Bachelor of Science in Nursing for Registered Nurses (RN-BSN)

100% Online

Called by compassion, destined to discover.

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► Online Program Info
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Connect with one of our enrollment counselors

online@louisville.edu
800.871.8635

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About University of Louisville

The University of Louisville is a state-supported research university located in Kentucky’s largest metropolitan area that offers 170 majors, degrees, certificates and professional development programs.

The University of Louisville’s mission is to be a premier, nationally-recognized metropolitan research university with a commitment to the liberal arts and sciences and to the intellectual, cultural, and economic development of our diverse communities and citizens through the pursuit of excellence.

With a student body exceeding 22,500 and with more than 6,500 faculty members, the University of Louisville paves the way for students of all ages to achieve their academic, professional and personal goals through quality education.

About UofL Online Learning

The University of Louisville understands the challenges of adult professionals who want to earn a college degree. UofL Online Learning connects nontraditional students with flexible online education options to help them achieve their professional and personal goals in a convenient and affordable manner.

UofL Online Learning delivers a wide variety of online courses and in-demand undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs completely online to students in the U.S. and around the world.

About the School of Nursing

The University of Louisville’s School of Nursing is an essential part of the research-intensive academic health science center serving a metropolitan community. UofL’s School of Nursing is where the science of nursing transforms the art of caring.

Health care providers in the 21st century must be prepared to work in a variety of settings. They will need to be proficient in critical thinking, communication, political activism, case management, and the economics of health care. The School of Nursing at UofL strives to transform health care through creation of new knowledge, provision of care, community and professional service, policy development and workforce development.

The faculty is comprised of nationally and internationally recognized experts. These experienced professionals lead the way in providing high quality education for our students and use innovative teaching methods to prepare graduates for the ever-evolving nursing profession.

Accreditation

The University of Louisville is accredited by the Commission on the Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, bachelor’s, master’s, specialist, doctoral, and first-professional degrees (D.M.D., J.D., M.D.).

The nursing baccalaureate and master’s programs at University of Louisville School of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington DC 20036, 202.887.6791.
RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Online Program Info

The RN-BSN online program offered by the UofL School of Nursing is recognized nationally for its high academic quality and post-graduation educational value. Currently, our program prepares the most licensed nurses in the state of Kentucky. We provide registered nurses who have earned an associate degree or a diploma in nursing the opportunity to learn from expert faculty and complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) online while maintaining work, familial and social commitments.

The BSN online courses focus on advanced knowledge in nursing and the skills needed for leadership in a changing health care system. The classes include forums, chat sessions and discussion boards to facilitate easy interaction with instructors and other students.

Our expert faculty bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the classroom, ranging from palliative care, smoking cessation, hypertension and women’s health issues, to community and underserved population engagement and research, family caregiving in Alzheimer’s disease and postpartum depression care.

By enrolling in our RN-BSN online, you could be part of the research and practice projects, participate in professional meetings or present on nursing topics in the community.

The RN-BSN online program graduation requirements include 61 credit hours of which 30 credit hours are allocated to the completion of a portfolio and are free of charge. Thus, you will pay for only 31 credit hours in the entire program, which makes our BSN program one of the most affordable in the nation.

Portfolio

The professional nursing portfolio is a valuable career tool that includes a Curriculum Vitae (CV), a career goals outline, a resume and an evaluation of professional credits. Typically, our BSN students build their portfolio during or prior to the first semester in the online program under the direct supervision and guidance of expert faculty. The School of Nursing awards 30 tuition-free credit hours for the completion of the portfolio, which equates to more than $14,000 in tuition savings. Equivalent credit hours may also be awarded for previous education and work experience upon completion of the portfolio.

Practicum

While you complete all coursework online, you will also fulfill a practicum experience requirement with a clinical component. This clinical component involves a community health leadership project that can be completed in your hometown, as well as evidence of communication skills and nursing skills (video of head to toe patient assessment). No direct patient care is required for completion of the clinical.

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Career Information

The demand for nursing talent is expected to grow 26 percent by 2020 and, according to PayScale.com, RNs with a BSN degree earned more than RNs with an associate degree in nursing (ADN). This trend holds true across various nursing positions, including registered nurse, director of nursing, case manager and clinical nurse manager.

Salary differences may range from $2,000 to $10,000 per year depending on the nursing roles and levels of experience. (degreedirectory.org)

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Online Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester #1</th>
<th>Semester #2</th>
<th>Semester #3</th>
<th>Semester #4</th>
<th>Semester #5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>387-50 Patho-Pharm - 4 credits</td>
<td>482-50 Health Promotion for Individuals, Families, and Communities - 3 credits</td>
<td>386-50 Population Health - 3 credits</td>
<td>385-50 Nursing Leadership &amp; Health Policy - 4 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>381-50 Foundations for Evidence Based Professional Nursing - 3 credits</td>
<td>N382-50 Nursing Research for Evidence Based Practice - 3 credits</td>
<td>383-50 Case Management of Individuals and Families - 3 credits</td>
<td>488-50 Leadership Project - 2 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>355-85 Portfolio</td>
<td></td>
<td>470-50: Community Health Nursing - 4 credits</td>
<td>473-50 Community Leadership Practicum - 2 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These courses (Semester#1) must be taken prior to remaining semesters.

These courses (Semester#5) must be taken in the last semester of study.

7 credits  6 credits  6 credits  6 credits  6 credits

Transferred ADN credit hours = 59
Total portfolio credit hours = 30
Total core course credit hours = 31
Total credit hours per program = 120

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Admission

Application Deadlines:
July 1: Fall Admission
December 1: Spring Admission

Admission Requirements

Applicants to the RN-BSN online program must have an unrestricted RN license and a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on all undergraduate work.

To apply for admission:

• Contact the School of Nursing advising office (502.852.5368) to notify them of your desire to complete the online RN-BSN program for an initial discussion of your prior credits
• Submit an undergraduate application and pay the $25 non-refundable application fee
• Submit all official college transcripts to the Office of Admissions

Send all admission materials to our Undergraduate Admissions office at the following address:

University of Louisville
Office of Admissions, Dept AO
Louisville, KY 40292
United States of America
Or email to: admitme@louisville.edu

For application instructions, go to https://louisville.edu/admissions/apply

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Tuition and Financial Aid

Tuition for the RN-BSN School of Nursing online program is one of the most affordable in the state and in the nation. Tuition for online courses is the same for both in-state and out-of-state students.

Online Degree Tuition

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Tuition Rates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate online courses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$497 per credit hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em><em>Active-duty</em> service members</em>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$250 per credit hour (see our Military Tuition Discounts page for more info).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserve Component and Kentucky National Guard</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May be eligible for $250 per credit hour tuition assistance rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Active-Duty is defined as on orders for 180 days or more.

Online courses are charged at a different hourly rate than regular courses. Students are charged in full for online courses according to those rates even if taking a full-time course load. Tuition rate does not include costs associated with a specific course or program, such as textbooks. If you’re receiving a tuition scholarship, please check the monetary value to determine whether the cost of online courses is covered.

Note: Tuition and fees are subject to change at any time without prior notice. The summary on this page is intended to provide a quick reference for students. For more information and updates, visit the UofL Bursar’s page.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available for all online students who qualify. Here are the steps for first-time financial aid applicants:

1. Assemble your tax and asset information, such as your IRS forms, W2s, 1040s, etc.
2. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov to file your FAFSA form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Be sure to apply for your PIN during the FAFSA filing process. Use the PIN to electronically sign your FAFSA. UofL FAFSA school code is 001999.
3. Once your FAFSA if processed by the U.S. Department of Education, you will be sent a Student Aid Report (SAR). If you filed electronically, the SAR will be sent to you via email. If you filed by paper or did not provide an email address, the SAR will be sent to you by mail.
4. Review the SAR for comments and incorrect information. If accurate, keep the SAR for your records. If you find any errors, you can correct this by returning the paper SAR or by making corrections to a processed FAFSA online. If you used estimated tax return information when completing the FAFSA, remember to update your FAFSA with actual tax information by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool after you file your federal income tax return. If you used estimated tax return information when completing the FAFSA, remember to update your FAFSA with actual tax information by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool after you file your federal income tax return.

Scholarships

Licensed registered nurses interested in the RN-BSN online may be eligible for local and/or national scholarships and aid from companies such as Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services, Kentuckiana Association of Neonatal Nurses (KANN), Norton Healthcare, and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

For more information, contact us or visit our website:

- louisville.edu/nursing/financial-aid/nursing-specific
- http://louisville.edu/nursing/financial-aid
# Get Ready For Your Online Classroom

## Technical Requirements

You will need the following hardware and software in order to access your courses online, work on and submit assignments, communicate with professors and peers, and successfully complete your courses and your degree program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Windows</th>
<th>Mac</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Personal computer</strong></td>
<td>With administrative rights (the ability to download software and change security settings)</td>
<td>With administrative rights (the ability to download software and change security settings)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Broadband Internet connection</strong></td>
<td>Speed of 512 kb/s or higher for DSL or 1 Mbps or higher for (upload) cable connection</td>
<td>Speed of 512 kb/s or higher for DSL or 1 Mbps or higher for (upload) cable connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating system</strong></td>
<td>Windows XP or higher</td>
<td>Mac OSX 10.5 or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Microsoft Office</strong></td>
<td>2010 or higher</td>
<td>iWork or Microsoft Office 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Browsers</strong></td>
<td>IE 8.0 &amp; 9.0, FireFox 3.6 &amp; Final Release Channel, Chrome (Stable Channel)</td>
<td>Safari 4.0, 5.0 &amp; 5.1, Firefox 3.6 &amp; Final Release Channel, Chrome (Stable Channel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Java</strong></td>
<td>Version 1.6 or higher</td>
<td>Version 1.6 or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAM memory</strong></td>
<td>4 GB or higher</td>
<td>4 GB or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Webcam and microphone</strong></td>
<td>Internal or external</td>
<td>Internal or external</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Go to [http://uofl.me/28NEZTT](http://uofl.me/28NEZTT) to ensure that your computer is properly set up and that your browser is compatible.
FAQs

What are the benefits of online learning?
Online learning at UofL provides learning that is independent of time and location. Rather than gathering in a classroom, students and instructors use technology to interact. Classes follow the same semester calendar as traditional classes, however students only need a computer and Internet access to complete their coursework. Our program structure allows registered nurses to maintain their professional engagements while earning their BSN online.

Is online learning right for me?
The online program offers both flexibility and convenience; however, students must be disciplined to complete course assignments within identified time frames as defined in the course syllabi.

Are there any helpful tips for online learning success?
Check your school email every day. In order to be in compliance with FERPA regulations, instructors, advisors and the university communicate with students via their school email account. Check Blackboard at least every two days.

What are the technology requirements for the online program?
Access to a computer and the Internet are required. MAC or PC format is acceptable. Advanced computer skills are not a requirement to complete the program. For details go to http://louisville.edu/online/Student-Resources/tech. The program uses Blackboard for course access and assignments, with support provided seven days a week by the UofL Help Desk.

I am on active duty. Can I take online classes at UofL?
Yes! You can take online classes from anywhere in the world, provided you have consistent Internet access. Our faculty and staff are very supportive of those who serve the country here in U.S. or around the world and work hard to provide all needed learning resources so you can succeed.

What academic resources are available for online students?
UofL offers several services for online students including:

- A Virtual Writing Center to assist with writing assignments
- Virtual tutoring services available for all undergraduate students
- Library services, including the “Ask a Librarian” feature from the library website
- IT support available from morning through the evening

Is there a length of time before my credits expire?
For licensed RNs, there is no expiration date for previously earned credits.

Can I transfer credit from another school?
The RN-BSN online program’s admission requirements include an associate degree or a diploma in nursing. You may transfer such credit from any regionally-accredited university. You must submit transcripts from all undergraduate institutions you attended. Upon review, some or all credit may be applied to your degree program. You can also find transfer equivalency resources online at: louisville.edu/missions/apply/transfer.

How does the portfolio course, and the $14,000 in tuition savings, work?
The portfolio course is worth 30 college credit hours at no charge. Credits count towards completion of your BSN. The Portfolio consists of a Nursing CV/Resume, Goal Statements, Transcripts, Degree/Certificates earned, professional development, employee evaluations and other documents supporting your practice as a professional nurse.

Are there any clinicals for the RN-BSN?
Students enrolled in the RN-BSN online program will complete a community project, which can be completed at a location of choice and will fulfill the clinical requirement. This is typically a much less a rigorous clinical component than students completed in their previous nursing programs.

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Contact Us

UofL Online Learning
Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET

Online Learning Enrollment Counselors
Email: online@louisville.edu
Phone: 800.871.8635

School of Nursing
The School of Nursing is located on the campus of the University of Louisville Health Sciences Center, which is part of the Louisville Medical Center complex.
Office hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET
Phone: 502.852.5368

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Phone: 502.852.5368

Mary DeLetter, PhD, RN
Associate Professor
Director, RN-BSN Program
Email: mary.deletter@louisville.edu
Phone: 502.852.5825

UofL Office of Office of Undergraduate Admissions
Office hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET
Email: admitme@louisville.edu
Phone: 502.852.6531
Toll free: 800.334.8635, x 8526531
Fax: 502.852.6526

UofL Office of Financial Aid
Office hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET
Email: finaid@louisville.edu
Phone: 502.852.5511
Fax: 502.852.0182

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