

Registered nurses who have demonstrated substantial involvement in professional nursing within the past two years and completed the necessary general education and nursing pre-requisite courses can earn a master of science in nursing (MSN) degree by enrolling in the **RN to MSN pathway**. Concentrations include: Nurse Educator, Nursing Administration, Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner in Primary Care, and Family Nurse Practitioner in Primary Care. Students entering a concentration through this pathway must meet all the requirements for admission to that concentration. All applicants will be reviewed by the School of Nursing Admissions Committee.

## Application Requirements

Applicants must hold a current U.S. RN license and be a graduate of an NLN or CCNE accredited nursing program. Applicants must have completed all general education and nursing prerequisite courses from a regionally accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.0, and have a minimum of 1 year (2 years preferred) experience in the nursing profession. Admission to the program is competitive, and a variety of criteria are evaluated, including the strength of the undergraduate record and any post-baccalaureate coursework, the GRE/GMAT (if required), career goals, letters of recommendation, professional and/or volunteer experience, evidence of the ability to write and conduct research at the graduate level, and any additional evidence of potential success in the program. Information regarding application guidelines and requirements can be found at the Graduate Admissions website: <https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/how-apply/graduate>. For additional program details, visit CHHS Admissions at <http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate/index.cfm>. Meeting the minimum application criteria does not guarantee admission.

Applicants must apply to one of the concentration areas described above, and offers of admission are made only for the concentration area selected. Applicants are strongly encouraged to select the concentration that is best suited to their career goals. **Note:** Applicants who hold a BSN degree and have substantial involvement in the nursing profession are preferred for the nurse practitioner concentrations. Applications are considered for the **fall and spring semesters**. The online application for graduate admission can be found on the admissions website at [admissions.gmu.edu](http://admissions.gmu.edu).

We encourage all students interested in the MSN major to attend an MSN Information Session to learn more about the requirements and admissions process. Please visit <http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/information-sessions.cfm> to register for an upcoming session.

## Special Requirements

All nursing students must maintain a current nursing license and meet certain mandatory requirements, including a criminal background check, proof of health insurance coverage, immunizations, and other university requirements. Details will be provided once the offer of admission to the nursing program has been accepted.

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## Contact Information

### Nursing MSN Program

College of Health and Human Services  
George Mason University  
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Fairfax, VA 22030

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### CHHS Graduate Admissions

College of Health and Human Services  
George Mason University  
*Robinson Hall B402*  
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Phone: 703-993-1736, Fax: 703-993-3606  
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Web: [admissions.gmu.edu/grad](http://admissions.gmu.edu/grad)

## Program of Study

In addition to meeting the prerequisite course requirements, candidates for the MSN degree must complete the 3-credit RN to MSN Transition course, 15 credits of MSN core courses, and 24 to 34 credits in their chosen MSN concentration:

<b>Mason Core/Electives</b>	<b>60-67</b>	<b>MSN Core</b>	<b>15</b>
		<i>(all concentrations)</i>	
<b>Mason Core</b>	<b>27-30</b>	NURS 665 Theoretical and Ethical Foundations Related to Nursing	3
English Composition	3	NURS 688 Organization of Nursing & Health Care Delivery Systems	3
Advanced Composition	3	NURS 715 Nursing Informatics Inquiry	3
Communication	3	NURS 757 Nursing Research and Biostatistics I	3
Literature	3	NURS 758 Nursing Research and Biostatistics II	3
Arts	3		
Social Science	3		
Western Civilization	3		
Global Understanding	3		
Information Technology	3		
Quantitative Reasoning*	(3)		
<b>Designated Nursing Prerequisites</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>MSN Concentration</b>	<b>24-34</b>
Human Anatomy and Physiology I**	4	<i>Choose from the following:</i>	
Human Anatomy and Physiology II**	4	Nurse Educator	26
Microbiology**	4	Nurse Practitioner (Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Concentration)	34
Statistics	3	Nurse Practitioner (Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration)	34
Bioethics	3	Nursing Administration	24
<b>Electives</b>	<b>15-19</b>		
<b>RN to MSN Transition</b>	<b>3</b>		
NURS 440 RN to MSN Transition: Community Health and Epidemiology	3		
<b>Note:</b> This course must be completed prior to beginning a nursing concentration. RNs will choose one of the MSN concentrations available and follow all criteria for that particular program.			

\*The Mason Core Quantitative Reasoning requirement may be met with STAT 250 or direct equivalent; otherwise required.

\*\* NAS 161 & NAS 162 (8 credits) at NVCC will fulfill the requirements for Anatomy & Physiology and Microbiology ONLY for applicants who hold a current US based RN license. This option requires 4 additional elective credits for a total of 19 elective credits.

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The above information is based on the 2016–2017 University Catalog and is subject to change without notice or obligation. It is not to be regarded as a contract. Please refer to the catalog for full course descriptions, department information, and university policy governing graduate degree programs at [catalog.gmu.edu](http://catalog.gmu.edu).