successfully complete all the ISP and Allied Discipline requirements by the end of the sophomore year or request special consideration to complete progression requirements during the summer prior to junior year.
- Successful completion of the nursing Basic Math Competency requirement. See Nursing Program Student Handbook at www.keene.edu/nursing (<http://www.keene.edu/nursing/>).
- A minimum overall GPA of 3.4.
- A minimum course grade of 3.0 (B) and a cumulative GPA of 3.25 in the following required science classes: INCHEM-111 General Chemistry, BIO-230 Human Anat & Phys I, BIO-332 Human Anat & Phys II, HLSC-240 Microbio for Health Profession.
- Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) scoring at the "Proficient" level or above.
- Applicants can take the TEAS two (2) times in a calendar year with a minimum of 90 days between attempts. Applicants choosing to

retake the TEAS must retest on all sections of the test. The results from only one test will be considered.

Progress to the junior level Nursing courses will be based on:

- the availability of open seats, and
- the applicant's cumulative GPA.

In the event two or more students have the same cumulative GPA, the tie will be broken based on:

- their cumulative GPAs in Science courses and/or
- the discretion of the Director of Nursing.

Integrative Studies Requirements

40 credits minimum

Code	Title	Credits	Completed
Major Requirements (100 credits)			
<i>Pre-Licensure Option</i>			
Allied Courses (20 Credits)			
MATH-141	Introductory Statistics	4	_____
INHLSC-175	Essentials of Nutrition Sci	4	_____
ISHLSC-285	Health in Society	4	_____
ISPSYC-312	Lifespan Psychology	4	_____
Foreign language course		4	_____
<i>Science Courses (16 Credits)</i>			
BIO-230	Human Anat & Phys I	4	_____
BIO-332	Human Anat & Phys II	4	_____
INCHEM-111	General Chemistry	4	_____
HLSC-240	Microbio for Health Profession	4	_____
<i>Pre-Licensure Courses (60 Credits)</i>			
NURS-101	Professional Nursing	2	_____
NURS-302	Fundamentals of Nursing	4	_____
NURS-303	Nursing Pharmacology I	2	_____
NURS-304	Clinical: Patient Cntr Care	4	_____
NURS-306	Pathophysiology for Nursing	2	_____
NURS-307	Evidence Based Clinical I	4	_____
NURS-308	Medical Surgical Nursing I	4	_____
NURS-309	Nursing Research I	2	_____

NURS-312	Health Promo & Assess	4	_____
NURS-314	Nursing Pharmacology II	2	_____
NURS-316	Psychosocial Nursing	4	_____
NURS-403	Evidence Based Practice II	4	_____
NURS-404	Nursing Leadership	4	_____
NURS-405	Nursing Research II	2	_____
NURS-406	Transition to Practice Clin	4	_____
NURS-407	Medical Surgical Nursing II	4	_____
NURS-408	NCLEX-RN Prep & Review	2	_____
NURS-409		4	_____
NURS-410	Medical Surgical Nursing III	2	_____
NURS-411	Parent Child Nursing Care	4	_____
Total Credits		100	_____

Electives

Select courses to reach a total of 120 credits for the degree.

Degree Requirements

120 credits

40 credits at the upper-level

Upon completion of the Nursing B.S. degree, student will:

- Incorporate perspectives derived from the sciences and the liberal arts to define nursing knowledge and develop clinical judgment.
- Develop respectful, therapeutic relationships with patients, families, and teams to provide individualized plans to achieve comprehensive person-centered care.
- Deliver equitable nursing care at the community and global level through advocating for health promotion, policy changes, and mitigation of population-based health risks.
- Apply nursing scholarship to identify problems, while utilizing research principles to implement evidence-based practice in an ethical and inclusive manner.
- Utilize quality improvement initiatives to create a just and inclusive culture of safety and minimize the risk of harm to patients and providers on the individual and systems levels.
- Intentional collaboration with interprofessional teams through open communication, prioritizing mutual respect, and shared decision-making to improve client outcomes.
- Coordinate integrative nursing care within evolving health care systems to provide high quality and equitable care.
- Utilize healthcare information and technology to improve communication, manage knowledge, mitigate errors, and support decision-making.

- Demonstrate accountability for nursing practice within established moral, legal, ethical, regulatory, and person-centered principles.
- Foster a commitment to self-care, advocacy, and lifelong learning to demonstrate resiliency and leadership qualities.