

Marquette University College of Nursing Direct Entry MSN

The master's program for non-nursing graduates is designed for those individuals who hold baccalaureate degrees in fields other than nursing and who wish to become nurses. The program builds upon the student's broad educational preparation and provides an intense, accelerated, and specialized nursing curriculum to meet the student's career goals. Students complete the nursing requirements and meet the BSN program objectives in an intense 15-month pre-MSN phase. Students are prepared in the MSN program for advanced nursing practice roles in: acute care, adults, older adults, pediatrics (acute and primary care), clinical nurse leader, health care systems leadership or nurse-midwifery. Marquette nursing faculty believe that leadership in providing an academically, fiscally, and socially responsible system to facilitate educational mobility of individuals is an important component of the College mission. The curriculum is designed to facilitate graduate nursing education and to accommodate adult learners. The plan offers an efficient and academically sound program of study to serve students, the nursing profession, and the general public.

Program Highlights

- The program builds upon the student's broad education by providing an intense, accelerated curriculum leading to a master's degree in nursing.
- Eligibility for NCLEX (nursing licensing examination) occurs at the completion of the pre-MSN phase as verified by the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing.
- Graduates will be academically eligible to take the appropriate certification examination administered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center or other specialty certification body.

Admission Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree – transcripts of all college work
- Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or greater
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE is waived with a GPA of 3.2 or higher)
- Completion of three recommendation forms
- Updated resume
- Goal statement
- Completion of the following prerequisite courses with grade of C or better:
 - Anatomy and Physiology (5 or more credits)
 - Chemistry or Biochemistry or Biology or Microbiology (5 or more credits total)
 - Behavioral Sciences (e.g., psychology, sociology) (3 credits)
 - Statistics (including inferential) (3 credits)

Admission Process

Prospective students must apply online to the Graduate School for the MSN program. Paper applications will not be accepted. A \$50 application fee is charged. The Graduate School issues an admission letter to those admitted to the program and a contract indicating all the prerequisites that need to be completed in order to begin the strictly MSN courses. During the Spring semester of the pre-MSN phase, students select a graduate specialty. An interview is required at this time for admission to the MSN- Pediatrics Primary & Acute Care, Acute Care and Nurse-midwifery options. For enrollment in the 2009 cohort, the deadline for completed applications (all components submitted to Graduate School) is January 8, 2010.

Progression Requirements

For the pre-MSN program phase, a GPA of 3.0 is required each semester and summer module for continuation in the program. Professional nursing licensure (RN) is required prior to the first graduate clinical experience. Graduate specialty preference should be declared in the semester prior to NCLEX eligibility. Graduate school progression requirements will apply, including the need for continuous enrollment.

Licensure

The Wisconsin State Board of Nursing has approved the pre-MSN phase of this program for eligibility to sit for NCLEX exam and, upon passing, to be licensed as a RN in the State of Wisconsin. Pre-MSN licensure may not be granted by other states.