



What can I do with a Major in...

Nursing

What is Nursing at U of L?

Vision

The University of Louisville School of Nursing affirms and builds upon our strengths and accomplishments as we move forward to meet the Challenge of Excellence. We will be recognized as a nursing program of national stature for the integration of teaching, research, practice and service. Our purpose is to enrich people's lives through the improvement of health care. We will be guided by the mission of our metropolitan urban university in serving the diverse needs of students, clients and community.

Mission

The University of Louisville School of Nursing is an essential partner of a research intensive academic health science center in a nationally recognized University serving a metropolitan community.

The School of Nursing is a community in which faculty, staff and students collaborate to promote excellence in the profession of nursing. This is accomplished through research and scholarship that inform undergraduate and graduate education, support evidence-based practice and foster advances in nursing science. Students are prepared to demonstrate excellence in nursing science, practice and leadership in a variety of settings for the benefit of clients across the lifespan and to meet the evolving health care needs of society. As a citizen of the larger community, the emphasis of the School of Nursing is to address the complex health needs of diverse and dynamic populations through nursing education, research, scholarship and service.

Degrees in Nursing at U of L:

Bachelor of Science in Nursing-this traditional 4-year program is for students interested in becoming registered nurses.

Accelerated Second Degree Program-for students who hold bachelor's degrees in other fields interested in earning a BSN.

Accelerated RN-BSN Online Program-for registered nurses interested in earning a bachelor's degree.

The School of Nursing offers a Master of Science in Nursing degree with eight tracks:

- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Nurse Practitioner
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
- Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist/Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist



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Post-master's Study

Post-masters study is available in each of the nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist tracks. Graduates of programs offering certification exams will be eligible to take the exam in their area of study.

Occupational Overview

Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required. Includes advance practice nurses such as: nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Advanced practice nursing is practiced by RNs who have specialized formal, post-basic education and who function in highly autonomous and specialized roles.

Employment Requirements

In all states and the District of Columbia, students must graduate from an approved nursing program and pass a national licensing examination, known as the NCLEX-RN, in order to obtain a nursing license. Nursing programs range from associate degrees to graduate level programs; higher degrees typically involve a broader and more complex scope of patient care. UNM offers a variety of degree options at both the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels.

Career Opportunities in Nursing:

Staff Nursing: Pediatrics –Surgical – Emergency - Critical Care – Maternity - Women's Health – Newborn- Intensive Care-

Hospitals – Clinics - Physicians' offices - Outpatient surgery centers - Nursing homes - Rehabilitation centers –Hospices

Psychiatric hospitals - Educational institutions

Suggested Strategy: Gain experience through externship or internship programs. Work or volunteer in healthcare and

medical settings. Take electives in areas such as wellness, holistic health, medical ethics and death and dying.

Community and Public Health: Home health – Rural nursing – Health education – Public and private schools – Daycare

centers – Mental health facilities – State and local health departments – Home healthcare agencies – Senior centers –

Religious organizations – Social service agencies

Suggested Strategy: Develop knowledge and skills in management, decision-making, mediation, teaching, and counseling.

Develop expertise in first aid procedures. Expand knowledge of health issues. Obtain a mas-



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ter's degree for nurse practitioner positions.

Independent Practice: Temporary staffing – Travel nursing – Personal services contracting – Private duty - Midwifery – Healthcare staffing agencies – Travel companies – Private households

Suggested Strategy: Learn to work and make decisions autonomously. Be prepared to move frequently locally or abroad.

Government Service: Staff nursing – Administration – Policy Department – Research – Government health agencies – Armed services - Prisons

Suggested Strategy: Define an area of interest. Plan on graduate study in teaching, research or administration. Become familiar with other cultures. Be prepared for combat nursing in armed services.

Related Links in the Nursing Discipline:

Professional Association Links

National Student Nurses' Association, <http://www.nсна.org>

Nursing Organizations, http://www.nursingsociety.org/career/nursing_orgs.html

Associations, State Boards, and Miscellaneous, <http://www.nurseweek.com/news/weblinks.asp>

American Nurses Association, <http://nursingworld.org>

American Association of Colleges of Nursing, <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/>

Honor Society for Nursing, <http://www.nursingsociety.org>

National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, <http://www.nflpn.org/>

Nursing Facility Evaluation Checklist, <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Publications/pdf/hallmarks.pdf>

National League for Nursing, <http://www.nln.org/>

Career Planning Links

Spotlight on Careers:

<http://www.nursesource.org/description.html>

<http://www.choosenursing.com/options/index.html>

<http://www.nurseweek.com/career>

<http://www.nursingspectrum.com/StudentsCorner/CareersInNursing>

NurseUniverse, <http://www.nurseuniverse.com>

Nurse Zone, <http://www.nursezone.com>

Resume Examples, <http://saawww.ucsf.edu/career/studentpostdoc/nursecvsamples.htm>

Cover Letter Examples, <http://saawww.ucsf.edu/career/studentpostdoc/coverlettersamples.htm>

Continuing Education Requirements by State, <http://www.nurseweek.com/career/cecredit.asp>

NCLEX-RN, http://www.nсна.org/career/career_prep_lic.asp

Health and Medical Science Organizations, <http://www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/>



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All Nursing Schools www.allnursingschools.com

University of Louisville Nursing program <http://louisville.edu/nursing/>

Salary/Outlook Info

Job opportunities for RNs in all specialties are expected to be excellent. Employment of registered nurses is expected to grow much faster than average for all occupations through 2014, and, because the occupation is very large, many new jobs will result. In fact, registered nurses are projected to create the second largest number of new jobs among all occupations. Thousands of job openings also will result from the need to replace experienced nurses who leave the occupation, especially as the median age of the registered nurse population continues to rise.

Much faster-than-average growth will be driven by technological advances in patient care, which permit a greater number of medical problems to be treated, and by an increasing emphasis on preventive care. In addition, the number of older people, who are much more likely than younger people to need nursing care, is projected to grow rapidly. Median annual earnings of registered nurses were \$52,330 in May 2004. The middle 50 percent earned between \$43,370 and \$63,360. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$37,300, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$74,760. Median annual earnings in the industries employing the largest numbers of registered nurses in May 2004 were as follows:

Employment services	\$63,170
General medical and surgical hospitals	53,450
Home health care services	48,990
Offices of physicians	48,250
Nursing care facilities	48,220

Many employers offer flexible work schedules, child care, educational benefits, and bonuses.



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/>

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