

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Mission Statement

Through the efforts of a professionally prepared and caring faculty and staff, Point Loma Nazarene University School of Nursing aspires to prepare M.S.N. graduates who are leaders among their peers in a global community. These graduates think critically, value diversity, and are committed to the highest spiritual and ethical good. These M.S.N. graduates expand educational opportunities that empower individuals to optimal health and effective citizenship; and work to become models of creative Christian leadership who seek to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Graduates are exposed to a broad foundation of knowledge to meet the rapidly changing needs of today's healthcare environment. PLNU combines instruction, research, and public service opportunities that advance the intellectual, spiritual, professional, and economic potential of its M.S.N. graduates for productive nursing practice in settings around the globe.

Graduation Requirements

1. A completed Application for Degree Candidacy (on-line or in the Office of Records, campus);
2. Completion of the approved graduate program of 40-43 units for M.S.N. students or 51-54 units for R.N. entry M.S.N. students, including the thesis or project;
3. Achievement of a cumulative grade point average of 3.000 or higher. A minimum grade of B- is required to progress in the program. Students with a lower course grade must meet with the course instructor and their academic advisor to determine the student's ability to progress in the program; and
4. All accounts paid in full.

Program Overview

The M.S.N. program at Point Loma Nazarene is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). The program is designed for working professionals. Classes are held one night a week and every other Saturday morning at the Mission Valley Regional Center. You can choose either an academic or clinical focus. Clinical Nurse Specialist options are available in the following areas:

- Mental Health Nursing
- Medical/Surgical Nursing
- Gerontological Nursing
- Family Health

Program Eligibility for the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)

Registered Nurse (R.N.) Entry Without Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree

- An Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) or equivalent degree from an accredited program;
- Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
- At least one year of continuous nursing experience;
- Official transcripts from previous colleges and universities;
- A college grade-point average of 3.000 (candidates with a grade-point average of 2.700 to 2.990 may be considered under the Exceptions Policy (see Admission Requirements and Procedures, Program Eligibility under Exception);
- A completed university application;
- Two professional recommendations (professional recommendation form available on the Web site);
- A completed School of Nursing graduate program application;
- A personal essay demonstrating graduate level writing skills and the importance of graduate study to the applicant;
- An interview with the graduate nursing selection committee;
- Basic computer literacy which includes knowledge of Explorer, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and the ability to perform an internet database search.

Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)

- A Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from a National League for Nursing (NLN) or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited program;

- Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
- Official transcripts from previous colleges and universities;
- An undergraduate grade-point average of 3.000 (candidates with a grade-point average of 2.700 to 2.990 may be considered under the exceptions policy (see below));
- A completed university application;
- Two professional recommendations (use professional recommendation form on Web site);
- A completed School of Nursing graduate program application;
- A personal essay demonstrating graduate level writing skills and the importance of graduate study to the applicant;
- An interview with the graduate nursing selection committee;
- Basic computer literacy which includes knowledge of Explorer, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and the ability to perform an internet database search; and
- Completion of baccalaureate courses in health assessment, pathophysiology, nursing research, statistics, nursing leadership and community health nursing.

OTHER PROVISIONS

To satisfy the requirements of our clinical agencies, upon acceptance into the program students will be required to provide copies of the following documentation:

- Current California licensure as a registered nurse
- Current Healthcare Provider CPR certificate from the American Heart Association
- Completed School of Nursing Health Form Packet with **proof of immunizations** (we will only accept copies of your official immunization record or paper documentation of titers)
- Current TB screening (within six months) upon admission into the program
- Current HIPPA certificate
- Background check and drug screening (failure to pass this will result in an inability to complete the program)

EXCEPTIONS POLICY

Applicants who do not meet the above standards, but who can demonstrate an exceptionally rich experiential background and/or demonstrate dramatic change in academic performance, may petition the School of Nursing to review their status (see Admissions Requirements and Procedures, Program Eligibility under Exception).

Post-M.S.N. Clinical Nurse Specialist Certificate Post-M.S.N. Nurse Educator Certificate

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- M.S.N. degree from a National League for Nursing (NLN) or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited program;
- Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
- Official transcripts - B.S.N. and M.S.N.;
- A completed university application;
- Two personal letters of recommendation (use the personal recommendation form on the Web site);
- A completed School of Nursing graduate program application;
- Two professional recommendations (use the professional recommendation form on the Web site);
- A personal essay demonstrating graduate level writing skills and the importance of graduate study to the applicant;
- An interview with the graduate nursing selection committee;
- Basic computer literacy which includes knowledge of Explorer, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and the ability to perform an internet database search.

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M.S.N. Curricular Outcomes

Each master's degree Nursing course is designed to include competency development which incorporates the following five curricular outcomes: **Critical Thinking** -- A learned approach to the practice of nursing which reflects intellectual development in reasoning, analysis, research and decision-making. **Therapeutic Nursing Interventions** -- A series of theory-based, nurse initiated actions which are goal-directed and designed to optimize health. These interventions are client-centered, interdisciplinary, research based, and focus on empowering the client. **Communication** -- A dynamic, interactive process that transmits thoughts, ideas, and feelings through the use of symbols which are culturally appropriate. **Service** -- The provision of leadership in clinical practice and the socio/political environment. **Spirituality** -- The dimension of life that provides meaning to existence. Within the context of vital Christianity, ethics arise out of a spiritual framework. The ethical practice of nursing adheres to the ethical and legal standards of the nursing process.

Master of Science in Nursing

Courses