Advance your Nursing Career

Program Overview

The RN to BSN Program at California State University, Bakersfield offers new windows of opportunity for professional growth. Health care is rapidly expanding and evolving daily. Advancements in in-patient care and the accompanying technology has made the need for quality, highly educated nurses greater than ever. The Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree is increasingly recognized as the degree that properly prepares nurses for the current healthcare environment. The BSN program gives nurses the needed skills in critical thinking, leadership, case management, and health promotion. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be eligible to apply for a Public Health Nurse (PHN) certificate that permits work in either public health or school nursing and various community-based organizations.

A new cohort will be accepted each fall semester. The RN to BSN Program is an on-line program; however, a full on-campus orientation day (date TBD) and 135 on-site clinical hours in Community Health are required. Upper-Division General Education courses may also require on-campus attendance.

120 semester units are required to graduate with the BSN. Students will complete Upper-Division General Education coursework during the program at CSU Bakersfield. Students must be formally admitted to the RN to BSN Program and admitted to CSU, Bakersfield to enroll in nursing courses. Courses must be taken as scheduled.

Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for admission, students must meet the following criteria. Documentation showing that all requirements have been met must be included in your completed RN to BSN Program application:

- Graduate of a nationally recognized, regionally accredited Associate Degree program in nursing.
- Current, clear, and active California RN License and American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR card. (Students may apply while in progress).
- Must have at least a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or greater in the last 60 semester/90 quarter units of course work.
- Pre-requisites (To be completed by the December prior to the start of the program with a grade of C or better):
  - Anatomy
  - Physiology
  - Microbiology
  - Chemistry
  - Statistics
  - Public Speaking
  - Advanced English Composition
  - Critical Thinking
- Be in good standing at the last college or university attended
- Meet all CSUB Department of Nursing new student requirements upon admission including Essential Functions (See Undergraduate Handbook under “General Information”).
- Be accepted to CSU Bakersfield.
- Submission of a completed RN to BSN Program application through NursingCAS.
- Recommended: Completion of all General Education Coursework by the Spring Semester prior to starting the program.
- Recommended: Meet with the RN-BSN Program Advisor to review your eligibility.
RN-BSN Program Information

Application Process
1. Submit an application to CSUB through Cal State Apply between October 1-30th
2. Submit a Supplemental Nursing Application on NursingCAS

Please note that applicants may be in their 3rd or 4th semester of a nursing program and/or in-progress with prerequisites anytime during the application period

RN-BSN Program Schedule
Year One
Fall Semester
Course Name | Units
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Nursing 3210: RN-BSN Transitions | 1
Nursing 3250: Foundations of Nursing Research | 3
Nursing 3270: Professional Nursing: Influence, Policy & Issues | 3
Total Units | 7

Spring Semester
Course Name | Units
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Nursing 4220: Community & Public Health Nursing (Theory) | 3
Nursing 4221: Community & Public Health Nursing (Practicum) | 3
Nursing 4230: Pathophysiology | 3
Total Units | 9

Summer Semester
Course Name | Units
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Nursing 4210: Healthcare Ethics | 3
Nursing 4240: Professional Nursing Career Development | 2
Total Units | 5

Year Two
Fall Semester
Course Name | Units
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Nursing 4250: Special Leadership Project | 3
Nursing 4918: Leadership in Nursing (Capstone) | 3
Total Units | 6

Other Courses:
Course Name | Units
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UD Area C: Any Approved Upper Division Area C Course | 3
GWAR: Any Approved Course or Exam | 0-3

*NCLEX Credit: The Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) does not guarantee admission to any CSU campus. Students will be awarded up to 25 semester units of NCLEX credit upon receipt of an active, California RN license and the successful completion of the first term in the RN to BSN Program. Credit earned will be considered test credit and will vary student to student.

Pre-Admission Costs:
| Item | Cost |
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CSUB Application Fee | $70 |
NursingCAS Application Fee | $50 |
Program Evaluation Fee | $30 |
Transcripts | Varies (2 copies total from each college/university attended) |

Post-Admission Costs:
| Item | Cost |
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Clinical Badge | $5 |
Castlebranch Account (Background Check, Drug Screen, Form Tracking, etc) | $162.75 |
Mask Fit Testing (if not up to date) | $30 |
Clinical Documentation Fees | Varies |
Clinical Lab Fees (One Time fee for Spring Semester) | $30 |
Professional Liability Insurance | $20 |
GWAR (Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement) | $25 (Optional) |
Tuition | $13,913 |
Books | $1,100 (estimate) |
Application for Graduation | $70 |

Post-Graduation Costs: Public Health Nurse Certificate Expenses:
| Item | Cost |
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Board of Registered Nursing Fee | $300 |
Transcript Fee | $4 |

*Program cost estimate is subject to change. See the CSUB Catalog for further details/updates.