

Health Professions Advising Office
Jensen SAS Center
California State University, Long Beach
www.csulb.edu/sas/hpao

NURSING (RN, NP) ACADEMIC AND CAREER INFORMATION

NATURE OF THE WORK, EARNINGS, AND OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK

Nurses promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. They can practice independently, although they also collaborate with all members of the healthcare team to provide the care needed for each patient. Nurses also serve as advocates for patients, families, and communities. They develop and manage nursing care plans; instruct patients and their families in proper care; and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health.

Earnings and Job Outlook: In 2018, the average annual salary was \$71,730 for registered nurses and \$113,390 for nurse practitioners. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment for registered nurses will grow 12% for registered nurses and 26% for nurse practitioners from 2018-2028 (Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2018).

TRAINING

The primary pathway to become a Registered Nurse (RN) is the four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). There are additional ways of obtaining a BSN or Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) besides the traditional 4-year route which include: 1) Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (A-

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

CSULB courses which fulfill admission requirements for some nursing programs: Students maintain responsibility for verifying course selection with individual programs.

Coursework	CSULB Courses
One year of General Chemistry with Lab	Chemistry 111A & 111B
One year of Organic Chemistry with Lab	Chemistry 220A & 220B + 320 L (Chem. & Biochem. majors) OR 220A w/ 223A & 220B w/ 223B
Human Anatomy and Physiology with Lab	Biology 208: Human Anatomy
	Biology 207: Human Physiology
One year of General Biology with Lab	Biology 211 & 212 & 213
One year of General Physics with Lab	Physics 100A & 100B OR 151 & 152
Microbiology	Biology 311
One semester to 1 year of Calculus	Math 119A OR 122 & 123
One course in Statistics	Biology 260 OR Statistics 108
One year of Behavioral Science courses	Sociology 100 and Psychology 100
One year of English (Composition and Literature preferred)	English 100 AND another course from the English department such as: 102, 180, 300 (some schools MAY take equivalent courses)

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IMPORTANT FACTORS CONSIDERED FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

CLINICAL EXPOSURE: Nursing admission committees want to know that you have the desire and ability to work with patients and successful participation in clinical volunteer or job experience can demonstrate this. Working and/or shadowing a nurse is strongly encouraged.

WORK EXPERIENCE: Work experience can also be valuable in demonstrating your potential to succeed in school. Success in a work environment can reveal meaningful information to admissions committees. Depending on the setting, work experience can develop and showcase a variety of skills including communication (oral and/or written), time management, and problem solving.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Letters of recommendation are required for application to some nursing programs. The purpose of the letters is to provide nursing schools with an impression of the applicant from faculty or persons who