

# Nursing

Bachelor of Science Degree

## Contact

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## Admission Requirements

*(In years as established by the college)*

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (biology and chemistry or physics)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- Academic electives (to equal at least 17 credits)

*To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.*

## Did You Know?

- Students are closely advised by expert faculty and benefit from clinical instruction and mentorship by practicing nurses.
- Our graduates do extremely well on the national licensure examination.
- Our graduates receive high praise from their first employers, attesting to their excellent preparation at the University of Maine School of Nursing. Many graduates go on to acquire advanced degrees, serving in leadership positions in clinical and academic settings.

## College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

### Program Description

The School of Nursing curriculum provides study in the liberal arts, the sciences and the nursing major. The goal of the program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, is to prepare a professional generalist practitioner of nursing who can assist individuals, families and groups achieve and maintain optimal health. Since health care is changing so rapidly, the program strives to produce nurses who are critical thinkers, decision makers and change agents. At the completion of the program, graduates are qualified to take the registered nurse licensing exam.

The University of Maine School of Nursing has excellent faculty who are adept practitioners as well as competent teachers and researchers. Through their mentorship, students learn not only the skills to be a nurse, but also what it means to be a member of the profession, with all its inherent responsibilities and accountabilities.

### Specialized Information

All nursing students must accumulate at least 700 hours in appropriate clinical settings. The final clinical experience consists of a one-on-one partnership with an expert nurse. This immersion in nursing care of patients and families pulls together theoretical and clinical learning, and also enhances role socialization into the nursing profession.

The School of Nursing has a state-of-the-art learning laboratory for basic and advanced clinical simulations, which leaves students better prepared to provide expert care to patients in clinical settings. Nursing students who enlist in university ROTC programs benefit from experiences in military hospitals, and qualified nursing students may expand their learning experiences through enrollment in the UMaine Honors College.

Students have served on faculty-sponsored research projects. For example, one student served as research assistant for social work professor Sandy Butler's National Institute of Health-funded research on home care workers. Nursing students enlisted in the ROTC programs complete a summer internship between their junior and senior years at a U.S. military base hospital, and several nursing students have participated in paid internships at regional medical centers such as Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire and Maine Medical Center in Portland.

To be considered for admission to the nursing program, current high school students should have a combined critical reading and mathematics SAT score of 1050 or higher or 23 on the ACT; and a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0. In addition, for students to be admitted directly to the nursing major, they must take a strong college preparatory curriculum in English, biology, chemistry and mathematics, and grades in those courses should be in the A or B range.

Students with lower SAT scores must demonstrate a higher overall GPA and earn mostly As in college preparatory English, biology, chemistry and mathematics. Qualified applicants who apply to nursing as a major but do not meet these admission criteria may be admitted to a pre-nursing program. Students in pre-nursing will enroll in the same combination of nursing and science courses as the first-year nursing majors, but in a slightly different sequence. This will lengthen the academic program by one semester, but will not add any additional credits to the program of study.

## Representative Courses

NUR 101 Issues and Opportunities in Nursing  
NUR 200 Professional Concepts in Nursing  
NUR 300 Health Assessment Through the Life Span  
NUR 303 Pathophysiology  
NUR 201 Practice of Fundamentals  
NUR 301 Nursing Care Management of Adults  
NUR 404 Fundamentals of Pharmacology  
NUR 320/321 Nursing Care Management of Women, Infants and Families/Clinical  
NUR 330/331 Nursing Care Management of Children and Families/Clinical

NUR 310 Health-Related Research  
NUR 440/454 Nursing Care Management of Adults II/Clinical  
NUR 450/451 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing/Clinical  
NUR 452 Community and Population Health Care  
NUR 441 Nursing Care Management of Adults III  
MUR 444 Management and Leadership in Health Care System  
NUR 447 Clinical Reflection Seminar  
NUR 453 Community Nursing Care  
NUR 455 Senior Clinical Practicum

## Transferring into the Program

Students who do not already have a valid RN license and are transferring to the School of Nursing must have completed a minimum of 30 credits, including the following areas with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5: biology or anatomy and physiology, English composition, social sciences, and math and/or statistics. Space is limited; candidates with the above credentials are not guaranteed admission. Transfer to the School of Nursing only is available for fall admission. Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted by May 1.

Applicants who hold a valid RN license who want to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing can be admitted for either the spring or fall semester. These students will be applying for admission into the RN to BSN program. To be considered for admission to the RN to BSN program, applicants should have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75, including a 2.75 GPA in math and science courses, and a 3.0 GPA in the nursing major.

## Associated Honor Societies and Student Organizations

Students are encouraged to join the Orono Student Nurses' Association (OSNA) and Maine Student Nurses' Association. Special recognition includes the university chapter of the national nursing honor society Sigma Theta Tau.

## Career and Graduate Opportunities

The bachelor's and master's programs in nursing are nationally accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Program graduates are highly successful on national RN licensure and advanced practice certification examinations.

The future of health care depends on well-educated and well-informed nurses who can function in a variety of settings. Employment opportunities exist in hospitals, long-term care facilities, schools, community and state agencies, and industry and rural health clinics, to name just a few. The future of nursing is bright and exciting — a career for today and for tomorrow.

Bachelor's graduates may wish to further their education as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse administrators, nurse educators, certified nurse midwives or nurse anesthetists.

## UMaine Graduate Programs

Master of Science in Nursing, with tracks in family nurse practitioner (MSN-FNP) and individualized MSN (I-MSN)

## About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, go online ([umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu)). Equal opportunity information also is available online ([umaine.edu/eo](http://umaine.edu/eo)).

## How do I apply?

Visit [go.umaine.edu](http://go.umaine.edu) for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.



## Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online ([factsheets.umaine.edu](http://factsheets.umaine.edu)). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.

