Pittsburg State University

Department of Nursing
RN-BSN
Program Guide
Welcome to the Department of Nursing at Pittsburg State University

The faculty, staff, and I would like to extend to you a warm welcome. We congratulate you on your decision to continue your education in nursing. Our Department of Nursing offers an excellent program of study that can help you attain your personal and professional goals. We are proud of our baccalaureate and master’s degree nursing programs, which are both approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036 (202) 887-6791. Our RN to BSN track is designed for the working adult. Classes are accessible both full-time and part-time offered through convenient scheduling and technology.

We wish you the very best throughout your education and career in nursing. Please let us know if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Mary Carol Pomatto, EdD, ARNP-CNS
Chair
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The Department of Nursing reserves the right to make changes and to correct booklet errors if necessary. Please check nursing’s website regularly for current booklets and current program changes.
General Information

The University

Pittsburg State University is one of the six Kansas universities governed by the Kansas Board of Regents. The University is a major academic institution serving approximately 7000 students.

Pittsburg State University was originally organized as the Auxiliary Manual Training School in 1903. It became a four year college in 1913 and was renamed in 1923 as the Kansas State Teacher's College. The Kansas Legislature changed the name of the college to Pittsburg State University in 1977. The University has continued to flourish and now offers numerous baccalaureate and graduate degrees.

Department of Nursing

The baccalaureate program in nursing was established in 1970, and 35 students were admitted in the Fall of 1971. Approximately 500 students are currently enrolled in the nursing major. All nursing students are advised by department faculty. The Master of Science in Nursing degree was established in the Fall of 1993 and prepares family nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. The focus for the graduate program is Family Health. The Department of Nursing is one of fourteen departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Accreditation

Pittsburg State University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission: A Commission of The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The nursing program is approved by the *Kansas State Board of Nursing and received accreditation by the *Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

*Kansas State Board of Nursing
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Rm. 1051
Topeka, KS 66612
Phone: 785-296-4929
Web Site: www.ksbn.org

*Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
One Dupont Circle, NW,
Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036-1120
Phone: 202-887-6791
Web Site: www.aacn.nche.edu
**Mission Statement**

The mission of the nursing curricula is to prepare graduates to demonstrate excellence in practice, to meet regulatory requirements for practice, to assume leadership roles and to recognize learning as a lifelong process.

The baccalaureate and graduate programs of the Department of Nursing reflect the university's mission of teaching, scholarship and service, with teaching/learning as the primary focus.

Members of the department engage in a wide range of scholarly, professional, practice and community service activities to meet local, regional and national needs for nursing and healthcare.

Recognizing the unique characteristics and needs of our diverse rural setting, the programs of the Department of Nursing prepare graduates to provide nursing care to individuals, families, and populations in a variety of settings.

The baccalaureate nursing curricula builds upon a foundation of the arts, sciences and humanities. The Master's curriculum builds upon the competencies of baccalaureate graduates and focuses on advanced nursing roles.

**Vision Statement**

The vision of the Department of Nursing is to assume a leadership role, in collaboration with area health care and educational institutions, in providing baccalaureate nursing education to prelicensure students and degree completion registered nurses, as well as advance practice education to graduate students. To achieve the vision of a leadership role, the faculty members develop their expertise as educators and role models through life-long learning, practice, service, and scholarship.

Pittsburg State University is committed to a policy of educational equity. Accordingly, the University admits students, grants financial aid and scholarships, conducts all educational programs, activities, and employment practices without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, ancestry or disabilities. Any person having inquiries concerning the University compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 503, Section 504, and A.D.A. may contact the Director of Equal Opportunity, 218B Russ Hall, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS 66762, telephone (620) 235-4185 or (620) 235-4189. The Director of Equal Opportunity has been designated by the University to coordinate the institution’s compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 503, Section 504, and ADA. Website: [http://www.pittstate.edu/office/eoa](http://www.pittstate.edu/office/eoa)
Baccalaureate Nursing Program

Description of the Program

The baccalaureate program in nursing at Pittsburg State University prepares individuals for careers in professional nursing. The program leads to the degree, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, with an upper division clinical major in nursing. In addition, graduates have a sound academic foundation for graduate study.

Experience in the community in health agencies and with families is an integral part of PSU nursing courses.

Program Outcomes and Level Objectives

In order to develop the curricula according to program levels, the faculty has articulated expected program outcomes, and further identified behavioral objectives for each of the four levels of the program. The baccalaureate nursing curriculum is an upper division clinical major organized at three levels. The graduate program represents the fourth level. The program outcomes and level objectives are followed by explication of the major concepts that are evident in the program outcomes. The program prepares professional practitioners and advanced practice nurses who can:

1. Evaluate the nursing process and nursing theories to promote bio-psycho-social adaptation of persons.

   Level 1 Apply the nursing process which incorporates nursing theories and bio-psycho-social concepts to assist persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.

   Level 2 Develop nursing processes which incorporate nursing theories and bio-psycho-social concepts to promote adaptation of experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.

   Level 3 Formulate the nursing process which incorporates nursing theories and bio-psycho-social concepts with persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.

   Level 4 Integrate the nursing process, supported by a variety of theories, into advanced practice.
2. Evaluate selected theories and content from the sciences, humanities and nursing for application in nursing practice.

Level 1 Identify theories and content from the sciences, humanities and nursing in the care of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/ maladaptation.

Level 2 Analyze theories and content from the sciences, humanities and nursing in the care of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/ maladaptation.

Level 3 Integrate theories and content from the sciences, humanities and nursing relevant to the care of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/ maladaptation.

Level 4 Utilize advanced nursing standards and content from the sciences, humanities and nursing to promote health, prevent disease and provide quality care to persons/ families/communities with emphasis in rural settings.

3. Incorporate historical, political, social, economic, legal and ethical aspects of health care in professional nursing.

Level 1 Relate the impact of historical, political social, economic, legal and ethical aspects of health care in professional nursing.

Level 2 Examine historical, political, social, economic, legal and ethical aspects of healthcare in professional nursing.

Level 3 Integrate the utilization of historical, political, social, economic, legal and ethical aspects of health care in professional nursing.

Level 4 Contribute to the advancement of the nursing profession through the knowledge of historical, political, social, economic, legal, cultural and ethical aspects of health care.
4. Select teaching-learning principles that promote client adaptation.

   Level 1  Identify teaching-learning principles that promote client adaptation.
   Level 2  Utilize teaching-learning principles that promote adaptation of a person experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.
   Level 3  Design a plan for the effectiveness of teaching-learning principles to promote adaptation of clients experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.
   Level 4  Implement effective teaching-learning strategies designed to promote wellness of persons/families/communities.

5. Participate in meeting health needs of society by communicating, collaborating, coordinating, and consulting with citizens and colleagues.

   Level 1  Identify the role of each member of the health care team in meeting health needs of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.
   Level 2  Collaborate with members of the health care team to meet the health needs of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation.
   Level 3  Formulate nursing role with other health team members in meeting health needs of persons experiencing minor to major adaptation/maladaptation
   Level 4  Demonstrate competence in advanced practice roles in meeting health needs of all populations, with emphasis in rural settings.

10/03/2011
6. Value individual responsibility and accountability for nursing practice.

   Level 1  Examine individual responsibility and accountability for nursing practice.
   Level 2  Accept individual responsibility and accountability for nursing practice.
   Level 3  Maintain collective responsibility and accountability for nursing practice.
   Level 4  Evaluate individual advanced practice nurse responsibility and accountability as it contributes to the improvement of the delivery of health care and the establishment of health policy.

7. Evaluate principles of leadership in managing client care.

   Level 1  Review leadership principles that relate to client care.
   Level 2  Differentiate leadership principles that relate to client(s) care.
   Level 3  Formulate leadership principles to coordinate client(s) care.
   Level 4  Synthesize advanced practice nurse leadership and management principles in order to coordinate person/family care in all populations with emphasis in rural settings.

8. Participate in planned change to facilitate adaptation of persons.

   Level 1  Identify principles of planned change.
   Level 2  Coordinate resources to implement planned change.
   Level 3  Organize planned change to facilitate adaptation of persons.
   Level 4  Manage activities for planned change to facilitate adaptation of persons/families/communities.

10/03/2011
9. Question findings of research and information systems to improve nursing practice.

   Level 1   Identify sources of research and information systems relevant to nursing practice.
   Level 2   Examine findings of research and information systems relevant to the improvement of nursing practice.
   Level 3   Integrate findings of research and information systems for the improvement of nursing practice.
   Level 4   Contribute to advanced nursing through managing research and information systems.

10. Assess individual goals for continued personal and professional growth.

    Level 1   Identify goals for individual growth during the educational process.
    Level 2   Establish both long and short-term personal and professional goals.
    Level 3   Incorporate both long and short-term personal and professional goals.
    Level 4   Evaluate long-term and short-term personal and professional goals for advanced practice.
**Lower Division Courses**

RN-BSN students should complete the following general education courses and required education courses (#) for the nursing major prior to or concurrent with enrollment in the first upper division nursing courses. Specific courses that meet general education requirements are identified below and in the Pittsburg State University catalog.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Skills</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 English Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 299 Intro to Research Writing or ENGL 190 Honors English Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 207 Speech Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># MATH 110 College Algebra with Review or MATH 113 College Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># MATH 126 Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sciences</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 111 General Biology and BIOL 112 General Biology Lab</td>
<td>3 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># CHEM 105 Introductory Chemistry and # CHEM 106 Introductory Chemistry Lab</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or # CHEM 107 Chemistry for the Life Sciences and # CHEM 108 Chemistry for the Life Sciences Lab</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies</th>
<th>(Select One)</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political Studies</th>
<th>(Select One)</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 101 U.S. Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 324 Introduction to Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See page 19 for important information
Producing and Consuming  
(Select one from two of the following three categories)  

Economy  
- ECON 191 Issues in Today’s Economy ...........................................3  
- FCS 230 Consumer Education ......................................................3  

Technology  
- EET 247 Computer Programming for Electronic Systems ...............3  
- GT 190 Intro to Technological System ............................................2  
- GT 350 Technology and Civilization .............................................3  
- SSLS 330 Technology for the Classroom .......................................3  
- TM 350 Societal Influence of Technology .....................................3  
- TE 551 Technological Literacy for Educators ................................3  

Business  
- ACCTG 201 Financial Accounting ................................................3  
- MGMKT 101 Introduction to Business ...........................................3  
- CSIS 130 Computer Information Systems ......................................3  

Cultural Studies (Select one)  

- GEOG 106 World Regional Geography ........................................3  
- GEOG 300 Elements of Geography .............................................3  
- GEOG 304 Human Geography ....................................................3  
- WOMEN 399 Issues in Women’s Studies .....................................3  
- MLL 124 French Language and Culture I .....................................5  
- MLL 154 Spanish Language and Culture I ....................................5  
- MLL 184 Russian Language and Culture I ....................................5  
- MLL 194 Korean Language and Culture I .....................................5  

Health and Well Being  

- # PSYCH 155 General Psychology .................................................3  
- # FCS 203 Nutrition and Health  or .............................................3  
- # FCS 301 Nutrition .................................................................3  

10/03/2011
Fine Arts and Aesthetic Studies *(Select one)* 2-3

ART 155 Printmaking .................................................................3
ART 178 Introduction to the Visual Arts .....................................3
ART 188 The Designed World ......................................................3
ART 217 Crafts I ........................................................................3
ART 222 Jewelry Design I .........................................................3
ART 233 Drawing I .................................................................3
ART 244 Ceramics I ..................................................................3
ART 266 Sculpture I .................................................................3
ART 277 Painting I .................................................................3
ART 288 Western Art History I ..................................................3
ART 289 Western Art History II .................................................3
ART 311 Art Education ..............................................................3
COMM 105 Performance Appreciation .......................................3
COMM 205 Performance Studies ...............................................3
COMM 295 Theatre History ......................................................3
ENGL 250 Introduction to Creative Writing .................................3
HHP 151 Dance Appreciation ..................................................3
MUSIC 120 Music Appreciation ................................................3
  (Classical, Jazz, or World Music)
MUSIC 121 Introduction to Music Literature ..............................2
MUSIC 321 History of Music ......................................................3

Human Heritage 6
*(Select one from two of the following three categories)*

History
HIST 101 World History to 1500 .............................................3
HIST 102 World History from 1500 .........................................3
HIST 201 American History to 1865 ....................................3
HIST 202 American History from 1865 ..................................3
Literature

ENGL 113 General Literature ........................................................... 3
ENGL 114 General Literature (Genre) ............................................. 3
ENGL 116 General Literature (Theme) ............................................ 3
ENGL 315 Mythology ...................................................................... 3
ENGL 320 Literature and Film ......................................................... 3

Philosophy

PHIL 103 Introduction to Philosophy ............................................... 3
PHIL 105 Ethics ........................................................................... 3
PHIL 111 Ethics (Applied Emphasis) ............................................... 3
PHIL 112 Biomedical Ethics ............................................................. 3
PHIL 113 Business Ethics ................................................................. 3
PHIL 114 Environmental Ethics ....................................................... 3
PHIL 208 Logic and Critical Thinking ............................................. 3
PHIL 231 World Religions ............................................................... 3

Total General Education Hours ................................................. 49-54

Additional Nursing Prerequisites 13

# BIOL 257/258 Anatomy & Physiology/Lab .................................... 5
# BIOL 371/372 General Microbiology/Lab ..................................... 5
# PSYCH 263 Developmental Psychology or
# FCS 285 Lifespan Human Development ...................................... 3

Total Hours General Education & Nursing Prerequisites .......... 62-66

# These courses are nursing pre-requisites and must be completed prior
to enrollment in upper division nursing courses or concurrent with en-
rollment in the first upper division nursing courses.

10/03/2011
RN to BSN Courses

The Department of Nursing offers Registered Nurses the opportunity to achieve the baccalaureate degree in an accelerated time frame. RN-BSN students who have completed all university general education and additional required nursing courses for the nursing major can complete the upper division nursing courses in one year of full-time study. Completion of the RN-BSN courses in one year is NOT recommended for the registered nurse who is working full-time. Part-time study is an option for nurses who desire to complete the nursing courses over multiple years.

The RN-BSN courses are designed for the RN student whose long term career goals may extend beyond the bachelor’s degree. Upon completion of the courses, students will have completed 4-7 credit hours required in the Master of Science in Nursing Degree program at Pittsburg State University.

All RN-BSN courses are offered as hybrids (on-campus and online attendance required) or online. RN students do have the option of enrolling in on-campus only classes. N304 Transitions into Baccalaureate Nursing, a hybrid course, meets on-campus two times during the Fall Semester.

The N723/N724 Client/Family Theory and Practicum, hybrid courses, meet during the Fall Semester or Summer Semester one evening a week for the on-campus portion of the courses. It is required that students complete all course work for the BSN degree before taking the capstone course, N723/N724 Client/Family Theory and Practicum. A nursing elective course is required for the BSN degree. Many RNs choose to take the N712 Issues and Roles in Advanced Nursing Practice course for their upper division nursing elective. This course is offered in the Fall semester and also meets a requirement for the MSN degree.

Clinical requirements for the RN-BSN student are met through validation of current nursing practice as a registered nurse and through completion of integrated assignments and activities which meet the clinical objectives for the BSN degree.
It is strongly recommended that students desiring to proceed into the MSN program enroll, audit or engage in an in-depth self study review of Pathophysiology and Pharmacology before enrolling in the Advanced Pathophysiology or the Applied Pharmacology courses in the MSN program.

**Nursing Articulation in Kansas**

The PSU Nursing Program participates in the Kansas Statewide Articulation Plan to promote educational mobility for nurses. As a participant of this program, Registered Nurses (RNs) must validate learning in order to receive credit for these following BSN courses:

- NURS 300-Foundations of Nursing Practice
- NURS 302-Techniques for Nursing
- NURS 390-Pathophysiologic Bases of Nursing
- NURS 410-Nursing the Adult Medical Surgical Client
- NURS 440-Pharmacology in Nursing I
- NURS 441-Pharmacology in Nursing II
- NURS 452-Nursing the Childbearing Family
- NURS 462-Nursing the Child and Family
- NURS 457-Nursing the Child and the Childbearing Family Practicum
- NURS 470-Nursing the Psychiatric/Mental Health Client
- NURS 599-Internship in Nursing Practice.

Validation of 37 hours is accomplished by:

1. Achieving a passing score on the National Council's Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), as evidenced by a current license to practice as a Registered Nurse
2. Validation letter of 3 months of current RN nursing practice
3. Successful completion of NURS 304-Transitions into Baccalaureate Nursing Practice with a "C" or above
4. Successful completion of NURS 723-Client/Family Health: Theory, Assessment, Promotion and NURS 724-Client/Family Health: Practicum with a "C" or above

Nursing credits more than 10 years old must be validated by verifying 1,000 hours of RN nursing work experience in the last 3 years.
**Upper Division Courses**

RN to BSN courses are typically offered according to the following designated semesters.

**Fall**
- N265 Health Promotion Disease Prevention 2 hrs
- N304 Transitions into Baccalaureate Nursing 1 hr
- N320 Health Assessment 3 hrs
- N405 Health Alterations in Older Adults 3 hrs
- N482 Research in Nursing 2 hrs

**Spring**
- N502 Community Nursing 4 hrs
- N521 Leadership Roles and Management 3 hrs
  *Functions in Nursing*
- N525 Adv. Medical Surgical Nursing of the Adult Client 6 hrs

**Fall and Summer**
- *N723 Client/Family Health Theory, Assessment, Promotion* 2 hrs
- *N724 Client/Family Health: Practicum* 2 hrs
  *Indicates MSN Course*

**Fall, Spring, or Summer**
- Upper Division Nursing Elective 3-10 hrs
  
  **Note:** Each course may not be offered every semester.

**Nursing Credit Hours Taken at PSU** 31-38

**Validated Nursing Credit Hours** 37

Total Credit Hours for Upper Division Nursing Major 68-75

Total Credit Hours General Education and Nursing Prerequisites 62-66

Total Hours required for Graduation 130-141

10/03/2011
PSU Policy Pertaining to the Last Thirty Hours

A maximum of six semester hours of credit completed at another college or university may be applied on the last 30 hours prior to graduation.

Admission

Students seeking admission to the RN to BSN courses must make application for admission to the Department of Nursing ($25) and make application for admission to the University ($30). The application packet may be obtained from the Department of Nursing or you may print the forms from nursing’s website. The application, with submitted fees, is applicable for only one academic year. If you are considered an International Student, please contact the Admissions Office for university applications and university fee amounts.

RN to BSN students considering admission to the nursing program should send all official transcripts to the PSU Registrar for evaluation of previously earned credit. Following completion of the transcript evaluation, RN to BSN students should make an appointment for advisement for determination of a program plan of study with a member of the nursing department faculty by calling 620-235-4431.

Note RE: Biology Requirement—Students who have not completed BIOL 257/258 Anatomy and Physiology w/Lab and BIOL 371/372 Microbiology w/Lab will be required to take BIOL 111/112 General Biology w/Lab.
**Application Deadlines and Criteria**

RN to BSN applications are considered one time per year. Applications are due by March 15th of each calendar year for fall admission.

**Completed applications must include the following:**

1. Applicants are required to purchase a background check through CertifiedBackground.com. This is a National Background Check in your current state of residence. Also required is a signed consent for background check form for the nursing department, SRS Child Abuse check form, and if you are NOT a resident of Kansas you are required to complete a KBI background check form. The application packet specifies fee amounts to be remitted.

   **Applicants with a criminal history (includes diversions, misdemeanors, felonies) as well as arrests for which action is still pending will be evaluated on an individual basis, with no guarantee of admission. There are specific requirements for reporting criminal history on the application for admission.**

2. Three satisfactory professional references from academic advisors, employers or teachers are preferred (references from friends, relatives & ministers are not acceptable references).

3. Proof of current RN licensure.

4. Documentation of current immunization status.

5. Current CPR certification.

6. Documentation of a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. (all transcripts on file with the university)

7. Payment of all fees (application and fees are applicable for only one academic year).

8. A student who is born outside of the United States is required to submit proof that he or she has taken and passed the TOEFL iBT (Test of English as a Foreign Language-Internet Based Test). Minimum scores for the TOEFL iBT are as follows: Writing-20, Speaking-20; Reading-19; Listening-20, for a total of 79. Each area must meet the minimum requirement.

9. All students will participate in the standardized testing program that includes a critical thinking pre test and post test. Testing costs are $65.00, which are submitted with the application.

10. Three months current nursing practice, as a registered nurse, documented by letter from your employer.

11. A personal interview may be required.

10/03/2011
**Arrests and/or Convictions**

*The Pittsburg State University nursing program requires students to:*

1. Notify the Department of Nursing in writing of his or her arrest/conviction for any crime, misdemeanor, and/or felony not later than one class/clinical day after such arrest/conviction. Failure to notify the department within one day may result in dismissal.

2. Student may be suspended until the legal issue is resolved.

3. Continuance in the major will be individually evaluated and will be at the sole discretion of the Pittsburg State University Department of Nursing.

**Disciplinary Policy**

*The Pittsburg State University nursing program requires applicants and admitted clinical nursing students to:*

Notify the Department of Nursing in writing of any disciplinary action against ALL licenses, certifications and/or registrations as well as disciplinary action by a state board or governmental agency. (Some examples are): Driver’s License; Fishing License; Hunting License; Day Care License; Nursing Home Administrator License; Nursing License in Kansas or another state; CNA/CMA/HHA certification; School Teacher certification; Dishonorable discharge and/or other than honorable discharge from any branch of the military, disciplinary sanction from any branch of the military.

If disciplinary action has ever been taken against your driver’s license or other license, registration or certification, in Kansas or any other state, (for any reason), you are required to provide an explanatory letter regarding the disciplinary action (s) taken against your driver’s license or other license, registration or certification. Your letter should include the following for each disciplinary action; circumstances leading up to the disciplinary action; date of the disciplinary action; actual disciplinary action; current status of the disciplinary action. The applicant may be required to provide certified/dated copies of disciplinary document(s).

Failure to notify the department on the application or within one day after admission, if a new action since application, may result in dismissal or suspension until the legal issue is resolved. Continuance in the major will be individually evaluated and will be at the sole discretion of the Pittsburg State University Department of Nursing.

**NOTE:** The Kansas State Board of Nursing and other state nursing boards have specific procedures for reporting disciplinary action on nursing applications (initial, reinstatement and endorsement.) The procedures are accessible by contacting the respective boards.
**PLEASE NOTE:**

A grade of C or above is required in all of the following courses and their labs: Anatomy and Physiology, Chemistry, College Algebra, General Psychology, Developmental Psychology or Lifespan Human Development, Microbiology, Nutrition, and Introduction to Sociology. Any requests for exception must be accompanied by a written explanation to assist the admission committee in arriving at a fair decision.

**Time Limit to Complete Degree**

Nursing credits earned toward the upper division major in nursing at PSU which have been earned more than ten years prior to the time the candidate receives the degree cannot be counted to meet requirements for the degree unless validated by repeating coursework or by special examination.

**Progression/Graduation Requirements**

Students seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree must meet the general education course and grade requirements for all baccalaureate degrees conferred by Pittsburg State University. In addition, the student must complete the specific requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree.

A grade below "C" represents work of insufficient quality, not adequate to pursue subsequent courses. For this reason, a student making a "D" or "F" grade in a required course will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major or to graduate.

Statements of the course requirements and grading policy are a part of the course syllabus which is made available to each student at the beginning of the course.

Unprofessional and/or unethical behavior is considered grounds for immediate dismissal from the nursing program.

**Incomplete Policy**

RN to BSN students may not progress in nursing courses until all previous nursing course incompletes have been removed.

With an incomplete, zero credit is given (zero grade points per semester hour). An incomplete is temporarily recorded as the grade when a student is granted an extension of time because course work could not be completed for reasons beyond the student’s control. Credit is postponed and the course in not included in the student’s grade point average. An incomplete not removed within one semester, excluding summer session, shall be regarded as a failure and the grade will be changed to F and included in the computation of the student’s GPA.
Repeat of Nursing Courses

Upper division nursing courses resulting in a "C" grade could be repeated contingent upon space available in the course; however, preference will be given to the students taking the course for the first time. Repeat of "C" policy for RN-BSN nursing students will be consistent with the University policy.

Transfer Policy

Applications from RNs wishing to transfer to Pittsburg State University from another nationally accredited baccalaureate nursing program may be accepted by the department if the courses are determined to be equivalent. The following criteria will be considered for each transfer applicant.

1. Transfer students must meet admission requirements as stated previously in the RN to BSN booklet and University Catalog.
2. The existing progression policy of the Department of Nursing will be implemented with any unsatisfactory grades from the prior nursing program.
3. Each applicant will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine placement within the nursing program. Availability of space may also impact entry.
4. Unsatisfactory grades (D or F) from previous schools are transferred and counted as unsatisfactory grades at PSU.
5. A maximum of six semester hours of credit completed at another college or university may be applied on the last thirty hours prior to graduation.
6. Each admitted student will be expected to provide evidence of current CPR, health form, current registered nurse license and any other documented requirements.

Continuing Education for Nurses

The Department of Nursing is approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing as a long term provider of continuing education offerings. Programs are offered throughout the year that meet the mandatory continuing education requirements for relicensure of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses.

Elective Nursing Courses

Elective Nursing Courses are offered periodically and may include: Introduction to Public Health, Neonatal Resuscitation, Health Care Terminology/Drug Calculations, Readings in Nursing, Independent Study, Transcultural Health Care, Human Structure and Function Review, Issues and Roles in Advanced Nursing Practice (MSN course). Offerings may be added.
**Student Financial Assistance**

Nursing students seeking financial aid should contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance in Horace Mann. The Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a range of scholarships, grants and loans.

After admission to the nursing major, each student may apply on-line for the scholarships administered by the Department. The recipients are selected by a committee according to established criteria.

**Additional Information**

To request additional information for the following areas please contact:

- Registrar's Office (620) 235-4200 For Tuition and Fees
- Financial Assistance (620) 235-4240 For Financial Aid Questions

http://www.pittstate.edu/admit/transfer-equiv.html
For Transfer Equivalency Questions

**Pittsburg State University Nursing Website**

http://www.pittstate.edu/nurs

**For further information regarding the nursing program or to make an appointment. Please contact:**

Pittsburg State University
Department of Nursing
1701 S. Broadway
Pittsburg, KS 66762
Phone: (620) 235-4431/Fax: (620) 235-4449
E-mail: phtotman@pittstate.edu or jennpark@pittstate.edu

10/03/2011
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“Caring to make a healthy difference”

Nursing Department Motto