

ADMISSION TO RN-BSN PROGRAM

Admission Process

Admission into the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program (RN-BSN) is consistent with the Pennsylvania Articulation Model developed by a task force of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Schools of Nursing Association, Inc. (PHENSA) for the Coalition for Nursing Education. Nursing students can fulfill requirements of the lower division (freshman and sophomore years) by means of the following:

1. Transferring or validating knowledge equivalent to thirty (30) nursing credits from an associate degree or diploma program (see #5 below).
2. Transferring the required thirty (30) general education credits from any accredited college or successfully completing the approved challenge exams. The accepted scores for credit will be determined by university policy.

Admission Requirements

1. Graduated from either an associate or diploma program in nursing.
2. Hold current licensure as RN in the state that you practice or have applied to take the licensure examination for registered nurses in that state prior to beginning any required nursing course.
3. Show evidence of scholarship as demonstrated by QPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 point system, or a comparable equivalent of a “C+” in previous education program.
4. Successfully complete the pre-entry lower division requirements as mentioned above.
5. The Pennsylvania Articulation Model provides educational progression for nurses from state approved and ACEN (formerly NLNAC) accredited schools to progress to the next education program without repetition.
 - a. Applicants who have graduated within three years from an accredited program are eligible for direct articulation from one program to another.
 - b. Applicants who graduated between three and ten years from an accredited program and have practiced 1000 hours as a licensed registered nurse within the past three years are eligible for direct articulation into the program.
 - c. Applicants who have graduated from an accredited program between three and ten years prior to application and have not practiced 1000 hours of nursing within the past three years, must successfully complete an approved

refresher course or validate their nursing knowledge by completing the NLN Comprehensive Exam.

- d. Applicants who have graduated from an accredited program more than ten years prior to application and have worked 1000 hours in nursing in the past three years can validate this employment with a letter from their employer.
- e. Applicants who have graduated from an accredited program more than ten years prior to application and have not worked 1000 hours in nursing within the past three years must validate their nursing knowledge by completing the NLN Comprehensive Exam.
 - 1) A successful score will be accepted for admission if the required exam has been taken within three years of the individual's application for admission into the program.
 - 2) An individual who does not attain a successful score will be permitted to take the required exam a total of three times. It is suggested that a SBN (State Board of Nursing) approved refresher course be taken if the individual does not pass the exam the third time
- f. Applicants who have graduated from a non-accredited program must validate their knowledge by completing the NLN Comprehensive Exam prior to admission.
 - 1) A successful score will be accepted for admission if the required exam has been taken within three years of the individual's application for admission into the program.
 - 2) An individual who does not attain a successful score will be permitted to take the required exam a total of three times. It is suggested that a SBN (State Board of Nursing) approved refresher course be taken if the exam is not passed by the third time.

Application Form

The Application Form may be obtained online at <http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/apply-to-clarion/>. In addition, students may obtain an application from the Clarion University Admissions Office at Clarion Campus, the School of Health Sciences Office at Venango College Campus, or the Administrative Office at Venango College. The Application Form must be completed and submitted online or sent with high school and previous educational transcripts and \$30 to the School of Nursing and Allied Health, Clarion University, 1801 West First Street, Oil City, PA 16301.

Admission to the RN-BSN Program is competitive. An applicant meeting all program requirements is not guaranteed admission to the program.

Admission as a Pre-RN-BSN Student

An applicant who meets all qualifications for the RN-BSN Program except the required QPA of 2.5 may be admitted as a Pre-RN-BSN student. The student must then earn a 2.5 average in 12 credits. Students may take general education courses and only the following nursing electives NURS 320, 335, 347, 365 or 368. Students who fail to meet this QPA requirement cannot be admitted to the RN-BSN Program.

A student who has graduated from an associate degree or diploma nursing program but does not have current RN licensure may be admitted as a pre-RN-BSN student for one semester. Pre-RN-BSN students may take any general education courses during this time. In addition, the student may take the following courses on a space-available basis: nursing electives 320, 335, 347, 365 or 368.

Students who have pre-RN-BSN status should maintain close contact with their academic advisor