

NURSING, M.S. (ACCELERATED)

Saint Louis University offers a 21-month, five-semester direct-entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program that will prepare you to become a clinical nurse leader (CNL).

SLU's A.M.S.N. is the first and only of its kind in Missouri. This 21-month, five-semester program offers a fall or spring start and is designed for individuals who are not registered nurses but have already earned a baccalaureate degree in another field. By completing the program, you will graduate with a Master of Science in Nursing and be prepared to sit for both the nursing licensure exam and certification as a clinical nurse leader. This in-person, hands-on program is high-touch at the Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing on the campus of Saint Louis University in St. Louis.

SLU's School of Nursing is renowned for excellence in nursing education. In 2022, our A.M.S.N. National Council Licensure Examination pass rate was 100%. U.S. News and World Report's Best Graduate Schools survey consistently ranks our graduate programs among the top in the nation. The A.M.S.N. program provides a seamless transition for those graduates interested in becoming a nurse practitioner (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/nursing/nursing-ms/>) upon the completion of their master's program.

Students who are reviewing our A.M.S.N. program may also consider our one-year accelerated B.S.N. program (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/nursing/nursing-bs-accelerated/>).

Curriculum Overview

The master's-level coursework of SLU's direct-entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program focuses on the competencies and role development you need to become a clinical nurse leader (CNL). Clinical nurse leaders coordinate the care of a distinct group of patients and actively provide direct patient care in complex situations. They focus on outcomes measurement, risk assessment, quality improvement, interprofessional communication and application of evidence-based practice.

Graduates initially work as staff nurses, with their CNL skill set later allowing them to pursue advanced roles in health care.

Program Highlights

The increasing number and range of opportunities available in nursing today make the accelerated Master of Science in Nursing the perfect second-degree option. Unique features of this program include:

- Nearly 750 hours of clinical experience throughout the program
- Excellent clinical experiences at major St. Louis-area hospitals and health care facilities
- Clinicals begin in the first semester of the program
- Minimum of four prerequisite course requirements (Human Anatomy, Human Physiology, Microbiology and Statistics)
- Faculty who are nationally recognized for teaching, research, leadership and student mentorship
- State-of-the-art classroom and simulation laboratory facilities

Careers

Graduates of our direct entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing often initially work as staff nurses, with their CNL skill set later allowing them to pursue advanced roles in health care.

This is not an advanced-practice role. Graduates of this accelerated master's program will not be prepared for certification as a nurse practitioner but may pursue a post-master's certificate in that area.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Accelerated Generalist Master's in Nursing	\$1,060

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Financing for this program may be available through grants, scholarships, loans (federal and private) and institutional financing plans. For price estimates, please review the SLU cost calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>).

The Saint Louis University Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing offers scholarship and graduate research assistantship opportunities (<https://www.slu.edu/nursing/scholarships/>) to eligible graduate students. Additionally, most nursing students will participate in a tuition assistance program provided through their employer.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Accreditation

The Saint Louis University Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing is fully approved by the Missouri State Board of Nursing.

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program and post-graduate advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) certificate program at Saint Louis University's Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 665 K Street N.W., Suite 750, Washington, D.C., 20001. The commission's phone number is 202-887-6791.

Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge for Nursing Practice: Integrates an understanding of nursing's distinct and shared disciplinary perspectives and applies theoretical and empirical knowledge from the humanities and natural, social, behavioral and nursing sciences to form the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.

2. Person-centered Care: Engages in nursing care through the relational lens, which fosters caring relationships, mutuality, active participation,

and individual empowerment in the delivery and communication of compassionate person-centered nursing care through *cura personalis*.

3. Population Health: Collaborates with diverse stakeholders for the advancement of effective partnerships, health policy and improvement of equitable population health outcomes related to the social determinants of health.

4. Scholarship for Nursing Discipline: Applies, translates and implements best evidence and client values into clinical decision-making.

5. Quality and Safety: Enhances quality of care while minimizing risk of harm to clients and providers through system effectiveness and individual performance.

6. Interprofessional Partnerships: Collaborates across professions with care team members, clients, clients, families, communities and other stakeholders to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience and strengthen outcomes.

7. Systems-Based Practice: Effectively and proactively coordinates resources to provide safe, quality and equitable care to diverse populations within complex healthcare systems to address social and structural determinants of health.

8. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies: Utilizes information processes and technologies to manage and improve the delivery of safe, high-quality, and efficient healthcare services.

9. Professionalism: Cultivates a sustainable professional nursing identity, accountability, perspective, collaborative disposition and ethical principles that reflect nursing's characteristics and values.

10. Personal, Professional and Leadership Development: Participates in activities and self-reflection through Ignatian pedagogy that foster personal health, resilience and well-being while supporting the acquisition of nursing expertise, lifelong learning and the leadership continuum.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

The Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing adheres to the principles of a holistic admission process in which selection criteria are broad-based and linked to our University's and school's mission and goals. While we do consider academic metrics, we also look at applicant experiences, attributes, potential for success, and how applicants may contribute to the school's learning environment and to the profession.

- Previous completion of a prior baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited (https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/regional_accreditation/) U.S. college or university, or an internationally equivalent degree. WES, ECE or equivalently translated transcripts are required for international courses.
- Undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 system in previous college work.
- Resume/CV
- Personal Statement
- Completion of the following prerequisite coursework (science coursework preferably completed within the last five years):
 - Microbiology (3 credits)
 - Human Anatomy (3 credits)

- Human Physiology (3 credits)
- Inferential Statistics (3 credits)

Application Process

Applying for the direct entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program requires careful planning to ensure that all admission requirements are met. You may experience a significant delay in processing if the application instructions are not followed exactly as listed.

Please follow the four steps outlined below to apply:

- **Step 1: Application**
Submit an application for admission at <https://www.slu.edu/apply.php>.
- **Step 2: Transcripts**
Submit your official transcripts from all colleges/universities directly to Saint Louis University. If you have completed college coursework outside the U.S., you must submit a course-by-course academic evaluation from WES ([wes.org](https://www.wes.org/) (<https://www.wes.org/>)), NACES-member ([naces.org](https://www.naces.org/) (<https://www.naces.org/>)) or AICE-member ([aice-eval.org](https://aice-eval.org/endorsed-members/) (<https://aice-eval.org/endorsed-members/>)).
- **Step 3: Resume**
Attach your professional resume within your application portal.
- **Step 4: Professional Goal Statement**
Attach your professional goal statement within your application portal. The goal statement should outline your anticipated nursing career trajectory for five years after graduating and include an explanation of why you've decided on that path. The statement should be one-to-two pages and double-spaced.
- **Step 5: Admission Interview**
A personal interview may be required.

Additional Requirements for International Students

Due to the rigor of this accelerated program, international students are recommended to have an 80 on the computer-based TOEFL (iBT) or a 6.5 on the IELTS to demonstrate English proficiency.

All Saint Louis University admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students. International students applying to SLU must also meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrate English language proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)
- Academic records must include an English translation. Unofficial copies may be accepted in some cases for initial admission review, however official copies must be received prior to enrollment. Course-by-course transcript evaluations are accepted and are required in some cases.

Students must submit financial documents to be issued an I-20 for their F-1 visa application. Proof of financial support must include:

- A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the student's time at Saint Louis University
- A letter from the sponsor's bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of the student's study at the University

Application Deadline

The priority deadline for Fall is June 1, and applications are accepted through July 15. The priority deadline for Spring is November 1, and applications are accepted through December 15.

Review Process

Applications are processed and reviewed upon submission of a completed application.

Licensure Disclosure

For information about whether this program meets any state board of nursing's educational requirements for eligibility to take a state licensure exam, please see our Professional Licensure Disclosure page (<https://www.slu.edu/provost/professional-licensure.php>).

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
NURS 4600	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
NURS 5010	Nursing Strategies in Physiological Health Alterations	6
NURS 5015	Nursing Strategies in Psychosocial Health Alterations	4
NURS 5020	Health Care Systems & Policy	3
NURS 5025	Informatics and Quality Improvement	3
NURS 5035	Foundations in Nursing Care	3
NURS 5080	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NURS 5115	Advanced Health Assessment for Nurses	3
NURS 5140	Health Promotion	3
NURS 5170	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5205	Evidence-Based Practice for the Advanced Nurse	3
HCE 5500	Ethics in Nursing& Health Care	2
NURS 5601	Clinical Studies I: Nursing Care of Childbearing/Neonatal Families	3
NURS 5602	Clinical Studies II	3
NURS 5603	Clinical Studies III	3
NURS 5604	Advanced Clinical Studies	3
NURS 5605	Practicum in Clinical Leadership	4
NURS 5606	Clinical Nursing Leadership	3
NURS 5607	Advanced Synthesis of Nursing Concepts	1
NURS 5608	Physiological Adaptations of the Complex Client	2
Total Credits		61

Non-Course Requirements

Students will complete 750 clinical hours.

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in

consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Fall Start

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
NURS 4600	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
NURS 5115	Advanced Health Assessment for Nurses	3
NURS 5170	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5035	Foundations in Nursing Care	3
NURS 5140	Health Promotion	3
Credits		15
Spring		
NURS 5010	Nursing Strategies in Physiological Health Alterations	6
NURS 5015	Nursing Strategies in Psychosocial Health Alterations	4
NURS 5205	Evidence-Based Practice for the Advanced Nurse	3
HCE 5500	Ethics in Nursing& Health Care	2
Credits		15
Summer		
NURS 5601	Clinical Studies I: Nursing Care of Childbearing/Neonatal Families	3
NURS 5602	Clinical Studies II	3
NURS 5020	Health Care Systems & Policy	3
Credits		9
Year Two		
Fall		
NURS 5603	Clinical Studies III	3
NURS 5604	Advanced Clinical Studies	3
NURS 5025	Informatics and Quality Improvement	3
NURS 5080	Advanced Pharmacology	3
Credits		12
Spring		
NURS 5605	Practicum in Clinical Leadership	4
NURS 5606	Clinical Nursing Leadership	3
NURS 5607	Advanced Synthesis of Nursing Concepts	1
NURS 5608	Physiological Adaptations of the Complex Client	2
Credits		10
Total Credits		61

Spring Start

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Spring		
NURS 4600	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
NURS 5115	Advanced Health Assessment for Nurses	3
NURS 5170	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5035	Foundations in Nursing Care	3
NURS 5205	Evidence-Based Practice for the Advanced Nurse	3
Credits		15
Summer		
NURS 5601	Clinical Studies I: Nursing Care of Childbearing/Neonatal Families	3
NURS 5602	Clinical Studies II	3
NURS 5020	Health Care Systems & Policy	3
Credits		9
Fall		
NURS 5010	Nursing Strategies in Physiological Health Alterations	6
NURS 5015	Nursing Strategies in Psychosocial Health Alterations	4
NURS 5025	Informatics and Quality Improvement	3
NURS 5140	Health Promotion	3
Credits		16
Year Two		
Spring		
NURS 5603	Clinical Studies III	3
NURS 5604	Advanced Clinical Studies	3
NURS 5608	Physiological Adaptations of the Complex Client	2
NURS 5080	Advanced Pharmacology	3
HCE 5500	Ethics in Nursing & Health Care	2
Credits		13
Summer		
NURS 5605	Practicum in Clinical Leadership	4
NURS 5606	Clinical Nursing Leadership	3
NURS 5607	Advanced Synthesis of Nursing Concepts	1
Credits		8
Total Credits		61

For additional admission questions, please contact the School of Nursing's recruitment and enrollment staff:

314-977-8995
slunurse@slu.edu

Licensure Examination

Graduates are eligible to apply to take the professional licensure examination; however, the Missouri Nurse Practice Act, Chapter 335.066, states, "Completion of an educational program leading to a degree or diploma in nursing does not guarantee eligibility to write the licensure examination." Background checks are required of applicants for clinical rotations and again to apply for licensure.

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://nursingcas.org/>)