

NURSING (AS)

Award: Associate of Science Degree

No. of credits required: 70

For more information: Visit <http://www.harford.edu/academics/program-courses/nursing.php> (<https://www.harford.edu/academics/programs-courses/nursing.php>) or contact Dr. Rebecca Diaz, Director for Nursing Education, 443-412-2740, rdiaz@harford.edu or Admissions, 443-412-2109.

Program Description

The Associate of Sciences Degree Nursing Program prepares students for the licensure examination for registered nurses. Graduates of the Associate of Sciences Degree Nursing Program are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The program also provides opportunities to plan for career mobility through courses that articulate with selected baccalaureate nursing programs in the state of Maryland.

The Associate of Sciences Degree Nursing Program is approved by the Maryland Board of Nursing and accredited by:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

3390 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, GA 30326

404-975-5000

www.acenursing.org (<http://www.acenursing.org>)

Program Goals

With the guidance of the Mission, Philosophy & Core Concepts, the graduate of the Associate of Sciences Degree Nursing Program will:

1. Practice nursing in a caring manner.
2. Collaborate with clients and other members of the health care team.
3. Utilize nursing practice to continuously improve client and population standards.
4. Demonstrate professional performance within legal, ethical and regulatory standards.
5. Use safe practices and processes to promote high-quality outcomes.

Selected Admission

Registration for all clinical courses (courses that start with NURS) require selective admission based on specific program admission requirements.

RN Program Admission Requirements

Meeting with an academic advisor and/or attending pre-nursing seminars is strongly recommended.

To be considered for admission to the Associate Degree Nursing Program, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Complete and submit an HCC credit enrollment application, if not a current student.
2. Complete and submit a nursing program application and official transcripts, either printed by the issuing institution within the last 12 months prior to application and delivered to the Registration and Records, or submitted electronically by the transfer school to transcripts@harford.edu, by **February 15** for admission to the summer accelerated and/or fall class, **September 15** for admission to spring class. Transcripts through Parchment and the National

Student Clearinghouse are acceptable. Transcripts issued more than 12 months will not be accepted.

3. A minimum score of 58.7 on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is a requirement for admission to the HCC Nursing Program. Students who have tested at other schools or locations can request to have their TEAS scores sent to Harford Community College for a fee. The request should be made no later than 5 days prior to the application deadline to ensure the scores will be received at HCC by the deadline. TEAS scores are valid for two (2) years only. Students are able to test and retest up to three times within a year period.
4. To meet the math requirement to qualify for the nursing program, students must do one of the following:
 - Receive a qualifying score on the HCC math assessment test (score valid for two years), or
 - Achieve a 530 score on SAT mathematics or an ACT score of 21 or higher (both SAT and ACT scores valid for two years), or
 - Complete the highest transitional math course at HCC (MATH 025 STEM Track II, MATH 026 STEM Track III, or MATH 027 STAT Track Mathematics), or
 - Complete a college-level general education math course (MATH 101 College Algebra (GM), MATH 102 Contemporary Mathematics (GM), MATH 216 Introduction to Statistics (GM), etc.)

5. Complete a minimum of 16 college credits which include:

Code	Title	Credits
ENG 101	English Composition (GE) ¹	3
BIO 203	Anatomy and Physiology I (GL) ¹	4
PSY 101	General Psychology (GB)	3
Select two of the following:		
PSY 214	Human Development Across the Life Span ¹	
BIO 204	Anatomy and Physiology II (GL) ¹	
BIO 205	Microbiology (GL) ¹	
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology (GB)	
MATH elective (GM) requirement		

¹ A grade of C or better must be earned in these courses.

6. Must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of 2.50 or higher on the courses applicable to the Associate of Sciences Degree Nursing Program.
7. Meet the essential technical standards that include physical abilities and behavioral and professional characteristics necessary for the student to successfully complete the Nursing Program.

The program is highly competitive, and completion of the admission criteria may not result in admission to the program.

Nursing Progression

Once a student is selected into the Nursing Program a minimum of four semesters is required to meet clinical nursing course degree requirements for the Associate Degree Program. Students who have major home/family or work responsibilities must be aware of the extensive time commitment required by nursing courses.

Students are encouraged to consult with an academic advisor to plan a schedule that will meet program requirements while taking into consideration student capabilities.

The nature of the nursing curriculum, where one concept builds upon another, requires an orderly, sequential progression that follows the curriculum plan. Any break in this sequence of progression in nursing courses due to withdrawal, failure of a required course, failure to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, or any need for a leave of absence from the program will require a written request for re-enrollment to the Director for Nursing Education.

A student who is dismissed from the Nursing Program for any reason is no longer eligible for re-enrollment into the Nursing Program. Further details regarding Nursing Program progression and other nursing protocols can be found in the Nursing Student Handbook at https://www.harford.edu/_images/academics/nursing-allied-health/_pdf/nursing-student-handbook.pdf.

In order to protect the well-being of the student and their patients when in clinical, the student must complete mandatory education and clinical documents prescribed by the clinical facility.

1. Submit documentation of physical examination, required tests, and immunizations, a copy of the front and back of the American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR/BLS certification card, and a copy of the front and back of your health insurance card upon admission to the program through an approved vendor.
2. Documents should be submitted to the approved vendor by the specified date; without the required documentation, the student is not allowed to participate in the clinical portion of the nursing program.
3. Notify the Director for Nursing Education for any change in health status.

Documentation of students' pre-clinical health requirements must be done by an approved vendor by the designated deadline each semester. Failure to submit pre-clinical health requirements by the program deadline will result in a 15-point deduction on the professionalism rubric and an unsatisfactory evaluation on the clinical evaluation tool and may result in clinical failure.

Students are required to meet the strictest standard for health requirements by our clinical partners. For example, some clinical agencies may require additional vaccinations and all students in the nursing program will be expected to meet that strictest standard to facilitate flexibility in clinical placement within the program.

- CPR certification is required and must be maintained throughout enrollment in the nursing program. It must include both practical and theoretical components. The required CPR certification is Healthcare Provider CPR/BLS by the American Heart Association (offered at Harford Community College).
- Health insurance is required for all of our Harford Community College nursing students and must be maintained through enrollment in the nursing program. Annual updates will be required by the approved vendor.
- PPDs are an ANNUAL requirement and should be repeated prior to the beginning of the semester during which they will expire. (Only 1-step TB skin tests will be accepted)
- Seasonal flu immunization is required of all students and must be updated every September. A waiver is available for students who have a documented medical or religious reason.

- COVID immunization is required of all students for clinical placement within the nursing program. A waiver is available and may be submitted for review and approval for students who have a documented medical or religious reason. Waiver requests must be submitted by the designated due date. Clinical partners that accept waivers are limited. Placements are not guaranteed.

All students will be required to obtain a criminal background check and drug screen through an approved vendor upon admission to the nursing program.

- Criminal background checks and/or drug screening are required by affiliating clinical agencies and may have a fee involved.
- Clinical agency refusal to accept a student based on the results of a background check or drug screen may impact the student's ability to complete the nursing program.
- Only negative drug screen results are accepted. Positive and dilute negative results may impact the student's ability to attend clinical.

Transfer Information

Students planning to transfer credits to a baccalaureate nursing program are encouraged to confer with an academic advisor for the planning of their academic program of study.

Employment Information

The Registered Nurse (RN) assumes a variety of responsibilities as a member of the health care team, including management of client care through assessment and documentation of symptoms, reactions, and the progress of clients. The nurse plans, implements, supervises, and evaluates activities directed toward health restoration, health promotion, health maintenance, and illness prevention. Employment opportunities for registered nurses are available in national, metropolitan Baltimore, and local job markets. Future projections for the employment of registered nurses are highly favorable, with practice opportunities in a variety of health care settings.

Degree Requirements

Due to the high demand for this program, most students have completed the following required courses prior to beginning the Nursing Program.

Required Non-Clinical Courses

Code	Title	Credits
BIO 203	Anatomy and Physiology I (GL) ¹	4
BIO 204	Anatomy and Physiology II (GL) ¹	4
BIO 205	Microbiology (GL) ¹	4
ENG 101	English Composition (GE) ¹	3
PSY 101	General Psychology (GB)	3
PSY 214	Human Development Across the Life Span ¹	3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology (GB)	3
Arts/Humanities Elective (GAH) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#arts-humanities)		6
Mathematics Elective (GM) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#mathematics)		3
Physical Education Elective		1

¹ A grade of C or better must be earned in these courses.

Required Nursing Course Sequence

First Semester		Credits
NURS 101	Fundamentals of Nursing	7
Credits		7
Second Semester		Credits
NURS 105	Medical-Surgical Nursing I	4.5
NURS 112	Contemporary Issues in Nursing ¹	1
NURS 110	Mental Health Nursing	3
Credits		8.5
Third Semester		Credits
NURS 210	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	4.5
NURS 220	Maternal-Newborn Nursing	3
NURS 230	Pediatric Nursing	3
Credits		10.5
Fourth Semester		Credits
NURS 211	Medical-Surgical Nursing III ²	9
NURS 212	Leadership in Nursing ¹	1
Credits		10
Total Credits		36

¹ Only offered online.

² Registration for NURS 211 Medical-Surgical Nursing III requires concurrent registration of any remaining courses necessary for graduation.

Please note: A grade of C or better must be earned in **all** NURS courses.

Recommended Course Sequence for 5-Semester Plan

Prerequisite Semester		
Code	Title	Credits
ENG 101	English Composition (GE) ¹	3
BIO 203	Anatomy and Physiology I (GL) ¹	4
PSY 101	General Psychology (GB)	3
SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology (GB)	3
MATH elective requirement (GM)		

¹ A grade of C or better must be earned in these courses.

Progression through the Nursing Program may either follow a typical five-semester plan, or the plan may be modified to accommodate part-time study within the limits of nursing course progression.

First Semester		Credits
NURS 101	Fundamentals of Nursing	7
BIO 204	Anatomy and Physiology II (GL) ¹	4
PSY 214	Human Development Across the Life Span ¹	3
Credits		14
Second Semester		Credits
NURS 105	Medical-Surgical Nursing I	4.5
NURS 110	Mental Health Nursing	3
NURS 112	Contemporary Issues in Nursing ²	1
BIO 205	Microbiology (GL)	4

Physical Education Elective		1
Credits		13.5
Third Semester		Credits
NURS 210	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	4.5
NURS 220	Maternal-Newborn Nursing	3
NURS 230	Pediatric Nursing	3
Arts/Humanities Elective (GAH) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#arts-humanities)		3
Credits		13.5
Fourth Semester		Credits
NURS 211	Medical-Surgical Nursing III ³	9
NURS 212	Leadership in Nursing	1
Arts/Humanities Elective (GAH) (https://catalog.harford.edu/general-education/#arts-humanities)		3
Credits		13
Total Credits		54

¹ A grade of C or better must be earned in these courses.

² Only offered online.

³ Registration for NURS 211 Medical-Surgical Nursing III requires concurrent registration of any remaining courses necessary for graduation.

Please note: A grade of C or better must be earned in **all** NURS courses.

General Education Degree Requirements

Note: The following codes identify courses which satisfy the General Education Degree Requirements:

Behavioral/Social Science (GB)
 English Composition (GE)
 Arts/Humanities (GAH)
 Interdisciplinary and Emerging Issues (GI)
 Biological/Physical Laboratory Science (GL)
 Mathematics (GM)
 Biological/Physical Science (GS)