

# Bachelor of Science in Nursing

With a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from the University of Kansas School of Nursing, graduates are prepared for success in any health care setting. KU graduates are ready to work in hospitals, community health agencies, industrial or long-term care facilities, as travel nurses, flight nurses, as well as in other clinical settings.

Graduates of the KU School of Nursing baccalaureate program, begun in 1929, go on to become charge nurses and move into other leadership positions in Kansas and across the country. They are well-prepared for continuing their education through master's and doctoral programs in nursing.

School of Nursing alumni are hired by hospitals of great renown, including Johns Hopkins and Mayo Clinic and excellent hospital systems closer to home at The University of Kansas Health System and Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics.

The KU School of Nursing's baccalaureate, master's, and doctor of nursing practice programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacn.nche.edu>), 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 887-6791. This organization is a nationally recognized professional accrediting body for collegiate nursing programs. The baccalaureate, master's, and DNP programs also are approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing (<http://www.ksbn.org>). The Nurse Midwifery Program is accredited by the Accreditation Division of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (<http://www.midwife.org>), 8403 Colesville Rd., Suite 1550, Silver Spring, MD 20910, (240) 485-1800.

## Undergraduate Admission to the School of Nursing

The School of Nursing offers three undergraduate nursing programs: Pre-licensure BSN, RN to BSN, and Community College Nursing Partnership (CCNP). Each program is described below.

### Pre-licensure BSN Program

Students enter the Pre-Licensure BSN program after taking 62 semester credit hours of prerequisite work in an accredited college or university. Admission to the school is competitive. A minimum grade-point average of 2.5 is required to apply.

### Pre-Nursing Advising

A pre-nursing advisor is available by appointment during the fall and spring semesters in the Undergraduate Advising Center (<http://advising.ku.edu>), Summerfield Hall, on the Lawrence campus and year-round on the Kansas University Medical Center campus in Kansas City. The advisor provides students with information about the nursing profession, help with course selection in preparation for nursing application, and guidance in the admission process. For an appointment, current Lawrence campus students can call (785) 864-2834. All other students can call (913) 588-1619 for an appointment in Kansas City.

### Admission Procedure

Applications for the pre-licensure BSN program are accepted from **July 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>** for admission the following fall semester. Applications are accepted through the KU Medical Center online application (<https://www.applyweb.com/kumc>) site.

### Admission Criteria

The school endeavors to meet the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who, in the judgment of the Student Admission and Progression Committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected based on college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

### Locations

The School of Nursing has two campuses: one on the University of Kansas Medical Center campus in Kansas City, KS, about one hour east of the Lawrence Campus, and one on the University of Kansas Medical Center campus in Salina, KS, about two hours west of the Lawrence campus.

### Course Requirements

Within the 62 hours required for admission to the basic BSN program, the following must be included:

#### Humanities and Social Sciences

Courses in English composition and literature, public speech, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, global awareness, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code  | Title  | Hours |
|---|--|-------|
| <b>English</b>  |  |       |
| ENGL 101  | Composition                                    | 3     |
| ENGL 102  | Critical Reading and Writing                   | 3     |
| or ENGL 105   | Honors Introduction to English                 |       |
| <b>Social Sciences</b>  |  |       |
| PSYC 104  | General Psychology                             | 3     |
| SOC 104   | Elements of Sociology                          | 3     |
| or SOC 160  | Social Problems and American Values            |       |
| ABSC 160  | Introduction to Child Behavior and Development | 3     |
| or PSYC 333   | Child Development                              |       |
| <b>Humanities</b>   |  |       |
| 1 course designated General Education 3H in this catalog <sup>1</sup> |  | 3     |
| <b>Oral Communication</b>   |  |       |
| Select one of the following:  |  |       |
| COMS 130  | Speaker-Audience Communication                 | 3     |
| Or Exemption for current KU students only                             |  |       |

**Global Awareness class** 3  
1 course designated Advanced Education 4.2 in this catalog <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> View course list

<sup>2</sup> View course list

### Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, biology or zoology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are also required but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code                                  | Title   | Hours |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------|
| <b>Natural Sciences</b>               |   |       |
| Select one of the following:          |   |       |
| BIOL 100<br>& BIOL 102<br>or BIOL 150 | Principles of Biology<br>and Principles of Biology Laboratory<br>Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology | 4     |
| BIOL 200<br>& BIOL 203                | Basic Microbiology<br>and Introductory Microbiology Laboratory  | 5     |
| BIOL 240<br>& BIOL 241                | Fundamentals of Human Anatomy<br>and Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory                                     | 5     |
| BIOL 246                              | Principles of Human Physiology  | 3     |
| CHEM 110<br>or CHEM 130               | Introductory Chemistry<br>General Chemistry I   | 5     |
| HSES 330                              | Principles of Nutrition and Health  | 3     |
| <b>Mathematics and Statistics</b>     |   |       |
| MATH 101                              | College Algebra (or exemption)  | 3     |
| PSYC 210<br>or MATH 365               | Statistics in Psychological Research<br>Elementary Statistics   | 3     |

### Electives

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 4 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 62 credit hours required for admission. These 4 credit hours may be in physical education courses, and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

## RN to BSN Program

Students complete an associate degree in nursing from an ACEN accredited community college, including 60 credit hours of prerequisite liberal arts and science courses. Following RN licensure, students complete 30-35 credit hours of nursing courses online through KU Medical Center. A minimum grade-point average of 2.5 is required to apply.

### Admission Procedure

The application for the RN to BSN program is open at all times, with the following deadline dates: **April 1<sup>st</sup>** for summer semester, **July 1<sup>st</sup>** for fall semester, and **November 1<sup>st</sup>** for spring semester. Applications are accepted through the KU Medical Center online application (<https://www.applyweb.com/kumc>) site.

## Admission Criteria

The school endeavors to meet the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who, in the judgment of the student admission and progression committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected on the basis of college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

## Course Requirements

Within the 60 hours required for admission to the RN to BSN program, the following must be included:

### Humanities and Social Sciences

Courses in English composition and literature, speech or interpersonal communication, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, global perspectives, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code                         | Title   | Hours |
|------------------------------|---|-------|
| <b>English</b>               |   |       |
| ENGL 101                     | Composition   | 3     |
| Select one of the following: |   |       |
| ENGL 102<br>or ENGL 105      | Critical Reading and Writing<br>Honors Introduction to English      | 3     |
| <b>Social Sciences</b>       |   |       |
| PSYC 104                     | General Psychology  | 3     |
| SOC 104<br>or SOC 160        | Elements of Sociology<br>Social Problems and American Values        | 3     |
| ABSC 160<br>or PSYC 333      | Introduction to Child Behavior and Development<br>Child Development | 3     |

### Humanities

1 course designated General Education 3H in this catalog <sup>1</sup> 3

### Oral Communication

Select one of the following: 3

COMS 130 Speaker-Audience Communication 3

**Global Awareness class** 3

1 course designated Advanced Education 4.2 in this catalog <sup>2</sup>

Exemption

<sup>1</sup> View principal course list

<sup>2</sup> View principal course list

### Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are also required but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these

general education requirements through the Lawrence Campus meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code                              | Title                                | Hours |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Natural Sciences</b>           |                                      |       |
| BIOL 200                          | Basic Microbiology                   | 3     |
| BIOL 203                          | Introductory Microbiology Laboratory | 2     |
| BIOL 240                          | Fundamentals of Human Anatomy        | 3     |
| BIOL 241                          | Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory | 2     |
| BIOL 246                          | Principles of Human Physiology       | 3     |
| CHEM 110                          | Introductory Chemistry               | 5     |
| or CHEM 130                       | General Chemistry I                  |       |
| HSES 330                          | Principles of Nutrition and Health   | 3     |
| <b>Mathematics and Statistics</b> |                                      |       |
| MATH 101                          | College Algebra (or exemption)       | 3     |
| PSYC 210                          | Statistics in Psychological Research | 3     |
| or MATH 365                       | Elementary Statistics                |       |

**Electives**

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, oral communication, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 8 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 60 credit hours required for admission. These 8 credit hours may be in physical education courses, and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

**Community College Nursing Partnership Program (CCNP)**

Students first complete 60 credit hours of prerequisite liberal arts and science courses, and then simultaneously complete the associate degree in nursing at a partner community college and 30 credit hours of BSN courses online through KU Medical Center. A minimum grade-point average of 2.5 is required to apply.

**Admission Procedure**

Applicants must first be admitted to a participating community college's Associate Degree in Nursing (A.D.N./A.S.N.) program. Following admission to the A.D.N./A.S.N., students may apply to the Partnership Program. Applications are accepted through the KU Medical Center online application (<https://www.applyweb.com/kumc>) site.

**Admission Criteria**

The school endeavors to meet the changing needs of society by selecting applicants who, in the judgment of the student admission and progression committee, demonstrate the academic achievement, maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for the successful study and practice of nursing, and who will best meet the needs of the citizenry. Students are selected on the basis of college scholastic achievement, interest in and commitment to nursing, letters of reference, extracurricular activities, personal characteristics, and health-related work and volunteer experience. The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in the university's programs and activities.

**Course Requirements**

Within the 60 hours required for admission to the CCNP program, the following must be included:

**Humanities and Social Sciences**

Courses in English composition and literature, speech or interpersonal communication, general sociology, general psychology, theories of child or human development, global perspectives, and humanities are required. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code           | Title                          | Hours |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| <b>English</b> |                                |       |
| ENGL 101       | Composition                    | 3     |
| ENGL 102       | Critical Reading and Writing   | 3     |
| or ENGL 105    | Honors Introduction to English |       |

**Social Sciences**

|             |  |   |
|-------------|--|---|
| PSYC 104    | General Psychology                             | 3 |
| SOC 104     | Elements of Sociology                          | 3 |
| or SOC 160  | Social Problems and American Values            |   |
| ABSC 160    | Introduction to Child Behavior and Development | 3 |
| or PSYC 333 | Child Development                              |   |

**Humanities**

1 course designated General Education 3H in this catalog <sup>1</sup> 3

**Oral Communication**

|                              |                                |   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Select one of the following: |                                | 3 |
| COMS 130                     | Speaker-Audience Communication | 3 |

**Global Awareness class**

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 course designated Advanced Education 4.2 in this catalog <sup>2</sup> |  | 3 |
| Exemption   |  |   |

<sup>1</sup> View principal course list

<sup>2</sup> View principal course list

**Natural Sciences and Mathematics**

Courses in general chemistry, microbiology, and human anatomy are required. These courses must include laboratory experience. Courses in college algebra, statistics, physiology, and nutrition are also required but do not require a laboratory experience. Students who complete these general education requirements through the KU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences meet these requirements by taking the following courses:

| Code                              | Title                                | Hours |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>Natural Sciences</b>           |                                      |       |
| BIOL 200                          | Basic Microbiology                   | 3     |
| BIOL 203                          | Introductory Microbiology Laboratory | 2     |
| BIOL 240                          | Fundamentals of Human Anatomy        | 3     |
| BIOL 241                          | Human Anatomy Observation Laboratory | 2     |
| BIOL 246                          | Principles of Human Physiology       | 3     |
| CHEM 110                          | Introductory Chemistry               | 5     |
| or CHEM 130                       | General Chemistry I                  |       |
| HSES 330                          | Principles of Nutrition and Health   | 3     |
| <b>Mathematics and Statistics</b> |                                      |       |
| MATH 101                          | College Algebra (or exemption)       | 3     |

|             |                                      |   |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| PSYC 210    | Statistics in Psychological Research | 3 |
| or MATH 365 | Elementary Statistics                |   |

### Electives

Electives can be chosen according to the student's interests or needs. Examples of such elective areas of study are foreign language, philosophy, literature, creative writing, history, oral communication, physics, mathematics, political science, western civilization, biological sciences, economics, etc. A maximum of 8 performance-based credit hours can be accepted in the 60 credit hours required for admission. These 8 credit hours may be in physical education courses, and technique courses in art, music, and dance.

### Additional Requirements

Students from certain community colleges will be required to take Pathophysiology and/or Pharmacology as prerequisite courses. See the KU School of Nursing website for detailed requirements for each specific school.

## Degree Requirements

The BSN degree is granted to candidates recommended by the School of Nursing as having successfully fulfilled all prescribed requirements, including the courses listed below. A total of 124 credit hours is required for the pre-licensure BSN degree, and a total of 120 credit hours is required for the RN to BSN degree, with a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0. Only courses in which a grade of C or higher is earned count toward graduation. The last 30 hours completed for the degree must have been taken in residence at KU. A portion of total hours applied toward graduation may be earned through credit by examination. An applicant who receives a failing grade of D or F in the semester prior to the admission decision (ex. Fall 2018 for Fall 2019 entry) will be removed from consideration.

### Pre-Licensure BSN Program

The professional portion of the BSN program can be completed in 2 academic years of full-time study.

| Code     | Title  | Hours |
|----------|--|-------|
| NURS 327 | Communicating and Managing Healthcare Information          | 3     |
| NURS 328 | Professional Development I: Introduction to the Profession | 2     |
| NURS 329 | Alterations in Physiological Functioning I                 | 2     |
| NURS 330 | Pharmacology I   | 2     |
| NURS 331 | Basic Assessment and Therapeutic Interventions             | 3     |
| NURS 332 | Health and Illness: Foundations of Nursing                 | 3     |
| NURS 333 | Health and Illness: Foundations of Nursing Practicum       | 1     |
| NURS 334 | Professional Development II: Image, Roles, and Ethics      | 3     |
| NURS 335 | Quality Improvement  | 2     |
| NURS 336 | Alterations in Physiological Functioning II                | 3     |
| NURS 337 | Pharmacology II  | 2     |
| NURS 338 | Health and Illness: Nursing Across the Lifespan            | 3     |
| NURS 339 | Health and Illness: Nursing Across the Lifespan Practicum  | 3     |
| NURS 382 | Honors Seminar (if in Nursing Honors Program)              | 1     |

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| NURS 471 | Development of a Microsystem Leader   | 4 |
| NURS 472 | Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice                                       | 2 |
| NURS 473 | Professional Development III: Navigating the Profession   | 2 |
| NURS 474 | Health and Illness: Nursing with Diverse Populations  | 4 |
| NURS 475 | Health and Illness: Nursing with Diverse Populations Practicum                                  | 3 |
| NURS 476 | Nursing in an Evolving Healthcare System  | 4 |
| NURS 477 | Capstone  | 3 |
| NURS 478 | Integration Seminar   | 1 |
| NURS 480 | Population Based Healthcare Practicum   | 2 |
| NURS 481 | Honors Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice (if in Nursing Honors Program) | 2 |
| NURS 482 | Honors Practicum I (if in Nursing Honors Program)   | 2 |
| NURS 483 | Honors Practicum II (if in Nursing Honors Program)  | 2 |
| NURS 485 | Populations Based Healthcare I  | 1 |
| NURS 486 | Populations Based Healthcare II   | 2 |

## RN-BSN Program

The RN to BSN program provides registered nurses a way to complete the baccalaureate degree in a flexible online format. The program can be completed in as little as one calendar year of full-time study or up to five years of part-time study. A total of 120 semester credit hours are required for the degree, comprised of 60 credit hours of liberal arts prerequisite courses and 60 credit hours of nursing courses and evidence of RN licensure. NURS 320, NURS 326, and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio or transfer from the approved associate degree programs. The last 30 hours completed for the degree must be taken at KU.

### KU BSN Courses

| Code        | Title  | Hours |
|-------------|--|-------|
| NURS 320    | Pathophysiology for the Practicing Nurse                       | 3     |
| NURS 326    | Pharmacology for the Practicing Nurse                          | 3     |
| NURS 352    | Client Assessment for the Practicing Nurse                     | 3     |
| NURS 441    | Evidence Based Practice in Nursing                             | 3     |
| NURS 443    | Developing the Baccalaureate Nurse Role                        | 3     |
| NURS 444    | Using Technology to Enhance Client Safety                      | 3     |
| NURS 446    | Population Based Health Care for the Practicing Nurse          | 3     |
| NURS 447    | Nursing Practice within the Clinical Health Care Micro System  | 3     |
| NURS 448    | Scholarly Inquiry for Quality Improvement                      | 3     |
| NURS 449    | Nursing Practice within the Healthcare Organization            | 3     |
| NURS 451    | Navigating the Influences of the Health Care Macro-Environment | 3     |
| NURS 492    | Senior Project   | 2-3   |
| Total Hours |  | 35-36 |

## Portfolio/Transfer Credits

| Code        | Title  | Hours |
|-------------|--|-------|
|             | Introduction to Professional Nursing   | 2     |
|             | Assessment/Therapeutic Interventions   | 3     |
|             | Foundations of Nursing   | 4     |
|             | Image, Roles & Ethics  | 3     |
|             | Nursing Across the Lifespan  | 6     |
|             | Nursing Diverse Populations  | 7     |
|             | NURS 320, NURS 326, and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio from approved associate degree programs. | 0-9   |
| Total Hours |  | 25-34 |

## Community College Nursing Partnership Program (CCNP)

Students first complete 60 credit hours of prerequisite liberal arts and science courses, and then simultaneously complete the associate degree in nursing at a community college and 30 credit hours of BSN courses online through KU Medical Center. NURS 320, NURS 326, and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio or transfer from the approved associate degree programs. This program is currently offered to students at Butler Community College, Fort Scott Community College, Hutchinson Community College, Johnson County Community College, Kansas City Kansas Community College, and Neosho County Community College.

| Code        | Title   | Hours |
|-------------|---|-------|
| NURS 356    | Using Technology and Informatics to Improve Patient Safety    | 3     |
| NURS 357    | Introduction to the Baccalaureate Nurse Role                  | 3     |
| NURS 411    | Population-Based Nursing                                      | 3     |
| NURS 412    | Nursing in Healthcare Microsystems                            | 3     |
| NURS 413    | Teamwork and Collaboration in Healthcare                      | 3     |
| NURS 414    | Organizational Influences on Nursing Practice                 | 3     |
| NURS 415    | Improving Healthcare Quality                                  | 3     |
| NURS 416    | Evidence-Based Nursing Practice                               | 3     |
| NURS 417    | Influences of the Healthcare Macro-System on Nursing Practice | 3     |
| NURS 418    | Senior Nursing Project  | 3     |
| Total Hours |   | 30    |

### Portfolio/Transfer Credits

| Code        | Title  | Hours |
|-------------|--|-------|
|             | Introduction to Professional Nursing   | 2     |
|             | Assessment/Therapeutic Interventions   | 3     |
|             | Foundations of Nursing   | 4     |
|             | Image, Roles & Ethics  | 3     |
|             | Nursing Across the Lifespan  | 6     |
|             | Nursing Diverse Populations  | 7     |
|             | NURS 320, NURS 326, and NURS 352 are eligible for credit by portfolio from approved associate degree programs. | 0-9   |
| Total Hours |  | 25-34 |

## Plans of Study

### On-Campus BSN Plan of Study

#### Freshman

| Fall     | Hours Spring                                 | Hours |
|----------|--|-------|
| BIOL 100 | 3 CHEM 110 (offered in spring semester only) | 5     |
| BIOL 102 | 1 ENGL 102                                   | 3     |
| ENGL 101 | 3 SOC 104 or 160                             | 3     |
| MATH 101 | 3 COMS 130                                   | 3     |
| PSYC 104 | 3 Global Awareness course                    | 3     |
| Elective | 1-3  |       |
| 14-16    |  | 17    |

#### Sophomore

| Fall                 | Hours Spring                                 | Hours |
|----------------------|--|-------|
| BIOL 240             | 3 ABSC 160 or PSYC 333                       | 3     |
| BIOL 241             | 2 BIOL 200 (offered in spring semester only) | 3     |
| BIOL 246             | 3 BIOL 203 (offered in spring semester only) | 2     |
| MATH 365 or PSYC 210 | 3 HSES 330                                   | 3     |
| Elective             | 3 Humanities course                          | 3     |
|                      | Elective                                     | 3     |
| 14                   |  | 17    |

Total Hours 62-64

Sample schedules for the RN to BSN and Community College Nursing Partnership programs are available online at [www.nursing.kumc.edu](http://www.nursing.kumc.edu)

### University Honors Program

The School of Nursing encourages all qualified on-campus BSN undergraduates to participate in the University Honors Program (<http://www.honors.ku.edu>).

### Departmental Honors Program

The School of Nursing's Departmental Honors Program offers enhanced educational opportunities for the most academically talented, promising, and motivated baccalaureate students while providing a foundation for leadership development and articulation into graduate education.

Students in the School of Nursing Honors Program develop and complete a research project under the guidance of a faculty research mentor. Students must make formal application and be admitted to the Honors Program to take honors courses. Once admitted to the program, students may use departmental honors courses to help meet the requirements of the University Honors Program.

Selection criteria for the Nursing Honors Program are as follows:

- Enrollment in the pre-licensure BSN program
- Full-time status
- Completion of Nursing Honors Program application - available during the first semester of nursing school
- Overall grade-point average of 3.25 or higher and contingent upon earning a nursing grade-point average of 3.5 or higher at the end of the fall semester (exceptions are considered on an individual basis)

Academic progression through the honors curriculum is evaluated on an individual basis. However, to graduate with departmental honors from the School of Nursing, the student must attain an overall grade-point average of 3.25 with a nursing grade-point average of 3.5 and satisfactory grades in all clinical practicum courses, complete all required courses in the Nursing Honors Program, and have their oral and written reports of research findings certified.

The honors curriculum comprises the following courses:

| Code     | Title  | Hours |
|----------|--|-------|
| NURS 382 | Honors Seminar (spring of junior year)   | 1     |
| NURS 481 | Honors Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Research to Practice (summer between junior and senior year) | 2     |
| NURS 482 | Honors Practicum I (fall of senior year)   | 2     |
| NURS 483 | Honors Practicum II (spring of senior year)  | 2     |

Students who successfully complete the Nursing Honors Program are recognized in the following ways:

- The notation of Departmental Honors on the official university transcript
- An official certificate indicating graduation with BSN Honors
- Listing in the School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony program
- Formal recognition at the School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony
- Listing in the University of Kansas Commencement Program
- Formal recognition at the Cording Ceremony on the Lawrence campus for students also completing the University Honors Program

For more information, contact the School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

## TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

### University of Kansas School of Nursing

#### I. Introduction

All individuals admitted to the University of Kansas School of Nursing will be asked to verify that they can meet the following Technical Standards, with or without accommodation(s). In courses or programs without clinical components, or involving no direct client care, the Technical Standards may be modified by the Student Admission and Progression Committee (SAPC). After acceptance, but before admission to the School of Nursing, students in all programs must be able to document current certification/evidence of completion of a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation for healthcare providers. This requires being able to successfully complete both the written and practical test for certification. In addition, with or without accommodation, the following abilities and expectations must be met by all students, undergraduate and graduate, admitted to the School of Nursing.

#### II. Standards

**A. Observation/Sensory-motor:** Applicants must be able to observe demonstrations and learn from experiences in the basic sciences, including but not limited to, physiology and pharmacology, microbiology and pathophysiology laboratory situations. Applicants must be able to observe and learn from experiences in the clinical nursing laboratory such as the following examples: accurately read gradients/calibrations on a syringe; measure medications accurately; accurately recognize color

changes on chemical reaction strips; assess heart, breath, abdominal sounds; assess normal and abnormal color changes in the skin; observe pupil changes; and observe digital or waveform readings.

**B. Communication:** Communications include not only speech but also reading, writing, and computer usage, including handheld digital access. Applicants must be able to communicate accurately and effectively with patients, caregivers, physicians, other health professionals, clinical facility staff, faculty and staff, peers, and the community in general in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications.

**C. Psychomotor:** Applicants should have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic maneuvers. Applicants should be physically able to collect specimens and perform basic tests (such as glucose finger stick, urine dipstick). Applicants should be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Examples of emergency treatment reasonably required of nurses are cardiopulmonary resuscitation, administration of intravenous medication, application of pressure to stop bleeding, and assist in moving and lifting patients using proper body mechanics. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and using tactile and visual senses.

**D. Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative:** Applicants must be able to comprehend and interpret documents written in English. Applicants should have cognitive abilities including measurements, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Critical thinking is the ability to synthesize knowledge and integrate the relevant aspects of a client's history, physical exam findings and diagnostic studies. Problem solving, the critical skill demanded of nurses, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, the applicant should be able to comprehend three dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures in order to understand normal and abnormal anatomy and physiology.

**E. Behavioral and Social Attributes:** Applicants must possess the emotional health required to utilize their intellectual abilities fully, exercise good judgment, complete all responsibilities attendant to the nursing diagnosis and care of patients promptly, and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients and their families. Applicants must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal communication skills, interest and motivation are all personal qualities that should be assessed during the admissions and education process. As a component of nursing education, a student must demonstrate ethical behavior including adherence to the professional nursing and student honor codes. The honor code at the KU School of Nursing is the Professional Integrity System (PROFITS). KU PROFITS is a peer-oriented integrity system to promote an environment where academic honesty is valued and expected.

#### III. Reasonable Accommodation

Applicants who disclose a disability are considered for admission if they are otherwise qualified so long as such accommodation does not significantly alter the essential requirements of the curriculum and the educational program, or significantly affect the safety of patient care or others. When applicants or students disclose a disability, the provision

of reasonable accommodations will be considered in an attempt to assist these individuals in meeting these required technical standards. Applicants whose response indicates that they cannot meet one or more of the expectations will be reviewed further by the University's Office for Academic Accommodations, with applicant and faculty input, to determine if any reasonable accommodations are possible to facilitate successful completion of the nursing curriculum and preparation for the national registry examination.

It is important to give persons interested in enrolling in nursing a realistic view of the vigorous demands of the School of Nursing's theoretical and practicum curriculum while at the same time investigating reasonable accommodations. Whether or not a requested accommodation is reasonable will be determined on a case by case basis. Interested individuals may schedule an orientation visit to the nursing skills laboratory and actual sites of the University of Kansas Hospital and/or University of Kansas Medical Center. These orientation visits enable persons to assess their interest and ability to function in the actual clinical areas and in learning and demonstrating manual skills.

Revised: May 9, 2014