

Associate of Science in Nursing Registered Track

The Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Program consists of two academic years and two summer sessions. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Admission to the program is by application and committee selection. Qualified licensed practical nurses (LPNs) may receive fifteen hours of nursing credit, NUR 100 and NUR 101. Six hours non-nursing credit may be awarded for CFD 155 and ALH 110 to qualified LPNs. (See Entrance Requirements for LPN-to-RN Program). The 72-credit-hour program course progression is distributed as follows:

Associate of Science in Nursing Curriculum

Year 1: Summer

ENG 110	Writing I	(3)
CHM 105	Fundamentals of Chemistry	(5)

Year 1: Fall

IDS 110	Student Success	(1)
BMS 267	Human Anatomy	(4)
BMS 268	Human Physiology	(4)
NUR 100**	Fundamentals of Nursing	(7)

Year 1: Spring

BIO 210	Elements of Microbiology	(3)
PSY 121	Introductory Psychology	(3)
ALH 110***	Nutrition for Health and Disease	(3)
NUR 101**	Nursing Systems for the Adult Client I	(8)

Year 2: Summer

NUR 201	Nursing Systems for Promotion of Mental Health	(3)
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Year 2: Fall

NUR 202	Pharmacology	(3)
NUR 204	Nursing Systems for the Adult Client II Elective	(9) (2)

Year 2: Spring

NUR 212	Nursing Systems for the Family	(9)
NUR 220	Current Trends and Issues in Nursing (capstone course)	(2)
PLS 101	American Democracy and Citizenship	(3)

**Credit for qualified LPNs admitted to the program for a total of 15 nursing credit hours.

***Credit for CFD 155 and ALH 110 awarded to qualified LPNs.

Based on 2009-10 Catalog

What type of work would I do if I became a Registered Nurse?

One of the most highly recognized professions in health care, registered nurses fulfill a number of key roles in caring for the sick and injured and helping people stay well. They watch and record symptoms, reactions and the progress of patients, and they assist doctors during treatments and examinations. They dispense medicine to patients according to doctors' orders, and they instruct patients and their families in proper health care. Some RNs also may help patients during convalescence and rehabilitation. They work in hospitals, doctors offices and nursing homes, and some do research work or instruct nursing students. (*Missouri Occupational Information Coordinating Committee*)

What type of degree will I earn at Missouri State University-West Plains?

Students enrolled in the nursing program will obtain a two-year Associate of Science in Nursing degree (ASN). The program consists of courses in liberal arts, science and nursing. The nursing courses include lecture and laboratory periods with relevant clinical practicums provided at health care facilities located in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. Those who successfully complete the program are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

What are my options for continuing on to a four-year degree?

Missouri State University-West Plains has always been responsive to the needs of its patrons. Missouri State University-West Plains and Missouri State University-Springfield have teamed up to offer courses leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing on the West Plains campus via various distance learning methods. After completing the Associate of Science in Nursing, students can work full time while they take bachelor's degree courses.

Nurses in the United States

RNs employed in Nursing (2004): 2,421,461
 RNs with an associate degree as initial preparation: 1,227,256 (42.2%)
 Average RN age: 46.8
 Gender: 94.3% Female, 5.7% Male
 Average Salary for full-time employment: \$57,784

Employment Settings

Hospital: 56.2%
 Nursing Home/Extended Care Facilities: 6.3%
 Nursing Education: 2.6%
 Public/Community Health: 14.9%
 Ambulatory Care: 11.5%
 Other: 8.5%

Source: National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing

For More Information

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 WPNursing@missouristate.edu

Essential Abilities

The following functional abilities or attributes are essential in order to meet the objectives for the ASN program at Missouri State University-West Plains. With reasonable accommodation, the student must possess:

1. Fine motor skills sufficient to perform skills such as picking up, grasping, and manipulating small objects with hands, and writing with a pen or pencil.
2. Physical mobility and strength sufficient to move about in a nursing unit and participate in client care.
3. Physical stamina sufficient to perform client care for entire length of clinical experience (6-8 hours).
4. Auditory ability sufficient for assessment of client health.
5. Visual acuity sufficient to see objects up to 20 inches away.
6. Reading ability sufficient to understand the written word at a minimum of a tenth-grade level.
7. Arithmetic competence that would allow the student to read and understand columns of writing; to tell time; to use measuring tools; and to add, subtract, multiply, and divide.
8. Emotional stability sufficient to assume responsibility/accountability for actions, to provide client with emotional support, to adapt to environmental stress, and to monitor own emotions.
9. Analytical thinking sufficient to transfer knowledge from one situation to another, to problem solve, to prioritize tasks, and to use long-term and short-term memory.
10. Critical thinking ability sufficient to exercise sound nursing judgment through the sequencing of information and the identification of cause and effect relationships.
11. Interpersonal skills sufficient to establish rapport with clients and co-workers, and to respect the rights of others and the differences in clients.
12. Communication skills sufficient to teach others, to explain procedures, to interact with others, and to convey information in writing.

This list of behavioral examples is not considered to be complete. Cases must be reviewed individually. Please contact the Department of Nursing for further information.

Adapted from: Yocom, C.J. (1996). Validation study: Functional abilities essential for nursing practice.

Entrance Requirements for Regular Track Students

The following listed application information must be on file in the nursing office no later than March 1 annually. The student will receive written notification of admission status – accepted, alternate, or not accepted – by the first week in April. All testing can be arranged through the Student Advisement and Academic Support Center (417-255-7222) in the Garnett Library.

1. Admission to Missouri State University-West Plains with a non-probationary status.
2. A completed application to the Nursing Program.
3. A final official high school transcript or GED certificate (required by the Missouri State Board of Nursing). A partial transcript will be accepted if the applicant is presently enrolled in high school. Upon graduation, a final transcript must be received by the nursing department, if admitted.
4. Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges or universities and nursing programs. Transcripts from other nursing programs should be sent directly to the nursing department.
5. An ACT score less than five years old.
6. A score of 18 or better on the reading portion of ACT or a C grade or better in RDG 125.
7. Achievement of a minimum Ranking Score of 55 (See Ranking Score Computation).
8. Mathematics 103 (Intermediate Algebra) eligibility determined by:
 - a. ACT score and previous math classes taken, or
 - b. completed college course work.
 - c. Students accepted into the program must have MTH 130 eligibility established prior to beginning nursing courses.
9. English 110 eligibility as determined by:
 - a. ACT score and a writing sample; or
 - b. completed college course work.
 - c. Students accepted into the program must have ENG 110 completed prior to beginning nursing courses.

Admission Eligibility

The ASN Admissions Committee establishes admission eligibility using the Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action statements found in the University Policies section of the catalog. To be considered for admission, the applicant must achieve a minimum ranking score of 55 (See Ranking Score Computation). All applicants will be considered competitively on an annual basis.

1. Ranking Score Computation
 - a. To be considered for admission an applicant must achieve a minimum score of 55 using the following formula: GPA (GradePoint Average) multiplied by ACT (American College Test composite score) equals Ranking Score. The four-point scale in which an A=4 and F=0 will be used to compute the GPA. The cumulative grade point must equal a minimum of 2.0 (a C letter grade).
 - b. College GPA will be used to compute the Ranking Score for candidates having 12 or more college credit hours. The ASN Admissions Committee may choose to consider only the most recent 12-24 hours of college credit to calculate the GPA.
 - c. High School GPA will be used to compute the Ranking Score for candidates having less than 12 college credit hours. Scores from the GED will be converted to a four-point scale by dividing the GED by 90.
2. Students seeking admission who have completed support courses within the nursing curriculum will have a competitive edge.
 - a. Support courses within the nursing curriculum may be repeated only one time. Nursing students who fail any two nursing courses (including failing one course twice) are ineligible for readmission.
 - b. If selected, admission is contingent upon meeting the grade criteria of C or better for past and current enrollment in nursing curriculum support classes.
3. Past academic history and known academic integrity may be used by the committee to determine if an applicant will be admitted into the nursing program.
4. The committee may waive the required ACT score for students who have completed a previous bachelor's degree with a grade point average of 3.0 or better from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university. The applicant will be ranked immediately below the highest ranked student with an equivalent grade point average (GPA).
5. RSMo 660.317 prohibits a hospital, or provider, from knowingly allowing those who have been convicted of, pled guilty to, or nolo contendere in this state or any other state or who have been found guilty of a crime, which if committed in Missouri would be a Class A or B felony violation, to give care to clients in their agency. As defined by state law, these are violations of Chapter RSMo 565 (domestic violence/violence against a person), RSMo 566 (sex offenses) or TSMo 569 (robbery, arson, burglary or related offenses), or any violation of subsection 3 of section 198.070 RSMo (abuse and neglect), or section 568.020 RSMo (incest). RSMo 660.315 requires an inquiry whether a person is listed on Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services disqualification list. In addition to these records, an online search will be conducted to determine if a student is on other government sanction lists. These online searches include Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the General Services Administration (GSA). As a requirement of the Missouri State University-West Plains Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) Program application process in response to RSMo 660.317b and 660.315, applicants to the program will be required to consent to release of their criminal history record (RSMo 43.450) solely for the purpose of determining the applicant's ability to enter patient care areas in order to fulfill the requirements of the ASN program.
6. Offers of acceptance to the Associate of Science in Nursing Program are made as conditional offers. The conditions include satisfactory completion of pre-nursing courses, a satisfactory background check, and a negative drug and/or controlled substance test. An applicant or current nursing student who refuses to authorize and pay for testing or who tests positive for drugs, alcohol, or controlled substances will not receive a final offer of admission, or will not be allowed to continue in the nursing program.

Program Costs (All costs are approximate and subject to change without notice.)

ITEM	COST
Nurse Equipment (Scissors \$5.00, Stethoscope \$75.00, Forceps \$4.00, Penlight \$2.25, EKG Caliper \$5.50 Optional)	91.75
Uniforms (2) (\$100.00-150.00)	150.00
Lab Coat	35.00
Watch	25.00
Shoes	60.00
Eye Goggles/Glasses	7.00
Individual Earphones for Computer Use (Optional)	15.00
Lab Fee (anatomy, physiology, microbiology, chemistry)	80.00
Textbooks (Required books)	1500.00
Hepatitis B Vaccination (3 injections) plus Titer	111.00
Travel, Lodging for Clinicals (Year 1 - 500.00, Year 2 - 1000.00)	1,500.00
Graduation Cap and Gown	26.00
Graduation Fee (6th semester)	55.00
Graduation Announcements (10) (Optional)	13.50
Criminal Background Check fee (5th Semester - November)	52.20
State Board Fee (5th semester - November)	45.00
NCLEX Fee (6th semester - March)	200.00
NSNA Membership Dues (Optional)	70.00
CPR Class (Varies)	60.00
Nursing Pin (Optional)	50.00
Course Fees (NUR 100 – \$155.00; NUR 101 – \$110.00; NUR 190 – \$60.00; NUR 204 – \$90.00; NUR 212 – \$75.00; NUR 220 - 35.00)	525.00
Tuition (41 credit hours at \$130 per credit hour for nursing courses; 31 credit hours at \$102 per credit hour for support courses, doesn't include fees, refer to catalog)	8,492.00
Total Estimated Cost	\$13,163.45

**U.S.
Postage
Required**

Missouri State University-West Plains
 Associate of Science in Nursing Degree Program
 128 Garfield Avenue
 West Plains, MO 65775