

# NURSING

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## DEPARTMENT OFFICE

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## Programs Offered

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### Fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Pre-Licensure B.S.N.

Post-Licensure B.S.N.

Master of Science in Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner

Post-Master's Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner

Sonoma State University's mission is reflected in the Department of Nursing's commitment to provide a foundation for lifelong learning and graduate nurses who practice within a broad cultural perspective, affirm intellectual and aesthetic achievements as a part of the human experience, develop professional leadership, foster flexibility and resilience, and contribute to the health and well-being of the world at large. The Department of Nursing recognizes nursing as a nurturing response, based upon a blend of art and science, occurring within a subjective and objective environment with the aim of developing the well-being of both nurse and client (client as individuals, families, communities, and organizations). Consistent with the philosophy and objectives is the consideration of students as unique individuals with varied ethnic and cultural backgrounds, learning styles, and goals.

The Department of Nursing provides opportunities for learning using a variety of traditional and technology-mediated strategies. Courses may be taught using webstreaming, interactive and real-time electronic communications via computer for lecture, small group and seminar discussions, self-paced and self-directed independent study, and Internet tools that support lifelong intellectual

and professional development.

The Department of Nursing enjoys a collaborative relationship with the health care delivery community within its service area and beyond. Consequently there are many clinical opportunities available. Students are placed in a variety of community-based hospitals and health care agencies. Graduates of both the baccalaureate and master's programs are well prepared for careers in a variety of health care settings and roles in the community.

Sonoma State University's nursing programs are approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, from which information about tuition, fees, and length of program may be obtained, either in writing or by telephone at Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326.

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

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*(See page 224 for sample four-year programs.)*

The undergraduate nursing program provides two program options to obtain a baccalaureate degree in nursing:

1. A pre-licensure program option that prepares the student to become a licensed Registered Nurse (R.N.); and
2. A post-licensure program option for the licensed R.N. with an associate degree or the equivalent.

All graduates of the baccalaureate program are prepared to plan and provide patient care; to teach patients, families, and staff; and to provide leadership in the delivery of health care services. The bachelor of science in nursing program offers students an opportunity to become a liberally educated professional, qualified for certification as a public health nurse, and completely prepared for graduate education in nursing. The pre-licensure program option also prepares the graduate for the R.N. licensure examination.

Eligible applicants should visit [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing) for further information.

### Pre-Licensure B.S.N. Program

The pre-licensure program consists of two components: the pre-nursing curriculum in which the student enrolls in the prerequisite courses for the nursing program and required GE; and the pre-licensure curriculum ("nursing program"), in which the student is admitted on a competitive basis to take the courses required for R.N. licensure and complete requirements for the bachelor of science in nursing degree (B.S.N.).

The prerequisite and lower division courses may be taken at either Sonoma State University or another university or community college. For admission to the prelicensure option of the B.S.N. program, SSU students must submit a supplemental application to NursingCAS between January 1 and February 28. Transfer students must submit an application to SSU **and** a supplemental application to NursingCAS

**Admission to Pre-Nursing Status  
(for the prelicensure option)**

Students applying directly from high school must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU admission criteria;
2. High school chemistry and biology with a grade of B or better in all semesters;
3. Overall high school GPA of 3.5 or better; and
4. Eligibility Index ([www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing))
5. Students who do not meet the criteria listed above will automatically be listed as “undeclared” if a second major choice is not selected.

**Admission to the Pre-Licensure Program / Nursing Major  
(final two years of degree program)**

Nursing is an impacted program and therefore requires a supplemental application to NursingCAS in addition to the application to Sonoma State University. Students applying for admission to the prelicensure program must upload to NursingCAS:

1. Transcript verification of completion of GE categories A (Written and Oral Analysis, Fundamentals of Communication, and Critical Thinking) and B (Natural Sciences and Mathematics [Statistics required for Nursing]);
2. Overall GPA of 3.00 or higher;
3. Grade of “B” or better in all the following prerequisite courses at SSU or equivalent:

Course	SSU Offering
Anatomy	Biology 220
Critical Thinking	Category A3
Integrated Chemistry	Chemistry 105
English Composition	Category A2
Oral Communication	Category A2 + A3
Physiology	Biology 224
Microbiology	Biology 240
Statistics	Math 165

4. Results of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS); and
5. Essay (criteria are included in the application packet).

Requirements for the Pre-Licensure B.S.N.	Units
General education	*50
Major requirements	57
Support courses	10
General electives (BIO 115)	3
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

*\*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 50-unit GE requirement.*

Community college transfer students must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU transfer criteria;

2. B or better in all nursing prerequisite science courses; and
3. Overall college GPA of 3.00 or higher
4. SSU only accepts transfers into the nursing major
5. Preference is given to applicants in local service area of surrounding counties of Sonoma, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, and Solano

\*Admission requirements, policies and other information related to the pre-licensure BSN program in Nursing can be found at: [www.sonoma.edu/nursing/bsm-pre/index.html](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/bsm-pre/index.html)

**Traditional Post-Licensure Program**

Sonoma State University’s baccalaureate program also offers an upper-division option designed to articulate with community college Associate Degree Nursing (A.D.N.) programs. The SSU program provides upper-division education for registered nurses fostering expanded, evidence-based practice and function with increased independence and leadership in a variety of settings.

R.N.s who have attended a hospital (diploma) program should contact a community college with an R.N. program to obtain equivalent credit for their diploma program (30 ungraded lower-division nursing units) and to complete the community college’s general education requirements for an A.A./A.S. degree.

**Admission to the Traditional Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program**

Applicants must meet the following minimum criteria. Under impact status additional criteria may apply. See SSU Nursing website for details.

1. Current California licensure as a Registered Nurse. (Recent A.D.N. graduates who have not yet received California R.N. licensure but who otherwise meet admission requirements will be accepted on a conditional basis pending National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX) results. Failure to pass NCLEX disqualifies the student from the nursing major – but not from the University – until such time as a passing score is obtained.);
2. Sixty semester units of college-transferable credit with an overall GPA of 3.00 or better: 30 units should meet California State University general education requirements, including areas A (English Composition, Speech, and Critical Thinking) and B4 (Statistics required); 30 units must be credit for lower-division nursing coursework;
3. Minimum of 3 semester units of college-transferable credit in chemistry with a grade of B or better; and
4. Human anatomy and physiology within the past 10 years or direct clinical nursing experience within the past two years.

**Requirements for the Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program Units**

General Education and Nursing Prerequisites	54
Upper-Division GE at SSU	6

Major Requirements  
Lower-division nursing prerequisites and

nursing at community college or university	16
Upper-division at SSU (Up to 20 units of Upper Division nursing for NCLEX based on transcript review) E.O. 1084	44
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

\* 3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 48-unit GE requirement (for transfer students).

### L.V.N. 30-Unit Option

The L.V.N. 30-unit option includes only those nursing courses required for R.N. licensure and qualifies L.V.N.s to take the NCLEX-R.N., but does not earn a B.S.N.. To be admitted to the L.V.N. 30-unit option an L.V.N. must have completed 4 units of physiology and 4 units of microbiology with a grade of B or better. Admission to this option is ONLY on an “as space is available” basis. Contact the department for further details.

### Collaborative Nursing Education Continuum Model (CNECM)

Sonoma State University offers an early start baccalaureate program track that builds on the strong foundation of associate degree nursing (ADN) education and utilizes community college transfer credits from the ADN program to meet the BSN degree requirements. The curriculum enhances existing nursing knowledge and skills with study of complex professional perspectives, multifaceted health assessment, community/public health theory and clinical, and socio-political perspectives in the health care environment.

Students begin the BSN curriculum following successful completion of the first year of their ADN program. After completion of two consecutive summers of one course each, students enter in the following fall to complete the one-year program plan of curriculum as matriculated students.

### Admission to the CNECM

Applicants must meet the following minimum criteria. See SSU nursing website for details. ([www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing))

1. Must be in good standing in the first semester of an ADN program in Santa Rosa Junior College, College of Marin, Napa Valley College, Solano Community College or Mendocino College and;
2. Minimum of 60 semester units of college-transferable credit with a minimum 3.0 overall GPA and;
3. Minimum of 3 semester units of college-transferable credit in chemistry, statistics (B1), and critical thinking (A3) with a grade of B or better and;
4. Preference for admission will be given to applicants with the fewest number of lower division SSU GE requirements outstanding.

### Continued Progress in the CNECM as Matriculated Post-Licensure Student

1. Current unrestricted, California RN license prior to registration of Nursing 310, 412 Lecture and Practicum
2. Admission to the university

### Undergraduate Nursing Progression and Retention

Should a student not attain a minimum grade of C (a C- is not acceptable) in a required nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of C or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of C is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the B.S.N. program. Only two courses in the nursing major may be repeated once.

Pre-licensure BSN Degree completion time limits are specific-see [www.sonoma.edu/nursing/bsn-post/index.html](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/bsn-post/index.html) under curriculum pattern.

### Master of Science in Nursing-Family Nurse Practitioner

(See page 225 for a sample four-year program.)

The goal of the graduate curriculum is to provide advanced professional education to nurses with a B.S.N. or equivalent. The graduate degree in nursing is designed to respond to society’s needs for professional nurses who influence the structure of emerging patterns of health care practice and delivery. Specialization in an area of nursing practice or function enables graduates to effectively address current and future societal health needs. Graduates support the development and refinement of nursing science by assuming advanced clinical and leadership roles within the profession and by participating in research and other scholarly activities.

SSU offers specialization as a family nurse practitioner (F.N.P.), with emphasis on advanced clinical primary care practice.

### Application Procedures

The standard CSU application must be submitted for admission to SSU. In addition, applicants must:

1. Meet the minimum admissions requirements;
2. Submit a supplemental application form; to NursingCAS

Applicants who have received their B.S.N. from SSU also need to submit a standard CSU application and supplemental nursing application to apply for graduate standing at SSU.

### Family Nurse Practitioner Program

The purpose of the family nurse practitioner specialty option is to prepare registered nurses with a bachelor’s degree in nursing for advanced clinical practice with an emphasis on promoting individual and family wellness. The F.N.P. specialty focuses upon the theoretical and scientific bases for the assessment, diagnosis, and management of common illness as well as health teaching, counseling, and preventive services. Emphasis is placed upon advanced clinical skills that include history-taking, physical examination, health screening, management of common illnesses, and techniques of prevention and risk reduction. Graduates may work in clinics, health maintenance organizations, schools, and medical practices as primary health care providers.

## Admission Requirements

1. B.S.N. degree;
2. GPA of 3.00 in the last two years (60 units) of undergraduate or post-graduate study;
3. Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
4. Completion of a course in statistics in college career;
6. Two years of full-time experience as a R.N. preferred.

## Curriculum Features

Students and faculty share responsibility for finding an acceptable preceptor. Content includes health needs and risks of all family members, family theories, and legal and professional issues pertinent to nurse practitioners. Content taken concurrently with the clinical sequences includes advanced health assessment and health risk assessment of individuals and families, pathophysiological concepts in diagnosis and treatment of common illness, pharmacology, and practice issues pertinent to nurse practitioners.

Students complete a comprehensive exam for the culminating experience that serves as evidence of successful integration of the diverse content areas in the curriculum.

The SSU family nurse practitioner specialty option meets criteria specified in Section 1484, Title 16, of the *California Administrative Code* and is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing.

The M.S.N. F.N.P. curriculum is 46 units, students progress from basic advanced practice skills to more complex skills. Each semester has a clinical skills component.

## Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Option

The certificate option is a 36-unit course of study designed for registered nurses who hold a master's degree in nursing who wish to become family nurse practitioners. The application process is in two stages. The first is to the program, through Nursing CAS. Students who have been accepted will be given instructions on how to apply to the University.

## Graduate Nursing Progression and Retention

Should a graduate nursing student not attain a minimum grade of B- (a C+ is not acceptable) in a required graduate nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the program. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of B- or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of B- is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the M.S.N. program. Admission requirements, policies, and other information related to the Master's Degree Program in Nursing can be found at: [www.sonoma.edu/nursing/fnpp/](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing/fnpp/)

## Pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Curriculum Plan

### Freshman Year: 31-32 Units

#### Fall Semester (15-16 Units)

BIOL 115 (3)  
CHEM 105 (5)  
GE A3 (4)  
GE D1 (3-4)

#### Spring Semester (16 Units)

BIOL 220 (4)  
MATH 165 (4)  
GE A2 (4)  
GE C3 (4)

### Sophomore Year: 28-29 Units\*

#### Fall Semester (15 Units)

BIOL 224 (4)  
GE C2 (4)  
GE C1 (4)  
GE D2 (3)

#### Spring Semester (13-14 Units)

BIOL 240 (4)  
PSY 302 (UD GE) (3)  
GE D3 (3)  
GE D4 (3-4)

### Junior Year: 30 Units

#### Fall Semester (15 Units)

NURS 301 (9)  
NURS 303 (6)

#### Spring Semester (15 Units)

NURS 302 (6)  
NURS 304 (6)  
NURS 310 (3)

### Senior Year: 30 Units

#### Fall Semester (15 Units)

NURS 407 (6)  
NURS 409 (6)  
GE D5 (3)

#### Spring Semester (15 Units)

NURS 410 (5)  
NURS 412 (5)  
NURS 414 (5)

**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

*Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is satisfied upon completion of the nursing program.*

*\* Pre-requisite courses for application to the major*

## Post-Licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing Curriculum Plan

### Senior Year: 32 Units

#### Fall Semester (15 Units)

NURS 310 (3)  
NURS 312 (4)  
NURS 313 (4)  
UD GE C1 (4)

#### Spring Semester (17 Units)

NURS 410 (5)  
NURS 412 (5)  
NURS 416 (3)  
UD GE C2 (4)

**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

*Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is satisfied upon completion of the nursing program.*

## Master of Science in Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (Full-time Curriculum Plan)

The sequence below is for full-time students. A part-time sequence that can be completed in six semesters follows below.

### YEAR 1: 21 Units

#### Fall Semester (11 Units)

N 501 (4)  
N 509 (4)  
N 549 (3)

#### Spring Semester (10 Units)

N 540A (3)  
N 550A (4)  
N 552 (3)

### YEAR 2: 25 Units

#### Fall Semester (11 Units)

N 540B (3)  
N 550B (4)  
N 560 (4)

#### Spring Semester (14 Units)

N 550C (4)  
N 562 (4)  
N 564 (4)  
N 566 (2)

### TOTAL UNITS: 46

## Master of Science in Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (Part-time Curriculum Plan)

### YEAR 1: 16 Units

#### Fall Semester (8 Units)

N 501 (4)  
N 560 (4)

#### Spring Semester (8 Units)

N 509 (4)  
N 564 (4)

### YEAR 2: 16-17 Units

#### Fall Semester (6-7 Units)

N 549 (3)  
Optional Elective (3-4)

#### Spring Semester (10 Units)

N 540A (3)  
N 552 (3)

### YEAR 3: 17 Units

#### Fall Semester (7 Units)

N 540B (3)  
N 550B (4)

#### Spring Semester (10 Units)

N 562 (4)  
N 550C (4)  
N 566 (2)

### TOTAL UNITS: 46

## Family Nurse Practitioner Post Master's Certificate Curriculum Plan

### YEAR 1: 21 Units

#### Fall Semester (11 Units)

N 501 (4)  
N 509 (4)  
N 549 (3)

#### Spring Semester (10 Units)

N 540A (3)  
N 550A (4)  
N 552 (3)

### YEAR 2: 15 Units

#### Fall Semester (7 Units)

N 540B (3)  
N 550B (4)

#### Spring Semester (8 Units)

N 550C (4)  
N 562 (4)

### TOTAL UNITS: 36

## CNECM (CPOST) Full-Time Academic Program Plan

### Full-Time Enrollment (One year for completion)

Enrollment in required nursing coursework in the pattern below is expected. Enrollment in and completion of 6 units of UDGE is individually determined based on student's remaining degree requirements and according to UDGE requirements (see Upper Division GE Guidelines). UDGE coursework included in this plan is for example only.

#### Summer Term Between 1st and 2nd Year of ADN Program: 4 Units

NURS 312 Baccalaureate Perspectives I (4)

#### Summer Term Following Graduation from ADN Program: 4 Units

NURS 313 Baccalaureate Perspectives II (4)

### 70 Units

Transfer Credit from Community College Applied toward BSN (70)

### 20 Units

Up to 20 units upper division Nursing credit awarded for NCLEX-RN based on transcript evaluation (20)

#### After ADN and RN Licensure (One year completion)

#### Fall Semester (11 Units)

NURS 310 Nursing Research & Evidence Based Practice (3)

NURS 412 Community/Public Health Nursing [Theory (3)/Clinical (2)] (5)

GE C1 Arts or Elective (3)

#### Spring Semester (11 Units)

NURS 410 Nursing Power, Policy, and Politics (5)

NURS 416 Application of Baccalaureate Perspectives [Clinical (3)] (3)

GE C2 Humanities or Elective (3)

### BSN TOTAL UNITS: 120