

NURSING (RN) - DEGREE

Limited Entry, Associate of Applied Science Degree Program

Prerequisite Advising

Academic Advising & Transfer Center: 503-491-7315 | Room AC2253 (Student Services) | Advising.Questions@mhcc.edu

Students will be assigned a nursing adviser upon acceptance into the program.

Registered nurses (RNs) provide and direct patient care, teach patients and the public about health issues, and provide advice and support to patients and their loved ones. Most RNs work as part of a team with doctors and other healthcare experts. Some RNs oversee licensed practical nurses (LPNs), nursing assistants (CNAs), and home health aides.

Common RN tasks include:

- Assess a patient's condition.
- Implement a nursing plan of care.
- Evaluate the patient's outcome to treatments
- Take a patient's info and medical history.
- Observe the patient and take notes.
- Administer medicines and treatments.
- Set up plans for patient care, or add info to existing plans.
- Consult and work with doctors and other healthcare experts.
- Run and monitor medical equipment.
- Help perform diagnostic tests and analyze the results.
- Teach patients and their loved ones how to manage illnesses or injuries.
- Explain what to do at home after treatment.

MHCC's Nursing program is designed to get you to an RN in three years, with the option to earn a BSN from OHSU in the fourth year.

- **Year 1:** Take pre-program courses, and complete the nursing program application. (<https://mhcc.edu/NursingApply/>)
- **Year 2:** Take nursing courses at MHCC.
- **Year 3:** Take nursing courses at MHCC and the Registered Nurse National Council Licensure Examination (RN-NCLEX).
- **Year 4:** (Optional) Complete Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) courses at OHSU (<https://www.ohsu.edu/school-of-nursing/>) or another transfer partner (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/programs-majors/nursing-degree/#transfer>).

MHCC's Nursing program is a member of the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE), and is approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN), 17938 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Portland, OR, 971-673-0685, [oregon.gov/OSBN](https://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/) (<https://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/>).

Licensure to practice as a Registered Nurse in Oregon is granted through the OSBN. OSBN has limits on licensure as defined in OAR 851-031-006(2) and potential students are encouraged to review these limitations prior to application.

Students are admitted without discrimination as to age, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or marital status.

Program Outcomes

At the completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Practice nursing along the health continuum of health promotion, disease prevention, acute and chronic disease management and end-of-life
- Effectively communicate and collaborate with interdisciplinary health care providers, clients and families in planning and delivering health care
- Demonstrate integration of knowledge, skills and professional attitude necessary to practice in the role of the registered nurse
- Integrate knowledge of cultural diversity, legal aspects and ethical principles to provide and/or manage client care in a variety of health care environments
- Demonstrate professional behaviors in the practice of nursing
- Utilize technology to find, retrieve, plan and implement evidence-based nursing care
- Pass the National Council Licensure Examination-RN (NCLEX for Registered Nurse)

Prerequisite Courses

The following OCNE requirements are for those applying to start in fall 2026.

Before students are eligible to apply to the Nursing program, they must complete a minimum of **28** credits of pre-program courses, each with a grade of "C" or higher and a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

For the most updated information and a list of prerequisite courses, please see the Nursing How to Get Started (<https://mhcc.edu/education-options/degrees-certificates/nursing/get-started/>) page. It is the student's responsibility to verify completion of appropriate prerequisite courses.

The following courses are required on the application:

1. BI231 Human Anatomy and Physiology I ★
2. MTH095 Intermediate Algebra with Right Triangle Trigonometry ★ or MTH098 Quantitative Reasoning II, or higher. Fulfills AAS degree mathematics requirement. If you have not completed a math class at the minimum stated level, you must meet this requirement by placement into MTH105Z or higher, and you must select from other prerequisite courses to attain the minimum 28 credits.

Then, choose from the following courses to reach at least 28 credits before applying:

- BI102 General Biology: Molecular Biology ★ , BI112 Biology for Health Professions or BI221Z Principles of Biology: Cells.
- BI232 Human Anatomy and Physiology II ★
- BI233 Human Anatomy and Physiology III ★
- BI234 Microbiology
- FN225 Nutrition ★ or HE225 Nutrition ★ , fulfills AAS degree Health & PE requirement if taken summer 2021 or later.
- PSY237 Human Development ★
- WR121Z Composition I ★ , fulfills AAS degree Written Communication requirement.
- WR122Z Composition II ★ or WR227Z Technical Writing ★ .
- One Social Science (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aaot/#social>) course. Fulfills AAS degree Human Relations requirement.

All courses (45 credits) above must be completed before beginning the nursing program, if accepted.

OCNE requires basic computer literacy for nursing students. Students without computer experience or who want to brush up on computer skills before beginning this program are encouraged to enroll in BCS090 Computer Basics for College Success, a FREE course offered through the Learning Success Center.

Accepted students will start in fall or winter

The following requirements were for those applying to start fall 2025.

Prerequisites		Credits
A minimum of 28 credits, including these two (2) courses, must be completed in order to apply to the program:		
BI231	Human Anatomy and Physiology I ★	4
MTH095 or MTH098	Intermediate Algebra with Right Triangle Trigonometry ★ or Quantitative Reasoning II	5
Choose from this list to reach at least 28 credits needed to apply, then complete all remaining courses before beginning the program:		19
BI102 or BI112 or BI221Z	General Biology: Molecular Biology ★ or Biology for Health Professions or Principles of Biology: Cells	
BI232	Human Anatomy and Physiology II ★	
BI233	Human Anatomy and Physiology III ★	
BI234	Microbiology	
FN225 or HE225	Nutrition ★ or Nutrition ★	
PSY237	Human Development ★	
WR121Z	Composition I ★	
WR122Z or WR227Z	Composition II ★ or Technical Writing ★	
Choose one:		
Social Science course (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aaot/#social)		
Credits		28
First Quarter		
NRS110A	Foundations of Nursing: Health Promotion - A	5
NRS110B	Foundations of Nursing: Health Promotion - B	4
NRS230	Clinical Pharmacology I	3
Health and Physical Education - see degree audit to determine if needed (https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aas/#health)		0-3
Credits		12-15
Second Quarter		
NRS111A	Foundations of Nursing in Chronic Illness I - A	3
NRS111B	Foundations of Nursing in Chronic Illness I - B	3
NRS231	Clinical Pharmacology II	3
NRS232	Pathophysiological Processes I	3
Credits		12

Third Quarter

NRS112A	Foundations of Nursing in Acute Care I - A	3
NRS112B	Foundations of Nursing in Acute Care I - B	3
NRS233	Pathophysiological Processes II	3

Choose one (1) of the following options between Math, Arts & Letters or Social Science: 3-4

If transferring to a university, select a Math course.

MTH105Z	Math in Society or Precalculus I: Functions ★
MTH111Z	or Elementary Statistics I ★
STAT243Z	

OR

Social Science course (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aaot/#social>)

OR

Arts & Letters course, excluding studio and performing arts. (<https://catalog.mhcc.edu/degree-certificate-requirements/aaot/#social>)

Credits

12-13

Fourth Quarter

NRS221A	Foundations of Nursing in Chronic Illness II and End of Life - A	4
NRS221B	Foundations of Nursing in Chronic Illness II and End-of-Life - B	5

Credits

9

Fifth Quarter

NRS222A	Foundations of Nursing in Acute Care II and End of Life - A	4
NRS222B	Foundations of Nursing in Acute Care II and End-of-Life-B	5

Credits

9

Sixth Quarter

NRS224A	Integrative Practicum I - A	3
NRS224B	Integrative Practicum I - B	6

Credits

9

Total Credits

91-95

¹ If selecting Arts & Letters, please note that OHSU does not allow studio arts (*drawing, painting, etc.*) or performing arts (*music lessons, dance, etc.*) to count toward their Humanities requirement for a BSN degree (<https://www.ohsu.edu/education/transfer-credit/#accordion-1784111-1>). They will accept courses such as art history, communications, English, ethics, film/media studies, foreign language/ASL, journalism, literature, music history, philosophy, religion, or public speaking.

Advanced Placement

Upon acceptance to the program, licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and US military medic/corpsman can reach out to the Dean of Nursing to explore credit for prior learning options.

Transfer University Partners

Students planning to transfer to a BSN program are strongly encouraged to work with their transfer institution to select transfer-level mathematics, Arts & Letters and/or Social Science courses.

- Bushnell University (<https://www.bushnell.edu/>)
- Linfield College (<https://www.linfield.edu/academics/nursing/>)
- Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) (<https://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/programs/undergraduate/current-rn-bs/>)
- Western Governor's University (WGU) (<https://www.wgu.edu/online-nursing-health-degrees/rn-to-bsn-nursing-bachelors-program.html>)
- Warner Pacific University (<https://www.warnerpacific.edu/programs/nursing-bsn/>)

How to Apply

The nursing program is a limited-entry program. This means you must meet certain criteria before you can apply (<https://mhcc.edu/education-options/degrees-certificates/nursing/get-started/>). Applicants are selected through a point-based system. The program admits around 72 students every year and has starting points in the fall and winter terms. Students of all races, ethnicities, ages, genders, religions, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, nationalities, physical abilities, and cognitive differences are welcome!

Prerequisite Advising

For assistance planning prerequisite courses, contact:

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