

# Murray State University Department of Nursing

## RN to BSN FACT SHEET

### FAQ'S

Who do I contact related to questions about the RN-BSN program at Murray State University (MSU).

Prospective students may access the website for the RN-BSN program at <http://www.murraystate.edu/academics/hshs/nurse/masters1.htm> for answers to questions, documents and forms related to the RN BSN program. They may also contact Marian Smith RN MSN, [marian.smith@murraystate.edu](mailto:marian.smith@murraystate.edu), 270-809-6665. Murray State University main campus nursing department contact information is included below.

Where can I get information locally about the RN BSN program at MSU?

Prospective students may access the website for MSU's Continuing Education Academic Outreach Program at <http://www.murraystate.edu/ceao>. MSU staff at each regional site are eager to assist you in meeting your educational goals. Individuals transferring from other institutions are encouraged to make their first contact at their nearest regional site for application, admission, financial aid and transfer information to Murray State University.

MSU- Madisonville Regional Campus  
2000 College Drive  
Madisonville, KY 42431  
Telephone: 1 (800) 669-7654 or (270) 825-4379  
Fax: (270) 809-5469  
Email: [madisonville@murraystate.edu](mailto:madisonville@murraystate.edu)

MSU- Hopkinsville Regional Campus  
5305 Ft. Campbell Blvd  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240  
Telephone: 1 (800) 669-7654 or (270) 707-1525  
Fax: (270) 707-1535  
Email: [hopkinsville@murraystate.edu](mailto:hopkinsville@murraystate.edu)

MSU- Murray State Main Campus Transfer Center  
Murray, Kentucky 42071  
Christian Cruce, Assistant Director of Transfer Center  
1-800-669-7654 or (270) 809-3350  
Email: [christian.cruce@murraystate.edu](mailto:christian.cruce@murraystate.edu)

MSU - Henderson Regional Campus  
2660 South Green Street  
Henderson Community College Campus Admin. Bldg. 7-B  
Henderson, Ky. 42420  
Telephone: 1 (800) 669-7654 or (270) 831-5111  
Fax: (270) 831-2375  
[henderson@murraystate.edu](mailto:henderson@murraystate.edu)

MSU- Paducah Regional Campus  
3000 Irvin Cobb Drive  
Paducah, KY 42003  
Telephone: 1 (800) 669-7654 or (270) 442-4753 or (270) 809-5471  
Fax: (270) 809-5473  
Email: [paducah@murraystate.edu](mailto:paducah@murraystate.edu)

## Who advises RNs?

Upon acceptance to the RN BSN program, the RN student will be assigned an advisor who is a faculty member teaching in the RN BSN program. The advisor will assist the RN student in the development of a plan of study for non-nursing and nursing courses.

## Is there a separate admission to nursing?

Yes, admission to nursing is separate from admission to MSU. (Please RN BSN application.)

## Are there admission deadlines for the RN BSN program?

Admission to the RN to BSN program is open. Prospective students are encouraged to complete applications by November 1 for the Spring semester and March 1 for the Fall semester. The bridge/transition course NUR 314 is offered Fall and Spring semesters.

## Do I have to take a test to be admitted to the RN to BSN program?

No, there is no additional testing required for admission to the program.

## Do I get credit for my associate degree nursing classes?

RNs receive 32 hours of nursing credit for content from their basic nursing programs.

## What do I have to do to get the 32 hours of nursing credit from my associate degree program?

Course validation forms may be completed at the beginning of the last semester of the RN BSN program. Credit is received after application and fees for validation are processed. This is termed credit received by validation.

## How much do the 32 hours of nursing credit by validation cost?

The 32 hours cost \$5.00 per hour and are placed on the student transcript during the last term the student is enrolled at MSU. Therefore, the total cost for the 32 hours is \$160.00. No portfolio or additional class is necessary to receive this credit.

## Do my courses from the community college transfer?

Yes, all courses from accredited institutions will transfer and be evaluated in regards to meeting the RN BSN and MSU curriculum requirements.

## Can I receive credit for courses I have taken in another baccalaureate program?

Transfer of nursing courses is done on a course by course basis. If a course is equivalent to one of our MSU nursing courses, students will be required to initiate a course substitution form for evaluation of credit. The Academic Advisor, Department Chair and Dean of the School evaluate courses for substitution.

## How many hours do I have to take from MSU?

Because the RN to BSN program is part of Continuing Education and Academic Outreach, the RN is only required to take 25 hours of nursing courses from MSU in addition to other requirements for the degree. A total of 125 hours is required to graduate with a baccalaureate in nursing from Murray State University. All other courses for the four year degree can be taken at the local community college. **STUDENTS WHO LIVE NEAR THE REGIONAL SITES SHOULD NEVER HAVE TO COME TO MURRAY, KY FOR CLASSES.** Classes are offered at extended campus locations and may be presented by interactive TV, on-line, or by instructors at sites. Some classes may require students to come to class 1 or 2 times a semester. Dates and meeting times are posted in advance for these courses.

## What other courses will I need from the community college?

Students with associate degrees in nursing are required to have one chemistry course with a lab, 6 hours of humanities and fine arts, 9 hours of social sciences and statistics. All transcripts are evaluated on an individual basis. There are 125 total hours needed for graduation. In addition to the above listed courses, a second chemistry (combine organic/biochemistry) is required for the nurse anesthesia option if students are interested in pursuing that degree in the future..

## Are courses taught on weekends?

MSU does not have a weekend program for nursing courses. Some courses are available online.

## How long will it take me to complete the program?

The length of time it will take a student to complete the program depends upon how many hours the student needs (general education hours), how much time the student has available to attend class, and willingness of the student to travel for some classes if necessary. Some courses are taught in short summer term, online, and over interactive television at the MSU extended campus sites.. Many students are able to complete the 25 hours from MSU within 3 semesters.

## How long do I have to complete the program?

The RN has 5 years to complete the program after admission to NUR 314. Nursing electives may be taken before admission to nursing.

## How is the clinical component of nursing courses completed?

Some nursing courses require a clinical component. You will be responsible for identifying nurse preceptors and clinical sites in your community for your clinical experiences. Approval and signatures of selected preceptors and clinical sites must be obtained from course faculty prior to implementing clinical experiences. These clinicals are completed in a variety of ways that are flexible and student arranged.

## What technology requirements are needed to complete courses?

In order to participate and be successful in required course work, students will need to have access to a computer and the Internet. For students who wish to use a home computer, it is recommended that you have

- Obtained and utilize exclusively (once admitted to MSU) a Murray State University email account.
- Faculty will communicate and use only MSU accounts.
  
- Students will also be enrolled in Blackboard (Bb) course management system and be required to have an account for all courses.
  
- A computer system that has a 16 bit sound card and speakers, 65,000- color video display card
- An operating system of Window ME, Windows 2000 or Windows XP (newest versions)
- Internet Explorer 6.0 or later.
  
- Access to the software package Microsoft Office Suite to complete work. The Standard Edition contains Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

## How do I find out the answers to my questions?

Contact: Mrs. Marian Smith, Coordinator RN-BSN [marian.smith@murraystate.edu](mailto:marian.smith@murraystate.edu)  
PHONE: 270-809-6665

Mary Craig, Department of Nursing Secretary [mary.craig@murraystate.edu](mailto:mary.craig@murraystate.edu)  
PHONE: 270-809-2193

Dr. Michael Perlow, Interim Chair [Michael.perlow@murraystate.edu](mailto:Michael.perlow@murraystate.edu)  
PHONE: 270-809-2193

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