

*Irene Ransom Bradley  
School of Nursing*

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**



***2020-2021 BSN Program Guide***

9/25/2020

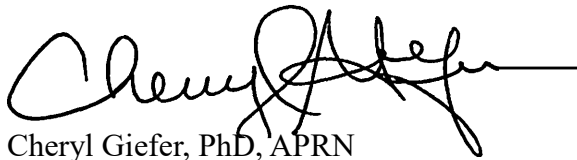
**Welcome to the  
Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing  
at  
Pittsburg State University**

The faculty, staff and I extend to you a warm welcome. Thank you for your interest in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. The Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing is located in McPherson Hall on the beautifully maintained PSU campus. Our university is large enough to offer a wide array of opportunities, yet small enough to allow attention to meeting individualized student teaching-learning needs and personalized professional goals.

School of Nursing faculty are available for advising nursing students, freshman through graduate levels. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you about your interest in a career as a professional nurse. Our baccalaureate degree in nursing at PSU is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington D.C. 20001, Phone: 202-463-6930 ([www.aacnnursing.org](http://www.aacnnursing.org)), and approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, RM.1051, Topeka, Kansas 66612, Phone:785-296-4929 ([www.ksbn.org](http://www.ksbn.org)).

Please call or email to schedule an appointment to learn more about PSU nursing.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Giefer, PhD, APRN  
Director and University Professor  
Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing

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## General Information

### History

The Kansas State Legislature, following recommendation from the Kansas Board of Regents in 1969, established the Department of Nursing at Pittsburg State University in the fall of 1970. The nursing program received funding from the State Legislature in the spring of 1970, providing for a chairperson and two faculty for the planning year 1970-71.

Many years of planning involving the University, Mt. Carmel Medical Center, and the community preceded the establishment of the baccalaureate nursing program at Pittsburg State University. Responding to trends in nursing education and changes in the health care delivery system, Mt. Carmel Medical Center agreed to discontinue its School of Nursing when the University was ready to have a baccalaureate program in nursing. Mt. Carmel began phasing out its diploma program in 1970 and its last class was graduated in 1972.

The program at Pittsburg State University was approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing in the spring of 1971 and 30 juniors were admitted to the upper division clinical nursing courses in the 1971 fall semester. The first class graduated in May 1973. At that time and until McPherson Nurse Education Building was completed, the Department was in a large, white, two-story house that was very homey, but somewhat crowded.

In 1974, under the direction of the first Chairman of the Department of Nursing, Cecilia Waggoner, federal grant monies for constructing a new nursing education building were approved. Matching funds donated by the McPherson family estate in the amount of \$400,000 were earmarked by Pittsburg State University to be used for construction of the educational facility. Construction of McPherson Hall began in the first part of 1976 and was completed during the summer of 1977. Dedication of the new building was held in September 1977, with Governor John Bennett in attendance.

McPherson Hall was designed and constructed with the objectives of the nursing program and the needs of the student in mind. Offices of all full-time faculty members are private. The reception area provides an attractive efficient atmosphere and workspace. The classrooms provide for groups of different sizes and the use of technology and varied instructional methods. A wide range of audio-visuials can be utilized because of the modern media capabilities. A health simulation center and learning resources center with professional staff is available. The Center has a family of simulators for student learning, and a student lounge with kitchen overlooks the university lake.

The first cohort of students in the Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) pre-licensure track were admitted in fall 1971 and graduated in May 1973. The first cohort of students in the RN to BSN completion track were admitted in 1973. The BSN program was initially accredited by the National League for Nursing Program Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs in 1975 and reaccredited in 1981, 1989, and 2000. The BSN program was initially accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in 2005 and reaccredited in 2010. The next evaluation will occur in 2020. The most recent comprehensive review of the BSN curricula and program outcomes occurred in 2011 and 2012. The review utilized gap analysis to identify congruence of the curricula with *The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional*

*Nursing Practice* [American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), 2008], course content mapping, and input from consultants, faculty, students, and stakeholders. The revised curricula and program outcomes were approved in February 2013 and implemented in fall 2015. The pre-licensure program admits 76 students annually in the fall and there are 40 students currently enrolled in the RN to BSN completion track.

The RN to BSN track may be viewed as a flexible alternative program plan. Although adjustments are made in the course content of the registered nurse student, the curricular, graduation, and course objectives are the same as those for the prelicensure student. To accommodate the needs of the registered nurse student, courses have been offered with flexible scheduling including ample use of distance technologies and online classes.

Since the mid-1980s, Pittsburg State University's Department of Nursing had expressed an interest in developing a Master of Science Degree in nursing program. This interest had been spurred by registered nursing students, area health care providers and agencies who indicated a need for nurses prepared at the master's level in nursing.

In the winter of 1990, with the encouragement of the Pittsburg State University administration, the nursing faculty met to discuss the feasibility of a master's degree program. A Master's Task Force Committee was formed to study the possibility of a master's program. Community leaders, college administration, nursing service, library personnel, nursing faculty, and alumni comprised the Master's Task Force Committee. In May 1990, funds for a feasibility study were obtained from Pittsburg State University and Dr. Lois Frels of Frels and Shoemaker Associates was contacted to conduct the study. The outcome of the feasibility was favorable; therefore, work on a proposal for a new Master of Science Degree in Nursing began.

In March of 1993 the Kansas Board of Regents approved the establishment of a Master of Science in Nursing in Family Health at Pittsburg State University. The first class was admitted in the fall of 1993 and Clinical Nurse Specialist graduates were further prepared in the areas of education, administration, or gerontology.

In June of 1995 the Family Nurse Practitioner curriculum for the Master of Science in Nursing began at Pittsburg State University in collaboration with the University of Kansas, Wichita State University, and Fort Hays State University. The Master of Science in Nursing program has been continuously approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing since its inception. In 2000, the graduate program earned national accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The current Master of Science in Nursing program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The Doctor of Nursing Practice program was granted accreditation for 5 years, extending to June 30, 2022. The accreditation action is effective as of October 17, 2016, which is the first day of the program's recent CCNE on-site evaluation.

As far back as 2009, PSU began planning for the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Starting in the fall of 2010, two different faculty were awarded sabbatical to begin the preliminary steps necessary to offer the first doctoral degree at Pittsburg State University. In 2011, a feasibility study was completed under the direction of Dr. Pomatto. A DNP task force, was formed by nursing faculty in 2012. In 2014, the PSU Irene Ransom Bradley School of

Nursing received approval from the Higher Learning Commission, the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas State Board of Nursing to transition the existing Master of Science in Nursing Program preparing Family Nurse Practitioners to the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. PSU began its MSN to DNP Track on June 1, 2015, and began its BSN to DNP Track June 1, 2016.

With the MSN/Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program transitioning from a MSN/FNP to a DNP/FNP program, the School of Nursing had a strong desire to continue offering a Master of Science in Nursing degree. For many years, PSU School of Nursing has helped prepared regional nurse educators with graduate academic preparation. A task force determined the most logical degree would be Master of Science in Nursing with Education Emphasis. This inter-disciplinary graduate program was developed with the PSU Department of Teaching and Leadership from the College of Education.

The task force prepared a curriculum and program outcomes in concert with *The Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing* (AACN, 2011) and with input from faculty, community stakeholders, advisory board, and consultant input from the University of Kansas School of Nursing administrators. The PSU School of Nursing, College of Arts and Sciences and Graduate Council, as well as Kansas State Board of Nursing and the Kansas Board of Regents approved the new program. Graduates of this program will be eligible to sit for the Nurse Educator Certification Examination, administered by the National League for Nursing's Academic Nurse Educator Certification Program. The first cohort of students began in fall 2017.

In July 2013 the Kansas Board of Regents along with Pittsburg State University officials elevated the Department of Nursing to the rank of School within the university, in recognition of the nursing program's growing size and complexity. In September 2013, Dr. Fay Bradley was recognized for a generous donation to the program. The School of Nursing (SON) acquired the name Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing in honor of Dr. Bradley's mother.

Pittsburg State University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission: A Commission of The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The baccalaureate degree in nursing, the master's degree in nursing, and the DNP program at Pittsburg State University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>) The baccalaureate, master's and DNP programs are approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing ([www.ksbn.org](http://www.ksbn.org)). The DNP program has been approved by the Kansas Board of Regents, Kansas State Board of Nursing and the Higher Learning Commission.

The current Director of the Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing is Cheryl Giefer. Mary Carol G. Pomatto served as Chair from 2006-2013 and Director from 2014 to 2016. Carolyn Keil served as Chair 1999-2005. Barbara Jean McClaskey served as Interim Chair 1998-1999 and 1988-1989; Jo-Ann Marrs served as Chair from 1989-1998; Roberta Thiry served as Chair from 1979-1988; Cecilia Waggoner, the first chair, served from 1970-1979.

<http://www.pittstate.edu/department/nursing/>

### **Mission Statement**

The **mission** of the Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing is to support the University in providing transformational experiences for our students and the community.

The School of Nursing prepares graduates to demonstrate excellence in practice, to meet regulatory requirements for practice, to assume leadership roles and to engage in learning as a lifelong process.

The programs of the School of Nursing reflect the university mission of teaching, scholarship and service, with teaching-learning as the primary focus. Recognizing the unique characteristics and needs of our diverse, primarily rural setting, the programs of the School of Nursing prepare graduates to provide nursing care to individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations in a variety of settings.

The baccalaureate nursing curriculum builds upon a foundation of the arts, sciences and humanities and provides a base for graduate study. The graduate curriculum builds upon the competencies of baccalaureate nursing and focuses on advanced nursing roles.

The **vision** of the Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing is to collaborate with health care systems, educational institutions, and communities-of-interest, while assuming the leadership role in pursuit of excellence in nursing through education of undergraduate and graduate students.

### **Core Values:**

**Student Focused** – Make students and their success the driving force behind decisions at all levels.

**Excellence** – Demand quality in all aspects of the college’s operation.

**By Doing Learn** – Provide academic programs and acceptance of a variety of ideas, beliefs and cultures.

**Diversity** – Support an understanding and acceptance of a variety of ideas, beliefs and cultures.

**Community** – Enhance the College’s strong relationship with the Pittsburg area community, region and beyond.

**Innovation** – Support creative and critical thinking that promotes informed intellectual risk taking.

**Sustainability** – Establish best practices relevant to resource conservation.



# **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 major in nursing. Graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as registered nurses. In addition, graduates have a sound academic foundation for graduate study.

Students are admitted to the upper division clinical nursing courses following satisfactory completion of approximately 62-65 semester hours of prerequisites which also meet the general education requirements of the University. The length of the program may be modified by transferring credits from another educational institution, full or part-time study, or through proficiency examination. Specific lower division prerequisites are listed in this program guide in the four year curriculum.

Teaching-learning experiences in the BSN program are consistent with the role expectations for the baccalaureate generalist nurse. Clinical practicum experiences are critical components of clinical courses with teaching-learning occurring in a variety of complex, dynamic settings including homes, schools, communities, acute care settings, clinics, web-based learning management communities and simulation centers, to name a few. Most clinical settings are within a thirty mile radius of the university. Students are responsible for their own transportation to clinical sites. Placements are limited in many settings; therefore, assignments to clinical agencies are determined by the school to achieve course objectives, utilize school resources efficiently, and to honor contracts with the various agencies.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing curriculum is consistent with the School of Nursing mission and philosophy. The metaparadigm of nursing including person, environment, health, and nursing and nursing practice provides the curricular frame. The nursing curriculum is offered as an upper division clinical nursing major with two tracks, the Pre-RN Licensure Track and the RN to BSN Track. The clinical nursing major builds upon the learning from the lower division nursing prerequisites and general education courses in the natural sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities. Students are introduced to the curricular frame with expected outcomes upon entry into the BSN program.

## **Program Outcomes**

1. Integrate theories and content from the sciences, arts, humanities, nursing and other disciplines to enhance the practice of nursing.
2. Demonstrate individual, organizational and system leadership in the provision of safe, high quality patient care.
3. Evaluate research to improve evidence-based nursing practice.
4. Demonstrate the application of a variety of information systems and patient care technologies.
5. Discuss healthcare policy, finance and regulatory processes as they impact individuals, families, groups, communities and populations.

6. Determine intraprofessional and interprofessional communication and collaboration for improving health outcomes.
7. Develop safety, health promotion, education and disease prevention strategies to optimize health across the lifespan in a variety of environments.
8. Model behaviors of personal integrity and professional values.
9. Illustrate competent baccalaureate generalist nursing practice.

## Four Year Curriculum

### Lower Division Prerequisites

The following general education courses and **nursing prerequisites (#)** or their equivalents from another college, must be completed prior to enrollment in the upper division nursing courses. Specific courses that meet general education requirements are identified in the Pittsburg State University Catalog. General education courses listed are from the 2019-2020 catalog. Students are advised to ensure their degree plan follows the correct catalog according to their enrollment.

	Credit Hours
<b>Core Elements .....</b>	<b>12</b>
ENGL 101 English Composition .....	3
ENGL 299 Intro to Research Writing .....	3
COMM 207 Speech Communication.....	3
<b>#MATH 110, 113 College Algebra, 150 Calculus .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Essential Studies.....</b>	<b>23-24</b>
Any D3 course from list below .....	3
Any D course from list below .....	3
<b>#SOC 100</b> Introductory to Sociology .....	<b>3</b>
Any D or E course from the list below.....	3
Any E course from the list below.....	3
BIOL 111/112 General Biology (F4).....	5
<b>Wellness Strategies</b>	
General Psychology (G).....	3
Any Wellness Strategies course from the list below.....	1
<b>UGS 150 Gorilla Gateway.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Elective (D, E, F or G)</b>	
<b>#FCS 203</b> Nutrition and Health.....	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Pitt State Pathway Credits.....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Additional Required Nursing Courses</b>	
<b>#CHEM 105/105</b> Introductory Chemistry/Lab.....	<b>4</b>
<b>#BIOL 257/258</b> Anatomy and Physiology.....	<b>5</b>
<b>#BIOL 371/372</b> Microbiology.....	<b>5</b>
<b>#PSYCH 263</b> Developmental Psychology.....	<b>3</b>
Total Additional Nursing Pre-Requisite Credits.....	17
Pitt State Pathway Credits.....	41
<b>Total Pitt State Pathway and Pre-Requisite Credits.....</b>	<b>58</b>

**# These courses are nursing pre-requisites and must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in upper division nursing courses.**

ESSENTIAL STUDIES (letter) / Companion Element (number)

23-24 hours minimum total

**The Human Experience/Diverse Perspectives**

D1	ENGL*113	General Literature	3
D1	ENGL*114	General Literature (Genre)	3
D1	ENGL*116	General Literature (Theme)	3
D1	ENGL*120	Literature and Film	3
D1	ENGL*250	Introduction to Creative Writing	3
D1	ENGL*315	Mythology	3
D1	ENGL*320	Literature and Film (upper level)	3

**The Human Experience/Non-Verbal & Creative Expression**

D3	ART*178	Introduction to Visual Arts	3
D3	ART*188	The Designed World	3
D3	ART*217	Crafts I	3
D3	ART*222	Jewelry Design I	3
D3	ART*233	Drawing I	3
D3	ART*244	Ceramics I	3
D3	ART*266	Sculpture I	3
D3	ART*277	Painting I	3
D3	ART*288	Introduction to Art History I	3
D3	ART*289	Introduction to Art History II	3
D3	ART*311	Art Education	3
D3	COMM*105	Performance Appreciation	3
D3	COMM*205	Performance Studies	3
D3	COMM*395	Theatre History	3
D3	HHP*151	Dance Appreciation	3
D3	MUSIC*120	Music Appreciation	3
D3	MUSIC*121	Introduction to Music Literature	3
D3	MUSIC*321	History of Music	3
D3	MUSIC*322	History of Music	3

**Human Systems / No Companion Elements**

E0	CIS*130	Computer Information Systems	3
E0	EDUC*261	Explorations in Education	3
E0	EET*247	Computer Programming for Electronics	3
E0	MECET*121	Engineering Graphics I	3
E0	MGT*101	Introduction to Business	3

### **Human Systems / Diverse Perspectives**

E1	ANTH*101	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3
E1	GEOG*106	World Regional Geography	3
E1	GEOG*300	Elements of Geography	3
E1	GEOG*304	Human Geography	3
E1	HIST*101	World History to 1500	3
E1	HIST*102	World History from 1500	3
E1	HIST*201	American History to 1865	3
E1	HIST*202	American History from 1865	3
E1	MFGET*405	Quality Control	3
E1	MLL*124	French Language & Culture 1	3
E1	MLL*154	Spanish Language and Culture I	3
E1	PHL*103	Introduction to Philosophy	3
E1	PHIL*231	World Religions	3
E1	POLS*103	Comparative Political Institutions	3
E1	SOC*100	Introduction to Sociology	3
E1	WGS*399	Global Women's Issues	3

### **Human Systems / Social Responsibility**

E2	ECON*191	Issues in Today's Economy	3
E2	ECON*200	Principles of Microeconomics	3
E2	ECON*201	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
E2	EDTH*330	Technology in the Classroom	3
E2	ETECH*502	Engineering Economy	3
E2	FCS*230	Consumer Ed/Personal Finances	3
E2	GT*190	Introduction to Technological Systems	2
E2	GT*350	Technology and Civilization	3
E2	NURS*303	Introduction to Public Health	3
E2	PHIL*105	Ethics	3
E2	PHIL*112	Biomedical Ethics	3

### **Human Systems / Social Responsibility (Cont.)**

E2	PHIL*113	Business Ethics	3
E2	PHIL*114	Environmental Ethics	3
E2	POLS*101	U.S. Politics	3
E2	WGS*200	Introduction to Women's Issues	3

### **Human Systems/Scientific Inquiry**

E4	MFGET*263	Manufacturing Methods I	2
E4	MFGET*268	Manufacturing Methods I Lab	1

### **Natural World/No Companion Element**

F0	BIOL*617	Environmental Health	3
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**Natural World/Scientific Inquiry**

F4	BIOL*111	General Biology	3
F4	BIOL*112	General Biology Lab	2
F4	BIOL*113	Environmental Life Science	4
F4	BIOL*211	Principles of Biology I	4
F4	CHEM*105	Introduction to Chemistry	3
F4	CHEM*215	General Chemistry I	3
F4	PHYS*100	College Physics I	4
F4	PHYS*104	Engineering Physics I	4
F4	PHYS*130	Elementary Physics Lab I	1
F4	PHYS*160	Physical Geology	3
F4	PHYS*165	Physical Geology Lab	1
F4	PHYS*166	Meteorology	3
F4	PHYS*167	Meteorology Lab	1
F4	PHYS*171	Physical Science	3
F4	PHYS*172	Physical Science Lab	1
F4	PHYS*175	Descriptive Astronomy	3
F4	PHYS*176	Astronomy Lab	1
F4	PHYS*375	Solar System Astronomy	3

**Wellness Strategies/No Companion Element**

G0	EXSCI*200	Introduction to Exercise Science	1
G0	FCS*203	Nutrition and Health	3
G0	HHP*150	Lifetime Fitness Concepts	1

**Wellness Strategies/Non-Verbal & Creative**

G3	DANCE*200	Dance	1
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**Wellness Strategies/Scientific Inquiry**

G4	PSYCH*155	General Psychology	3
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**Upper Division Nursing Theory and Clinical Courses**

	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>First Semester: Fall</b> .....	<b>16</b>
NURS 265 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.....	2
NURS 318 Nursing Fundamentals .....	5
NURS 320 Health Assessment .....	3
NURS 322 Professional Nursing .....	3
NURS 390 Pathophysiologic Bases of Nursing .....	3
<b>Second Semester: Spring</b> .....	<b>15-24</b>
*NURS 405 Gerontological Nursing .....	3
NURS 442 Pharmacology in Nursing.....	3
*NURS 452 Nursing the Childbearing Family.....	4
*NURS 462 Nursing the Child and Family .....	4
Upper division nursing elective .....	1-10
<b><u>Nursing Electives:</u></b>	
Introduction to Public Health, Neonatal Resuscitation, Healthcare Terminology/ Drug Calculation, Readings in Nursing, Independent Study, Transcultural Health Care, Human Structure/Function Review, Women’s Health Issues, Musculoskeletal Assessment of the Athlete.	
<b>Note: Each course may not be offered every semester.</b>	
<b>Third Semester: Fall</b> .....	<b>17</b>
*NURS 410 Nursing the Adult Medical-Surgical Client .....	7
*NURS 470 Nursing the Psychiatric/Mental Health Client .....	4
NURS 482 Evidence-Based Practice and Research.....	2
NURS 499 Concepts of Leadership in an Evolving Healthcare System .....	4
<i>*Students will take these courses either Spring or Fall Semester.</i>	
<b>Fourth Semester: Spring</b> .....	<b>14</b>
NURS 502 Community Health Nursing .....	5
NURS 525 Advanced Care of the Medical-Surgical Client .....	6
NURS 600 Transitions in Nursing Practice .....	2
NURS 601 Internship in Nursing Practice.....	1
<b>Total Credit Hours for Upper Division Major</b> .....	<b>62-71</b>
<b>Total Hours Required for Graduation</b> .....	<b>124-136</b>

## **Admission**

Students seeking admission to clinical nursing courses (junior year) must make application and submit a fee for admission to the School of Nursing in addition to the application fee for admission to the University. The application form may be obtained from the School of Nursing or you may print the application forms from the nursing website. The application, submitted with fees, is applicable for only one academic year. If you are considered an International Student, please contact the Admissions Office for university application and university fee amounts.

### **The application procedure includes:**

1. Completion of application packet to the School of Nursing by December 1st to be considered in the initial selection process. Current application is for fall 2020 enrollment in the nursing program.
2. Arrange for official transcripts from each college or university attended to be mailed **directly to** Pittsburg State University, Office of the Registrar, 1701 S. Broadway, Pittsburg, KS. 66762. Transcripts for all semesters except Fall 2019 must be received by December 1st or your application is considered **INCOMPLETE**. Transcripts from Fall 2019 semester should be received by the School of Nursing on or before January 22, 2020.
3. Completed applications are reviewed and approved by School of Nursing faculty.

**Selection for admission is based on the following:** For full admission status, School of Nursing standard (65.6%) must be met on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS). The ATI TEAS must be taken at PSU at applicant cost. One retake is acceptable. ATI TEAS test dates will be posted on the school website and in the application.

1. Completion of three semesters of college credit and evidence of ability to complete prerequisites prior to enrollment in the nursing major. Students will not be admitted to clinical courses unless all prerequisite courses have been completed with grades of A, B, or C.
2. Applicant must have taken three of the five required science and math courses by the December 1st application deadline. See #9 for a list of these five courses.
3. Three professional references from employers or teachers. One reference should be from an academic advisor (References from friends, relatives, and ministers or other religious leaders are not accepted).
4. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better. Priority will be given to those with higher grades if there are more qualified applicants than spaces available.
5. ACT or SAT exam results must be provided.
6. Documentation of current state certification as a nurse aide (CNA) is required prior to beginning clinical nursing courses. Successful completion of a 90 hour course and passage of a state test is required. Documentation of current licensure as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) will meet the CNA requirement.



7. Current CPR certification is required prior to beginning clinical courses. American Heart Association Health Care Providers Course or the American Red Cross Rescuer Course will meet the CPR requirement. Other CPR courses may meet School of Nursing requirements if they include Adult, Child, Infant, and AED training. Online courses taken **MUST INCLUDE** lecture course hours as well as a separate skills check off to fulfill the CPR requirement.
8. Documentation of current immunization status is required prior to beginning clinical courses.
9. A cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or better in MATH 110 College Algebra w/Review or MATH 113 College Algebra, or MATH 150 Calculus; BIOL 111/112 General Biology/Lab; CHEM 105/106 Introductory Chemistry/Lab or CHEM 107/108 Chemistry for the Life Sciences/Lab; BIOL 257/258 Anatomy and Physiology/Lab; and BIOL 371/372 General Microbiology/Lab.
10. A grade of C or above is required for nursing prerequisite courses. No more than two of these may be repeated to remove a “D” or “F” grade. Consideration will be given to individuals with three consecutive semesters of full-time study with all A, B, and C coursework.
11. Any requests for exception must be accompanied by a written explanation to assist the committee in arriving at a fair decision.
12. 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.**
13. Applicants are required to purchase a background check through CastleBranch. This is a National Background Check in your *permanent state of residence*. **Read thoroughly** and follow the directions on the CastleBranch student instruction form in your admission packet.
14. Also required is a signed consent for background check form for the School of Nursing.
15. If you are a permanent resident of any state other than Kansas you are required to have a Kansas Bureau of Investigation Background Check. **Complete** the attached Kansas Central Repository Certified Record Check Request Form and return it to Kansas Bureau of Investigation, ATTN: Central Repository, 1620 SW Tyler, Topeka, KS. 66612-1837 along with a check or money order for \$30.00 payable to KBI Record Check Fee Fund. If you have questions about completion of the Certified Record Check Request Form please call 620-235-4431.

**Applicants with a criminal history (includes conviction/diversion for any crime, misdemeanors and 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.**

Any student request for exception or waiver of any published admission requirement including but not limited to specific course requirements must be made in writing in formal letter and addressed to the Director of the School of Nursing. Written requests will only be accepted per registered mail. The request must be accompanied by a written explanation to assist in arriving at a fair decision. Granted or denied waivers or exceptions will be made in writing in formal letter and will be sent per registered mail. The School of Nursing assumes no responsibility to grant waivers or exceptions that are not made according to this protocol. Students are responsible for obtaining the information that they need in order to know, understand, and meet admission requirements.

**⇒ Applicants will be notified of conditional acceptance into the program mid-March.**

**⇒ Applicants who receive conditional acceptance into the program will be required to communicate acceptance of their space in the program by completing and returning, by the specified deadline, the “Hold My Space” form that is included with the Admit with Conditions letter the student applicant receives. At the time the “Hold My Space” form is due to be returned to the School of Nursing, partial payment of the BSN Standardized Testing Package cost is due. This is necessary so that the School of Nursing can order student testing packages used by each student throughout the program. Failure to submit the partial payment will result in forfeiture of one’s seat in the program. Students who have made the partial payment for the standardized testing package and then decide to not start the clinical nursing courses in the coming fall semester may apply for a refund prior to June 15.**

⇒ Applicants who are granted conditional acceptance into the program will be required to meet in person with a PSU Nursing advisor by the end of April. Failure to do so could result in the applicant forfeiting their seat.

The number of students admitted to the pre-licensure baccalaureate program in nursing is determined by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. When there are more qualified applicants than spaces available, an alternate list is prepared. If openings become available, the School of Nursing Director will admit individuals according to established guidelines. Completed application packets received after December 1 will be considered if spaces become available. During the summer prior to entering the nursing major, information will be communicated regarding requirements for uniforms, books, and other items. One or more orientation sessions will be required prior to starting classes.

**NOTE: After conditional admission to the School of Nursing, but prior to beginning the fall semester nursing classes, you will be required to submit to a State of Missouri fingerprint search in order to participate in clinical(s) in Missouri.**

### **Arrests and/or Convictions**

**The PSU nursing program requires students to:**

1. Notify the School of Nursing Director in writing of his or her arrest/conviction/diversion for any crime, misdemeanor, and/or felony within 24 hours. Failure to notify the SON within 24 hours may result in dismissal.
2. Student may be suspended until the legal issue is resolved.
3. Continuance in the School of Nursing will be individually evaluated and will be at the sole discretion of the Pittsburg State University School of Nursing. Continuance in the SON is not guaranteed.

### **Disciplinary Policy**

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

Notify the School of Nursing in writing of any past disciplinary action or current pending actions against ALL licenses, certifications and/or registrations as well as disciplinary action by a state board of/or a 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 or disciplinary sanction from any branch of the military.)

Applicants with past disciplinary action or current pending actions are evaluated for admission on an individual basis with no guarantee of admission. Admitted clinical nursing students are required to self-report in writing within 24 hours to the Director of the School of Nursing any new pending or actual disciplinary action as a condition of progression in the nursing program.

Admitted students may be suspended until the action is fully investigated. Progression will be evaluated on an individual basis and continued participation in the program is not guaranteed. Failure to notify as an applicant or admitted clinical nursing student results in not being admitted, being suspended until action is fully investigated or dismissal from the program. Continuance in the School of Nursing is at the sole discretion of the PSU School of Nursing.

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.

**EXPLANATORY LETTER:** You are REQUIRED to submit an explanatory letter regarding EACH arrest/conviction/diversion for any crime, misdemeanor, and/or felony.

The letter should include the following information:

- Date of the criminal offense or disciplinary/administrative action
- Circumstances leading up to the arrest or disciplinary/administrative action
- Actual conviction or disciplinary/administrative action
- Actual sentence or board/regulatory agency order
- Current status of sentence or order
- Rehabilitation (if any)

The applicant may be required to provide certified/dated copies of disciplinary or legal documents.

**Failure to notify the school 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 School 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.**

### **Time Limit to Complete Degree**

Nursing credits toward the upper division major in nursing at Pittsburg State University 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 special examination or by repeating coursework.

### **Virtual-ATI Policy**

For many years, the IRBSON has utilized Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI)'s wide variety of NCLEX preparation assessments during the pre-licensure BSN program. These assessments not only prepare students for NCLEX, but they also help them gain critical thinking skills and a comprehensive nursing knowledge base needed for nursing practice. PSU has utilized the **ATI Comprehensive Assessment and Review Products (CARP)**. Additionally, PSU has implemented a **Virtual-ATI Review Process** as well as an onsite NCLEX review course, which includes a **3-Day Live Review Course** for all pre-licensure BSN graduates.

Thus, the assessment, advisement, and retention program includes a 3-day onsite NCLEX review course and a Virtual ATI Review. All pre-licensure BSN students will subscribe to the ATI Engagement Agreement.

### **Progression/Graduation Requirements**

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

A grade below "C" represents work of poor quality, not adequate to pursue subsequent courses. For this reason, a student making a "D" or "F" grade in a required nursing course will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major or to graduate. (No credit is given for Ds or Fs in nursing courses.) If it can be demonstrated that the "D" or "F" is the result of a temporary

problem which has been corrected, the student may be readmitted with the approval and recommendations of the faculty. The student is responsible for submitting in writing (no e-mails please) an explanation of the temporary problem resulting in unsatisfactory work.

The student together with their advisor will submit an altered degree plan to the Director of the School of Nursing.

Re-admission is dependent on resolution of the temporary problem, available course and clinical space, and faculty approval of the admission.

The student, course faculty, student advisor, and the Director of the School of Nursing may review the student's progress and decide upon course withdrawal as the best option for the student's academic success. Students who receive a second "D" or "F" will not be allowed to continue in the nursing major.

Fourth Semester Pre-RN Licensure clinical majors: The student, faculty, and Director of the School of Nursing may determine that an incomplete will be given to allow additional opportunity for documentation of required competencies prior to completion of course, graduation and/or endorsement for NCLEX-RN.

Statements of the course requirements and grading policy are a part of the course syllabus. The policy for each clinical nursing course states that the clinical portion of the course is graded on a pass/fail basis and the evaluation tools are identified. A student must receive a "pass" in the clinical component to progress in the program. If the clinical grade is unsatisfactory, an "F" will be the letter grade recorded for the course. Unprofessional and/or unethical behavior is considered grounds for immediate dismissal from the nursing program. Students are required to participate in the schools Intensive Assessment, Advisement and Enrichment (IAAE) program.

PSU nursing students must participate in the School of Nursing's testing package, for which students incur the cost. The package includes entrance & exit exams that are administered prior to admission and prior to graduation, Virtual ATI Review, and an ATI Live Review.

The testing package includes specialty exams that demonstrate knowledge of the course content. Results are compared to national standards. Students receive feedback regarding areas for further study. For every course that administers a specific exam, the test is a course requirement and students are required to meet the established benchmark.

If more than two proctored exams are required to demonstrate competency in any course, there will be an additional cost that is the responsibility of the student. The additional cost is determined by ATI.

Pre-RN Licensure students **will not be** admitted to fourth semester courses unless all general education courses have been completed with acceptable grades. If a pre-licensure student is found to be enrolled in a fourth semester course without completing all the required general education courses and nursing prerequisites, the student may be dropped from the course (Approved NDO 05/14/04).

### **Incomplete Policy**

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 is 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. If you feel you qualify for an Incomplete grade, you should visit with your instructor and **not assume** an IN grade will be assigned automatically.

### **Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Exam**

Individuals with a misdemeanor or felony history should be aware that Kansas or other states, may deny them permission to take the NCLEX-RN exam. Those with felonies against persons will be denied permission to take the NCLEX-RN exam. Those with misdemeanor or felony histories should contact the Kansas State Board of Nursing legal department at 785-296-4324 for information regarding Kansas State Board of Nursing application requirements. The Kansas State Board of Nursing may also be contacted at the following address:

Kansas State Board of Nursing, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 1051, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1256. Please contact other state boards for their requirements if testing outside of Kansas.

Disciplinary Action: If you have been disciplined by any Board (e.g. professional licensure) or governmental agency (e.g. Department of Health and Environment regarding CNA, HHA, CMA Certification, Department of Revenue regarding a driver's license suspension, cancellation and/or revocation for any reason), you are **REQUIRED** to provide a certified/dated copy of that Board order or disciplinary/administrative action to the Kansas State Board of Nursing. Please contact other state boards for their requirements if testing outside of Kansas.

### **Transfer Policy**

Applications from individuals wishing to transfer to PSU from other nationally accredited nursing programs may be accepted by the School of Nursing if deemed equivalent. The following criteria will be considered for each transfer applicant:

1. Transfer students must meet all admission requirements as stated in the School of Nursing Program Guide and University Catalog.
2. Nursing prerequisite courses must be completed.
3. The School of Nursing must receive a satisfactory reference from the dean/director/chair of the program from which the student is transferring.
4. Unsatisfactory grades (D or F undergraduate) (C or below graduate) from previous schools are transferred and counted as unsatisfactory grades at PSU. The existing progression policy of the School of Nursing will be implemented with any unsatisfactory grades from the prior nursing program.

5. Each applicant will be evaluated on an individual basis for acceptance to determine placement within the nursing program. ATI pre-test results may be considered. Availability of clinical space may also impact entry.
6. Students accepted must have current immunizations uploaded to My Record Tracker, liability insurance, uniforms, current CPR and any other documented requirements. Health insurance coverage is highly recommended.
7. Students accepted will attend an orientation with discussion of philosophy, mission, purpose and objectives of the program. An educational program on universal precautions must be completed with a proficiency exam before entry into clinical. A student hand book will be provided by the School of Nursing.
8. Graduation requirements as stated in the university catalog must be met before graduation.
9. Students transferring clinical courses will be required to verify satisfactory completion of clinical skills based on the PSU course equivalent.

**Essential Nursing Physical Functions**

Each student will regularly perform the following activities:

1. Remain alert and able to engage in safe patient/client care including being able to respond to patient/client needs in an emergency situation at all moments in time.
2. Stand for long periods of time.
3. Work or walk at a fast pace.
4. Lift heavy objects (25 lbs. or more) several times a day.
5. Speak clearly and distinctly.
6. Work alternating shifts (8-12 hours).
7. Respond appropriately to stress situations (physically, emotionally, and mentally).
8. Communicate effectively with physicians, patients, staff and patients' families.
9. Write in patient's chart (a legal document) clearly and neatly.
10. Hear a telephone ring and have the ability to take orders over the telephone.
11. Hear vital signs with stethoscope to assess blood pressure, heart rate, lung and vascular and abdominal sounds.
12. Hear beepers, alarms, etc. requiring quick response and have physical ability to respond quickly.

**Students, if admitted to the nursing program, are required to follow the Health Impairment in Clinical Practicum Experiences policy which is available for viewing in the 2019-2020 BSN Student Handbook located on the School of Nursing website [www.pittstate.edu/nursing](http://www.pittstate.edu/nursing). If you have questions about this policy, please contact the Director of the Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing, Dr. Cheryl Giefer or Ms. Cindy Johnson, Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, 218 Russ Hall, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS. 66762, telephone (620) 235-4185.**

## **Special Programs**

### **Continuing Education for Nurses**

The School of Nursing is approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing as a long term provider of continuing education offerings. A series of programs is offered throughout the year which meet the mandatory continuing education requirements for relicensure of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses.

### **Financial Assistance**

Students seeking financial aid should contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance. 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 School of Nursing. The recipients are selected by a committee according to established criteria.

For further information regarding the School of Nursing or to make an appointment with an advisor, please contact:

Pittsburg State University  
Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing  
McPherson Hall  
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762

(620) 235-4431 (Nursing Office)

(620) 235-4449 (Fax Number)

Website: [www.pittstate.edu/nursing](http://www.pittstate.edu/nursing)

E-mail: [emiddendorf@pittstate.edu](mailto:emiddendorf@pittstate.edu)

E-mail: [jhudiburg@pittstate.edu](mailto:jhudiburg@pittstate.edu)



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