

## **RN to BS Online Nursing Track: Undergraduate Major**

The RN to BS Online Track meets the needs of registered nurses with other life responsibilities through a curriculum that combines Web-based instruction with student-tailored practice. Designed for students with clearly defined career goals, it calls for substantial autonomy in meeting established objectives.

Students take part in clinical practice arranged under faculty direction with the cooperation of community agencies and health care facilities, including senior citizen centers, schools, ambulatory care centers, community hospitals, and medical centers. Program faculty help students explore new areas of practice and lay the foundation for a problem-solving approach to nursing practice and research.

Students must successfully complete 120 credits to earn their University of Massachusetts Amherst Bachelor of Science degree. Of these credits:

- 63 non-nursing credits must be completed before beginning the RN to BS Online Nursing Mobility Track.
- 30 additional nursing credits may be awarded for NLN Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II and/or previous transfer courses (the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile is considered a passing score).
- 27 credits are earned in the online nursing program.

Enrollment in the RN to BS Online Track is offered through Continuing & Professional Education under the auspices of the University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Nursing.

### **To Apply - Before You Apply**

Before applying, all applicants must have their transfer credits evaluated by the University Undergraduate Admissions Office. To request an evaluation:

1. Complete the "Request for Evaluation of Transfer Credits" form at [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing) (click on "programs," "undergraduate," "RN to BS online").
2. Send the form with copies of all previous college records to:

Elizabeth Leary  
Continuing Education Online Coordinator  
Undergraduate and Professional Admissions  
University of Massachusetts  
37 Mather Drive, Amherst, MA 01003  
Tel: (413) 577-0746  
[eleary@admissions.umass.edu](mailto:eleary@admissions.umass.edu)

### **Pre-Program Coursework**

Before beginning the RN to BS Online Track, students must complete 63 credits of non-nursing coursework. These credits must be distributed over three areas:

- The University's general education requirements, completed by all students earning a bachelor's degree from the University
- Seven nursing prerequisites, all of which must be completed prior to beginning the RN course sequence: Nutrition\*, Human Anatomy\*, Human Physiology\*, Medical Microbiology\*, Abnormal Psychology, Life Span Growth and Development, Statistics (\*may be fulfilled through NLN Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II).
- Electives (13-17 credits)

A grade of C or higher is required in all coursework.

Up to 30 credits may be earned by completion of the NLN Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II.

### **Application deadline: February 1**

All materials must be submitted by Feb. 1 to be considered.

### **Admission Criteria:**

- A minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Current RN licensure.
- Two professional letters of recommendation.
- Application essay
- Successful completion of the NLN Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II (up to 30 credits, if needed, to complete the minimum of 45 residence credits). The 45<sup>th</sup> percentile is considered the passing score for ACE exams. Applicants should check their credit evaluation.
- Completion of all 63 required non-nursing credits, including a grade of C or better in all seven nursing prerequisites.

## Information Sessions

Meet us in person and find out more about the program. To reserve your space at the next School of Nursing Information Session, visit the prospective student section of our Website at [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing).

**For more information check out our website at <http://www.umass.edu/nursing/>**

Please preview an online course at <http://www.umassonline.net/CourseDemo.cfm> and see if **online learning** is the education choice for you.



## R.N. to B.S. Program of Study

*Note: The undergraduate program undergoes regular revision in response to rapid advances in scientific technology, new trends in health care delivery, and greater public awareness of health needs.*

Both a one-year and a two-year plan of study are offered.

We recommend that students take part in a one-day orientation in May before classes begin.

Course	ONE YEAR PLAN	Cr
<b>SUMMER</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	
N312	Cultural Diversity in Health and Illness	3
N397A	Writing in Nursing	3
N415	Community Focus in Nursing	3
<b>FALL</b>		
N315	Health/ Physical Assessment of Individuals and Families	3
N440	Vulnerable and Underserved Populations	3
N498S	Practicum – Special Populations	2
<b>SPRING</b>		
N420	Intro to Research in Nursing	3
N438	Professional Role	3
N418	Nursing Process – Families (formerly N490N)	3
N498R	Practicum – Families	1

Course	TWO YEAR PLAN	Cr
<b>SUMMER I</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	
N397A	Writing in Nursing	3
N415	Community Focus in Nursing	3
<b>FALL</b>		
N440	Vulnerable and Underserved Populations	3
N498S	Practicum – Special Populations	2
<b>SPRING</b>		

N418	Nursing Process – Families	3
N498R	Practicum – Families	1
<b>Summer II</b>		
N312	Cultural Diversity in Health and Illness	3
<b>Fall II</b>		
N420	Intro to Research in Nursing	3
<b>Spring II</b>		
N315	Health/ Physical Assessment of Individuals and Families	3
N438	Professional Role	3

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## Who to Contact?

**Remember, the first step is to request an evaluation of your transfer credits from Elizabeth Leary (see first page for contact details).**

## For program inquiry and application information

Contact Academic Services, School of Nursing via e-mail at [rn2bs@nursing.umass.edu](mailto:rn2bs@nursing.umass.edu)

School of Nursing  
123 Skinner Hall, 651 North Pleasant Street  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

## For further curriculum information and advisement

Donna Zucker, RN, MS, PhD  
Director of the RN to BS Online Nursing Track School of Nursing, 128 Skinner Hall  
651 N. Pleasant St  
University of Massachusetts,  
Amherst, MA 01003-9304 Tel: (413) 545-1343