



**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**  
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

# **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**2003-2004**

**CATALOG**

**1/20/04**

**University of Maryland  
School of Nursing  
655 West Lombard Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-1579**

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(Please note that the purpose of this publication is to provide information about the University of Maryland School of Nursing to prospective students, enrolled students, faculty, staff, alumni, the general public and other parties as may have interest in the information therein. THIS PUBLICATION IS NEITHER A CONTRACT NOR AN OFFER TO MAKE A CONTRACT. While every effort has been made and will be made to ensure the accuracy of the information therein, the School of Nursing reserves the right to make changes at any time with respect to course offerings, degree requirements, services provided or any other subject addressed in this publication. The information in this publication is provided solely for the convenience of the reader, and the School of Nursing expressly disclaims any liability that may otherwise be incurred.)

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## ***Message from the Dean***

The outstanding reputation of the University of Maryland School of Nursing is built upon both a one hundred year old tradition of excellence and a 21st century commitment to preparing skilled and knowledgeable professionals to assume positions of leadership within nursing and the health care community.

Our purposes are clear: to advance the science of nursing through research; to prepare caring and competent clinicians; to promote the very highest levels of leadership, performance and accomplishment; and to engage in clinical practice and service of the highest quality. It is important to note the numerous contributions of our capable and diverse community of faculty, staff, students and alumni in enabling the School of Nursing to successfully pursue this ambitious professional agenda.

The School of Nursing provides a comprehensive educational program leading to bachelor's, master's, doctoral degrees and post-master's certificates, as well as numerous opportunities for lifelong, continuing education. The School is organized into two academic departments: Organizational Systems and Adult Health; Family and Community Health.

Approximately 130 faculty prepare our 1,400 students for practice in a constantly evolving health care delivery system. The School continues to build its nationally recognized research program contributing to finding solutions to critical health care problems such as fostering family health; promoting healthy aging and the health of caregivers; and reducing risks for HIV, heart disease and cancer. Our clinical enterprise provides unparalleled opportunities for student experiences in providing nursing and health care to underserved communities throughout the State of Maryland.

We look forward to your joining our vibrant community.



**Janet D. Allan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN**  
**Dean and Professor**

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## Table of Contents

<a href="#"><u>Profile and Mission</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Undergraduate Course Descriptions</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Accreditations</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Graduate Programs</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Mission and Strategic Plan</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Graduate Course Descriptions</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>2003-2004 Academic Calendar</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Registration and Records</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>University of Maryland Baltimore Campus</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Undergraduate Regulations</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>School of Nursing Overview</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Graduate Regulations and Honors</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Financial Information and Resources</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Administration, Faculty, and Staff</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Undergraduate Programs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>University of Maryland Policy Excerpts</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>Location/Directions</u></a>

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## PROFILE

The University of Maryland School of Nursing, established in 1889 under the direction of Louisa Parsons, a student of Florence Nightingale's School of Nursing in London, provides educational programs in nursing that lead to bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. The School awarded its first master's degree in 1954 and its first doctorate degree in 1984.

The School of Nursing is consistently ranked among the top 10 schools of nursing in the nation. In addition, five of the master's specialties, nursing administration, adult nurse practitioner, gerontological nurse practitioner, psychiatric/mental health nursing and community/public health nursing, are also ranked in the top 10. The School has pioneered a variety of innovative educational programs, including the world's first nursing informatics program and the nation's first nursing health policy program. The School's faculty are internationally renowned for their research and clinical expertise, their innovative instructional programs and their state-of-the-art models of nurse-managed delivery of health care services.

A variety of flexible and combined programs are offered to accelerate degree completion. These include the second-degree option for baccalaureate students, the RN to MS program, the post-baccalaureate entry option into the PhD program and the MS/MBA and MBA/PhD programs offered in conjunction with the Robert G. Merrick School of Business at the University of Baltimore, the School of Business at Frostburg State University and the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, College Park. Dual admission is also available for BSN students through partnerships between the School of Nursing and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, the University of Maryland, College Park, Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, as well as numerous Maryland community colleges.

The School has greatly enhanced its use of telecommunications and other distance-learning technology for off-campus, continuing education and international programs. The complete RN to BSN program is available online, as is the post-master's certificate in informatics. Select Web-based graduate courses also are offered online.

The School's clinical operations include the Open Gates Health Center, a community-based, nurse-managed clinic in southwest Baltimore, which provides health care services to adults and families in a medically underserved inner-city area; fourteen school-based wellness centers in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Caroline County, Dorchester County and Harford County, which provide primary care services to students from kindergarten through high school; the Governor's Wellmobiles, mobile health units that provide primary and preventive services to children, their families and the homeless across the state of Maryland; the Senior Care Center, which provides primary comprehensive geriatric assessment and

primary care to low-income seniors living in west Baltimore; and the Pediatric Ambulatory Clinic, an interdisciplinary collaboration between the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine, which provides population-based health promotion and disease prevention and management services for the surrounding community.

The School continues to update undergraduate and graduate curricula to guarantee their relevance to the changing roles of nurses and to ensure that the content and the focus of the courses and clinical experiences remain applicable to preparing students for contemporary practice. As a result, there is increased emphasis at both the undergraduate and graduate levels on health promotion, disease prevention and management and community- and population-based clinical experiences, in addition to acute/critical care and long-term care. Core content focuses on financial and information management skills, problem-solving and critical thinking. Interdisciplinary education and collaborative practice are emphasized throughout the curricula. The School continues to be a leader in developing international partnerships.

The School of Nursing is housed in a modern seven-story, 154,000-square-foot building. Incorporating the most advanced classroom and laboratory design, sophisticated distance-learning technologies and a state-of-the-art, nurse-managed Pediatric Ambulatory Clinic, the building sets a new standard for nursing education. The facility includes a 470-seat auditorium, a multimedia learning center and the Living History Museum, a permanent exhibit space tracing the School's history through an extensive collection of historical nursing artifacts and memorabilia.

Technologically advanced laboratories provide students with opportunities to build knowledge and skills through a progression of clinical laboratory simulations that behavioral and health policy research space. The Pediatric Ambulatory Clinic serves as a clinical training site for the School's nurse practitioner master's specialties replicate a variety of health care situations. In addition, learning experiences with standardized patients are available. The building accommodates the School's growing research initiatives, providing bench,

## **ACCREDITATIONS**

The Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The School of Nursing's baccalaureate and master's programs are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The Nurse-Midwifery master of science specialty has been accredited by the Division of Accreditation of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. The Continuing Education Program is accredited as a provider of continuing education by the American Nurses' Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. These agencies may be reached at:

### **National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission**

61 Broadway - 33rd Floor

New York, NY 10006

800-669-1656

[www.nlnac.org](http://www.nlnac.org)

### **Division of Accreditation of the American College of Nurse-Midwives**

818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900

Washington, D.C. 20006

202-728-9800

[www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org)

### **American Nurses' Credentialing Center**

600 Maryland Avenue, SW Suite 100 West

Washington, D.C. 20024-2571

800-284-2378

[www.nursingworld.org/ancc](http://www.nursingworld.org/ancc)

## **University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus**

The School of Nursing is part of the Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland, which was established in 1807 and is the founding campus for the University System of Maryland, one of the largest public university systems in the United States. The campus includes six professional schools: nursing, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, social work and law; the Graduate School; the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems; the University of Maryland Medical Center; and the Baltimore VA Medical Center. The Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland enrolls nearly 5,500 students and has more than 1,600 faculty members.

The Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland is one of the fastest growing biomedical research centers in the United States and received more than \$350 million in extramural support in fiscal year 2003. The unique composition of the campus enables health professionals to address health care, public policy and social issues through multidisciplinary research, scholarship and community action. Its location in the Baltimore-Washington-Annapolis triangle maximizes opportunities for student placements and collaboration with government agencies, health care institutions and life science industries.

### **HEALTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN SERVICES LIBRARY (HS/HSL)**

The Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL), located at 601 W. Lombard St., provides students, faculty and staff members with a focal point for both traditional and computerized information resources and services.

Distinguished as the first library established by a medical school in the United States, the HS/HSL is a recognized leader in state-of-the-art information technology. As the library for the Southeastern/Atlantic Region of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, the HS/HSL serves 10 southeastern states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The library houses more than 350,000 volumes, including 2,500 journal titles, and more than 17,000 electronic journal subscriptions. The HS/HSL is ranked among the top 25 health sciences libraries in the country.

The HS/HSL offers traditional services, such as reference support, interlibrary loan and photocopy services, as well as electronic access to the online catalog and more than a dozen databases, including Medline, PsycLIT, International Pharmaceutical Abstracts, Social Work Abstracts and many others in support of campus curricula and programs. This includes access to more than 80 full-text biomedical journals.

Electronic access is also available for photocopy requests, interlibrary loans and book requests; a reference desk and HELP desk are provided. A World Wide Web site at [www.hshsl.umaryland.edu](http://www.hshsl.umaryland.edu) provides a graphical interface for the range of information and services from the library. Educational programs covering communication, computing, database and information management topics are offered in the library's three microcomputer teaching labs.

The library provides access to 37 workstations in the Research and Information Commons on the main floor of the HS/HSL. These Windows-based machines allow access to library resources, to the Web and to standard computing applications, such as word processing programs and spreadsheets. A graphics room is also available for the development of presentations and slides.

## **COMPUTER RESOURCES**

In addition to the School of Nursing computer resources, computing support is provided for microcomputer and mainframe users through the University. All students have access to the services of the Health Sciences and Human Services Library. Free e-mail accounts are provided to each student, enabling communication via the Internet. The campus network, UMnet, also provides access to Health Sciences and Human Services Library resources.

## **OTHER CAMPUS UNITS**

There are a number of microcomputer labs located across campus:

- UMMS Clinical Technology-Assisted Learning Centers, 10CS UMH (south building)
- School of Law, Marshall Law Library
- School of Medicine, MSTF, second floor, Computer Learning Center, Irving J. Taylor Learning Res. Center
- School of Pharmacy
- School of Social Work, Computer Lab, Computer Teaching Lab

## **STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES AND INSURANCE**

The University's Student and Employee Health Office provides comprehensive care to students at the Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland. The office, staffed by family physicians and nurse practitioners, is open from 8:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Patients are generally seen by appointment, but

students can be seen on a walk-in basis. Appointments can be made by calling 410-328-6645. After hours, appointments can be arranged with the doctors on call. The cost of most care provided at Student and Employee Health is paid through the student health fee.

All full-time students are required to have health insurance. For students who do not carry health insurance, a policy is available through the University's Office of Student Accounts.

## **COUNSELING CENTER**

The Counseling Center provides professional counseling to all students. Students may seek help for problems including stress, relationships, drugs or alcohol, eating disorders, loss of a loved one and changes in school or home life. Students are seen by appointment, and class schedules can be accommodated in scheduling appointments. All Counseling Center services are completely confidential. For additional information or an appointment call 410-328-8404.

## **DENTAL CARE**

The Dental School provides emergency and comprehensive dental care for patients of all ages. It offers various clinical programs matched to the needs of the patient. Dental student clinics provide comprehensive care at reduced fees by appointment. Post-graduate clinical programs and faculty practices offer specialized and private practice care. Appointments can be made by calling 410-706-7102.

## **PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION**

On-campus parking is available to students. Commuters may park in Lexington Garage and Koester's Lot (Lexington and Pine streets) during the day. After 4:45 p.m., students may park in the Penn Street and Pratt Street garages adjacent to the School of Nursing. Commuting students must obtain a parking permit from the parking and commuter services office, then pay the established daily rate when parking on campus. Students who live in on-campus housing pay for parking by the semester or year and are guaranteed 24-hour parking in a garage adjacent to their residence.

The University operates a Shuttle-bus service that transports students from designated areas on campus to the main parking facilities and into the neighborhoods that border the campus. There is also Shuttle-bus service between the campus and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Public transportation makes the campus accessible by bus, train, subway and light

rail. More than a dozen Maryland Transit Administration bus routes make stops in the campus area. The Baltimore Metro Subway runs from Johns Hopkins Hospital to Owings Mills Maryland. Stations closest to campus are Lexington Market and Charles Center. The Light Rail line connects northern Baltimore County with Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Dorsey Road in Glen Burnie and the Baltimore/Washington International Airport. The official University stop is at Baltimore and Howard streets. The MARC (MAryland Rail Commuter) train stops at Camden Station, located on West Camden and Howard streets, very near the campus.

## **HOUSING**

Baltimore has many affordable and convenient housing options. On-campus living options include furnished, University-owned apartments located in historic Pascault Row and dormitory-style accommodations located in the Baltimore Student Union. For information about on-campus housing, contact the Residence Life Office at 410-706-7766.

Many students choose to live in neighborhoods surrounding the campus. Rooms, apartments and home rentals are available throughout the metropolitan area. For information about off-campus housing call the Residence Life Office at 410-706-7766.

The campus housing options brochure is available by calling 410-706-7766. For additional information visit the Web site at [www.housing.umaryland.edu](http://www.housing.umaryland.edu).

## **ATHLETIC CENTER**

The Athletic Center, located on the 10th floor of the Pratt Street garage building, offers a variety of programs, including intramural sports, fitness/wellness activities, informal recreation, mini-courses and special events. The facility is equipped with a squash court, two handball/racquetball courts and two basketball courts that are also used for volleyball. An expanded weight room is equipped with free-weights and paramount equipment, stationary bikes, as well as stair, treadmill and rowing machines. The Center offers a variety of aerobic classes, a total conditioning class and a fitness walking program. Men's and women's locker rooms have a sauna and showers. For additional information call 410-706-7529 or visit theWeb site at [www.umaryland.edu/athleticcenter](http://www.umaryland.edu/athleticcenter).

## **CHILD CARE**

Quality child care for infants and toddlers through age 5 is available at Downtown Baltimore Child Care, Inc., located at 237 N. Arch St. The center is open from

7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays year-round. Brochures and applications are available by calling 410-659-0515.

## **THE CITY OF BALTIMORE AND SURROUNDINGS**

In addition to professional opportunities, the city of Baltimore offers a stimulating environment in which to live and study. Several blocks from the campus is the nationally acclaimed Inner Harbor area, where Harborplace, the National Aquarium, the Maryland Science Center, and other facilities share an attractive waterfront with sailboats, hotels, restaurants and renovated row houses.

Baltimore boasts lively entertainment, world-class museums, such as the Walters Art Gallery and the Baltimore Museum of Art, fine music and professional theater at the Lyric Opera House, Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall (home of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra), the Morris A. Mechanic Theatre and smaller theatre and repertory companies. For sports fans, Baltimore features Orioles baseball and Ravens NFL football, with both stadiums located a few short blocks from the campus.

Educational and research opportunities abound in greater Baltimore, home to 12 public and private universities: The College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Coppin State College, Goucher College, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola College, Maryland Institute College of Art, Morgan State University, Towson University, University of Baltimore, the Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland, University of Maryland, Baltimore County and Villa Julie College.

The School's strategic location in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, including its proximity to the nation's capital, provides unparalleled opportunities for student participation in governmental, cultural and policy related activities.

The Baltimore Metro Subway and Light Rail system connect the downtown area to the outskirts of the city. MARC trains link the city with Washington, D.C., and Amtrak service connects Baltimore with Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, New York City and Boston. Baltimore is 45 miles northeast of greater Washington, approximately 100 miles south of Philadelphia and 180 miles southwest of New York City. The Baltimore/Washington International Airport is located approximately 15 miles south of the city.

## **School of Nursing Overview**

### **BACCALAUREATE STUDIES**

The Office of Baccalaureate Studies is responsible for leadership in the development, implementation and evaluation of the undergraduate program, including the traditional, accelerated second degree and RN to BSN options. The office also coordinates the RN to BSN Online option and manages the clinical simulation laboratories.

### **MASTER'S STUDIES**

The Office of Master's Studies provides leadership in the development, implementation and evaluation of master's level programs, including the MS degree, RN-MS degree, MS-PhD and joint MS/MBA degree programs, as well as all post-master's and non-degree master's course offerings. The office also manages the Clinical Education and Evaluation Laboratory. The master's curriculum offers numerous master's specialty areas.

### **DOCTORAL STUDIES**

The Office of Doctoral Studies is responsible for leadership in the development, implementation and evaluation of the PhD program.

### **EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT**

Program evaluation and assessment of student outcomes have been and continue to be critical aspects of the programs at the School of Nursing. Students are expected to participate in activities necessary for rigorous evaluation and assessment, such as completing course evaluation forms and opinion surveys and undergoing periodic assessment testing. Survey, testing and program data are collected, analyzed and interpreted at both the individual and aggregate level on a regular basis according to the School's master plan for evaluation. In addition to evaluation and assessment, the results are used for benchmarking and state-mandated accountability analyses. The School is actively involved in the evaluation of outcomes of its clinical operations and nurse-managed clinics in school-based and community settings.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The Office of Continuing Education is committed to the support of lifelong learning and focuses on innovative professional development programs, conferences and workshops for nurses and nursing faculty. It is widely recognized for its national and international education programs, such as the Annual Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics and the National Nurse Practitioner Symposium. The Office of Continuing Education also provides on-site and Web-based programs for nurses throughout Maryland, regionally, nationally and internationally. The School of Nursing is accredited as a provider of continuing education in nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation, and contact hours are awarded to participants completing offerings sponsored or co-provided by the School of Nursing.

## **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

The Office of International Programs is responsible for the international residency program for nurse scholars, educators and clinicians. It takes a leadership role in the advancement of nursing education abroad through consultation and joint development of research projects and training grants. The School welcomes visitors from throughout the world, and the faculty participate in numerous international conferences, consultations and workshops. The office has established partnership agreements with schools of nursing in Brazil, China, Egypt, the Virgin Islands, the Philippines, Israel, Taiwan, Great Britain, Spain, South America and Australia. Opportunities for two- to three-week study-abroad experiences often are available.

## **CLINICAL SIMULATION AND CLINICAL EDUCATION AND EVALUATION LABORATORIES**

An exponential increase in information, rapidly evolving technology and changes in the health care environment have increased the need for clinical simulation laboratories as a means of increasing clinical competency in nursing. The School of Nursing's 26 state-of-the-art clinical simulation laboratories provide students with the opportunity for hands-on learning in controlled clinical settings. The clinical simulation laboratories replicate numerous clinical settings and educational resources, including adult critical care, perioperative care, neonatal intensive care, pediatrics, birthing/midwifery, community/home health and basic hospital diagnostic and health assessment laboratories.

Students utilize bedside computer workstations, intelligent mannequins and virtual reality simulators as they learn and develop clinical skills. Instructors are available to assist students in the application of critical thinking to clinical situations such as simulated cardiac arrest, childbirth and intravenous therapy.

The Clinical Education and Evaluation Laboratory is used for teaching, augmenting clinical experiences, making the transition from clinical simulation to caring for patients through interactions with standardized patients (patient actors) and for objective evaluation of clinical skills. Both the undergraduate program and the master's nurse practitioner specialties use standardized patients within the instructional/academic milieu.

## **RESEARCH**

The School of Nursing fosters a research-intensive environment wherein students at all levels have the opportunity to engage in research activities. Our research agenda is an integral part of the curriculum and addresses the health care problems and issues that have been identified as having the highest priority in our state and nation. Faculty and students are involved in research projects in numerous areas, including: child, women's and family health, behavioral health/addictions, gerontology/aging, environmental/occupational/community health, emerging and re-emerging infections, cardiovascular health, cancer prevention, early detection and treatment, trauma/critical care, informatics, health policy and health services research.

The Office of Research provides scientific overview of all sponsored research proposals developed through the School. Designed to develop, facilitate and enhance sponsored research programs of the faculty, staff and graduate students, the Office of Research provides information on funding opportunities available through government, industry and private foundations. It provides current information to investigators on the requirements of the campus Institutional Review Board, the Office of Research and Development and an array of funding agencies. Research staff, including specialists with expertise in experimental design, outcomes measurement, quality improvement, research design/methodology, clinical trials design, biostatistics, as well as grants/contracts regulatory and processing issues, provide assistance in all stages of proposal development.

The Office of Research also works to develop and expand collaborations between investigators on local, national and international levels, including interdisciplinary projects with faculty from departments throughout the University of Maryland and other academic centers. The School has established linkages with institutions in Europe, Asia, South America, Africa and Australia to provide research consultation and to conduct multi-site research projects. Such activities provide exchange opportunities for faculty and students and have been instrumental in the continual enhancement of our international research agenda.

## **LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES, MEDIA CENTER AND COMPUTER**

## **LABS**

The School of Nursing is a leader in using innovative instructional technology to enhance the quality of learning for its students. Through multimedia hyperlink technology available on the Internet, students are encouraged to become full partners with their professors in learning. Through these technologies, our students are recipients of knowledge, as well as creators and disseminators of new knowledge in the field of nursing.

The Office supports students and faculty in multimedia production, audio-visual support, video production, distance education, online learning, as well as faculty development in teaching. Experienced media personnel are available to assist students with media productions and to consult with faculty on classroom applications of multimedia. The staff also provides technical support on grant proposals, research and outside presentations.

The School of Nursing computer laboratories are equipped with IBM-compatible computers. There are more than 100 workstations in four computer laboratories and a computerized teaching theater accommodates 50 students.

An interactive video laboratory allows students to learn at their own pace. By utilizing interactive video applications, computerized clinical simulations and computer-assisted decision-making models, our students practice clinical skills and critical decision-making on a computer screen.

Distance education and distributed learning are supported by the Office of Learning Technologies through interactive video teleconferencing classrooms, satellite downlink capability and through online courses and course support. The School of Nursing is part of the University System of Maryland's Interactive Video Network (IVN) which links more than 25 sites via dial-up ports and open T-1 circuits. Verizon MIDLN classrooms link the School of Nursing to more than 100 sites across Maryland and beyond.

## **CLINICAL ENTERPRISE**

The Clinical Enterprise puts the faculty and students of the School of Nursing into active clinical practice roles, providing patient care and case management in the community. It enables students to work with faculty mentors as role models in nurse-centered and nurse-managed health care settings.

In this way, the Clinical Enterprise integrates the essential elements of scholarship: teaching, research, service and practice.

The principle elements of the Clinical Enterprise are The Open Gates Health Center, The Southwestern Family Center, The Pediatric Ambulatory Center, The Governor's Wellmobile Program, The School-based Wellness Center Network,

and The Healthy Child Care Maryland Program.

## **ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

The Office of Admissions and Student Affairs has administrative responsibility for admission to all programs, comprehensive registration services, student support services, career services and school-based grants and scholarships, including an extensive Clinical Scholars Program. The office is located in Suite 102 in the School of Nursing and may be reached by calling 410-706-0501.

The Office provides access to academic support programs to enhance writing skills, test taking, study skills and time management and manages an undergraduate peer tutoring program.

All School of Nursing student organizations are supported. The undergraduate student organizations include the Nursing Student Government Association (NSGA), the Black Student Nurses' Association (BSNA), a chapter of the Maryland Student Nurse Association (UMANS) and Chi Eta Phi, a national honor organization. Graduate student organizations include the Graduates in Nursing Association (GIN) and the Doctoral Student Organization (DSO); these organizations are affiliated with the University of Maryland Baltimore Graduate Student Association. A Multicultural Student Nurses Association (MSNA) has recently been formed. University – wide student organizations include the University International Student Organization, Muslim Student and Scholars Association, and the United Students of African Descent. For information about student organizations, consult the School of Nursing's Student Handbooks, the web site [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu) or the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

Career Services within the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs emphasizes exploration of career options, preparation for job search, resume writing and interviewing. Career panels and workshops are offered to assist students in planning the next phase of their careers. An annual Career Fair is held at the School of Nursing each spring and numerous employers participate.

School-based financial assistance programs, including School of Nursing scholarships, traineeships for graduate students, graduate assistantships, graduate research assistantships and the undergraduate Clinical Scholars Program, are administered through the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

Information is available at 410-706-0501.

## **Financial Information and Resources**

### **UNDERGRADUATE FEES AND EXPENSES, 2003 - 2004** (Figures are one-semester charges.)

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF  
NURSING

### **UPPER-DIVISION (JUNIOR-SENIOR) FEES**

Tuition, per semester:

In - state (full-time)	\$3,052.00
Out-of-State (full-time)	\$7,836.50
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	\$266.00 per credit hour
In-state	
Part-time (fewer than 12 credits)	\$399.00 per credit hour
Out-of-State	

Supporting facilities fee, per  
semester:

Full-time	\$212.50
Part-time	\$175.50
Technology fee, per-semester (full-time)	\$60.00
Technology fee, per credit hour (part-time)	\$10.00
Educational assessment fee (first year)	\$115.00

Hospitalization insurance, per  
semester:

Student	\$692.50
Student and child	\$1,315.00
Student and spouse	\$1,660.00
Family	\$2,075.00
Hepatitis vaccine (first year)	\$105.00
TB screening, per year	\$12.00

Disability insurance, per semester	\$10.15
Malpractice insurance, per year	\$22.00
Student activities fee, per semester	\$20.50
Transportation fee, per semester	
Full-time	\$14.00
Part-time	\$14.00
Student government fee, per semester	
Full-time	\$7.50
Part-time	\$7.50
Diploma fee (seniors)	\$55.00
Late registration fee	\$40.00
Late payment fee	\$100.00

Note: Tuition and fees are subject to annual changes: A \$400 non refundable enrollment deposit is required at the time of the student's acceptance of the BSN program admission offer. The enrollment deposit amount is directly applied to the first semester's tuition charges. Undergraduate tuition is billed on a per credit hour basis for part-time students, i.e. enrolled in fewer than 12 credits, plus a flat rate charge of \$125 per semester.

## **Graduate Fees and Expenses, 2003-200**

**Tuition per credit hour:**

In-state \$365.00  
Out-of-state \$655.00

### **Supporting facilities fee, per semester:**

**Full-time** \$175.50  
**Part-time** \$175.50

## Technology fee, per credit hour

Hospitalization insurance, per semester:	
Student	\$692.50
Student and child	\$1,315.00
Student and spouse	\$1,660.00

Family	\$2,075.00
Malpractice insurance, per year	\$22.00
Student activities fee, per semester	\$23.00
Transportation fee	\$14.00
Student government fee	\$7.50
Graduation fee:	
MS	\$55.00
PhD	\$110.00
Late registration fee	\$40.00
Late payment fee	\$100.00

*Note: Tuition and fees are subject to change. Graduate tuition is billed on a per credit hour basis plus a flat rate of \$149.50 for full-time students, i.e. those enrolled for nine or more credits and a flat-rate of \$125 for part-time students enrolled in fewer than nine credits.*

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES/ASSISTANCE

The School of Nursing, the University's Office of Financial Aid, and external funding agencies offer financial assistance to qualified nursing students in both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The awarding of these funds is based on criteria which may include academic merit, financial need, or both, and/or a variety of other factors.

### Student Financial Aid Resources

**School of Nursing Scholarships** are derived from the earnings of gifts, bequests and private donations made to the School. These competitive awards are for full-time enrollment in either the undergraduate or graduate programs and are based on potential and/or actual academic achievement. The amounts of these scholarships vary and are awarded in accordance with School policies. Eligible students are awarded renewable School

of Nursing Scholarships upon office entry to the School. No separate application is necessary.

**Clinical Scholars Program** is offered in conjunction with area health facilities, including the University of Maryland Medical Center, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Mercy Health Services, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, Suburban Hospital, Washington Hospital Center and INOVA Health Care Services (North Virginia). BSN students with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA are offered the opportunity to complete their emphasis practicum under the guidance of a clinical preceptor, receive tuition support from the hospital and upon graduation, work for at least a one-year period in that institution. The Clinical Scholars Program is designed to encourage and support post-baccalaureate nursing careers, as well as offer direct financial assistance to nursing students as they transition from the classroom into the professional workplace.

Graduate students may apply for **Graduate Teaching and Graduate Research Assistantships**. Graduate Assistantships are awarded to incoming and continuing graduate students on a competitive basis. Many full-time awards include a 10 to 12 month stipend, up to 10 credits of tuition remission for each semester, as well as payment of student health insurance. Full-time graduate assistants are most often required to undertake a work commitment of 20 hours per week. Some research assistantships are available through grant or contract funds. Applications are available at the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

**The Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Program** assists in addressing the shortage of master's and doctorally prepared nurses in high-need specialties and medically underserved communities. The federal program provides support for tuition and fees for full-time students based on the annual federal funding process. The School of Nursing applies to the Bureau of Health Professions each year for funds for this

program. Applications and instructions are available in the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

**The John A. Hartford Foundation** and the School of Nursing are funding a limited number of full-tuition scholarships for students admitted to the MS program in one of the three following specialty areas: Gerontological Nurse Practitioner; Gerontological Nurse Practitioner combined with Nursing Administration/Managed Care; and Gerontological Nurse Practitioner combined with Advanced Practice Oncology Nursing. The scholarships are available for newly admitted MS students. There is no separate application, and selection is made by School of Nursing faculty.

**The University of Maryland Baltimore Financial Aid Program** is available to nursing students who demonstrate financial need. Through a variety of grants, scholarships, loans and part-time employment, students may receive assistance in meeting educational expenses. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be completed for consideration by the University's Office of Student Financial Aid. The federal school code is 002104. To apply online, use [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The priority application date is March 1 for the next academic year. For information about federal and state student aid, call the University Office of Student Financial Aid at 410-706-7347. The Office of Student Financial Aid is located at 621 W. Lombard Street, Room 334. Their Website is [www.umaryland.edu/fin](http://www.umaryland.edu/fin). The Federal Student Aid Information number is 800-433-3243 and the website is [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov). Renewal of University and state financial aid for subsequent years depends on annual submission of a FAFSA prior to March 1. A complete description of procedures used to evaluate applications for aid, the cost of education for nursing students and information on various University, state and federal programs can be found in the University Office of Student Financial Aid or on their Website [www.umaryland.edu/fin](http://www.umaryland.edu/fin).

**The Maryland State Scholarship Administration** offers general state scholarships that can be applied for annually. To

apply for State of Maryland programs, complete the FAFSA no later than March 1 each year. Individual Maryland legislators award Senatorial and House of Delegates Awards. Contact your County Board of Supervisors of Election for legislative district information. Application deadlines and information can be obtained from senator and delegate offices. Additional information on available programs and application processes can be obtained by calling 800-974-1024 or 410-260-4565. The State Scholarship Program Website; [www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us).

In addition to the general state scholarships, the Maryland State Scholarship Administration administers programs specifically for nursing students. The State Nursing Scholarship and Living Expenses Grant helps nursing students pay for college. Students receiving a Nursing Scholarship who also have financial need may apply for a Living Expenses Grant. There is a commitment to serve as a full-time nurse in Maryland for one year for each year of scholarship. A 3.0 cumulative GPA is required and the scholarship may be renewed for up to three years. The Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program (LARP) provides educational loan repayment assistance to individuals providing public service in state or local government or the nonprofit sector in Maryland. School of Nursing graduates who are residents of Maryland and not in default on loans can apply. Contact the State Scholarship Administration for application information.

Nonresident students who attend the School of Nursing can apply for the Tuition Reduction Program. The amount of assistance made available is the difference between the tuition paid as an out-of-state student and the amount paid by an in-state student. A service commitment is required after receipt of the funding and upon graduation. Applications are available in the School of Nursing Office of Admissions and Student Affairs or from the Maryland State Scholarship Administration.

Many outside agencies provide assistance to students enrolled in the School of Nursing. Associations related to health care should be contacted regarding the possibility of scholarship

opportunities. Local community foundations often provide assistance to students. Listed below are some Websites for identifying scholarship opportunities: [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu); [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com); [www.nsna.org](http://www.nsna.org); [www.nursingsociety.org](http://www.nursingsociety.org); [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org); [www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org); [www.collegequest.com](http://www.collegequest.com); [www.minoritynurse.com](http://www.minoritynurse.com); [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com); [www.sciencewise.com](http://www.sciencewise.com); [www.bhpc.hrsa.dhhs.gov/nhsc/](http://www.bhpc.hrsa.dhhs.gov/nhsc/); [www.centralsb.org](http://www.centralsb.org); [www.medi-smart.com](http://www.medi-smart.com); [www.discovernursing.com](http://www.discovernursing.com); [www.salliemae.com](http://www.salliemae.com).

### VETERANS BENEFITS (VA) Enrollment Verification

Undergraduate students who are eligible for VA educational benefits should contact the School of Nursing Office of Registration Services located in Room 108, or by calling 410-706-3357. Graduate students should contact the University Graduate School. Benefit information is also available on the VA Website: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

# Undergraduate Programs

<a href="#"><u>Overview</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Upper Division Curriculum/Plans of Study</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Objectives</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Traditional Plan of Study</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Application and Deadlines</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Accelerated BSN Plan of Study</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>General Lower-Division Requirements for All Undergraduate Programs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>RN to BSN Plan of Study</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Transferability of Credit</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>RN to MS Plan of Study</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>BSN Application Process</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Traditional Option</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Practice Areas</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Accelerated Second-Degree Option</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Career Opportunities and Licensure</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>RN to BSN and RN to MS Programs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Assessment Tests</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Additional Application Information/Summary</u></a>	

## OVERVIEW

The School of Nursing offers an undergraduate program that leads to the bachelor of science degree in nursing (BSN). The BSN program provides educational opportunities for men and women seeking a career in nursing and for registered nurses with an associate degree or diploma in nursing who want to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing. The undergraduate program prepares nurses who are liberally educated and equipped with clinical knowledge, technological skills, proficiency in scientific and clinical decision-making, critical-thinking abilities and humanistic skills. Graduates of the program are well positioned to play a significant role in shaping the future of nursing and health care.

The School's location on the campus of a major academic health science

center offers a unique learning environment. Students have the opportunity for clinical experiences at any of more than 500 locations, including faculty practice sites operated by the School of Nursing. BSN students participate in producing the positive outcomes of these nurse-managed, community-based clinics. Nationally recognized for pioneering the incorporation of informatics and technology in nursing curricula, the School of Nursing provides a setting where undergraduate students learn to use a variety of data sources and technologies in the delivery of nursing care.

The undergraduate nursing program is an upper-division professional program based on a foundation of pre-professional courses that provide a liberal education and support the study of nursing. The undergraduate program offers tracks for students without preparation in nursing as well as for registered nurses. Within the program's tracks there are multiple options designed to meet the diverse learning needs of students. A traditional two-year course of study and an accelerated course of study for students with a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing are available. The registered nurse track includes RN to BSN, RN to BSN online and RN to MS options.

Newly developed emphasis areas, which include a series of seminar and clinical courses, provide students with opportunities for in-depth study and experience in a specific area of clinical practice during their baccalaureate nursing education. Emphasis areas are designed to help students shape personal career goals, enhance successful job attainment and make a smooth transition to the role of the baccalaureate graduate. Emphasis areas include trauma/critical care, oncology, adult health, gerontology, pediatrics, family, community health and psychiatric nursing.

The School of Nursing Clinical Scholars program, offered in conjunction with area health facilities, is available to qualifying students as they complete their final emphasis course. See Catalog Section on *Financial Assistance and Resources*.

The length and sequence of curriculum and admission requirements vary according to each option in the baccalaureate program. Before matriculating, all students must complete a minimum of 59 credits of required, lower-division coursework in the social and behavioral sciences, the natural and physical sciences and the arts and humanities. These lower-division pre-professional courses can be completed at any accredited college or university, including community colleges.

To facilitate entry into the School of Nursing, special articulation programs have been developed with all of the University System of Maryland campuses, Maryland's community colleges and Morgan State University. A list of the lower-division courses that meet the pre-professional requirements is available at the counseling center of each of these Maryland colleges or universities and on the ARTSYS (articulation system) Web page at

<http://artweb.usmd.edu>. Dual admission and dual degrees are also available for BSN students. See Catalog Section Profile.

Undergraduate students can take advantage of full- or part-time study.

Students in the basic baccalaureate track can complete the entire BSN at the Baltimore campus or the Shady Grove Education Center in Rockville, Maryland (full-time only). Registered nurses can complete the BSN at the Baltimore campus, the Shady Grove Center, or online.

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## OBJECTIVES OF THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Baccalaureate graduates of the School of Nursing are committed to providing nursing care that assists individuals, families, groups, communities and populations to achieve optimal health and make informed choices for their own well-being. In acute care, long-term care and community-based settings, graduates provide nursing care to promote and protect health, prevent illness, care for the ill and support a peaceful death or loss. Students in the traditional and accelerated options select an emphasis area that combines both classroom and clinical experiences to develop in-depth knowledge in an area of nursing practice. Students in the RN to BSN options may also enroll in emphasis area courses.

The undergraduate program is designed to prepare professional practitioners who value lifelong learning. Preparation at the baccalaureate level is a foundation for graduate study in nursing. Graduates of the baccalaureate program are able to assume beginning leadership roles in nursing practice, participate in research, apply research findings to practice and contribute to the development of the profession. The major objectives of the undergraduate program are to develop graduates who will:

1. Articulate a personal philosophy of nursing that serves as a framework for professional practice.
2. Adhere to ethical, legal and regulatory mandates and professional standards for nursing practice.
3. Use insight, intuition, empathy, empirical knowledge, reasoning and creative analysis for critical thinking in all aspects of professional practice.
4. Use evidence-based knowledge from nursing and related disciplines to shape practice.
5. Use communication skills to establish therapeutic, caring and collaborative relationships.
6. Conduct assessments of individuals, families, groups, communities and populations as the basis for planning and delivering care.
7. Demonstrate clinical competencies needed for the delivery of safe and effective nursing care in a variety of health care settings and additional competencies in a selected emphasis area.

8. Provide nursing care that reflects sensitivity to physical, social, cultural, spiritual and environmental factors.
9. Use current and emerging information handling and other technologies as integral components of professional nursing practice.
10. Use resource management, delegation and supervision strategies in planning, implementing and evaluating nursing care.
11. Critique research findings for their applicability to theory-based practice.
12. Collaborate with experienced investigators in identification of clinical problems, access to sites, protection of human subjects, data collection and dissemination of findings.
13. Use political, economic, organizational, educational and advocacy strategies to improve health care delivery to individuals, groups, families, communities and national and global populations.
14. Function as leaders in health care systems, in professional organizations and within interdisciplinary teams for the promotion of health, prevention of disease and management of care delivery.
15. Accept personal accountability for lifelong learning, professional growth and commitment to the advancement of the profession.

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## **APPLICATION AND DEADLINES**

### **ONLINE APPLICATION**

The School of Nursing online BSN application will be available in February, 2004.

### **DOWNLOADABLE APPLICATION**

The School of Nursing downloadable BSN level (traditional, accelerated, RN to BSN, RN to BSN Online) application will be available at [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu) in January, 2004.

### **APPLICATION PRIORITY DEADLINES**

Admission is highly competitive. To receive priority consideration for admission, financial aid and scholarships, students are strongly encouraged to submit complete applications by the following dates. Applications submitted after a priority deadline will be considered on a space available basis and applicants may be placed on a waiting list for possible admission.

- Fall Term – May 1

- Spring Term – November 1
  - Summer Term – April 1
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## **GENERAL LOWER-DIVISION REQUIREMENTS (BSN Traditional, BSN Accelerated, RN to BSN, RN to BSN Online)**

Professional, upper-division education in nursing requires a foundation of learning provided by specific, lower-division college courses. Before matriculation in the School of Nursing's undergraduate program, students must successfully complete the lower-division course requirements listed below at an accredited college or university.

<b>Course Requirements</b>	<b>Credits</b>
English Composition	6
General Chemistry with laboratory	4
Human Anatomy and Physiology with laboratory	8
Microbiology with laboratory	4
Introduction to Psychology	3
Introduction to Sociology	3
Social Science elective (sociology, social work, psychology, anthropology, history, political science, economics, geography)	3
Human Growth and Development	3
Mathematics (algebra or higher)	3
Statistics	3
Arts and Humanities (literature, language, art, history, philosophy, speech, mathematics, music)	9
++ Nutrition	3
*** Electives	7
<b>Minimum Total required Credits</b>	<b>59</b>

**Notes:**

- +It is strongly recommended that a technical writing course be taken in place of the second required English course or as a humanities course or as an academic elective.
  - ++The School of Nursing offers a nutrition challenge examination. For more information, call 410-706-0501.
  - \*\*Coursework must be taken in a minimum of two of the disciplines listed.
  - \*\*\*Applicants are strongly encouraged to take introduction to business and introduction to computing or other computer course electives.
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## **TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDIT**

The following policies govern the transfer of lower-division college credits to the School of Nursing:

1. Human anatomy and physiology, chemistry and microbiology *must* include laboratory experience.
2. Grades of "D" for English composition, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, human growth and development, mathematics, statistics and nutrition are not transferable from either in-state or out-of-state institutions.
3. Courses taken on a pass/fail basis may be used for non-science credits *only*. Up to six credits of pass may be transferred.
4. A human growth and development course covering content throughout the various stages of the life span is required.
5. College-level mathematics and statistics courses are required.
6. Remedial and/or repetitive courses are not applicable for transfer credit.
7. Baccalaureate-level nursing courses may be transferable on an individual basis. Contact the Office of Admissions for further information.
8. No more than half of the 122 applicable credits required for the BSN degree may be earned by examination (see below).

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

Students are encouraged to submit catalog course descriptions for courses completed outside the state of Maryland, in order to facilitate the assessment of transfer credit. Upon occasion, students may be required to submit actual course descriptions for assessment of content.

## **ESTABLISHING LOWER-DIVISION CREDIT BY**

## **EXAMINATION**

**Department Examinations:** Many two- and four-year colleges and universities provide an opportunity for students to take examinations for credit, provided the student has had some instruction or experience in the content of the course under consideration. Students make examination arrangements with the appropriate departments in the college or university in which they are matriculated on a full- or part-time basis. The School of Nursing will accept the credit earned by examination with letter grades. Please note that in most cases, pass/fail grades on examinations are *not* accepted.

**CLEP:** It is possible to earn credit by examination through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) of the College Entrance Examination Board. Test sites, dates and registration materials for these examinations can be requested by writing or calling the College Entrance Examination Board, P.O. Box 6600, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000, 609-771-7865 or through their Website ([www.collegeboard.com/clep](http://www.collegeboard.com/clep)). The School of Nursing recognizes selected CLEP examination results for credit, provided the student earns a score determined acceptable by the Admissions Committee. Applicants should contact the Office of Admissions for a list of transferable CLEP examinations and the minimum acceptable scores.

**Advanced Placement (AP):** credit through the College Board, Princeton, NJ, examination program is also awarded in select academic disciplines, provided the student earns a score determined acceptable by the School of Nursing Admissions Committee. (AP courses are part of secondary school academic programs.)

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## **BSN APPLICATION PROCESS**

### **TRADITIONAL OPTION**

The School of Nursing matriculates baccalaureate students into upper-division coursework for the fall and spring semesters at the University of Maryland, Baltimore and for the fall semester at the Shady Grove Education Center in Rockville, Maryland. The following requirements apply:

1. Students are eligible to begin the application process after completing 30 credits of required lower-division, pre-professional coursework.
2. Eight credits of the required science credits are included in the 30 credits.
3. Applicants are strongly advised to develop a plan for completing the remaining 29 lower-division credits by the expected matriculation date.

4. Admission is competitive and the mean cumulative GPA of admitted applicants is well above 3.0.
  5. Only applicants who have an overall cumulative GPA of 2.75 or above will be considered for admission.
- The Faculty Admission Committee considers and gives primarily weights the following criteria in making its admission decisions:
1. Overall cumulative grade point average.
  2. Overall rigor of academic record.
  3. Evidence of academic success and completion of a minimum of eight of the required 16 science credits at the time of application review. The required sciences include anatomy and physiology, microbiology and general chemistry. (All attempts of repeated science courses are averaged in order to present a cumulative science grade point average to the Admissions Committee).
  4. Grade point average for the preprofessional course requirements which have been completed at the time of review.
  5. Personal statement of educational and professional goals and objectives.
  6. Resume of work experience.
  7. Two letters of recommendation: (Faculty – teacher recommendations are strongly advised.)

Please note that students who have taken human anatomy and physiology and/or microbiology more than 10 years earlier will be required to show proof of audit or satisfactory completion of *current* course(s) prior to admission. Students who have taken chemistry more than 10 years earlier will be responsible for reviewing chemistry on their own before admission. Students who want to request a waiver of this policy regarding chemistry must provide evidence of current or recent work experience in a scientific field and should submit such requests in writing to the Office of Admissions.

If an applicant has completed *more* than the required 59 pre-requisite credits at the time of application review, the credits from the most recent semesters completed will generally be used to assess the competitiveness of the application.

## Application Submission

Since admission is highly competitive, students are strongly encouraged to complete their applications by the earliest possible date. The undergraduate application is applicant-managed and should include all documentation at the time of submission. A student who wishes to be considered for admission should submit the application, application fee, required transcript(s) and course description(s) (if any) no later than May 1 for admission consideration.

for the subsequent fall semester and no later than November 1 for admission consideration for the subsequent spring semester.

## **Individual Review and Admission**

Students who do not meet the general admission criteria still may be eligible for admission consideration under our Individual Review policy. Such applicants must demonstrate ability to succeed in a rigorous academic curriculum through recent, strong academic performance in relevant coursework. Applicants who wish to be considered for Individual Review must submit a written request, with the application, to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

Individual Review applicants are required to submit two letters of recommendation and a personal statement, as well as other supporting materials, with the application. The applicant must clearly explain why he/she deserves special consideration and why the academic record does not present an accurate reflection of the applicant's academic ability to succeed in a rigorous BSN program. On occasion, personal interviews with the Faculty Admissions Committee may be required for students requesting Individual Review. Individual Review applicants must meet the stated priority deadlines.

## **Dual Admission**

The School of Nursing has partnerships and dual admission agreements with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, the University of Maryland, College Park and a number of Maryland community colleges. This means that qualified students seeking the BSN degree first must apply for admission to one of these institutions. If admitted, and upon successful completion of all of the School of Nursing lower division (freshman and sophomore years) requirements at the partner institution with at least a 2.75 cumulative grade point average, the student will automatically be admitted to the upper division BSN traditional program at the School of Nursing. Each of the School's four-year partner institutions provides a pre-nursing curriculum and appropriate advising.

The School also has a partnership with Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, wherein accepted students may complete three years of undergraduate study at Washington College and two years of study at the School of Nursing. For more information on partnerships and dual enrollment, contact the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

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## **ACCELERATED SECOND-DEGREE OPTION**

The School of Nursing offers an accelerated, second-degree option leading to the BSN for students who hold a bachelor's degree in another discipline. Structured as a 16-month, full-time program, the accelerated BSN provides intensive theoretical and clinical exposure in the briefest time possible. Non-clinical courses are designed to meet the distinctive learning needs of the second-degree student by expanding, rather than duplicating, the student's previous education. The second-degree option includes the same number of clinical credits as the traditional BSN option.

The Faculty Admissions Committee considers and gives primary weight to the following criteria in making its admission decisions:

1. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the prior baccalaureate degree program.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in the prerequisite science courses. Completion of at least eight of the required 16 science credits is required for application review. The required sciences include anatomy and physiology, microbiology and general chemistry. All attempts at repeated science courses are averaged in order to present a cumulative science grade point average.
3. Personal statement of educational and professional goals and objectives.
4. Two letters of recommendation (Faculty-teacher recommenders are strongly advised).
5. Resume of work experience.

The lower-division requirements that must be satisfactorily completed by accelerated second-degree applicants prior to admission to and enrollment in the second-degree option are provided in Catalog Section: *General Lower-Division Requirements*.

Please note that students who have taken human anatomy and physiology and/or microbiology courses more than 10 years earlier will be required to show proof of audit or satisfactory completion of current course(s) prior to registration. Students who have taken chemistry more than 10 years ago will be responsible for reviewing contemporary chemistry content on their own before admission. Students who want to request a waiver of this policy regarding chemistry must provide evidence of current or recent work experience in a scientific field and submit their requests in writing to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

### **Application Submission**

Since admission is highly competitive, students are strongly encouraged to complete their applications by the earliest possible date. The undergraduate application is applicant-managed and should include all documentation at the time of submission. A student who wishes to be considered for admission should submit the application, application fee, required transcript(s) and course description(s) (if any) no later than May 1 for admission consideration for the subsequent fall semester and no later than November 1 for admission consideration for the subsequent spring semester.

Students who do not meet the 3.0 minimum cumulative grade point average in the prior baccalaureate degree program may still be eligible for admission consideration for the second-degree option under our Individual Review policy. Applicants eligible for Individual Review typically will be individuals who completed a baccalaureate degree more than five years prior to application and who have gone on to do strong post-baccalaureate work. The minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in the prerequisite sciences remains a requirement for admission consideration.

Applicants who wish to be considered for Individual Review must submit a written request, with the application, to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs. Individual Review applicants are strongly advised to submit academic letters of recommendation in addition to or in place of letters of recommendation from professional colleagues/supervisors. On occasion, personal interviews with the Faculty Admissions Committee may be required of students requesting Individual Review applicants must meet the stated priority deadlines.

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## RN TO BSN AND RN TO MS PROGRAMS

The School of Nursing matriculates registered nurses into the RN to BSN, RN to BSN Online and RN to MS options for the summer, fall and spring semesters. The online RN to BSN option is designed for RNs who are seeking quality education and convenience. Prerequisite courses and the typical plan of study are identical to those of the classroom-based RN to BSN option. Students admitted to the RN to BSN online program are not required to attend classes on the Baltimore campus. In order to complete clinical requirements, students work with a preceptor in their geographic region. Visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu) and select "online" courses to learn more about this RN-BSN option.

The RN to MS option is designed for registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline or for those registered nurses who do not have a baccalaureate degree but possess the academic background, desire and ability to pursue leadership and specialty preparation at the master's level. It

combines elements of the BSN program for RNs with the master's program, thereby streamlining progression toward the Master of Science degree.

Because the RN to BSN, RN to BSN Online and RN to MS applications are applicant-managed, they should include all documentation at the time of submission. For priority consideration, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit the application, required transcript(s), (including the current semester if enrolled), and course description(s), if any, to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs by the priority deadlines of March 1 for summer admission, May 1 for fall admission, and November 1 for spring admission.

The Faculty Admissions Committee considers the following criteria in making its admission decisions:

### **RN to BSN and RN to BSN Online**

1. Successful completion of an associate's degree or diploma in nursing.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 in the prerequisite courses for the advanced placement options (see below).
3. Current RN license. Applicants not licensed in the United States are required to obtain a Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) certificate in lieu of a U.S. license. This certificate must be submitted with the application packet (Contact CGFNS at 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651. Call 215-222-8454 or e-mail [104341.1014@compuserve.com](mailto:104341.1014@compuserve.com)).
4. Personal Statement of educational and professional goals and objectives.
5. Professional Resume.
6. Two letters of professional recommendation.

### **RN to MS**

1. Successful completion of an associate's degree or diploma in nursing.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the prerequisite courses for the advanced placement options (see below).
3. Current RN license. Applicants not licensed in the United States are required to obtain a Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) certificate in lieu of a U.S. license. This certificate must be submitted with the application packet (Contact CGFNS at 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651. Call 215-222-8454 or e-mail [104341.1014@compuserve.com](mailto:104341.1014@compuserve.com)).
4. Two professional references.
5. Personal statement.
6. Official scores on the general test portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), which includes scores for verbal, quantitative and analytical skills. Allow two weeks for receipt of test scores if taking the examination by computer and four to six weeks if taking the paper-based

examination. Contact Graduate Record Examinations, Educational Testing Service at P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000 or call 609-771-7670. Visit the GRE online at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org) for more information. Test takers with disabilities should call 609-771-7780 for further information.

7. Professional resume.

All admitted students enter the RN to BSN option or the RN to MS option as undergraduate seniors after having satisfied specific general education credit requirements and nursing credit requirements which must total a minimum of 89 total credit hours. Three advanced placement choices (described below) are available to RN's for earning the prerequisite general education and nursing credits.

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## **ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION/Summary**

The following is a summary of application materials and requirements unique to individuals or groups of individuals seeking the BSN degree within **any** of the program options (traditional, accelerated, RN to BSN, RN to MS):

1. Official transcripts of all college-level work.
2. For those in the process of completing prerequisites, Courses in Progress Form to include all coursework that the applicant is currently enrolled in, as well as all courses that will be taken in the future to meet the lower-division requirements.
3. Course descriptions for any of the required natural science, nutrition or human growth and development courses taken outside of Maryland.
4. Personal statement of educational and professional goals and objectives.
5. Resume.
6. Applicants previously enrolled in a nursing program from which they did not graduate are required to submit a written statement from the dean, director or registrar of the previous nursing program/institution indicating that they left the program in good academic standing.
7. Two letters of recommendation.

8. A personal interview may be required in certain circumstances, upon request of the Faculty Admission Committee.
  9. Academic transcript evaluations completed by a recognized international credit evaluation service are required for all coursework completed outside the United States. Exceptions to this requirement include coursework taken at locations abroad under the official auspices of a U.S. accredited college or university and coursework taken at a non-U.S. institution as part of an official study abroad program sponsored by or directly offered by a U.S. accredited college or university. The preferred credit evaluation service is World Education Services, P.O. Box 745, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113-0745, 212-966-6311, Fax: 212-966-6395.
  10. All applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of applicants to the traditional, second-degree, RN to BSN and RN to MS options for whom English is not the student's native language. The minimum TOEFL score required for admissions consideration is 550 for the paper-based examination and 213 for the computer-based examination. Test results should be sent to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.
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## **UPPER-DIVISION CURRICULUM/PLANS OF STUDY**

### **ADVISING SYSTEM**

Each undergraduate student is assigned a faculty advisor by the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs prior to the start of her or his academic program. Students must complete a *Supplemental Information Form for Advisor Assignment* in order to provide additional information regarding their educational and career goals and objectives. This supplemental information is used in the advising process as the student and advisor together develop an overall *Plan of Study* and semester-by-semester course selections. Faculty advisors help BSN students in planning academic programs and schedules, in selecting individual courses to meet degree requirements, in exploring opportunities for career development, and in planning for graduate study. The advisor-advisee relationship is an important one and will contribute greatly to an individual student's academic success.

## **TUTORING**

The School of Nursing offers a Tutorial Program to undergraduate students. The Program is built around weekly group discussions and question and answer sessions conducted by a highly experienced nurse-educator. Tutorials are generally offered in NURS 311 (Pathophysiology), NURS 312 (Pharmacology) and NURS 330 (Adult Health Nursing). A number of workshops devoted to med-calculations, a critical aspect of NURS 304 (Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice), are also offered periodically throughout each semester. Students often attribute academic success in these core courses to their having taken advantage of the Tutorial Program. In addition, a Peer Tutoring Corps composed of academically outstanding undergraduates, is available to offer support and small group or individual tutoring sessions for students who need additional support. Inquiries about such tutoring should be addressed to the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs.

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## **BSN TRADITIONAL PLAN OF STUDY**

Baccalaureate students in the traditional option complete a minimum of 63 upper-division, professional course credits. Course instructors are faculty who have specialized knowledge and skills in the areas of adult health, maternal and child health, psychiatric/mental health, community health, health care delivery, research and informatics.

A faculty-student ratio of approximately 1:10 creates a clinical educational environment in which students have the opportunity to learn and understand the clinical skills required of professional nurses. Student clinical placements are based on learning objectives and the availability of appropriate clinical sites. When possible, individual student needs are taken into consideration when clinical placements are made.

A typical *Plan of Study* for full-time, upper-division BSN students in the traditional option is outlined below:

### **FIRST SEMESTER**

#### **Credits**

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NURS 304*	Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice	3
NURS 309	Health of Diverse Populations, Communities, Families and Individuals	3
NURS 311	Pathophysiology	3
NURS 312	Pharmacology	3
NURS 333 *	Health Assessment	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

### **WINTER OR SUMMER**

NURS 418	Directed Elective	2-3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2-3</b>

### **SECOND SEMESTER/THIRD SEMESTER**

NURS 307 *	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family (7 week course)	4
NURS 308 *	Nursing Care of Infants and Children: A Family Perspective (7 week course)	4
NURS 402 *	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	6
NURS 405 *	Informatics and Technology	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>

### **OR**

NURS 320	Science and Research for Nursing Practice	3
NURS 325	Context of Health Care Delivery I	3
NURS	Adult Health Nursing	7

330 *		
NURS 331	Gerontological Nursing	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	

*NURS 307 and NURS 308 are usually taken in the same semester. NURS 330 may not be taken in the same semester as either NURS 307 or NURS 308.*

### **WINTER OR SUMMER**

NURS 418	Directed Elective (if previously not completed)	2-3
<b>Total</b>		<b>2-3</b>

### **FOURTH SEMESTER**

NURS 403 *	Community Health Nursing	5
NURS 425 *	Context of Health Care Delivery II	3
NURS 487 *	Clinical Emphasis Practicum and Seminar	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

### **TOTAL CREDITS** **63-64**

General Education and Prerequisite Courses 59

(Previous completed lower division coursework)

### **TOTAL CREDITS FOR BSN TRADITIONAL OPTION** **122-** **123**

*Please note that these courses (\*) have pre-requisites and/or co-requisites. See Catalog Section Undergraduate Courses for complete descriptions.*

### **Course Substitutions**

A 600-level graduate elective may be substituted by a student who clearly demonstrates that she or he will be able to successfully manage the graduate-level workload and who obtains the permission of the advisor, the course coordinator and the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies to register for a 600-level course.

Graduate-level core courses (NURS 602, NURS 606, NURS 701) may be substituted for appropriate undergraduate-level courses for a student who meets established criteria and who obtains permission of the advisor, the course coordinator and the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies to register for the appropriate course or courses.

### **Part-Time Study**

Part-time study is available to BSN students in the traditional option.

Students pursuing part-time study must complete the degree requirements within five years of initial enrollment at the School of Nursing.

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## **ACCELERATED BSN PLAN OF STUDY**

Baccalaureate students in the accelerated second-degree option complete a minimum of 61 upper-division, professional course credits. Course instructors are faculty who have specialized knowledge and skills in the areas of adult health, maternal and child health, psychiatric/mental health, community health, health care delivery, research and informatics.

A faculty-student ratio of approximately 1:10 creates a clinical educational environment in which students have the opportunity to learn and understand the clinical skills required of professional nurses. Student clinical placements are based on learning objectives and the availability of appropriate clinical sites. When possible, individual student needs are taken into consideration when clinical placements are made.

A typical *Plan of Study* for accelerated second-degree students is outlined below.

### **FIRST SEMESTER - FALL or SPRING ADMIT**

#### **Credits**

304	Professional Nursing Practice	
NURS 309*	Health of Diverse Populations, Communities, Families, and Individuals	3
NURS 311	Pathophysiology	3
NURS 312	Pharmacology	3
NURS 325	Context of Health Care Delivery I	3
NURS 333	Health Assessment	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>18</b>

\*or NURS 602

### SPRING (FOR FALL ADMITS) or FALL (FOR SPRING ADMITS)

NURS 307	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family (7 week course)	4
NURS 308	Nursing Care of Infants and Children: A Family Perspective (7 week course)	4
NURS 320 *	Science and Research for Nursing Practice	3-4
NURS 402	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	6
NURS 405	Informatics and Technology	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>22-23</b>

\* or NURS 701  
NURS 307 and NURS 308 are usually taken in the same semester

### SUMMER (FOR FALL ADMITS)

NURS 330	Adult Health Nursing	7
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NURS 331	Gerontological Nursing	2
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*NURS 330 may not be taken in the same semester as either NURS 307 or 308.*

<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
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### **FALL (FOR FALL ADMITS) or SPRING (FOR SPRING ADMITS)**

NURS 403 *	Community Health Nursing	5
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NURS 425 *	Context of Health Care Deliver II	3
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NURS 487 *	Clinical Emphasis Practicum and Seminar	6
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<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>
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\*\* or  
NURS  
606

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>61-62</b>
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General Education and Prerequisite Courses (Previously completed coursework)	59
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<b>TOTAL CREDITS FOR ACCELERATED BSN SECOND- DEGREE OPTION</b>	<b>120-121</b>
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*Please note that these courses (\*) have pre-requisites and/or co-requisites.  
See Catalog Section Undergraduate Courses for complete description.*

**Course Substitutions:**

Graduate level core courses (NURS 602, NURS 606, NURS 701) may be

substituted for appropriate undergraduate-level courses for a student who meets established criteria and who obtains permission of the advisor, the course coordinator and the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies to register for the appropriate course.

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## RN TO BSN PLAN OF STUDY

The RN to BSN curriculum is planned to maximize the strengths the registered nurse brings to the baccalaureate program. The registered nurse is viewed as an adult learner whose life, educational and clinical experiences and motivation foster independent and collaborative learning. A typical *Plan of Study* for full-time RN to BSN students is outlined below. (Individual student plans may vary, particularly for part-time students.)

### FIRST SEMESTER - FALL OR SPRING

NURS	Health of Diverse Populations, Communities, Families and Individuals	3
NURS	Science and Research for Nursing Practice	3
NURS	Gerontological Nursing	2
NURS	Health Assessment	3
NURS	Directed Elective	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>

### WINTER OR SUMMER

NURS	Directed Elective	3
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### SECOND SEMESTER - FALL OR SPRING

NURS	Informatics and Technology	3
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NURS 425	Context of Health Care Delivery II	3
NURS 403 *	Community Health Nursing	5
NURS 418	Directed Elective	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL CREDITS</b>	<b>89</b>
(earned through pre- requisites, examinations, other means)	<b>120 minimum</b>
<b>TOTAL NURSING CREDITS FOR RN TO BSN OPTION</b>	<b>120</b>

*Please note that this course (\*) has pre- or co-requisites. See Catalog Section Undergraduate Courses for complete descriptions.*

#### ***Course Substitutions:***

A 600-level graduate elective may be substituted by a student who demonstrates that she or he will be able to successfully manage the graduate-level workload and who obtains the permission of the advisor, the course coordinator and the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies to register for a 600-level course. Graduate-level core courses (NURS 602, NURS 606, NURS 701) may be substituted for appropriate undergraduate-level courses for a student who can demonstrate significant experience in the subject area and who obtains permission of the advisor, the course coordinator and the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies to register for the appropriate course or courses.

## **RN TO MS PLAN OF STUDY**

The curriculum of the RN to MS option combines elements of the BSN program for RNs with the MS program. The BSN is awarded after the successful completion of 31 nursing credits, including all required baccalaureate-level courses. The total number of additional credits that a student accepted into the RN to MS option takes will vary depending on the

master's specialty area selected. The total RN to MS program can generally be completed in five semesters of full-time study. All RN to MS students have six years to complete all requirements from BSN completion to MS completion.

### CREDITS

Baccalaureate content	21
Master's core courses applied to BSN	10
Master's Specialty Courses	30-66
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>61-97</b>

A typical *Plan of Study* for full-time RN to MS students is outlined above under RN to BSN Typical Plan of Study. Individual student plans may vary, particularly for part-time students.

Please note that the policies of the University of Maryland Baltimore Graduate School require a *minimum* of 30 credits of Master of Science, post-baccalaureate coursework for the awarding of any MS degree. School of Nursing MS post-baccalaureate coursework requirements vary by specialty.

The total number of additional, non-core master's credits that a student in the RN to MS option must complete varies from 25-45 credit hours depending on the individual specialty area selected.

Although students in the RN to MS option have already been admitted to the MS specialty at point of entry, they must complete an application to the Graduate School during the final semester of their BSN program in order to officially change their status from undergraduate to graduate.

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### CLINICAL PRACTICE AREAS

Clinical practice areas for the baccalaureate program are provided through arrangements with a wide variety of hospitals and other health care agencies. Clinical practice is under the supervision of faculty of the School of Nursing. Students are assigned to a variety of types of agencies in order to accomplish course objectives as determined by the School of Nursing faculty.

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### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Baccalaureate graduates of the School of Nursing have many career opportunities available to them. Graduates may choose to practice nursing in a hospital or ambulatory care clinic, an extended care facility or a variety of community settings, including schools, health departments, industries, home health agencies, community health centers and physicians' offices. In addition, graduates may choose a career in civil service, the military or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many students continue into master of science or doctoral programs in nursing directly after completing the baccalaureate degree.

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## **ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE LICENSURE**

Graduates of the traditional and accelerated second-degree baccalaureate options are eligible for admission to the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for licensure to practice nursing. Application for licensure is generally submitted to the appropriate state board of nursing before the date of graduation and after the successful completion of all program and degree requirements.

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## **CPR AND IMMUNIZATIONS**

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) (for the health care provider) certification must be maintained by all baccalaureate students in the School of Nursing. Students are responsible for scheduling re-certification at the appropriate time. The Office of Registration Services maintains the record of student CPR certifications.

Immunizations must be current and documented to the University for all students before beginning clinical courses. If CPR and/or immunization documentation is not provided in a timely and appropriate manner, a student's registration will be blocked. Immunization requirements are outlined in the Student Answer Book available online at [www.umaryland.edu](http://www.umaryland.edu).

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## **ASSESSMENT TESTS**

After admission and prior to the first semester of study, assessment tests are completed as follows:

1. BSN students who are not RN's

- Nurse Entrance Test (NET)
- Critical Thinking Test (CTT)

2. BSN students who are RN's

- Critical Thinking Test (CTT)

These standardized examinations are administered prior to enrollment. They are designed to assess academic and critical thinking, learning styles and general preparation for quantitative and qualitative classroom work.

Individual test results are used in the advising process and the results indicate to faculty advisors where a student-advisee's academic strengths and weaknesses may lie. They are neither graded nor part of the academic record. The tests serve as indicators of individual student learning strengths and knowledge, as well as indicators of areas that may benefit from improvement and academic support services. Results of the NET are provided to students for their personal review and assessment.

## **UNDERGRADUATE COURSES**

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In keeping with School of Nursing policies, all prerequisites must be successfully completed before enrolling in a course referring same. Corequisite course enrollments are also prescribed. Total course credits are noted below in parentheses.

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**NURS 300—Nutrition (3).**Introduces the concepts of normal nutrition that can be built upon this knowledge when working with patients in health care settings. Satisfies the lower-division prerequisite nutrition course requirement that must be successfully completed before entering the BSN program at the School of Nursing.

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**NURS 304—Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice (3).** Introduces the nursing process and its use in addressing common basic needs and responses of persons to various health states. Emphasizes the application of theory to clinical practice and the development of cognitive, psychomotor, communication and therapeutic skills necessary to address these common needs and responses. Clinical laboratory and simulated experiences provide opportunities to develop and refine basic clinical practice skills. *Prerequisites or concurrent: NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 333.*

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**NURS 307—Maternal, Newborn, and Women's Health Nursing: A Family Perspective (4).**Focuses on providing nursing care to women and newborns during pregnancy, birth, post-partum and throughout the life span. Emphasis is placed on the biological, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual aspects of the childbearing experience. Course content includes health care, health promotion and health maintenance for women as well as health and societal trends and issues that influence women and childbearing families. Clinical experiences with women and antenatal, intrapartal and postpartum families in a variety of settings, including the clinical simulation laboratories, acute care facilities and the community, provide opportunities for application and integration of the theory-based content. *Prerequisites: NURS 304, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 333.*

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**NURS 308—Nursing Care of Infants and Children: A Family**

**Perspective (4)**. Provides in-depth knowledge of nursing care to infants and children within the family as a unit of care. Emphasis is placed on understanding the family as the basic unit in children's lives. Biological, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual influences that impact family beliefs are emphasized. Content includes a focus on wellness and illness. Current pediatric health problems, anticipatory guidance, prevention and health care promotion are presented within a framework of childhood development, family dynamics and communication skills. Clinical experiences with children and their families provide opportunities for application and integration of theory-based content. Clinical experiences are offered in a variety of settings, including the clinical simulation laboratories, acute care facilities and the community. *Prerequisites: NURS 304, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 333.*

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**NURS 309—Health of Diverse Populations, Communities, Families and Individuals (3)**. Facilitates the development of a philosophy and definition of health that takes into account the multiple health care needs of and relationships among populations, communities, families and individuals. Using the components of the nursing process, introductory methods to assess the health status of populations, communities, families and individuals are studied. Qualitative and quantitative data are analyzed to plan a teaching-learning intervention strategy. Multiple determinants of health status and health care, cultural and ethical influences, sources of health information, major local, state, national and global health issues and related health promotion/disease prevention objectives and health relationships among populations, communities, families and individuals are explored. Provides a theoretical and practical foundation for subsequent undergraduate courses.

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**NURS 311—Pathophysiology (3)**. Focuses on pathophysiological disruptions to system functioning. The alterations within the system are discussed as well as the impact of these alterations on the individual. Involves the application of previously acquired knowledge in human anatomy and physiology as well as other basic sciences. This course contributes to the scientific basis for use of the nursing process.

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**NURS 312—Pharmacology (3)**. Explores the use of therapeutic drugs in the health care setting and their effects upon normal and abnormal physiology. Pharmacologic agents are discussed in relation to their effects on body systems, mechanism of action and excretion, therapeutic usage and

nursing implications. The course builds upon the understanding of physiological and pathophysiological processes.

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### **NURS 320—Science and Research for Nursing Practice**

**(3)**.Focuses on the acquisition, evaluation, utilization and interpretation of information designed to link nursing theory and research as a foundation for nursing practice. Basic elements of research, including understanding concepts and theoretical frameworks upon which research is based, defining and evaluating research questions, literature searches, sampling, research designs, measurement and data gathering issues, elementary statistical analysis and interpretation of results are presented, and their interdependence is stressed. Content is reinforced by the use of research critique with emphasis on application to and implications for nursing practice and evidence-based nursing interventions.

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**NURS 325—Context of Health Care Delivery I (3)**.Provides an overview of the nature of nursing as an evolving profession and its relationship to the structure and function of the U.S. health care delivery system. Major issues and trends in nursing and health care are discussed. Consideration is given to the impact of socioeconomic, ethical, legal and political variables on the current U.S. health care system. Organizational structures and the dynamics of nursing practice in a changing health care delivery system are explored and discussed.

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**NURS 326—Clinical Nursing Elective (3)**.Offers an opportunity to select and study an area of particular interest in clinical nursing. A variety of clinical nursing practice settings serve as clinical laboratories for learning. Students may elect to participate in a faculty-offered course or independent study under faculty mentorship. In addition, an eight-week preceptorship may be chosen, which offers students a supervised experience in a clinical setting. Students follow the clinical schedule of their preceptor and may be paid at competitive hourly rates by the affiliating agencies while earning credit for the experience. *Prerequisites: NURS 304, NURS 333 and one clinical course.*

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**NURS 330—Adult Health Nursing (7)**.Utilizes didactic and clinical learning experiences to facilitate the provision of nursing care across the adult life span to patients who are experiencing a variety of complex, acute and

chronic health problems in various health care settings, including long-term care and rehabilitation settings. *Prerequisites:* NURS 304, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 333.

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**NURS 331—Gerontological Nursing (2)**. Explores the unique health and nursing needs of older adults and their significant others as well as political, social, economic, ethical and moral issues that have implications for an aging society. Emphasis is on healthy aging and wellness and positive perspectives on aging.

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**NURS 333—Health Assessment (3)**. Provides the knowledge and skills necessary to assess individual health as a multidimensional, balanced expression of bio-psychosocial-spiritual-cultural well-being. Course content reflects a functional health and systems approach to nursing assessment of persons through all developmental stages. Comprehensive bio-psychosocial-spiritual-cultural assessment devices are introduced to assess the impact of environmental influences upon individual health. *Prerequisites or concurrent for students in the traditional and second-degree options:* NURS 304, NURS 311, NURS 312.

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**NURS 402—Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing (6)**. Provides a basic understanding of psychiatric and mental health nursing principles in a variety of clinical settings. Course content builds on the American Nurses Association's Standards for Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practice, using an integrated biological, psychological, sociocultural, environmental and spiritual approach to the care of persons with psychiatric disorders. Empirical, aesthetic, ethical and personal ways of knowing are explored as a basis for understanding the needs of persons with psychiatric disorders. Current research, theory and biological foundations of psychiatric disorders are introduced. Treatment modalities and legal/ethical implications of caring for persons with psychiatric disorders are introduced along with issues of professional and personal involvement in psychiatric mental health nursing. *Prerequisites:* NURS 304, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 333.

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**NURS 403—Community Health Nursing (5)**. Focuses on the provision of nursing care to families, communities and populations within their respective environmental contexts. Epidemiological and sociological principles are stressed and major health issues of specific populations are explored.

Advanced community and family assessments to identify needs of selected populations are reviewed. Awareness of context and social responsibility is emphasized for the development of a personal philosophy of nursing.  
*Prerequisites for students in the traditional and second-degree options: NURS 304, NURS 307, NURS 308, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 320, NURS 325, NURS 330, NURS 331, NURS 333, NURS 402, NURS 405, NURS 418, NURS 427. Prerequisite or concurrent: NURS 425. Prerequisites for students in the RN option: NURS 309, NURS 333. Prerequisites or concurrent: NURS 320, NURS 425.*

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**NURS 405—Informatics and Technology (3)**.Provides the opportunity to explore the role of the nurse relative to the assessment of health care technologies and information systems and their incorporation into clinical practice. Current and emerging health care technologies are investigated with an emphasis on the actual and potential effects of these technologies on the work of nurses, the process of care and patient outcomes.

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**NURS 418—Special Topics: Electives in Nursing (3)**.Focus on current health-related topics such as ethics and values, holistic health care, issues in the health care of women, oncology nursing, critical care nursing, cross-cultural nursing and gerontological nursing.

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**NURS 419—Special Topics: Independent Study in Nursing (1-6)**

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**NURS 425—Context of Health Care Delivery II (3)**.Focuses on the management function and leadership roles of the professional nurse in today's health care environment. Organizational, regulatory, political and interpersonal factors that affect nursing practice and the administration of health care services are explored. The administrative process is utilized as a framework to examine management and leadership principles and concepts, such as planning, organizational analysis, creating a motivating climate and managing conflict and performance appraisal. The integration of management theory and the social responsibility of the nursing profession are emphasized.  
*Prerequisites for students in the traditional and second-degree options: NURS 325 and one clinical course.*

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**NURS 427—Clinical Emphasis Seminar I (1).** Focuses on specific area of clinical interest, including adult health, trauma/critical care, gerontology, pediatrics, women's health and community health. Major characteristics of the clinical specialty, such as the types of patients, types of diseases/disorders/common problems, preventive aspects, special knowledge and skills needed and available resources, are explored. *Prerequisite for students in the traditional and second-degree options: one clinical course.*

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**NURS 487—Clinical Emphasis Practicum and Seminar (5).** Serves as the capstone clinical and seminar experience in the final semester of the baccalaureate program. Provides opportunities to apply knowledge from preceding courses to further develop and refine clinical skills in a selected emphasis area—adult health, trauma/critical care, gerontology, pediatrics, women's health and community health. In conjunction with a clinical preceptor, objectives specific to the clinical emphasis area are developed, implemented and evaluated. Issues and trends, research, case analyses and experiences in the clinical practicum are explored in the emphasis area seminar. *Prerequisites for students in the traditional and second-degree options: NURS 304, NURS 307, NURS 308, NURS 309, NURS 311, NURS 312, NURS 320, NURS 325, NURS 330, NURS 331, NURS 333, NURS 402, NURS 405, NURS 418, NURS 427. Prerequisites or concurrent: NURS 403, NURS 425.*

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## TRANSITION COURSES FOR THE REGISTERED NURSE (effective until July 1, 2004.)

**RNTC 321—Scientific Concepts Nursing Transition Course (0).** Develops the ability to identify, describe and interpret concepts, principles and facts related to the sciences of microbiology and anatomy and physiology. The course design incorporates introductory-level chemistry concepts related to the microbiology and physiology content areas. Topics in microbiology include the fundamental properties of microorganisms, their relationships to other life forms and their role in disease. The structure, replication and pathological effects of viruses are presented, including the response of host to viral infection. Topics in anatomy and physiology include the major organ systems of the body and their functions, homeostasis and the central nervous system. Additional presentations focus on the characteristics and constituents of the blood, respiration and the immune response. Basic concepts of scientific math are detailed. *Open to RNs who graduated from associate's degree or*

*diploma programs more than seven years ago or who graduated from non-NLN accredited out-of-state programs.*

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**RNTC 322**—Social Science Concepts Nursing Transition Course (0).Reflects concepts, work, skills and knowledge derived from the disciplines of anthropology, sociology, psychology, human development, social psychology and communication arts. Updates content from each of the following courses: Oral Communication, Introduction to Psychology, Human Growth and Development, Introduction to Sociology and general electives. *Open to RNs who graduated from associate's degree or diploma programs more than seven years ago or who graduated from non-NLNAC accredited out-of-state programs.*

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**RNTC 323**—Nursing Concepts Nursing Transition Course (0).Provides an overview and update of the major concepts of adult medical/surgical nursing, maternal/child nursing, psychiatric/mental health nursing and issues that have influenced the evolution of professional nursing. Explores how the professional role of nursing is related to and integrated into the changes on our society and the significant issues confronting the professional nurse today. *Open to RNs who graduated from associate's degree or diploma programs more than seven years ago or who graduated from non-NLNAC-accredited out-of-state programs.*

# Graduate Programs

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<a href="#">Overview</a>	
<a href="#">Applications and Deadlines</a>	<a href="#">Master of Science Curriculum</a>
<a href="#">Master's Degree Program</a>	<a href="#">Sample Plans of Study</a>
<a href="#">Doctoral Degree Program</a>	<a href="#">RN to MS Program</a>
<a href="#">Graduate Admission</a>	<a href="#">Doctor of Philosophy Curriculum</a>
<a href="#">Admission Requirements</a>	<a href="#">Post-Master's Entry Option</a>
<a href="#">Application Procedures</a>	<a href="#">Post-Baccalaureate Entry Option</a>
<a href="#">Non-Degree Graduate Admission</a>	<a href="#">PhD/MBA Joint Degree Option</a>
<a href="#">Post-Master's Program</a>	<a href="#">Resources and Career Opportunities</a>
<a href="#">Specialty Areas</a>	

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## OVERVIEW

The University of Maryland School of Nursing, the first comprehensive graduate nursing program in Maryland, is one of the largest graduate nursing programs in the country. Graduate programs that lead to the master of science (MS) and doctor of philosophy (PhD) degrees are offered. The School currently offers these master's specialties and multiple emphasis areas for doctoral study and research.

The post-baccalaureate master's degree program offers the opportunity for advanced preparation in nursing in a variety of specialty areas. These include advanced practice practitioner options in trauma/critical care and emergency nursing, oncology, adult, gerontological, pediatric, family and psychiatric primary care. Specialties are also offered in community/public health with an emphasis in environmental/occupational health; behavioral health nursing with adult or child and adolescent emphasis; administration; informatics; and nurse-midwifery.

Articulated MS/MBA programs are offered in collaboration with the Robert G. Merrick School of Business, University of Baltimore; the School of Business at Frostburg State University; and the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, College Park. Coursework- only status is available for

non-degree seeking, bachelor's-prepared nurses interested in pursuing graduate study outside of a formal MS program. Post-master's programs of study are available in most master's specialty areas.

The master's program also offers an option for registered nurses to complete both the baccalaureate and master's degree within the RN to MS program of study. This option is designed for registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline and for those registered nurses who do not have a baccalaureate degree but have the background and ability to pursue leadership and specialty preparation at the master's level.

All master's specialties are offered on the Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland. Students in clinical specialties have opportunities to learn advanced practice skills in the clinical simulation laboratories, including working with standardized patients. Precepted experiences for students are available in a variety of practice settings, including the School's nurse-managed clinics, as well as through its affiliations with more than 500 additional health care facilities. Select master's courses are offered periodically at several outreach sites across the state, including the Shady Grove Education Center in Rockville, MD, as well as online.

The School of Nursing's doctoral program opened in 1979 and is the oldest in Maryland. It is designed to meet the educational needs of nurses who have developed or are developing specialized clinical expertise at the master's level and are committed to playing a leadership role in the discovery and refinement of nursing knowledge through research. The program prepares graduates for research, faculty and administrative positions in universities, hospitals, community and health care agencies and industry, as well as for independent practice in the public and private sectors. Students may enter the doctoral program after having earned a master's degree; a post-baccalaureate direct entry option is also available.

Emphasis areas within the doctoral program are based on faculty research expertise and are linked to academic programs and to identified local, state and national health care needs and priorities. These areas include child, women's and family health; behavioral health/addictions; gerontology/aging; environmental/occupational/community health; emerging and reemerging infections; cardiovascular health; cancer prevention, early detection and treatment; trauma/critical care; informatics; health policy; health services research; and research methodology/evaluation and outcomes assessment. An articulated PhD/MBA is offered for students seeking advanced preparation in nursing and business administration.

The curriculum includes a core of required courses that address the theoretical and empirical bases for nursing and the techniques of theory building and research. The program is designed with sufficient flexibility to allow students to pursue individual research interests and career goals within a research-oriented milieu. Early in the program, students begin a series of mentored research experiences that allow for early focus on a specific research area. These immersion experiences afford students opportunities to have a number of strong role models who have active research programs, are highly experienced, are seasoned in the conduct of peer-reviewed research,

and who are well positioned to facilitate student socialization to a career in research and scholarship.

The program design allows students to focus on the study of the theoretical and empirical bases of nursing actions provided to clients/patients in a variety of clinical settings, or research that focuses on the study of nursing systems or the theoretical and empirical bases for educational, administrative and/or policy-related nursing actions. Individual research interests and career goals determine the specialty area chosen. Depth of knowledge in the specialty area is developed through required coursework and related clinical laboratory experience, selection of support electives, independent study and dissertation research.

During doctoral study, students work with their advisors and other faculty involved with the doctoral program to develop an Integrated Scholarly Portfolio. This portfolio documents expertise students develop in their ability to conduct research, communicate information to a variety of audiences and provide service to the nursing profession and community. At the conclusion of the doctoral program, students have a body of work that allows for recognition of their achievements in their area of expertise as manifested by research findings communicated in manuscript and oral presentations and other scholarly works that have been reviewed by peers, mentors and referees.

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## APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

### ONLINE APPLICATION

The School of Nursing online MS Application will be available in February 2004.

Students are encouraged to access the University of Maryland Baltimore Graduate School Website and apply to the School of Nursing online:  
[www.graduate.umaryland.edu](http://www.graduate.umaryland.edu).

### APPLICATION PRIORITY DEADLINES/MASTER'S PROGRAMS

To receive priority consideration for admission, financial aid, and scholarships students are strongly encouraged to submit complete applications by the following dates. Applications submitted after the priority deadline will be considered on a space available basis.

These priority deadlines apply to MS, Post-master's and master's level non-degree course work applications.

- Fall Term – June 1
- Spring Term – December 1

- Summer Term – April 1

Doctoral applications are considered for the fall semester only. The priority deadline is February 1. Admissions is highly competitive and early application is strongly encouraged.

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## PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM (MS)

Master's degree program objectives are formulated on the assumption that graduate education builds upon undergraduate education. Graduate education is an intensive and analytic expansion of knowledge, enabling the perception and development of new and more complex relationships that affect nursing. Graduate education provides further opportunity for the student to think conceptually, to apply theory and research to practice and to develop in-depth knowledge in a specialized area of advanced practice nursing.

The *purposes* of the master's degree program are to prepare nurses:

1. With expertise in a specialized area of advanced nursing practice.
2. With role preparation as a clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, administrator, information or policy specialist.
3. For leadership in advanced nursing practice, professional organizations, health care agencies and policy-generating bodies.
4. For entry into doctoral study.

The *objectives* of the master's degree program are to prepare graduates who will:

1. Incorporate a range of theories into advanced nursing practice.
2. Adhere to ethical, legal and regulatory mandates and professional standards for advanced nursing practice.
3. Utilize scientific inquiry and new knowledge for the provision of nursing care, the initiation of change and the improvement of health care delivery.
4. Function as clinical experts in nursing and on interdisciplinary research teams for generation of new knowledge and for the appraisal of research findings for utilization in practice.
5. Evaluate nursing care within the framework of outcomes, using findings for the improvement of the health care system, delivery of care and

client outcomes.

6. Collaborate with nursing and interdisciplinary colleagues and with consumers for the attainment of shared health care goals that focus on health promotion and disease prevention and management.
7. Provide leadership in the development and evaluation of strategies for improving delivery of health care, using knowledge of economic, political, organizational and regulatory systems.
8. Manifest personal accountability for lifelong learning, professional growth and commitment to the advancement of the profession.

In addition to the knowledge and practice components of the objectives listed above, the behavior of graduate students should reflect an internally consistent value system. It is expected that graduates will value scientific inquiry as a basis for professional practice and will seek to increase their contributions to the nursing profession.

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## DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM (PhD)

The doctoral degree program in nursing prepares scholars and researchers who will advance nursing science and provide innovative leadership to the profession.

The doctoral program prepares graduates who:

1. Construct, test and evaluate conceptual models and theories in nursing and related disciplines that reflect synthesis, reorganization and expansion of knowledge.
  2. Evaluate and apply appropriate research designs, measures and statistics to the study of nursing and health phenomena.
  3. Conceptualize practice phenomena from the perspective of frameworks and theory from nursing and related disciplines.
  4. Design, conduct and communicate research relevant to nursing practice.
  5. Facilitate the incorporation of new knowledge into practice.
  6. Initiate, facilitate and participate in collaborative endeavors related to the theoretical, conceptual and practical aspects of health care with clients, nurses and scholars from related disciplines.
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## GRADUATE ADMISSION

Admission to the master of science (MS) and doctor of philosophy (PhD) programs is competitive. It is based on past academic performance, evidence of academic potential and professional nursing skills, commitment to nursing practice, scholarship and leadership.

Master's applicants may enter the program after completing the baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing. Senior BSN students in their final semester of coursework and recent BSN graduates also are considered for admission, and many recent graduates are currently enrolled in the master's specialties. Detailed information for each specialty area are available from the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs and on the School's Web site, [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu).

Nurses desiring preparation as scholars and researchers at the PhD level may enter the doctoral program either after completing the master's degree with subspecialty preparation and a major in nursing or after completing the baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing. The post-baccalaureate entry option is for exceptionally well-qualified baccalaureate graduates whose career goals are scholarly, teaching and/or research-oriented and who want to progress as rapidly as possible toward the PhD.

Additional information on admission to the graduate programs, both master's and doctoral, is available by contacting the office of Admissions and Student Affairs, 410-706-0501 or 866-687-7386. Frequent graduate information sessions and Open Houses are held at the School of Nursing throughout the year, dates and times are posted on the web site..

Students who want to pursue graduate study at the School of Nursing must ensure that the application for admission and all required supporting materials are received by the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs. Each completed master's application is reviewed by the appropriate departmental admissions committee. Each completed doctoral application is reviewed by the doctoral admissions committee. The appropriate admission committee makes a recommendation for acceptance or rejection of individual applicants. Students admitted to a graduate degree program are assigned a faculty advisor who works with the student to develop an individualized *Plan of Study*.

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## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The student's previous academic work, professional and volunteer experience, evidence of nursing scholarship and leadership are evaluated to determine whether prerequisites for admission have been met. For admission to the master of science and doctor of philosophy in nursing programs, the applicant must meet the requirements of both the Graduate School and the School of

Nursing.

Admission to the **master of science program** is based on the following criteria:

1. Baccalaureate degree with an upper-division nursing major from a National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)-accredited program.
2. Undergraduate cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0. If the grade point average is below 3.0, provisional acceptance may be considered if the candidate demonstrates graduate study potential by other means.
3. Completion of a course in elementary statistics or nursing research.
4. Official scores on the general test portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), which includes scores for verbal, quantitative and analytical skills. Allow two weeks for receipt of test scores if taking the examination by computer and four to six weeks if taking the paper-based examination. Contact Graduate Record Examinations, Educational Testing Service at P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000, or call 609-771-7670. Call or visit the GRE online at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org) for more information. Test takers with disabilities should call 609-771-7780 for further information.
5. Current RN licensure. Applicants not licensed in the United States are required to obtain a Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) certificate. The certificate must be submitted with the application packet. Contact CGFNS at 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651. Call 215-222-8454 or e-mail [104341.1014@compuserve.com](mailto:104341.1014@compuserve.com).
6. Completion of an approved physical assessment course is required for all master's specialty areas except nursing administration, nursing and business administration, health policy and informatics.
7. Strong background in or recent review of physiology/pathophysiology is highly recommended for the master's clinical specialties.
8. Two letters of reference from professionals who can assess the applicant's professional abilities and academic potential for graduate study.
9. Professional resume.
10. Personal interview upon request.
11. International applicants must submit an official score report of English as a foreign language, using either the Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System

(ISLETS). The minimum acceptable TOEFL scores are 550 for the paper-based exam and 213 for the computer-based testing. The minimum acceptable ISLETS score is 7.

The minimum standards for post-master's candidates for full admission to the **doctoral program** include the following:

1. Master's degree with a major in nursing from an NLNAC or CCNE-accredited program.
2. A cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 for all previous coursework (all baccalaureate, master's and subsequent coursework).
3. A graduate-level research statistics course completed within the five years prior to admission.
4. Official scores on the general test portion of the Graduate Record Examination which includes scores for verbal, quantitative and analytical skills. The tests must have been taken within five years of the date of application. Allow two weeks for receipt of test scores if taking the examination by computer and four to six weeks if taking the paper-based examination. Contact Graduate Record Examinations, Educational Testing Service at P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000, or call 609-771-7670 or visit the GRE online at [www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org) for more information. Test takers with disabilities should call 609-452-9342 for further information.
5. Current RN licensure for the practice of nursing in at least one state or in a foreign country. Maryland licensure is required by select clinical agencies.
6. Three letters of reference from professionals who can assess the applicant's professional abilities and/or academic potential for doctoral study. References should include at least one educator with a doctoral degree under whose guidance the applicant has studied.
7. Professional resume.
8. Personal interview upon request.
9. International applicants must submit an official score report of English as a foreign language, using either the Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (ISLETS). The minimum acceptable TOEFL scores are 550 for the paper-based exam and 213 for the computer-based test. The minimum acceptable ISLETS score is 7.

Upon occasion, candidates unable to meet the minimum standards may be admitted provisionally. For additional information on provisional admission, refer to Catalog Section *Categories of Admission*.

The minimum standards for post-baccalaureate candidates for full admission to the doctoral program include the following in addition to the master's degree program requirements previously noted:

1. Cumulative undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.5.
2. Current RN licensure for the practice of nursing in at least one state or in a foreign country. (Maryland licensure is required by select clinical agencies.)

Students who do not meet the criteria for post-baccalaureate entry into the doctoral program will automatically be considered for admission to the master's degree program.

A limited number of students are admitted to the doctoral program each year; therefore, admission is highly selective. Upon acceptance by the School of Nursing and the Graduate School, the admitted doctoral candidate must reconfirm enrollment intentions by writing to the School of Nursing within two weeks. If the applicant is unable to enroll, a written request for a deferral/postponement of enrollment of up to one year may be made through the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs at the School of Nursing. An offer of doctoral admission lapses after one year, and a new application and fee must be submitted in order to be reconsidered for admission after that time.

*(Admitted students must pass an examination in research and statistics to demonstrate their mastery of material prerequisite to doctoral-level nursing research courses before enrolling in these courses.)*

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## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applications for graduate admission may be obtained from: Office of Admission and Student Affairs, University of Maryland School of Nursing, 655 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. The application for admission must be accompanied by the application fee. This fee is not refundable under any circumstance; if the applicant is accepted and enrolls for courses, however, it will serve as a matriculation fee.

The School of Nursing admits students to the master of science program for fall, spring and summer semesters. Prospective master's students are encouraged to initiate and complete the application for admission by the respective priority deadlines. Applications are continuously assessed and processed as long as space in the entering class remains.

The School of Nursing admits students to the doctoral program for the fall

semester only. Applicants for admission to the doctoral program, including the post-baccalaureate entry option, are encouraged to submit their applications and all supporting documentation no later than February 1. Late reviews may be accommodated if space is available.

All applicants to the graduate programs (MS and PhD) must submit the materials outlined below in a completed packet to the University of Maryland School of Nursing Office of Admissions and Student Affairs, 655 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201. Specific application requirements for all prospective graduate students include:

1. A completed application for graduate admission.
2. Application fee.
3. Two sets of official transcripts from each college and university attended. If the applicant is a diploma school graduate, transcripts of the diploma coursework are also required. Copies of transcripts submitted by the applicant in officially sealed envelopes are accepted.
4. Photocopy of current RN licensure. Applicants not licensed in the United States are required to obtain a Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) certificate. The certificate must be submitted with the application packet.  
Contact CGFNS at 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651, or call 215-222-8454 or e-mail CGFNS at 104341.1014@compuserve.com. Please note that the *single* exception to the CGFNS requirement for nurses not licensed in the United States is made for post-master's applicants to the doctoral program; they are required to submit only a copy of their license from another country.
5. A typewritten statement of goals and objectives. This should be a concise, well-written essay addressing the applicant's background, motivation for pursuing graduate study in nursing, career goals and specific research interests.
6. Professional resume.
7. International applicants must submit an official score report of English as a foreign language, using either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (ISLETS). See Section Admission Requirements.

In addition to the information required for all graduate applicants, master's application packets must also include the following:

1. Completion of a course in elementary statistics or nursing research.
2. Official record of results of the general test portion of the GRE should be mailed directly from the Educational Testing Service to the Graduate School, University of Maryland, 621 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1575. Photocopied scores will not be accepted. Official results of the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) are also required for application to the MS/MBA specialty.

3. Proof of satisfactory completion of a course in physical assessment is required for all master's specialties except nursing administration, nursing and business administration, health policy and informatics.
4. Two professional references.

In addition to the information required for all graduate applicants, doctoral application packets must contain the following:

1. Proof of completion of at least one graduate-level course in research and inferential statistics (minimum three semester credits).
  2. Official record of results of the general test portion of the GRE should be mailed directly from the Educational Testing Service to the Graduate School, University of Maryland, 621 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1575. Photocopied scores will not be accepted. The official record of results of the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) is also required for MBA applicants to the doctoral program. The tests must have been taken within five years of the date of application.
  3. Three professional references who can address the applicant's potential for success in the PhD program. At least one should be from an educator under whose guidance the applicant has studied, preferably at the graduate level.
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## NON-DEGREE GRADUATE ADMISSION

### SPECIAL NON-DEGREE STUDENT STATUS

Baccalaureate-prepared nurses who wish to pursue a graduate degree at a later date or have not yet completed all admission requirements may apply for non-degree status to enroll in graduate-level nursing courses as non-degree/special students. Students admitted under this status may register for the master's core courses (NURS 602-Planning Health Care for Populations, NURS 606-Systems in Health Care Delivery, and NURS 701-Science and Research for Advanced Nursing Practice). To register for any other non-clinical courses, non-degree students must obtain the written permission of the Assistant Dean for Master's Studies. A non-degree student who later wants to obtain full-degree status must submit another application to the School of Nursing. Non-degree status is not intended as a qualifying program for full-degree status in the Master of Science program. While consideration may be given at a later date to the transfer of credits earned while in a non-degree status to a degree program, neither the Graduate School nor the School of Nursing provides assurance that such requests will be granted. If such a request is granted, no more than six credit hours may be transferred to a master's degree program.

Completed applications and supporting documentation for non-degree status must be submitted to the School of Nursing no later than August 1 for the fall semester, January 1 for the spring semester and May 1 for the summer semester.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following materials must be submitted in a complete packet to the University of Maryland School of Nursing, 655 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201:

1. A completed application selecting non-degree as the enrollment objective.
  2. Application fee.
  3. Two official copies of all baccalaureate transcript(s) which indicate a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0. If a candidate's grade point average is below 3.0, further consideration requires the submission of a letter of recommendation from the applicant's employer indicating professional experience and academic potential.
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## POST-MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Post-master's programs of study are available in numerous specialty areas. See Catalog Section: Specialty Areas. Various state and national certification requirements may be met by nurses who seek advanced nursing education in a post-master's program of study.

### POST-MASTER'S PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following materials must be submitted in a complete packet to the University of Maryland School of Nursing, 655 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

1. A completed application selecting a post-master's study as the enrollment objective.
2. Application fee.
3. Two sets of official transcripts demonstrating completion of a master of science in nursing degree from an NLNAC or CCNE-accredited program, with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0.
4. Photocopy of current RN licensure.
5. Typewritten statement of goals and objectives.
6. Two professional references.

## CATEGORIES OF ADMISSION

Applicants are offered admission to the Graduate School in any of the following categories:

1. *Unconditional graduate status*: applicant meets all requirements.
2. *Provisional graduate status*: applicant does not meet all of the academic requirements for unconditional admission but demonstrates potential for graduate study. To qualify for continued enrollment, a student admitted provisionally must achieve a "B" grade or above in every course taken during the first semester of full-time enrollment or the first 12 credit hours of part-time study. Further, *unconditional status* will be granted to a provisional graduate student upon attainment of a "B" grade or better in every course in the first semester of full-time enrollment or in the first 12 credit hours of part-time study.
3. *Provisional admission*: with *additional* specified departmental requirements, unconditional graduate status will be granted upon attainment of the program's specified requirements for each individual.
4. *Incomplete application*: information on the applicant is incomplete; admission status will be determined upon receipt of all required information.
5. *Non-degree graduate status*: includes both coursework only status and post-master's study.

A graduate student who is in good standing at another accredited institution may apply to enroll for a single course or a summer session (see Categories of Admission in the Graduate School catalog).

## PART-TIME STUDY

Students eligible for graduate admission who are able to devote only a portion of their time to graduate study are subject to the same privileges and matriculation requirements as full-time students. Part-time students assume responsibility for program planning with an assigned advisor. In the doctoral program, part-time study is available; however, full-time enrollment at the School of Nursing is required during two consecutive semesters for all PhD students.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Student citizens/residents of countries outside of the U.S. and its territories who show evidence of education equivalent to a baccalaureate degree in nursing may be considered for admission to the master's degree program. Likewise, those with education equivalent to a master's degree in nursing may be eligible for admission to the doctoral degree program. Contact the School of Nursing Office of Admissions and Student Affairs for information regarding specifics, individual circumstances.

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## SPECIALTY AREAS

Each graduate student (excepting non-degree students) selects a specialty area within a clinical or functional area of advanced nursing practice. Emphasis areas also are available within several of the specialties. The departments and specialty areas are noted below: (Specialties available to post-master's students are identified as (PM)).

### Department Specialty Areas

Organizational Systems & Adult Health	Nursing Administration
	Nursing Administration/Managed Care
	Nursing and Business Administration
	Nursing Informatics
	Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
	Trauma/Critical Care and Emergency Nursing Acute Care
	Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist
	Oncology Nursing
	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist
	Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist
	Gerontological Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist
	Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

Behavioral &Community Health/Child, Women's & Family Health	Community/Public Health Nursing
	Community/Public Health
	Nursing/Environmental Focus
	Behavioral Health Nursing
	Psychiatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
	Advanced Practice Pediatric Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner  
Nurse-Midwifery

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE CURRICULUM

### POST-BACCALAUREATE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM

The post-baccalaureate nursing program leading to a master of science degree requires the completion of a minimum of 35–55 credits depending on the specialty area selected. Most Master of Science specialties can be completed in three to four semesters of full-time study. Starting with the first day of matriculation, a maximum of five years is allowed for the completion of master's degree requirements. This time limit applies to both full-time and part-time students.

### CURRICULUM DESIGN/COURSES/PLANS OF STUDY

The curriculum design for the master of science degree includes core courses, designated specialty and support courses, and a number of electives.

The following core courses are required of all master's students regardless of the specialty area:

Credits		
NURS 602	Planning Health Care for Populations	3
NURS 606	Systems in Health Care Delivery	3
NURS 701	Science and Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>

Designated specialty and support courses are required of students within each specialty area.

Some specialty areas require the completion of MS degree electives.

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### SAMPLE PLANS OF STUDY

Sample program plans for each master's specialty area are noted on our Web site: [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu). The required credit total of specialty-area courses, support courses, and electives range from 25 to 45 depending on the particular master's specialty. These credits are in addition to the 10 credits of core courses noted above.

### **MS/MBA JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM**

The School of Nursing and the Robert G. Merrick School of Business at the University of Baltimore; Frostburg State University; and the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, College Park offer joint MS/MBA programs to students seeking advanced preparation in nursing administration and business administration.

The curriculum combines elements of the MS (nursing) and MBA programs and may be completed in approximately three years of full-time study. The number of required credits varies based on the individual master's specialty area selected by each student. Students may apply to both programs concurrently OR may apply to the nursing program first and subsequently apply to the business program at the university of their choice. Individuals must meet each school's admission requirements. Starting with the first day of matriculation, a maximum of seven years is allowed for the completion of the MS/MBA joint program. Contact the School of Nursing Office of Admissions and Student Affairs for further information.

### **POST-MASTER'S PROGRAMS**

Post-master's programs of study are available in numerous nursing specialty areas. The total number of credits required ranges from 15–45 depending on an individual's previous master's study and the particular specialty area selected. Sample program plans for each post-master's specialty are noted on our Web site at [www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu).

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### **RN TO MS PROGRAM**

The RN to MS option is designed for registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline or for those registered nurses who do not have a baccalaureate degree but possess the academic background, desire and ability to pursue leadership and specialty preparation at the master's level. The curriculum combines elements of the BSN program for RNs with the master's program and streamlines progression toward the master's degree. All master's program specialty tracks are available to students in the RN to MS option.

RN to MS students enter as undergraduate seniors, having earned at least 89 credits of undergraduate prerequisite coursework. The BSN is awarded after completion of an additional 31 credits including all baccalaureate-level coursework. Although students in the RN to MS option have already been admitted to the MS specialty, they must complete a graduate application to the School of Nursing during their final semester in the BSN program in order to officially change their status from undergraduate to graduate. **An additional application fee is not required.** RN to MS students will not be able to enroll in master's specialty courses until the graduate application is processed and a decision to admit has been made. The total number of credits (beyond the 31 earned toward the BSN degree) required to complete the MS will vary depending on the specialty area selected. A minimum of 30 credits of MS, post-baccalaureate coursework is required for the awarding of any MS degree. Coursework requirements vary by specialty. All RN to MS students have six years to complete all degree requirements. The program may be completed in five semesters of full-time study.

Major components of the RN to MS program include:

Credits	
Baccalaureate content	21
Master's core courses applied to BSN	10
Master's specialty courses	30-66
<b>Total</b>	<b>61-97</b>

Information about admission requirements, application procedures and the RN to BSN/MS *Plan of Study* is detailed in Catalog Section *Undergraduate Programs, RN to MS*.

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## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CURRICULUM

The School of Nursing curriculum for the doctor of philosophy degree varies depending on whether a student enters under the post-master's or post-baccalaureate option. Those entering the doctoral program after having earned a master's degree require a minimum of 60 post-master's credits to complete the PhD degree. Those choosing the post-baccalaureate entry option

must complete a minimum of 95-115 graduate credits.

Prior to matriculation in the doctoral program, it is strongly recommended that students complete graduate-level courses in organizational theory, analysis of the health care system and research. Post-baccalaureate work experience as a registered nurse enhances progression through the program of study. All doctoral students must pass an examination in research and statistics to demonstrate their mastery of material prerequisite to doctoral-level nursing research courses prior to enrolling in these courses.

The doctoral curriculum design includes a required core of nursing courses that incorporate the study of individuals and their health, nursing interventions and client outcomes, the environments in which nursing is practiced and the principles and methods of scientific inquiry. Throughout the required core courses, an integrative focus is maintained whereby theoretical and methodological approaches of the biophysical, behavioral/social and health sciences are selected and applied from the perspective of nursing. Within the core courses, students have the opportunity to build upon their educational and experiential backgrounds through a variety of individually selected learning experiences.

The specialty component of courses provides additional flexibility to plan a course of study tailored to individual career goals and research interests.

Doctoral emphasis areas include child, women's and family health; behavioral health/addictions; gerontology/aging; environmental/occupational/community health; emerging and re-emerging infections; cardiovascular health; cancer prevention, early detection and treatment; trauma/critical care; informatics; health policy; health services research; and research/methodology/evaluation and outcomes assessment. Depth of knowledge in the specialty area is developed through required coursework and related field experiences, selection of related specialty courses from nursing and other disciplines, independent study and the dissertation research.

Doctoral students are also required to complete an Integrated Scholarly Portfolio that documents their expertise in conducting research, communicating information and providing service to the profession. The portfolio is completed before the oral defense of the dissertation.

The program design components are detailed below.

***Core Courses and Credit Hours (36) Theory (6):***

This component of the core addresses the theoretical and conceptual basis for nursing practice and the analysis, development and testing of theory.

Included are the study of key concepts in nursing and health care as well as the selection and integration of knowledge from nursing and other disciplines.

Theory content is presented in two formats. Foundational material in philosophy of science and theory is presented in didactic courses, NURS 840 and NURS 841, and integrated in research and design courses, NURS 850 and NURS 852. Additional theory content consistent with the specific focus of the student's chosen research area is provided within the context of mentored research experiences (research rotations and practica). This approach allows

for precise tuning of theoretical knowledge, specific to the chosen research focus of a student, and builds on the foundation of theory content essential for all students presented in required courses.

***Research and Statistics (19):***

This component of the core addresses the techniques of measurement, design and advanced data analysis essential to conducting nursing research. Students apply these techniques in developing and using measures and conducting research projects specific to their own interest. Experimental and non-experimental research methods are addressed to allow students to develop a repertoire of research skills. Foundational content in these areas and the knowledge base needed for the research rotations and practica are provided in NURS 850, NURS 851, NURS 852, and NURS 853. These research courses incorporate theory and integrate content and learning experiences in grantsmanship. They provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to submit an application for external funding by the end of the first year of study. Course assignments afford students learning opportunities that encompass all aspects of the research process and are driven by research to complement the practical research experiences.

***Research Experiences (11-16):***

This component of the core includes research rotations and research practica designed to foster connections between students and active faculty researchers in order to facilitate identification of a research area. The research rotation course, NURS 819, provides students the opportunity to work directly with two faculty research mentors with established research programs, one during each half of the semester, in mutually agreed upon research activities. A seminar provides the opportunity for synthesis of these learning experiences in relation to aspects of the research process. Five credits of NURS 819 are required; a total of 10 credits may be taken and is highly recommended. The research practica course, NURS 818, provides an opportunity for students to work closely with faculty members in new and ongoing research projects. Six credits of NURS 818 are required; mutually agreed upon objectives for learning experiences determine the content for these credits. A minimum of three credits must be taken with the student's research advisor to allow for further forging of strong research relationships between student and mentor.

***Specialty/Elective Courses (12):***

This component allows each student to pursue an individualized plan of study that builds a specialized area of competence and supports his or her research interests and career goals. A portion of the elective courses is chosen from other disciplines (minimum of three credits) that contribute to the development of nursing knowledge through theoretical and methodological approaches. Students are able to draw upon the rich resources of the University in selecting courses and learning experiences from nursing and related disciplines. Specialty/elective course selection requires the approval

of each student's research advisor.

**Dissertation Research (12):**

Each student must complete an independent original research project to be communicated in a written dissertation. The research must address questions of significance to the discipline of nursing.

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## **POST-MASTER'S ENTRY OPTION**

Students entering the doctoral program through the post-master's entry option complete a minimum of 60 graduate credits. The program can be completed in three years of full-time study.

<b>Post-Master's Entry Option Curriculum Summary</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Core Courses	36
Theory	6
Research/Statistics	19
Research/Experiences	11-16
PhD Specialty Electives	12
Dissertation Research	12
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>60-65</b>

In addition to the course requirements, each student must satisfy the requirements of the Integrated Scholarly Portfolio and successfully complete the preliminary, comprehensive and final oral examinations. The written preliminary examination, which is taken upon completion of two semesters of full-time study (or the equivalent), tests knowledge in the areas of general nursing theory, research methodology and statistics. The comprehensive examination is taken upon completion of all required nursing courses and a minimum of 42 credit hours of coursework. The examination has written and oral components and is an integrative experience that allows evaluation of the student's mastery of the chosen area of specialization and advanced nursing theory, measurement and research. The final examination is an oral defense of the completed dissertation.

Students must be admitted to candidacy for the degree of doctor of philosophy within five years of matriculation and at least two full sequential

semesters prior to graduation. The student may apply for admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree following successful completion of at least 42 credits of coursework with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 including all required courses. Successful completion of preliminary and comprehensive examinations is also required. All degree requirements, including the doctoral dissertation and final doctoral examination, must be completed within four years of admission to candidacy and no more than nine years after admission into the doctoral program.

A sample plan of study for the full-time post-master's option PhD curriculum follows:

### YEAR 1

	<b>Credits</b>
NURS 840 Philosophy of Science and Development of Theory	3
NURS 850 Experimental Nursing Research Designs	3
NURS 851 Analysis for Experimental Nursing Research Designs	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

### WINTER

CIPP	Ethics Course *	1
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### SPRING

NURS 841	Theory and Conceptualization in Nursing Science	3
NURS 852	Non-experimental Nursing Research Designs	3
NURS 853	Analysis for Non-experimental Nursing Research Designs	2
NURS 819	Research Rotation **	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

## **SUMMER**

NURS 819	Research Rotation **	3
	Specialty Elective	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>

## **YEAR 2 (note: second-year courses can be taken only after passing the Preliminary Examination)**

NURS 811	Measurement of Nursing Phenomena	3
NURS 816	Multivariate Analysis in Nursing Research	3
NURS 818	Research Practicum I ***	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

## **SPRING**

NURS 812	Seminar in Nursing Measurement	3
NURS 818	Research Practicum II ***	3
	Specialty Elective	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

## **SUMMER**

	Specialty Elective	3
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## **YEAR 3**

	Specialty Elective	3
NURS 899	Doctoral Dissertation Research	

## **SPRING AND FOLLOWING**

NURS 899	Doctoral Dissertation Research (minimum total credits 12)	
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(note: continuous enrollment required)

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**TOTAL CREDITS      60**

Notes: \*Required for submission of NIH Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Applications \*\*Research Rotation I required for total of 5 credits for all students—requires 15 hours per week including conferences as scheduled. An additional research rotation is highly recommended for all students up to a maximum of 10 credits of NURS 819\*\*\*6 credits of NURS 818 required for all students; three of these credits are to be obtained as a research practicum (9 hours/week) with research advisor. (All students are required to attend a seminar every other week during fall and spring semesters; this totals eight seminars per semester through initial admission to candidacy; seminars are optional after that point.)

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## **POST-BACCALAUREATE ENTRY OPTION**

Students entering the doctoral program through the post-baccalaureate entry option complete a minimum of 95 graduate credits and may earn the MS degree if desired upon completion of master's specialty coursework (35 to 55 credits) and a master's comprehensive examination. The program may be completed in four to five years of full-time study.

Application is made to the doctoral program; however, a master's level specialty is identified at the time of application. A doctoral-level emphasis area is identified after the end of the first year of full-time study when students are assessed to determine eligibility to proceed with doctoral study. Admission is highly competitive.

### **Summary of Post-Baccalaureate Entry Option Doctoral Curriculum**

<b>Credits</b>	
MS Core Courses	10
MS Specialty Courses	25-45
MS Total Credits	35-55
PhD Core Courses	36
<i>Theory</i>	6

<i>Research/Statistics</i>	19
<i>Research Experiences</i>	11-16
PhD Specialty Electives	12
Dissertation	12
<b>PhD Minimum Total Credits</b>	<b>60-65</b>
<b>TOTAL BSN to PhD Credits</b>	<b>95-115</b>

In addition, students must complete doctoral preliminary, comprehensive and final oral examinations. Sample *Plans of Study* for the full-time post-baccalaureate entry option vary depending on the individual master's specialty selected.

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## PHD/MBA JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM

The School of Nursing and the Robert G. Merrick School of Business, University of Baltimore; Frostburg State University; and the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, College Park, offer joint PhD and MBA programs to students seeking advanced research- and practice-based study in the fields of nursing and business administration.

The 91-credit curricula combine elements of the PhD and MBA programs and may be completed in four years of full-time study. Students may apply to both programs concurrently or may apply to the nursing program first and later apply to a business program. Individuals must meet each school's admission requirements. Contact the Office of Admission and Student Affairs for further information on the programs of study for each of the joint programs.

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## RESOURCES

More than 500 community and health care agencies cooperate with the School of Nursing in providing sites for clinical experiences and research.

Non-nursing courses may be taken at the other professional schools (dental,

law, medicine, pharmacy and social work) that comprise the Baltimore campus of the University of Maryland; the University of Maryland, College Park; the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; the University of Maryland, University College; and the University of Baltimore.

In addition to the Health Sciences and Human Services Library, students have access to the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, the Library of Congress in Washington and the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.

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## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the master's degree program of the School of Nursing have an extraordinary variety of career options and opportunities. Salaries vary with the type of position, the setting, the geographic area and the individual graduate's professional experience.

Doctorally prepared nurses are in great demand throughout the nation as researchers, faculty members and administrators. Salaries for new doctoral graduates vary with the particular position, the geographic area and the individual background of the candidate.