

R.N. to B.S. Nursing

2023-24

WEBSITE

<https://swau.edu/academics/swauonline/rn-bs-nursing/>

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A degree in nursing, particularly a bachelor's degree, opens the door to one of the fastest-growing and most in-demand career fields. Flexible work scheduling, excellent salaries, job security, and career advancement opportunities are attractive within the nursing profession. Nurses have a powerful impact on the lives of their patients, with caring and compassion being at the very heart of nursing.

Job Market

Nurses are employed in a wide variety of fields and locations. They are in every community, providing much needed care from birth through end of life. The American Nurses Association states, "Nurse roles range from direct patient care and case management to establishing nursing practice standards, developing quality assurance procedures, and directing complex nursing care systems" (<https://www.nursingworld.org>). There are more than 4 million registered nurses in the United States working in many specialty areas. At the core of nursing is the patient care that coordinates the assessment and diagnosis of the patient. The nurse carefully plans, treats, cares for, and evaluates patient conditions as they change throughout their care. Nurses not only work in hospital settings, but also have excellent employment opportunities within the community, clinics, education, management, and leadership.

Job Outlook

The Texas Department of State Health Services predicts a 54% increase in the demand for registered nurses by 2030 (www.DSHS.Texas.gov). There are added benefits for those nurses who have earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. A 2020 survey from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (www.aacnnursing.org) determined that 94% of BSN graduates were able to obtain employment 4-6 months after finishing their program. Also, this survey found that employers much prefer those nurses with a BS degree. Current trends show that upwards of 40% of hospitals and healthcare facilities now require a BS in Nursing. The AACN quoted a 2019 New York University study that demonstrated those nurses with a BS in Nursing are much better prepared than ADN nurses in 12 of 16 quality and safety areas. The BS in Nursing degree is a marketable asset to a practicing RN.

Earnings

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the median salary for hospital-employed Registered Nurses is \$73,650, ranging from \$50,800 to \$106,530 (www.bls.gov). In addition, a 2020 National Nursing Workforce Survey

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showed that those RNs with a bachelor's degree regularly made more per year than those with an associate degree (www.journalofnursingregulation.com).

Educational Qualifications

A BS in Nursing is a stepping stone for those wishing to further their academic aspirations and for those wanting to pursue advanced practice. Most graduate programs require applicants to hold a BS degree in Nursing. Those nurses who earn a BS degree have improved job opportunities that often include leadership, case management and quality assurance. Most RN certifications now require a bachelor's degree.

Required R.N. to B.S. Courses

Item #	Title	Credits
NURS 302	RN-BS Professional Development	1
NURS 312	RN-BS Health Assessment	3
NURS 316	RN-BS Gerontological Nursing	2
NURS 331	RN-BS Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS 332	RN-BS Pathophysiology/Pharmacology	4
NURS 406	RN-BS Leadership & Management in Nursing	3
NURS 436	RN-BS Health Care Policies and Economics	3
NURS 444	RN-BS Population Health	3
UNIV 311	Wellness for Life	2
	R.N. to B.S. GE Religion Options	6
	Sub-Total Credits	30

Required R.N. to B.S. Nursing Cognate Courses

Item #	Title	Credits
BIOL 101	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL 102	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIOL 220	Microbiology and Immunology	4
MATH 141	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	3
PSYC 220	Human Growth & Development	3
SOCI 111	Introduction to Sociology	3
	Sub-Total Credits	21

Electives to Meet 120-Credit Hour Graduation Requirement

Total Upper Division credit requirements: 30

R.N. to B.S. Elective Credits:

These elective credits can be used if the student needs to reach the required 120 minimum credits for graduation.

Item #	Title	Credits
NURS 460	R.N.-B.S. Baccalaureate Nurse Experience I	3
NURS 461	R.N.-B.S. Baccalaureate Nurse Experience II	3
	Sub-Total Credits	6