

# Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog

2007-2008



**Resurrection  
Health Care**

*For All of Us... All of Our Life*

**West Suburban College of Nursing**

Office of Admission and Records

3 Erie Court

Oak Park, IL 60302

708.763.6530

[www.wscn.edu](http://www.wscn.edu)



WEST SUBURBAN COLLEGE OF NURSING  
OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

# 2007–2008 Catalog

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### **West Suburban College of Nursing**

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## INTRODUCTION

### **WELCOME TO WEST SUBURBAN COLLEGE OF NURSING**

Welcome to the West Suburban College of Nursing community. The administration, staff, faculty and students look forward to joining you in our unique learning environment.

Founded in 1914, West Suburban College of Nursing is a fully-accredited Catholic, upper division specialty college. The College confers two degrees: the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). For the BSN program, the College accepts transfer students from any accredited community college or university, using the Illinois Articulation Initiative ([www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org)) as a guideline for the prerequisite liberal arts and sciences courses. Students may apply for admission to the program after earning 31 semester hours of the liberal arts and sciences requirements, which must include anatomy and physiology, chemistry and microbiology courses, but must have all required general education and pre-nursing courses completed before starting the program. The graduate program contains the following majors: clinical nurse leader, adult health clinical nurse specialist, nurse administrator and nurse educator.

West Suburban College of Nursing is owned and operated by West Suburban Medical Center, part of Resurrection Health Care, a family of health care services providing advanced medical care and exceptional customer service with compassion and hope. A not-for-profit Catholic organization sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and the Sisters of the Resurrection, Resurrection Health Care is comprised of hospitals, nursing homes, retirement communities, home health services, behavioral health programs and other services that are conveniently located in many Chicagoland neighborhoods.

Nursing courses are offered at the College campus, located within West Suburban Medical Center, in Oak Park, Illinois. A sophisticated community hospital, West Suburban Medical Center is ranked in the top five percent of all hospitals for care quality. In addition to West Suburban Medical

Center, students have ready access to clinical facilities within the Resurrection Health Care System and throughout Chicago and the surrounding suburbs that provide for enriched clinical experiences. Approximately 200 students are enrolled in the nursing program. The student body is predominately drawn from the Chicago area, although enrollment from other parts of the tri-state area, and the nation, is not unusual.

The educational facilities of the College include an administrative suite, classrooms, a computer laboratory, a nursing skills laboratory, faculty offices, and student study and lounge areas. An on-site professional library contains 4,000 books and audiovisual teaching aids and subscribes to over 300 professional journals.

### **HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE**

The College began, in 1914, as the West Suburban School of Nursing offering a diploma program. From 1948 to 1982, an affiliation with Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., provided students with general education courses. In 1982, a formal agreement was established with Concordia University, River Forest, to offer the general education portion of the curriculum for a baccalaureate program. The lasting College relationships developed by graduates of the diploma school are evidenced today by the overwhelming support of the Alumni Association. The affiliation with the Auxiliary of West Suburban Medical Center and Resurrection Health Care has also fostered positive community support by the Auxiliary of West Suburban Medical Center and Resurrection Health Care Foundation.

### **HISTORY OF THE NURSING PROGRAM**

The diploma program of nursing began in 1914. Established in 1982, the Baccalaureate Nursing Program included both a generic and Registered Nurse completion option. Originally developed as an upper level nursing program in affiliation with Concordia University, the baccalaureate program also offered several nursing courses at the sophomore level. In the Fall 2003, faculty revised the curriculum to be community based. A degree plan has been established to support transfer students from all surrounding

colleges and universities based on the Illinois Articulation Initiative ([www.transfer.org](http://www.transfer.org)). Transfer guides are available on the website, [www.wscn.edu](http://www.wscn.edu).

The baccalaureate program was approved on November 17, 1981, by the State of Illinois Department of Registration and Education, currently known as the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR). West Suburban College of Nursing has been approved by the IDFPR since the establishment of the program. The College was recognized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education on January 23, 1981, under "An Act Regulating Private Colleges" and "An Act Regulating the Granting of Academic Degrees" and given degree granting and operating authority to offer a nursing degree. This recognition, based on the laws governing degree granting and operating authority for independent colleges and universities, continues to date.

The addition of the graduate nursing programs was approved by the Higher Learning Commission, a member of the North Central Association on December 18, 2005 and by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education on October 12, 2005.

In 1988, the College was accredited by the National League for Nursing, now known as the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc. The College was re-accredited in 1996. The College received preliminary accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education in February 1988. Accreditation has been granted for 10 years, 2003-2013.

In 1984, the College was granted candidacy for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). And, in 1986, the College was initially accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, now known as the Higher Learning Commission, a member of the North Central Association.

In 1989, the College was granted the status of "Accreditation Continued." In 1991, the College was approved to allow "a limited number of courses at the Master's level not applicable to degrees offered." In 1995, the

College was once again granted the status of "Accreditation Continued." In June 2003, the Higher Learning Commission accepted the College's application to participate in the Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP). Accreditation status was extended, with the next comprehensive evaluation scheduled for 2009-2010.

## **ACCREDITATION**

The college is accredited or approved by the following organizations:

- Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, (202) 887-6791, fax (202) 887-8476; One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036; [webmaster@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:webmaster@aacn.nche.edu)
- Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a member of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, (312) 263-0456; 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504; [www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org](http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org)
- Approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, (217) 785-0800; 320 West Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Springfield, IL 62786; [www.idfpr.state.il.us](http://www.idfpr.state.il.us)

The College is a member of the following organizations:

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities
- National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- National League for Nursing

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## ABOUT THE COLLEGE

### VISION

West Suburban College of Nursing will set the standard for professional nursing and health science education within an integrated Catholic health care system in metropolitan Chicago.

### PURPOSE STATEMENT

West Suburban College prepares students for professional nursing careers by providing undergraduate and graduate learning experiences, service learning and scholarly endeavors, based on a solid liberal arts educational base in a Catholic health care environment.

Undergraduate nurses are prepared to become professional nurse generalists who promote health and provide care for clients in a global society.

Graduate nurses are prepared as advanced generalists or specialists who will care for patients throughout the full spectrum of health care delivery settings and across various stages of illness.

### VALUES

The core values of Resurrection Health Care are:

*Compassion:* Fosters in us a sensitivity to the spiritual, physical, psychological and emotional needs of every individual inspiring each to find comfort and hope.

*Accountability:* Call us to responsible stewardship of the human and material resources/assets of the organization.

*Respect:* Commits us to honor the dignity and diversity of each individual as a person created and loved by God and inherently valuable member of the community.

*Excellence:* Empowers us to do our best in all that we do as we work individually and collectively to meet the needs of those we serve and our co-workers.

*Service:* Commits us to give of ourselves in order to respond appropriately to the needs of others.

The College principles described in the following section correspond with the values of Resurrection Health Care. Both the College and Resurrection Health Care are committed to community health care and dedicated to nursing education, as well as a strong dedication to service to the poor and underserved.

### SUPPORTING COLLEGE PRINCIPLES

The West Suburban College of Nursing community, including faculty, staff and students, is committed to the highest standards of educational excellence, building upon a liberal arts and science foundation. We emphasize quality teaching and value scholarly activity. We are dedicated to the development of persons into knowledgeable, caring, responsive and self-directed individuals.

*Those who choose to be a member of this community agree to:*

*Respect all persons.*

*Advocate for the pursuit of personal and academic excellence.*

*Show concern and kindness towards others.*

*Practice personal and academic integrity.*

All members of this community must embody these values, hold each other accountable, and not tolerate behavior that disregards these values.

### COLLEGE PROGRAM GOALS

Upon graduation, all graduates of the College will:

1. Communicate clearly, precisely and accurately, using written and verbal means;
2. Demonstrate critical thinking by clarifying, integrating and evaluating knowledge based on theories, values and standards of professional care;

3. Engage in collaborative practices with other health-care providers, the communities to be served, patients and families, and local and national governmental bodies;
4. Use research from within the profession and other disciplines to guide practice and professional activities;
5. Demonstrate professional behaviors within practice settings and to the public at large that reflect the standards of the profession and its regulatory bodies;
6. Assume leadership roles within the profession and the community;
7. Participate in professional organizations and in political processes that promote health, well-being and quality of life for society; and
8. Engage in lifelong learning.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF THE NURSING PROGRAMS**

The philosophy of the West Suburban College of Nursing faculty emerges from the metaparadigm of nursing. This metaparadigm is composed of four concepts: client, environment, health and nursing. These concepts, as defined by the faculty, provide the framework for nursing education at the College.

### ***Client***

The concept of client encompasses individuals, families and aggregates who have intrinsic value and are worthy of respect. Clients are unique and autonomous and have physiological, psychological, socio-cultural and spiritual dimensions.

### ***Environment***

The environment includes physical and social conditions that influence the health of the client. The clients and the environment interact dynamically.

### ***Health***

The World Health Organization states "health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (WHO, 1948). The client's health is determined by

behavior, biology, physical environment, economic and health policies, and access to quality health care (Healthy People 2010).

### ***Nursing***

Nursing is a goal-oriented, caring profession that assists clients in achieving optimal health. Professional nursing practice requires using critical thinking, applying the principles of research, adhering to professional standards, and collaborating to improve the health-care delivery system. Nursing addresses social and ethical issues that impact quality of life and opportunities for human fulfillment.

### ***Education***

Professional nursing education incorporates knowledge of the arts, the humanities, the sciences, and clinical practice. Nursing education fosters the graduate to progress to positions of increasing responsibility and engage in lifelong learning.

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## **STUDENT SERVICES**

Student life at West Suburban College of Nursing is rich in experiences, challenges and friendships. There is camaraderie among fellow students, and students and faculty have excellent relationships. Many opportunities exist for social activity, personal growth and development of new interests and skills. Student services are designed to address students' needs and facilitate student involvement in college life.

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

West Suburban College of Nursing develops activities and events to meet specific needs and interests of the student body. These activities help to establish bonds between students in all levels of the program. Students

are encouraged to participate in activities relevant to their personal and professional interests.

## **ALL-SCHOOL MEETINGS**

The administration may periodically hold all-school meetings. Attendance at these meetings is mandatory.

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATION AND ORGANIZATIONS**

The College is supportive of student organizations. Student organizations on campus include, but are not limited to, the Student Government Organization and the National Student Nurses Association. Students also serve on selected college committees throughout the year. The Student Ambassador Program provides students with the opportunity to become involved in college-sponsored events, and a clinical mentorship program allows students to have a registered nurse clinical mentor from an affiliated hospital. The Director of Enrollment Management advises and supports student groups.

## **RELIGIOUS EVENTS**

Catholic Mass is celebrated at noon every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday and an interfaith prayer service is held at noon on Wednesday in the Chapel, located on the first floor. Special worship celebrations are scheduled at noon for Ash Wednesday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Good Friday, Christmas and other holy holidays. Special worship celebrations are scheduled throughout the year for families of patients who have died at the West Suburban Medical Center.

## **COUNSELING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Faculty advisers are available for individual guidance on academic and professional matters. The West Suburban Medical Center Employee Assistance Program is available to all students for confidential counseling on all aspects of daily living, including financial issues, grief, parenting, and stress. To speak with a counselor or schedule an appointment, visit a faculty advisor for a referral and/or contact information.

## **CAREER SERVICES**

The Director of Enrollment Management, faculty, or the Dean of Nursing can help students clarify career goals. Services include:

- Providing assistance with time management and study habits;
- Explaining institutional guidelines and procedures; and
- Clarifying educational goals.

Employment opportunities are distributed by e-mail and/or notices are put in student mailboxes. The Office of Enrollment Management has a binder of recent employment opportunities. Students are encouraged to come to the Enrollment Management Office to review these postings. A career services module in CampusVue provides information and links students to suitable positions in the Resurrection Health Care website, [www.reshealth.org](http://www.reshealth.org).

## **ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

Individual and group tutoring is available free of charge to all students, and is subject to the availability of funds. Tutors must have an *A* or *B* grade in the class they want to tutor, as well as a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00. Tutors and tutees must sign formal agreements, which outline the tutoring process.

Individual sessions and group workshops to assist students with writing papers and improve study skills are available to all students. This is also a free service. Students learn how to improve note-taking, listening skills, reading comprehension and time management. Additional academic topics may be covered by the specialist.

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## **WEST SUBURBAN COLLEGE OF NURSING CAMPUS FACILITIES**

The classroom area is a hub on the College campus, with classrooms, computer and nursing laboratories as well as conference rooms on 2 North. Adjacent to the classroom area is the main floor of the Student Lounge. The Student Commons is a study area and a lounge with a television and microwave oven, student lockers and restrooms are adjacent to the lounge area. Faculty and staff offices are located on the third floor of the College.

Administrative and Enrollment Management offices and the Professional Library are located on the third floor of the West Suburban Medical Center adjacent to the Faculty-Staff Center.

### **FOOD SERVICE**

Nursing students may purchase meals or snacks, on a cash basis, in the West Suburban Medical Center cafeteria. Students who present their identification (ID) card receive an employee discount in the cafeteria. The Atrium Café, located on the first floor in the Medical Center Plaza, is also convenient for student use.

### **STUDENT FEEDBACK**

A suggestion box for student feedback regarding college services is located on the third floor of the Student Faculty Center, for students to provide feedback to the College of Nursing.

### **HOUSING**

West Suburban College of Nursing offers no campus housing. Housing is available in local communities; for additional information, contact the Oak Park Regional Housing Center at (708) 848-7150 or [www.apartmentsoakpark.org](http://www.apartmentsoakpark.org).

### **STUDENT STANDARDS**

The College expects students to assume responsibility for their behavior and to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the College of Nursing guidelines as described in the West Suburban College of Nursing Student Handbook. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the content of the handbook, which is available to all students in the Enrollment Management Office and updates are communicated via email.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Students are responsible for their own transportation.

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

All students are required to carry a health insurance plan. Students may purchase health insurance through a vendor with insurance specifics

available in the Office of Enrollment Management. All enrolled part-time and full-time students are eligible.

### **STUDENT INJURIES SUSTAINED DURING A CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

A student who sustains an injury, e.g., a needle stick, while participating in a clinical experience at West Suburban Medical Center (WSMC) should be directed to the Emergency Department for the appropriate treatment. A copy of the injury report must be sent along with the student.

A student who sustains an injury while participating in a clinical experience outside of WSMC should follow the protocol of the affiliating institution. The initial visit following the injury must be done at the institution where the incident occurred. As soon as possible following the initial visit, the student should make an appointment to see his or her personal physician. Expenses that the student incurs for treatment immediately following the injury will be the responsibility of the student unless the injury occurred at WSMC (in this case, WSMC will assume fiscal responsibility for the immediate treatment following an injury). However, follow-up treatment, regardless of where the incident occurred, will be the fiscal responsibility of the student.

### **REQUIRED STUDENT HEALTH RECORDS AND CPR CERTIFICATION**

Students must submit a West Suburban College of Nursing Student Health Record that has been signed by a physician or a nurse practitioner, as well as proof of health insurance, satisfactory completion of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) instruction requirements, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA) instruction requirements and current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. Prior to the initial first day of class, students are required to submit proof of immunization for mumps and tetanus/diphtheria as well as immunization and titers for rubella, rubeola, varicella and hepatitis B. Thereafter, to enroll in any course with a clinical component, students must maintain current records for all health requirements, including PPD skin testing, CPR certification, health insurance, OSHA instruction, other hospital requirements,

and, for Registered Nurses (RNs), a current Illinois registered professional nurse license.

Expenses related to health records are the responsibility of the student. Failure to comply with the required health screening, annual PPD skin testing, CPR certification, proof of health insurance, and, for RNs, proof of current Illinois RN licensure will result in suspension from class and clinical experiences until proof or results are received. Class and clinical time missed as a result of noncompliance is considered absence and, thus, may jeopardize successful completion of a course, or may result in a reduced final grade for the course.

### **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Students are insured for professional liability by the West Suburban Medical Center Insurance Program only while participating in clinical experiences for nursing courses, including those in the community.

### **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**

The Illinois Health Care Worker Background Check Act prohibits employment of an individual who has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit a variety of crimes. Although this Act does not itself apply to student nurses, nonetheless, if the criminal background check for a student shows a conviction for any such offenses, the student will be ineligible for clinical rotations and therefore unable to participate in the necessary rotations required to receive a degree from the College. If a student is admitted into the College and the criminal background check is not cleared, the student is not admissible. Students may contact the Director of Enrollment Management for further information.

Under the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) may determine that an applicant for a nurse license is unfit for licensure based on their criminal history record information. See Title 68, Section 1300.75 of the Illinois Administrative Code, the IDFPR website, at [www.dpr.state.il.us/WHO/ar/rn.asp](http://www.dpr.state.il.us/WHO/ar/rn.asp), or contact IDFPR for additional information.

### **DRUG TESTING**

West Suburban College of Nursing (WSCN) has a clear responsibility to maintain an atmosphere which will promote a quality learning environment on campus and at other affiliated agencies. Because alcohol and other drug abuse may impair or block formal education and disrupt the learning environment, WSCN is concerned about the effect that chemical abuse has on the ability of an individual to function safely and effectively. In addition, certain clinical agencies may impose special drug testing requirements for students practicing at that clinical site; such requirements are at the expense of the student. WSCN does not control special requirements made by clinical agencies

If a student is placed in a clinical agency that requires drug testing the student should report the use of a licit drug that is being used for medical reasons, to the Dean of Nursing prior to the drug testing. The student may be placed in a different clinical agency if the Dean of Nursing determines, after consulting with the Employee Health Department, that the student does not pose a threat to his/her own safety or the safety of others and that the student's performance is not significantly affected by the use of the medication.

If the drug testing returns a positive result, the following action will take place:

- Referral to the Dean of Nursing
- Directive for evaluation by WSMC Employee Health
- Referral to an outside treatment agency
- Referral to inpatient or outpatient treatment
- Referral for involvement with Alcoholic's Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Alanon, or Alateen

Dismissal from the program will be taken against anyone involved in the purchase, use, sale, distribution or possession of the above items while under College jurisdiction.

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## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

### CREDITS

West Suburban College of Nursing operates on the semester system. All courses are locked into half a semester and are offered during either the first seven weeks or the second seven weeks of the Fall and Spring semesters, or during the first six weeks or the second six weeks of the Summer semester. The academic year is divided into two semesters equivalent to the standard 15 weeks of instruction plus time for final examinations.

#### *Undergraduate*

The unit of credit is the semester hour. One semester hour of credit is normally awarded on the basis of one 50-minute class session per week. Clinical courses receive one hour of credit for three clock hours of clinical time, and lab courses held on campus receive one hour of credit for two clock hours of lab time.

#### *Graduate*

The unit of credit is the semester hour. One semester hour of credit is normally awarded on the basis of one 50-minute class session per week. Clinical courses receive one hour of credit for four clock hours of clinical time and lab.

### COURSE REGISTRATION

Continuing students are typically allowed to register in November (for Spring semester classes) and April (for Fall and Summer semester classes). Students will receive notification of registration from the Registrar's Office. Final late registration for each semester is listed on the Academic calendar in the back of the Catalog. Continuing students are required to meet with their faculty advisor for signatures prior to the registration period.

New students will register for courses in December for the Spring term and in April, and by appointment, for the Fall and Summer term. By registering, the student accepts the responsibility of subscribing to all West Suburban College of Nursing policies, financial and otherwise. Meeting registration requirements is the student's responsibility, and requirements

must be completed in accordance with procedures established by the Registrar's Office.

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

#### **TRANSFER STUDENT SEMINAR AND NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**

All new undergraduate students enrolled in the Generic, Fast Track, or BSN-MSN program are required to take Transfer Student Seminar-Introduction to Nursing Basics, NUR 3100. New student orientation is integrated in to this course whereby students receive their student identification (ID) cards, computer login ID email account, parking permits and submit outstanding documentation. In addition, family members are invited one day, so that they can learn about the demanding rigors of nursing school.

Students must receive a grade of *C* or better in this course to continue in the program.

#### **ADD/DROP**

A student may add or drop a course without penalty during the first five days of each seven-week block of classes within a semester.

#### **COURSE WITHDRAWAL**

A student may withdraw from a nursing course only once. The following withdrawal procedure is to be used:

1. If the student chooses to withdraw from a course between the sixth day of the semester and the date established on the academic calendar as the last date for withdrawal, he or she must submit to the Registrar's Office a withdrawal form signed by the course faculty of record, the student's faculty adviser and the Dean of Nursing. A *WF* will be recorded on the student's transcript unless the student provides suitable evidence to validly withdraw from the class (i.e. extended illness, family crisis) in which case the grade will revert to a *W*.
2. If the student chooses to withdraw from a course after weeks 6 or 13 of the semester, the student must fill out the Course Withdrawal form and meet with the course faculty of record and obtain their signature. The student must then submit the form to the Dean of

Nursing and schedule an appointment to meet with the Dean. The Dean of Nursing may accept the withdrawal request only under extraordinary circumstances. If permission to withdrawal is granted, the student must submit the signed form to the Registrar's Office in order to process the request; a *WF* grade will be recorded on the transcript.

3. Failure to attend class does not constitute withdrawal. Unauthorized withdrawal will result in a grade of *F*.
4. All pre-requisite courses or co-requisite courses that are affected by the course withdrawal will be awarded a grade of *W* or *WF*.
5. The course instructor will submit a passing or failing grade for these courses at the time of withdrawal.

Course withdrawals may affect financial aid eligibility.

## **COURSE SEQUENCE CHANGE**

Students who wish to repeat a nursing course and are eligible will be permitted to do so if space is available. Students who drop out of the normal sequence of nursing courses for any reason will be permitted to enroll in subsequent nursing courses if space is available and they meet pre-requisites.

## **CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Regular and punctual class attendance is required. Absences from class or clinical experiences may result in a failing grade for the course or a reduced final grade for the course.

## **INCOMPLETE (I) GRADE**

A grade of incomplete (I) is awarded by an instructor when the student needs more time to complete the course successfully because of extraordinary circumstances beyond his or her control, e.g., an illness or a death in the family. The student must submit the request for a grade of incomplete, and the instructor will recommend to the Dean of Nursing whether or not to grant the request. Once a grade of incomplete is given, the student has three weeks from the end of the term in which the *I* was assigned (Fall, Spring or Summer) to resolve the grade. This can be done

either by completing the course and receiving a final grade or not completing it and failing.

Permission for additional time beyond the three-week deadline for resolving an incomplete may be granted only with the approval of the faculty of record and the Dean of Nursing. Whether the student is enrolled during the following term has no effect on this completion date. If the incomplete is not changed to a final grade by the time allotted, the *I* will automatically convert to an *F*.

## **DISMISSAL**

Undergraduate students who are unsuccessful in a nursing course after two attempts of that course (that is, those who withdraw from the course or are assigned a grade below *C* including a *WF*) will be dismissed from the program. If an undergraduate student receives a grade below a *C* including a *WF* in two separate nursing courses, he or she will be dismissed.

Graduate students who are unsuccessful in a nursing course after two attempts of that course (that is, those who withdraw from the course or are assigned a grade below *B* including a *WF*) will be dismissed from the program. If a graduate student receives a grade below *B* including a *WF* in two separate nursing courses, he or she will be dismissed.

Unsafe clinical practice or violation of the student code of conduct may also result in dismissal from the nursing program.

Students who were suspended or dismissed from West Suburban College of Nursing for academic reasons must meet with their academic advisor to develop a remediation plan. The student may submit an appeal letter and the remediation plan to the Director of Enrollment Management that explains the reasons for previous scholastic deficiencies, describe steps taken to rectify those deficiencies and provides evidence showing potential for success at West Suburban College of Nursing. A student must wait one semester before he/she is eligible for re-admission. Submission of an appeal may or may not result in re-admission.

## QUALITY POINTS

Quality points are computed as follows: Each semester hour of an *A* grade is worth four points; each semester hour of a *B* grade is worth three points; each semester hour of a *C* grade is worth two points; and each semester hour of a *D* grade is worth one point. The student must earn a minimum of two points for each semester hour required for graduation. By the end of the semester previous to the one in which graduation is expected, the undergraduate student must have quality points equal to or higher than two times the number of credit hours earned for all course work at West Suburban College of Nursing. The graduate student must have quality points equal to or higher than three times the number of credit hours earned for all course work at West Suburban College of Nursing.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

### *Undergraduate*

West Suburban College of Nursing grants transfer credit for courses taken at a regionally accredited institution, with a grade of *C* or better.

In addition, West Suburban College of Nursing accepts credit by exam that is offered by the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), from the College Board, for general education courses. Students must achieve the recommended passing score in order to receive credit and scores must be sent directly from the College Board.

WSCN also accepts credit by Advance Placement Exams and International Baccalaureate Exams for general education credit. Students must score a 4 or 5 on the exam in order to receive credit. Scores must be sent directly from the College Board.

Credit is not awarded for proficiency exams, portfolios, or life experience.

Students wishing to transfer nursing courses, must submit the syllabus to the Dean of Nursing for evaluation. Undergraduate students may transfer up to 19 credit hours of nursing courses.

### *Graduate*

West Suburban College of Nursing grants transfer credit for graduate courses taken at a regionally accredited institution, with a grade of *B* or better.

Students wishing to transfer graduate nursing course, must submit the syllabus to the Associate Dean of Graduate Nursing for evaluation. Graduate students may transfer up to 12 credit hours of graduate level credit with approval from the Associate Dean of Graduate Nursing.

## WSCN GRADING SCALE

100-92	=	A
91-84	=	B
83-75	=	C
74-67	=	D
Below 67	=	F

## GRADING SYSTEM

Grade	Definition	Quality Credit Points
A	Excellent	4.0 per credit hour
B	Good	3.0 per credit hour
C	Average	2.0 per credit hour
D	Poor not passing	1.0 per credit hour
F	Failure	0 per credit hour
I	Incomplete	0 per credit hour
W	Withdrawal	0 per credit hour
WF	Withdrawal Failure	0 per credit hour

The grade point average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the total number of quality points by the number of credit hours attempted in a semester. The cumulative GPA is calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned in all classes taken at West Suburban College of Nursing by the total number of credit hours attempted.

**For example**, a student has taken five courses at West Suburban College of Nursing and earned the following grades:

NUR 3130	3 credit hours	A	12	quality points
NUR 3140	3 credit hours	B	9	quality points
NUR 3150	3 credit hours	A	12	quality points
NUR 3160	4 credit hours	C	8	quality points
NUR 3170	3 credit hours	B	9	quality points

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Attempted Hours	16 credit hours	50	quality points
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GPA= 3.125

Grades of *W*, *WF*, and *I* are letter grades for a first course attempt; if unsuccessful attempts are replaced with a grade of *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, or *F* after a second attempt, the initial unsuccessful attempts are not calculated in the GPA.

## **DEAN'S LIST**

The Dean's List includes those undergraduate students who have met the following standards: a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in a given semester, an academic workload of a minimum of 12 semester hours and good disciplinary standing in the College.

## **CLASSIFICATION OF UNDERGRADUATE NURSING CLASS STANDING OR LEVEL**

The credits used to determine undergraduate class standing or level include those accepted from the school(s) from which the student transferred.

*Junior:* Has at least 60 and less than 90 semester hours and is enrolled in semester 5 and semester 6 nursing courses

*Senior:* Has 90 or more semester hours and is enrolled in semester 7 and semester 8 nursing courses

## **ACADEMIC STATUS**

Guidelines for establishing a student's academic status are as follows:

1. A student is considered to be in good standing if his or her cumulative grade point average (GPA) is 2.0 or higher for undergraduate students, and above a 3.0 for graduate students.
2. A student is placed on probation status any time his or her cumulative GPA is below 2.0 for undergraduate students or below a 3.0 for graduate students and he or she is not already on probation.
3. A student is considered to be on probation if they have had an unsuccessful attempt of a required nursing course, their GPA is below 2.0 for undergraduate students or below a 3.0 for graduate students, or the student has violated the student code of conduct.

All degree-seeking or certification-program students are subject to the following probationary warning sequence: probation, dismissal. The above

status categories apply to the most recently completed semester. An undergraduate student on academic probation due to a GPA below 2.0 must achieve a GPA of at least 2.0 in the subsequent semester. The student must achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in order to be eligible for graduation from the program. A graduate student on academic probation due to a GPA below 3.0 must achieve a GPA of at least 3.0 in the subsequent semester. The student must achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in order to be eligible for graduation from the program.

All degree-seeking or post-master's certificate students are subject to the following probationary warning sequence: probation, dismissal. The above status categories apply to the most recently completed semester. A student on academic probation due to a GPA below 3.0 must achieve a GPA of at least 3.0 in the subsequent semester if a full-time student, and within two semesters if a part-time student. The student must achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in order to be eligible for graduation from the program.

## **GRADUATION**

Degrees are conferred and diplomas are awarded at the end of each semester with the exception of the Summer semester. Students completing course work at the end of the Summer semester, will participate in the Fall commencement ceremony. West Suburban College of Nursing awards the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree and the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) degree.

Degree candidates are subject to those degree requirements in force at the time of their initial registration following admission. Degree candidates who have been readmitted following withdrawal or dismissal are subject to degree requirement changes. All degree requirements are subject to change at any time.

The M.S.N. degree will be conferred upon a student after completion of all course work and the synthesis project for one of the nursing majors.

## **HONORS**

To graduate with honors from the undergraduate nursing program, a student must have earned at least 40 hours in residency at West Suburban College of Nursing, including hours earned during the semester

in which graduation is to take place. The cumulative grade point average will include all work completed at the West Suburban College of Nursing. Students receiving honors are eligible to wear gold honor cords at graduation.

3.900–4.000	Summa cum laude
3.700–3.899	Magna cum laude
3.500–3.699	Cum laude

## APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION

Students planning to graduate must submit the intent to graduate form no later than the end of the first week of the semester in which they plan to graduate. This form is available in the West Suburban College of Nursing Registrar's Office. Failure to submit the form by this deadline will prevent the student from being considered for graduation. The submission of the intent to graduate form initiates the final degree audit, mailings for graduation and the diploma order.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### *Undergraduate*

In order to graduate, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete the credit hours designated in the curriculum and relevant to the individual's program.
2. Attain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
3. Complete the senior assessments and testing at West Suburban College of Nursing.
4. Complete the residency requirements, a minimum of 40 semester hours for the generic or fast-track student or 21 credits for the RN/BSN Completion Option student.
5. Have official final transcripts of any previous colleges attended on file at the Registrar's Office.
6. Complete payment of all fees and tuition owed to West Suburban College of Nursing.
7. File the Intent to Graduate Form by the designated deadline.

8. Complete the NCLEX-RN (examination for licensure as a registered professional nurse) preparation requirements.

### *Graduate*

In order to graduate, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete the credit hours designated in the curriculum and relevant to the individual's program and major.
2. Attain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
3. Complete the graduate assessments and testing at West Suburban College of Nursing.
4. Complete a minimum of 24 semester hours in residency requirements.
5. Satisfactorily complete the Graduate Scholarly Synthesis Project.
6. Have official transcripts of any previous colleges attended on file in the Registrar's Office.
7. Complete payment of all fees and tuition owed to West Suburban College of Nursing.
8. File the Intent to Graduate Form by the designated deadline.

## COLLEGE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

Undergraduate students must earn a minimum of 40 semester hours at West Suburban College of Nursing in order to fulfill the college residency requirement. All students taking the RN-BSN Completion Option must complete a minimum of 21 semester hours at West Suburban College of Nursing.

Graduate students must earn the following minimum number of semester hours at West Suburban College of Nursing for the specific major chosen in order to fulfill the college residency requirement:

Nurse Administrator	24 semester hours
Nurse Educator	24 semester hours
Clinical Nurse Specialist	24 semester hours
Clinical Nurse Leader	24 semester hours

## **LICENSURE**

Graduates that have earned a bachelor's of science degree in Nursing are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN (examination for licensure as a registered professional nurse) in Illinois and in any other state that seats out-of-state graduates. If a graduate is granted a license by examination in Illinois, he or she may be able to attain licensure in another state by endorsement from Illinois.

## **CERTIFICATION**

Graduates that have earned a master's of science degree in Nursing will be prepared to take the appropriate certification examination for professional recognition as follows:

- Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Health (CNS) with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Nursing Administration or Nursing Administration Advanced (depending on the level of leadership with the organization) with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) with the National League of Nursing (NLN)

## **PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL**

A student who desires to withdraw from the nursing program is required to consult with the Director of Enrollment Management and the Dean of Nursing and complete the withdrawal form.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

A leave of absence (LOA) option is available for students currently enrolled in the program and in good academic standing who wish to halt their academic progress for one or more semesters and then resume their program. To be considered for LOA, the student must get the approval of their academic advisor, the Dean of Nursing and the Registrar. Students must be in good standing with the Instructional Technology Department,

Bursar and Library. Students wishing to be placed on LOA during a semester in which they are currently enrolled may do so only through the thirteenth week of the semester. After the thirteenth week, a student must apply for withdrawal from the program. Courses in progress are awarded incomplete grades and must be completed upon returning to school. The LOA period may not exceed 180 days.

The records of students on LOA will be maintained in the current student files. Students on LOA do not need to apply for readmission to the program but must report to the Registrar's Office before resuming their studies. Students in this category are eligible for financial aid only during their actual semesters in attendance; likewise, verification of enrollment can only be done for the actual semester in attendance. If the student completes course work elsewhere while on LOA from West Suburban College of Nursing, a transcript must be submitted to the college upon readmission.

## **CHALLENGING A COURSE**

Students who are licensed registered nurses and are accepted to the RN-BSN or RN-MSN program, may challenge the Health Assessment and Promotion course, NUR3130RN, with permission from the Dean of Nursing or Associate Dean of Nursing. The course may be challenged once and the student must receive a passing grade on the written exam and all practical demonstrations.

## **CURRICULUM EVALUATION**

Evaluation ensures quality for the benefit of students, the nursing profession and society. West Suburban College of Nursing reserves the right to compel student participation in the curriculum evaluation process. Students are required to take standardized achievement tests as determined by the College. Work that students submit to meet course requirements may be utilized to demonstrate achievement of program outcomes to accrediting agencies. Students are also requested to release licensure examination and certification scores to the school for purposes of curriculum evaluation.

## **BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this program of study, graduates will:

1. Use effective modes of communication with clients, community partners and health care providers in order to provide quality health care;
2. Integrate critical-thinking processes in professional nursing practice in an effort to make logical decisions;
3. Model professional behaviors that adhere to standards, practice and ethical codes; and
4. Plan, implement and evaluate therapeutic interventions for clients from diverse cultures and in a variety of settings.

## **GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this program of study, graduates will:

1. Apply effective modes of communication in the provision of care to clients and aggregates;
2. Synthesize critical thinking processes used to make logical decisions in advanced nursing practice;
3. Apply theoretical and research-based nursing interventions directed at clients and aggregates; and
4. Demonstrate professional behavior and assume leadership roles consistent with standards, regulatory and ethical codes in the profession and community.

## **NURSING PROGRAM ORGANIZING FRAMEWORK**

The concepts that provide direction for the nursing curriculum at West Suburban College of Nursing are derived from professional nursing education and changes in the health care delivery system. Professional nurses must have the ability to define and conceptualize population parameters and the health care needs of clients. To develop effective nursing interventions, nurses must be able to recognize and predict shifts in health care.

The Healthy People 2010 initiative, a set of national health objectives, provides direction for the college's curriculum content. Systems theory serves as a basic framework for the curriculum. Systems theory is the study of systems (defined as sets of dynamic elements ranging from simple to complex) and their organization. Systems are arranged in a hierarchy; the components of any system are also part of a larger system. The elements of a system are open to and interact with all that surrounds them. These interactions trigger change and development.

The human ecological model—which describes human development throughout the life span—is the basis for community-based nursing. The elements of this model consist of ecological units (social systems) identified as the individual, the family, the community and the global society. This model emphasizes interactions between social systems and is based on the assumption that events in one system affect and are affected by events in other systems.

Through partnerships, community-based nursing provides a framework for the delivery of care to individuals, families and groups.

### ***Metaparadigm***

The nursing metaparadigm is composed of the four concepts discussed in the program's philosophy: client, environment, health and nursing. These four major concepts provide the cornerstone for the nursing curriculum and are supported by the framework, which includes systems theory, levels of prevention, nursing process, research, and teaching (see Figure 1).

### ***Curricular Strand Outcomes***

The curriculum is geared toward four outcomes: communication, critical thinking, professionalism and therapeutic interventions (see Figure 1).

**Communication**, as defined by the faculty, is the effective, accurate, and congruent transmission and reception of information, thoughts and feelings through multiple modes (West Suburban College of Nursing faculty, 1997). Communications skills are integral to all aspects of nursing practice. through multiple modes (West Suburban College of Nursing faculty, 1997). Communications skills are integral to all aspects of nursing practice.

**Critical thinking** is “the intellectually disciplined process of actively conceptualizing, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication as a guide to belief or action” (Paul, 1993). There are five components of critical thinking that lead the nurse to make safe and effective clinical judgments: knowledge, competency, attitude, experience and standards (Potter & Perry, 2001).

**Therapeutic interventions** are evidence-based actions guided by the nursing process that aim to promote, maintain and restore health for individuals, families, or communities (Martin, Kinnick, Hummel, Clukey, & Baird, 1997).

**Professionalism** requires specialized knowledge and preparation. Professionalism within nursing includes an understanding of the history and philosophy of nursing, incorporation of standards of care and professional performance.

## CURRICULUM STRAND PROCESSES

The nine processes outlined in Figure 1 identify the concepts that are woven through all courses in the curriculum.

**Collaboration** in the context of nursing is the process of working toward mutually agreed-upon goals with clients and other members of the health care team. Effective collaboration includes open communication in addition to a mutual trust and respect for all members’ abilities and contributions.

**Culture** refers to learned, shared, and transmitted values and beliefs, norms and life practices that develop for a group. Consideration of these factors helps nurses provide care to clients.

**Health economics** is the study of finances and their influence on health care. Health care is dependent on supply, demand, availability, accessibility and financial resources.

**Health promotion** is the proactive process of involving clients in activities that maintain or enhance health. These activities can be utilized within all levels of health care.

**Levels of prevention** define what kind of action is needed for a client. Primary prevention aims to prevent problems from happening. Secondary prevention focuses on early detection and intervention. Tertiary prevention focuses on reducing the extent and severity of problems in order to minimize disability and restore function.

Nursing process is a decision-making process involving assessment, analysis, planning, implementation of interventions and evaluation of care. The process is applied to all levels of prevention.

**Research** is a systematic inquiry into problems. Nursing research is important because it validates nursing as a profession, documents the effectiveness of nursing interventions, provides a scientific knowledge base for practice, and demonstrates accountability of the profession (Polit, Tatano Beck, & Hungler, 1999).

**Teaching** is a collaborative process that promotes learning.

**Learning** is the purposeful acquisition of knowledge, attitudes, behavior and skills (Potter & Perry, 2001). These skills can be utilized across all levels of nursing care.

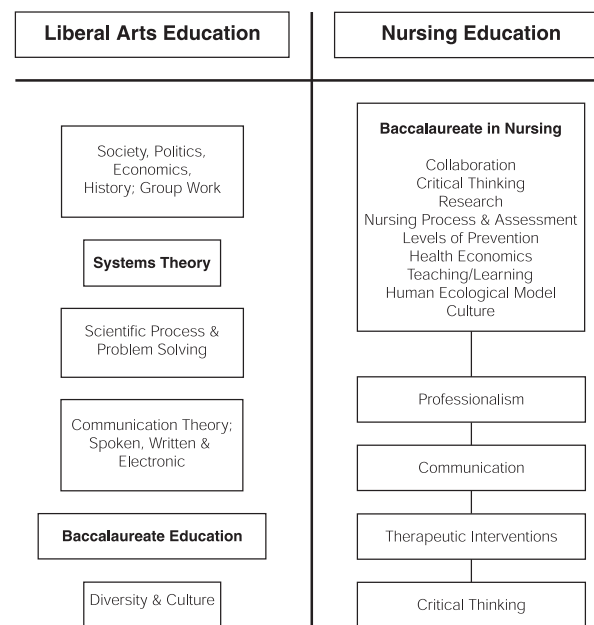


Figure 1

## MASTER OF NURSING PROGRAM

The purpose of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is to prepare nurses in advanced nursing roles to function within the health care system for the purpose of delivering cost-effective quality outcomes.

West Suburban College of Nursing offers the following four graduate nursing majors:

- **Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)** functions as an advanced generalist to provide competent nursing care at the point of care and through out the health care delivery system.
- **Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)** provides clinical nursing expertise with the adult patient with a variety of medical and/or surgical health problems.
- **Nurse Administrator (NA)** acquires a depth of knowledge and skill to transform the delivery of nursing and health care in leadership, management and systems administration positions.
- **Nurse Educator (NE)** prepares nurses in an advanced practice role with competency to be an academic educator.

Graduates will be prepared to sit for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL), Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Nursing Administration or Nursing Administration Advanced (depending on the level of leadership with the organization) certification examinations provided by or to be developed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The Nurse Educator will be prepared to sit for the National League of Nursing Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) examination.

## ACADEMIC PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM

Students must have earned a grade of *C* or higher in each of the nursing support courses. Grades of *D* are not accepted for transfer credit. The *D* grade will, however, be calculated in the transfer cumulative grade point average (GPA). Once enrolled in the College, students who earn below a *C* in any two nursing courses will be dismissed. Any *WF* grade is interpreted to be equivalent to a grade below a *C*.

Students may attempt any nursing course twice. Students who are unsuccessful in a nursing course after two attempts (that is those who withdraw from the course or receive a grade below a *C* or a *WF*) will be dismissed from the program.

Students who withdraw from or earn a grade below a *C* in a nursing course will be required to repeat the course when it is next offered to the student and attain a grade of *C* or higher. Students may enroll in other nursing courses as long as prerequisites have been met.

When a nursing course is repeated, only the grade and credit hours for the last attempt will be used in computing GPA, quality points and credit. However, both attempts and grades will be recorded and remain on the official transcript.

Students must receive a passing grade in both the theory and the clinical component of each course to receive a passing grade for the course and clinical. A student who engages in unsafe practice in the clinical area may not be permitted to continue in the clinical component of the course and may receive a failing grade for the course. The student who engages in unsafe clinical practice may also be prevented from repeating the course and/or dismissed from the nursing program.

A student at risk of a below-*C* performance in a nursing course will receive an academic development notice from the faculty of record or the course coordinator.

The normal credit load is 14 to 17 hours per semester. A student who drops below 12 hours in a semester is considered a part-time student. Students wishing to enroll in more than 17 hours per semester must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and have the permission of the Dean of Nursing.

## STUDENT PROGRESSION FOR NURSING BACCALAUREATE FAST TRACK

Students must maintain a grade point average of 2.5 to remain in the undergraduate Fast-Track Option. A student who earns a grade of *WF*, *D* or *F* in one nursing course will not be allowed to continue in the Fast-Track Option. These students may be given the option to continue in the traditional baccalaureate program.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER OF NURSING PROGRAM**

Students in all graduate majors must maintain a cumulative 3.0 (*B*) average in graduate course work to remain in good academic standing. A full-time student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 may enroll for one semester as a probationary student to attempt to raise his or her cumulative GPA. A part-time student may enroll for two semesters as a probationary student.

Students are dismissed from the College upon failing to achieve satisfactory academic standing in the required period of time or if their GPA falls below a 3.0 a second time.

When a course is repeated, only the grade and credit hours for the last attempt will be used in computing GPA, quality points, and credit. However, both attempts will be recorded and remain on the official transcript.

A student at risk of a below-*B* grade will receive an academic development notice from the faculty of record.

The normal full-time credit load is nine or more hours per semester. A student who carries less than nine hours per semester is considered a part-time student.

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## **ADMISSION**

West Suburban College of Nursing reviews applications twice a year with the deadlines of February 1 for Fall admission and September 15 for Spring admission for the undergraduate and BSN-MSN programs. The admission deadline for the RN-BSN and the graduate program is July 1 for the Fall semester and December 1 for Spring semester. The College reserves the right to accept those applicants who seem likely to complete the requirements of the baccalaureate program. An offer of admission that is made to an applicant before he or she completes the final term at a transferring school carries with it the understanding that the candidate will successfully complete that term of study. All transfer credit requirements must be fulfilled by the start date of the term. Also, the College will

withdraw the offer of admission if the final criminal background report on the candidate is unsatisfactory and all other required documentation is not received by the first day of class.

A transcript evaluation will determine whether previously earned college credit is transferable. Degree requirements for the program can be found in the Nursing Curriculum section of this catalog. All students are encouraged to contact the Office of Enrollment Management at West Suburban College of Nursing, at (708) 763-6530 for an appointment to meet with an admission counselor before submitting the application.

## **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING TRANSFER ADMISSION**

Students who have completed all general education requirements and nursing support courses and are seeking a bachelor's degree in Nursing are considered transfer students. Students are admitted directly into the nursing program. An applicant will be considered for admission into the nursing program as a transfer student if he or she meets the following criteria:

1. Submits a completed application.
2. Submits official transcripts from all colleges attended.
3. Earned a minimum cumulative college grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.75 (on a 4.00 scale) and a minimum science cumulative college GPA of 2.75 in the following sciences: anatomy and physiology I and II, general chemistry and microbiology.
4. Was in good academic standing at the last college attended.
5. Submits one letter of recommendation from an academic adviser, a teacher, an employer, or someone other than a friend or relative who can comment on the applicant's academic background and/or character.
6. Submits a written essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. The College holds four principles: respect all persons, advocate for the pursuit of personal and academic excellence, show concern and kindness toward others, and practice personal and academic integrity. Select one of these principles and discuss how it plays into your own life and how it would be part of your nursing career.

- b. Discuss your personal and professional goals as related to becoming a part of or furthering yourself in the nursing profession and how West Suburban College of Nursing can help you achieve these goals.
- c. Share a story about yourself that will help us get to know you better and that we would not learn from your application.

*(Essays will be evaluated on grammar, punctuation, spelling and ability to articulate ideas.)*

- 7. Submit an application fee of \$30.
- 8. Successfully complete the TEAS Test with a satisfactory score based on national averages.

Submit completed application, official transcripts, letter of recommendation, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

## **REGISTERED NURSES**

An RN-BSN Completion Option is available for registered nurses who hold an associate's degree or diploma in nursing from a school or nursing program that is approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or accredited by NLNAC, and who has a current Illinois license. Registered Nurse graduates of programs that do not seek accreditation will also be considered for admission. Upon successful completion of the requirements, these students will be awarded a bachelor's of science degree in Nursing.

Applicants will be considered for admission if they meet the following criteria:

- 1. Submits a completed application.
- 2. Submits official transcripts from all colleges attended.

- 3. Provides evidence of graduation from an Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program or diploma school of nursing approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or NLNAC accredited.
- 4. Earned a minimum cumulative college grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum cumulative college GPA of 2.75 in the following science courses, anatomy and physiology I & II, general chemistry and microbiology.
- 5. Submits a valid Illinois nursing license.
- 6. Submits one letter of recommendation on school or company letterhead from an academic adviser, a teacher, an employer, or someone other than a friend or relative who can comment on the applicant's academic background and/or character.
- 7. Submits a written essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. The College holds four principles: respect all persons, advocate for the pursuit of personal and academic excellence, show concern and kindness toward others, and practice personal and academic integrity. Select one of these principles and discuss how it plays into your own life and how it would be part of your nursing career.
  - b. Discuss your personal and professional goals as related to becoming a part of or furthering yourself in the nursing profession and how West Suburban College of Nursing can help you achieve these goals.
  - c. Share a story about yourself that will help us get to know you better and that we would not learn from your application.

*(Essays will be evaluated on grammar, punctuation, spelling and ability to articulate ideas.)*

- 8. Submit an application fee of \$30.

Submit completed application, official transcripts, letter of recommendation, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

## PRE-NURSING UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

Pre-nursing is an option for students who want to apply early and secure a seat for future classes. Admission is based on space availability. To qualify, applicants must meet the following prerequisites:

1. Submit a completed application.
2. Has at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of general education and pre-nursing course work completed.
3. Three out of the four required science courses completed at the time application is submitted.
4. Earned a minimum cumulative college grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum cumulative college GPA of 2.75 in the following science courses, anatomy and physiology I & II, general chemistry and microbiology.
5. Submit a written essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. The College holds four principles: respect all persons, advocate for the pursuit of personal and academic excellence, show concern and kindness toward others, and practice personal and academic integrity. Select one of these principles and discuss how it plays into your own life and how it would be part of your nursing career.
  - b. Discuss your personal and professional goals as related to becoming a part of or furthering yourself in the nursing profession and how West Suburban College of Nursing can help you achieve these goals.
  - c. Share a story about yourself that will help us get to know you better and that we would not learn from your application.

*(Essays will be evaluated on grammar, punctuation, spelling and ability to articulate ideas.)*

6. Submit one letter of recommendation on school or company letterhead from an academic adviser, a teacher, an employer, or someone other than a friend or relative who can comment on the applicant's academic background and/or character.

7. Submit an application fee of \$30.

8. Successfully complete the TEAS Test with a satisfactory score based on national averages.

Submit completed application, official transcripts, letter of recommendation, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

## UNDERGRADUATE NURSING BACCALAUREATE FAST-TRACK OPTION

The accelerated program is designed for students who are seeking a second bachelor's degree or who have excelled in their general education and pre-nursing courses.

Students seeking admission to the accelerated program must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete all prerequisites, earning a grade of *B* or higher; and an earned a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a cumulative science GPA of 3.0 in the following Sciences: Anatomy and Physiology I and II. General Chemistry and Micro-Biology.
2. Submit official transcripts from all colleges attended.
3. Submit one letter of recommendation on school or company letterhead from an academic adviser, a teacher, an employer, or someone other than a friend or relative who can comment on the applicant's academic background and/or character.
4. Submit a written essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. The College holds four principles: respect all persons, advocate for the pursuit of personal and academic excellence, show concern and kindness toward others, and practice personal and academic integrity. Select one of these principles and discuss how it plays into your own life and how it would be part of your nursing career.

b. Discuss your personal and professional goals as related to becoming a part of or furthering yourself in the nursing profession and how West Suburban College of Nursing can help you achieve these goals.

c. Share a story about yourself that will help us get to know you better and that we would not learn from your application.

*(Essays will be evaluated on grammar, punctuation, spelling, and ability to articulate ideas.)*

5. Submit an application fee of \$30.

6. Successfully complete the TEAS Test with a satisfactory score based on national averages.

Submit completed application, official transcripts, letter of recommendation, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

### **ENTRANCE EXAM**

As part of the undergraduate application process, all applicants, except for registered nurses applying for the completion program, must take the TEAS Test by ATI. The TEAS score is a part of your application and must be submitted in order for your application to be considered for admission.

To register for the TEAS:

1. Submit the completed application form.

2. Submit application fee.

Call the Office of Enrollment Management at (708) 763-6530 to register for a test date. A confirmation letter will be mailed to you to confirm your registration. Remember to bring your drivers license or state ID on the day of the exam. The exam will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will end at approximately 2 p.m.; late comers will not be permitted into the test.

The TEAS exam will take place at West Suburban College of Nursing.

## **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

120 semester hours

### **PREREQUISITES**

An associate's or bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution can be used to satisfy most general education and pre-nursing requirements. All pre-requisites must be completed before starting the program.

Nursing Support and General Education Requirements:

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credits</b>
*Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
*Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
*Microbiology	4
*General Chemistry	4
Developmental Psychology: Lifespan	3
Statistics	3
Introduction to Psychology	3
Introduction to Sociology	3
*Introduction to Computers	3
English Composition I	3
English Composition II	3
Speech Composition	3
Math	3
Humanities or Fine Arts	9
Social Behavioral Science	3
General Electives	6
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>61</b>

\* Please note that the science and computer courses must have been completed no more than five years prior to your intended semester of enrollment.

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## GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM ENTRY OPTIONS

<b>Current Degree</b>	<b>Advanced Degree Option</b>
Bachelor's of Science in Nursing	Traditional MSN
Bachelor's Degree in another field or no degree	Combined BSN-MSN
RN with AAS degree or diploma	RN-MSN
MSN with another specialty	Post Masters Certificate

### ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR THE TRADITIONAL MSN OR POST MASTERS CERTIFICATE

1. Must have earned a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0/4.0.
2. Must have earned a cumulative GPA for undergraduate and graduate nursing courses of 3.0/4.0.
3. Submit three letters of reference from a recent employer, nursing professor or professional nurse with a graduate degree.
4. Submit a current Illinois RN nursing license or eligibility to be licensed in Illinois.
5. Write and submit a two-page essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. Describe where you see yourself professionally in five years and how completing the West Suburban College of Nursing MSN program will help in meeting your professional goals.
  - b. Share a professional accomplishment and discuss how it promoted your nursing career and increased your understanding of the nursing profession.
6. Submit a resume or curriculum vitae.
7. Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
8. Submit an application fee of \$30.

### ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR THE COMBINED BSN-MSN PROGRAM

1. Complete all prerequisites for the undergraduate BSN program, earning a grade of B or higher; and an earned cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 (on a 4.0 scale) and a cumulative science GPA of 2.75/4.0.
2. Submit three letters of reference from a recent employer, nursing professor or professional nurse with a graduate degree.
3. Write and submit a two-page essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. Describe where you see yourself professionally in five years and how completing the West Suburban College of Nursing MSN program will help in meeting your professional goals.
  - b. Share a professional accomplishment and discuss how it promoted your nursing career and increased your understanding of the nursing profession.
4. Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
5. Complete the TEAS exam with a satisfactory score based on national averages.
6. Upon completion of the BSN course work, students must pass the NCLEX-RN before progressing to the MSN program.
7. Submit an application fee of \$30.

Submit completed application, official transcripts, letter of recommendation, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

## **ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR THE RN-MSN PROGRAM**

1. Complete all pre-requisites and have earned a cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0/4.0 and a science GPA of 2.75/4.0.
2. Must have earned a cumulative GPA for undergraduate and graduate nursing courses of 3.0/4.0.
3. Submit three letters of reference from an employer, professor or academic advisor.
4. Submit a current Illinois RN nursing license or eligibility to be licensed in Illinois.
5. Write and submit a two-page essay on one of the following topics:
  - a. Describe where you see yourself professionally in five years and how completing the West Suburban College of Nursing MSN program will help in meeting your professional goals.
  - b. Share a professional accomplishment and discuss how it promoted your nursing career and increased your understanding of the nursing profession.
6. Submit a resume or curriculum vitae.
7. Submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
8. Submit an application fee of \$30.

Submit the completed application, official transcripts, letters of reference, essay and \$30 fee to:

West Suburban College of Nursing  
Office of Enrollment Management  
3 Erie Court  
Oak Park, IL 60302

### *Undergraduate Course Evaluation for the BSN-MSN and RN-MSN Programs*

A transcript evaluation will determine whether previously earned college credit is transferable. All students are encouraged to contact the Office of

Enrollment Management at West Suburban College of Nursing, at (708) 763-6530 for an appointment to meet with an admission counselor before submitting the application.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICANTS**

Currently, we do not accept international students.

## **READMISSION**

Students who have withdrawn from the program of West Suburban College of Nursing (WSCN) and who have not been enrolled at the College for the last academic year, and who wish to resume their studies must apply for re-admission. A student qualifies for re-admission if he or she:

1. Was in good academic standing at the time of withdrawal from WSCN.
2. Had met all financial obligations to WSCN at the time of withdrawal.
3. Was in good academic standing at any institutions subsequently attended.

A former student who has enrolled in another college or university subsequent to leaving WSCN, must submit official transcripts from that school or schools, to the Office of Enrollment Management.

Students who have not been enrolled in clinical courses for more than two consecutive academic terms will be required to repeat selected clinical courses and/or demonstrate clinical proficiency.

Former students who are seeking to return to WSCN and do not meet the above criteria may file an application for admission as described in this Catalog.

Students who were suspended or dismissed from WSCN for academic reasons should:

1. Attach a letter to the Application for REadmission addressed to the director of enrollment management that explains the reasons for previous scholastic deficiencies;
2. Describe steps taken to rectify those deficiencies; and
3. Provide evidence showing potential for success at WSCN.

Admission for re-entry is also dependent on available space.

Students re-admitted to the program will need to submit the following information:

1. Official transcripts from schools attended subsequent to attending WSCN
2. Criminal background check
3. Evidence of health insurance
4. Evidence of a physical and updated health immunizations
5. Valid CPR card

### **NON-DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENTS**

Students who wish to enroll in nursing courses but will not seek a degree at West Suburban College of Nursing may apply as a non-degree-seeking student. A person may apply as a non-degree-seeking student if he or she:

1. Has not been denied admission to the degree-seeking program at West Suburban College of Nursing;
2. Has met the prerequisites for the class or classes in which he or she intends to enroll;
3. Will transfer the course to another institution; and
4. Is taking a course or courses for personal or professional development

Those admitted as non-degree-seeking students may only attend classes part-time and may not earn more than 12 hours of credit. Non-degree seeking students wishing to change to degree-seeking status must reapply to the program and meet regular admission requirements. Those who wish to apply to the program as non-degree-seeking students may obtain a non-degree-seeking application from the Office of Enrollment Management. Admission of non-degree-seeking students is contingent on permission from the Dean of Nursing and space availability.

### **ENROLLMENT**

In order to enroll in the College once accepted, a student's file must be complete before the start of classes. A complete file includes:

1. Admission Application
2. Official transcripts from every school you've attended, indicating successful completion of all general education and pre-nursing courses.
3. TEAS score (only BSN and BSN-MSN students)
4. Application fee
5. Letter of Recommendation
6. Essay
7. Tuition deposit
8. Criminal background check
9. Valid CPR card
10. Proof of health immunizations
11. All lab results
12. School physical form signed by your physician/nurse practitioner

If the file is not complete prior the first day of classes, the student will not be permitted to start school.

### **COMPUTER LITERACY**

#### *Undergraduate*

Students accepted into the undergraduate program are required to have completed a computer literacy course for college credit or pass the CLEP exam and should be proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, email and the internet.

#### *Graduate*

Students should be proficient in Microsoft Word, Power Point, email and the internet.

All students should also either own or have access to a computer with high speed internet. Suggested equipment specifications are available from the Department of Instructional Technology.

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## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### TUITION DEPOSIT

A tuition deposit of \$150 is required of all new students accepting admission to West Suburban College of Nursing. This deposit is credited against the charges for the student's semester of enrollment at the time this deposit is made, and will be forfeited if the student does not enroll at that time. at that time.

### TUITION RATE

#### *Undergraduate*

For the 2007-2008 academic year, undergraduate students enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of credit per semester are charged a full-time tuition rate of \$9,890 per semester. Undergraduate students enrolled in fewer than 12 semester hours for a semester are charged a rate of \$670 per semester hour of credit.

Undergraduate students enrolled in the Fast-Track Option are charged \$37,580 for the entire four-semester program, or \$9,395 for each of the four semesters.

#### *Graduate*

Students enrolled in the graduate program are charged \$677 per semester hour of credit.

### FEE RATE

#### *Undergraduate*

Undergraduate students enrolled in 12 or more credit hours are assessed a student activity fee of \$5 per semester and a general fee of \$245 per semester. Undergraduate students enrolled in less than 12 credit hours are assessed a student activity fee of \$5 and a general fee of \$120 per semester.

The general fee covers participation in the Assessment Technology Institute, L.L.C. (ATI) Total Testing program, use of the computer lab, online courseware, assessment data, ID badges, locker usage and graduation. The student activity fee covers participation in Student Government sponsored events.

#### *Graduate*

Graduate students are assessed a general fee of \$150 per semester. The general fee covers participation in the use of the computer lab, online courseware, assessment data and ID badges.

### TUITION AND FEE PAYMENT

Students have three options for the payment of tuition and fees. The first option requires payment in full for each semester, with payment due one week prior to the start of each semester. The second option is a tuition payment plan through Fast Automated Cash Transfer System (FACTS). This plan allows students to pay FACTS on a monthly basis. A brochure about FACTS is available from any of the College offices. The third option is to contact the Financial Officer to determine if you are eligible for grant, scholarship or loan funds.

Whichever option for payment is chosen, the process needs to be complete at least one week prior to the beginning of the semester.

### MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

Students should allow for variable costs for items such as books and supplies, uniforms and equipment, transportation to and from clinical sites and other incidental expenses.

### LIBRARY OVERDUE FINES

Fines are charged for all overdue material; \$.25 per day per item for regular loan items and \$1 per day per item for reserve materials and videos. Fines are calculated for each day the library is open, and borrowing privileges are suspended until fines are paid. After two weeks, the library will send a statement of fines accrued to notify the student that if the book is not returned in another two weeks, they will not be able to register for the following semester. If the book is returned, the library may elect to waive

overdue fines. If the book is lost, the student must pay a replacement fee equal to the cost of the book. Until all fines are paid, transcripts and grades will not be released.

## **FINANCIAL OBLIGATION POLICY**

West Suburban College of Nursing will withhold grade reports, transcripts, certifications, diplomas, readmission or other information about a student in the event of unfulfilled financial obligations or violations of institutional regulations.

## **REFUND POLICY**

Tuition refunds, when approved, will be granted according to the following schedule:

### **Fall or Spring Semesters**

Refund for any 7 week course is as follows:

Prior to second week of class	100%
During second week	50%
After second week	0%

### **Summer Session**

Refund for any 12 week course is as follows:

Prior to second week of class	100%
During second week	75%
During third week	50%
After third week	0%

### **Refund for any 6 week course is as follows:**

Prior to second week of class	100%
During second week	50%
After second week	0%

## **TRANSCRIPT ORDER**

Each current student is entitled to one free transcript. West Suburban College of Nursing will process requests for additional transcripts at a cost of \$5 per transcript order. Requests must be made in writing, or via the on-line request form, with a hand-written signature by the person who received the credit appearing on the transcript. Transcripts will normally be processed within five working days of the request. All financial obligations to West Suburban College of Nursing must be fulfilled before any transcripts will be issued. Requests should be sent to the Registrar's Office at West Suburban College of Nursing.

## **FINANCIAL AID**

Financial aid is administered through the Office of Financial Aid and can be reached at (708) 763-1426.

Students applying for financial aid need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), listing West Suburban College of Nursing (school code 022141) as the institution to receive the information. The FAFSA can be accessed at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). In order to complete the application, you will need to have your previous year's federal tax return and spouse or parent federal tax information if needed. Eligibility for federal, state and institutional aid is determined by an analysis of the data provided on the FAFSA.

## **BOOK VOUCHER**

Book voucher are used to purchases books from the MBS Bookstore, online at [www.direct.mbsbooks.com/con.htm](http://www.direct.mbsbooks.com/con.htm) or (800) 325-3252. Book vouchers are usually available a week before the term begins for eligible financial aid students. The amount spent will be taken from the student's financial aid awards.

## **CREDIT BALANCES/REFUNDS**

With the exception of Federal Work-Study, financial aid funds will be applied to the student's account as they are received. Students with credit balances after their award funds have been applied and school charges have been deducted will have a refund issued. Student will receive this refund in the form of a check unless the student authorizes the Bursar to hold the refund for future charges. Students will be notified by the Bursar Office when they are due a refund.

## SUMMER AID

Students enrolling for the Summer term should complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid for the current award year (if they have not done so already) and the subsequent award year. Financial aid during any Summer term is limited. Financial aid assistance for the summer usually consists of the Pell Grant, Stafford loans and private student loans. Any remaining funds eligibility for the current award year will be considered first. If none remains, the summer will be packaged using funds from the new award year. Summer financial aid awards may affect the student's following Fall and/or Spring financial aid awards.

## FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID SOURCES

*Federal Pell Grant:* Students eligible for this grant are first time, undergraduate students demonstrating great financial need as determined by the U.S. Department of Education. The funds received under this program are grant funds, and do not have to be repaid. The amount of the awards per semester range from \$200 to \$2,155.

*Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant:* Students eligible for this grant are first time, undergraduate students demonstrating great financial need as determined by the U.S. Department of Education. The funds received under this program are grant funds, and do not have to be repaid. The amount of the awards per semester range from \$250 to \$750.

*Federal Work-Study Program:* This program allows eligible students to work on the College campus for a maximum of 20 hours each week. Students must be enrolled at least half time to participate in this program. The funds earned from this program do not have to be repaid.

### ***Federal Family Educational Loan Program (Stafford Loan Program):***

*Subsidized Stafford Loan:* The loan program is for undergraduate and graduate students. This is a loan, and does need to be repaid, beginning six months after ceasing at least half time enrollment. While enrolled as at least a half time student, the interest on this loan is paid by the federal government.

*Unsubsidized Stafford Loan:* The loan program is for undergraduate and graduate students. This is a loan and does need to be repaid. Interest does begin accruing from the date of disbursement. Students

have a choice of deferring the interest payments until the loan enters into repayment after six months of ceasing at least half time enrollment.

*Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS):* Parents of undergraduate students can borrow loan funds to assist in the payment of their dependent child's tuition and fees. The interest and principal payments begin 60 days after the loan funds are disbursed to the College.

### ***State of Illinois Financial Aid Sources***

*Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grant:* First time undergraduate students, with great financial need as determined by the State of Illinois may be eligible for the funds. The grant amount is determined by the State and can only be applied to tuition and fees. The student or their parent (if parent information was required on the FAFSA) must be a resident of Illinois as defined by the State. The grant will cover a maximum of 75 credit hours for Freshman and Sophomore level students. Juniors and Seniors students are eligible for a maximum of 135 credit hours.

*Monetary Award Program PLUS (MAP PLUS) Grant:* First time undergraduate students demonstrating financial need as determined by the State of Illinois, and are not receiving the MAP program funds, may be eligible. The grant amount \$250 per semester. The student has to meet the same requirements as MAP except the maximum limit on the hours. Students that have exceeded the MAP maximum credit hours may be eligible for MAP PLUS if they met the other requirements.

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## WEST SUBURBAN COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID SOURCES

### UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

The WSCN scholarships require a completed application each year. Information concerning applications and deadlines is distributed to all students through the campus email system.

### ***Chancellor's Scholarships***

All newly admitted and continuing students are considered each year for a Chancellor's Scholarship, awarded on the basis of grade point average. The scholarships awarded are \$5,000 for full-time students, and are applied to tuition and fees charges.

### ***Cathryn M. Johnson Scholarship***

This scholarship is awarded on the basis of financial need, scholarship, and involvement in co-curricular activities. One \$500 scholarship is awarded annually.

### ***Ethel Fearing Brown Memorial Scholarship***

This scholarship is awarded on the basis of financial need, scholarship and involvement in co-curricular activities. One \$500 scholarship is awarded annually.

### ***Doris Kurtz Mesenbrink Scholarship***

One scholarship of \$500 is awarded annually. This scholarship is based on financial need.

### ***Lucille W. Saxon Scholarship***

This scholarship is awarded on the basis of financial need, scholarship and character. Preference is given to students who plan to remain at West Suburban Medical Center following graduation. Ten \$2,000 scholarships are available annually.

### ***Dr. Michael and Charlotte Mizen Geriatric Nursing Scholarship***

This scholarship is awarded on the basis of demonstrated interest in serving the health care needs of the elderly. One \$500 scholarship is available annually.

### ***Olive Pendill Nursing Scholarship***

This scholarship is awarded on the basis of financial need, scholarship and co-curricular activities. One \$500 scholarship is awarded annually.

### ***Rehwaldt Scholarship***

One scholarship of \$500 is awarded annually. This scholarship is based on financial need.

### ***Resurrection Health Care Loan Forgiveness Program***

The Loan Forgiveness Program provides full tuition coverage, less any Resurrection Health Care employee tuition reimbursement funding and eligible outside funds, if any, exclusively for tuition. See application for requirements.

### ***Ruth H. Replogle Scholarship***

This scholarship is available to seniors. It is awarded to a student who intends to practice community nursing in the Parent Child Community (PCC) Wellness Center, Oak Park, Ill., following graduation. The amount is determined annually.

### ***West Suburban Distinguished Nursing Alumni Scholarship***

This scholarship is available to juniors and seniors who are enrolled full-time. It is awarded on the basis of superior academic achievement, clinical qualities, scholarship, professionalism and leadership. A faculty letter of endorsement, an interview with the College Scholarship Committee and an essay are required for eligibility. One \$5,000 scholarship is awarded annually.

### ***West Suburban Distinguished Nursing Scholar Scholarship***

This scholarship is available to juniors and seniors who are enrolled full-time. It is awarded on the basis of superior academic achievement, clinical qualities, scholarship, professionalism and leadership. A faculty letter of endorsement, an interview with the College Scholarship Committee and an essay are required for eligibility. One \$5,000 scholarship is awarded annually.

### ***West Suburban Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship***

Several scholarships are award based on financial need, and general co-curricular involvement on campus. The scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students. The Auxiliary Scholarships are:

*WSMC Auxiliary Scholarship:* These scholarships are awarded to juniors and seniors. The number of scholarships and the amount awarded vary from year to year. Recipients are selected based upon financial need and academic performance.

*The Ralph Jepsen Nursing Scholarship:* One scholarship is awarded to a student who will be a junior or senior next year. The amount varies, but is usually about \$250.

*The Margaret Houck Nursing Student Award from the Muehrcke Family Foundation:* One scholarship is awarded annually to a junior or senior. The amount varies each year, but is usually about \$400.

*The Sharon E. Bolin Nursing Student Award:* One \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a senior. The award was established to honor Dr. Sharon Bolin, long-time Dean of West Suburban School of Nursing and College of Nursing.

*The Bud McClevey Scholarship:* One \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a junior or senior.

### **West Suburban Medical Center Medical Staff Scholarship**

This scholarship was established by the West Suburban Medical Center Medical Staff in order to enhance recruitment of graduates of West Suburban College of Nursing through financial support for one year of the program, with a corresponding work commitment at West Suburban Medical Center following graduation. Two to four \$5,000 scholarships are awarded annually. Criteria for this scholarship include grade point average, financial need and demonstrated interest in serving the health care needs of the patients of West Suburban Medical Center. Recipients must commit to one year full-time or two years part-time employment service at West Suburban Medical Center for each year they receive the scholarship.

### **GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS**

The WSCN scholarships require a completed application each year. Information concerning applications and deadlines is distributed to all students through the campus email system.

### **Chancellor's Scholarships**

All newly admitted and continuing students are considered each year for a Chancellor's Scholarship, awarded on the basis of grade point average. The scholarships awarded are \$ 5,000 and are applied to tuition and fees charges.

### **Resurrection Health Care Loan Forgiveness Program**

The Loan Forgiveness Program provides full tuition coverage, less any Resurrection Health Care employee tuition reimbursement funding and eligible outside funds, if any, exclusively for tuition. See application for requirements.

### **SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

The Office of Financial Aid evaluates student academic progress at the beginning of each award year. Students are evaluated on the basis of grade point average (GPA), credit hour completion and maximum time frame limitation. To receive financial aid, a student must maintain a minimum qualitative measure of progress defined as a cumulative GPA of 2.0 for undergraduate students and a 3.0 cumulative GPA for graduate students.

Students are also subject to a quantitative measure of progress. Full-time students must complete their program within 150 percent of the traditional program length of two years, or three years. Part-time students must complete their program in no more than six years. Given the rigors of the academic program, it is rare that any student spends in excess of five years at West Suburban College of Nursing. No financial awards are processed for academic years beyond this time period, except by appeal for professional judgment to the Office of Financial Aid.

If a student is determined not to be in compliance with these standards, he or she will be notified via mail of placement in a probationary status for the following year, during which time he or she will continue to receive financial aid. At the conclusion of this probationary period, the student will not be permitted to receive financial aid if satisfactory academic standing has not been achieved. All appeals pursuant to this policy must be made in writing and directed to the Office of Financial Aid.

## RETURN OF TITLE IV FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID FUNDS

This policy governs all federal grant and loan programs (Pell, SEOG, Stafford loans, PLUS loans) but does not include Federal Work Study programs. For any student who receives Title IV federal funds from these programs and withdraws completely from a term, WSCN must calculate the portion of scheduled Title IV financial assistance that the student has earned and is therefore entitled to retain, until the time the student withdrew. The withdrawal date is the date the student began the official withdrawal process by notifying the Registrar's Office, in writing, of his or her intent to withdraw. If a student receives more financial assistance than he or she earns, the unearned funds must be returned to the Department of Education or to the Federal Stafford or Parent's Federal PLUS loan lenders. If a student's charges are less than the amount earned, and a refund is due, the student may be able to receive those additional funds.

The portion of the federal grants and loans that the student is entitled to receive is calculated on a percentage basis by comparing the total number of days in the semester to the number of days that the student completed before he or she withdrew. For example, if the student completes 30 percent of the semester, he or she earns 30 percent of the approved federal aid that was originally scheduled for disbursement in the term. This means that 70 percent of the student's schedule of disbursed aid remains unearned and must be returned to the federal programs. Adjustments will not be made subsequent to the point at which a student has completed 60 percent of the term in accordance with federal regulations.

This policy does not affect the student's tuition and fee charges. WSCN's refund policy will be used to determine the reduction in the student's tuition and fee charges.

West Suburban College of Nursing is an approved college for the use of GI Bill benefits.

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## BACCALAUREATE NURSING CURRICULUM

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING

Nursing Support and General Education Requirements

<b>Course</b>	<b>Credits</b>
*Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
*Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
*Microbiology	4
*General Chemistry	4
Developmental Psychology: Lifespan	3
Statistics	3
Introduction to Psychology	3
Introduction to Sociology	3
*Introduction to Computers	3
English Composition I	3
English Composition II	3
Speech Composition	3
Math	3
Humanities or Fine Arts	9
Social Behavioral Science	3
General Electives	6
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>61</b>

\* Please note that the science and computer courses must have been completed no more than five years prior to your intended semester of enrollment.

### Length of Program

Students entering the program on a full-time basis can complete the program in four consecutive semesters.

### RN-BSN COMPLETION OPTION

Students pursuing the RN-BSN completion option must complete the pre-nursing and general education requirements before starting the program.

In addition, graduates of a state-approved or an NLNAC-accredited program (i.e., an associate's degree or diploma program) with a current Illinois registered professional nurse license who are admitted to the College, will be awarded 38 semester hours of credit for the following nursing courses pending successful completion of NUR 3131-RN, NUR 3132-RN, NUR 3131L-RN and 3132L-RN Health Assessment and Promotion for the RN I & II and Lab, and NUR 3620 Contemporary Nursing Practice for the RN.

<b>Courses Awarded</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms	3
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing	3
NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health I	4
NUR 4210	Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community	4
NUR 4220	Pediatric Nursing in the Community	4
NUR 4230	Promoting Healthy Families in the Community	3
NUR 4340	Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 4420	Care of the Older Adult in the Community	3
NUR 4460	Clients with Disruptions of Health II	5
NUR 4470	Professional Role Transition	5
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>38</b>

<b>Nursing Major</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NUR 3131 RN	Health Assessment and Promo I for the RN	1
NUR 3131L-RN	Health Assessment and Promo I Lab for the RN.5	
NUR 3132 RN	Health Assessment and Promo II for the RN	1

NUR 3132L-RN	Health Assessment and Promo II Lab for the RN.5	
NUR 3620	Contemporary Nursing Practice for the RN	3
NUR 4270 RN	Ethics in Nursing	3
NUR 4330 RN	Promoting Healthy People in the Community	4
NUR 4351 RN	Nursing Research	2
NUR 4360 RN	Nursing Leadership and Management	3
NUR 4910	Nursing Electives	3

**Total Credits** **21**

Note: All 21 hours of nursing credit must be taken at West Suburban College of Nursing.

### **Total Credits for Degree**

Support and General Studies Courses	61
Nursing Credit (38+21)	59
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

### **GENERIC BSN NURSING OPTION**

<b>Nursing Major</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NUR 3100	Transfer Student Seminar-Introduction to Nursing Basics*	1
NUR 3131	Health Assessment and Promotion I	1
NUR 3131L	Health Assessment and Promotion I Lab	.5
NUR 3132	Health Assessment and Promotion II	1
NUR 3132L	Health Assessment and Promotion II Lab	.5
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms	3
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing	3

NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health I	4
NUR 3170	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	3
NUR 4210	Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community	4
NUR 4220	Pediatric Nursing in the Community	4
NUR 4230	Promoting Healthy Families in the Community	3
NUR 4270	Ethics in Nursing	3
NUR 4330	Promoting Healthy People in the Community	4
NUR 4340	Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 4350	Nursing Research	3
NUR 4351	Nursing Research*	2
NUR 4360	Nursing Leadership and Management	3
NUR 4420	Care of the Older Adult in the Community	3
NUR 4460	Clients with Disruptions of Health II	5
NUR 4470	Professional Role Transition	5
NUR 4910	Nursing Electives	2

**Total Credits** **59**

\*This course is for students who entered the College in Spring 2007 under the five-semester option, and for students entering the College in Fall 2007 or later.

\*\*Students who entered the College in Spring 2007 under the five-semester option, and those that enter in Fall 2007 or later, will take NUR 4351.

## NURSING MAJOR

### 59 Credits

#### Sample Program Plan for Four Semesters

Semester 5		Credits
NUR 3100	Transfer Student Seminar-Introduction to Nursing Basics	1

NUR 3131	Health Assessment and Promotion I	1
NUR 3131L	Health Assessment and Promotion I Lab	.5
NUR 3132	Health Assessment and Promotion II	1
NUR 3132L	Health Assessment and Promotion II Lab	.5
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms	3
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing	3
NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health I	4
NUR 3170	Introduction to Community Based Nursing	3

**Total** **17**

**Semester 5** **Credits**

NUR 4230	Promoting Healthy Families in the Community	3
NUR 4210	Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community	4
NUR 4220	Pediatric Nursing in the Community	4
NUR 4270	Ethics in Nursing	3
NUR 4910	Nursing Elective	1

**Total** **15**

**Semester 7** **Credits**

NUR 4330	Promoting Healthy People in the Community	4
NUR 4340	Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 4350 or 4351	Nursing Research	3/2
NUR 4420	Care of the Older Adult in the Community	3
NUR 4910	Nursing Elective	1

**Total** **14-15**

<b>Semester 8</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NUR 4360	Nursing Leadership and Management	3
NUR 4460	Clients with Disruptions of Health II	5
NUR 4470	Professional Role Transition	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

Students in the Fast Track Program and the BSN-MSN option follow this model in 16 consecutive months.

## GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND CURRICULUM

### CLINICAL NURSE LEADER (CNL) MAJOR

Clinical Nurse Leader Major Objectives:

1. Synthesize and apply theories and conceptual models from nursing and other related disciplines to facilitate clinical decision making. (Critical Thinking)
2. Interprets evidenced-based practice data in the nursing process to evaluate patient outcomes, assess cohort risk and implement care as part of an interdisciplinary team. (Interventions)
3. Develop collaborative interdisciplinary relationships and partnerships to improve the health care of the cohort population. (Professional Behaviors)
4. Integrates the use of information systems and standardized languages in relation to clinical outcomes and continuous performance measures. (Communication)
5. Create a capstone project for oral and written presentation on a nursing topic. (Communication)

<b>Course Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
NRG 5101**	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5102**	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103**	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NRG 5401	Clinical Nurse Leader I	3
NRG 5402	Clinical Nurse Leader II	3
NRG 5403	Clinical Nurse Leader Residency	7
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

\* MSN Core Courses

\*\*Clinical Core Courses (CNS & CNL)

### Sample Program Plan for Clinical Nurse Leader

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002	Health Care Delivery	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 2</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5003	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004	Statistics	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 3</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5102	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103	Advanced Pharmacology	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 4</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5101	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5401	Clinical Nurse Leader I	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 5</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5402	Clinical Nurse Leader II	3
NUR 5905*	Scholarly Synthesis	1-2
<b>Total</b>		<b>4-5</b>

<b>Semester 6</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5403	Clinical Nurse Leader Residency	7
NUR 5905*	Scholarly Synthesis	1-2
<b>Total</b>		<b>7-9</b>

\*NUR 5905 may be taken in either Semester 5 for two credit hours or Semester 6 for two credit hours, or it can be taken in both semesters for one credit hour each.

## **ADULT HEALTH CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST (CNS) MAJOR**

Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist Major Objectives:

1. Synthesize and apply theories and conceptual models from nursing and other related disciplines to facilitate clinical decision making. (Critical Thinking)

2. Design, implement and evaluate innovative individual or population-based programs of care to achieve quality outcomes. (Interventions)
3. Serve as a leader, consultant, mentor or change agent in advancing nursing practice across all practice arenas. (Professional Behaviors)
4. Integrates the use of information systems and standardized languages in relation to clinical outcomes and continuous performance measures. (Communication)
5. Create a capstone project for oral and written presentation on a nursing topic. (Communication)

<b>Course Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
NRG 5101**	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5102**	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103**	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NRG 5301	Clinical Nurse Specialist I	3
NRG 5302	Clinical Nurse Specialist II	3
NRG 5303	Clinical Nurse Specialist Residency	9
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>38</b>

\* MSN Core Courses

\*\*Clinical Core Courses (CNS & CNL)

### Sample Program Plan for Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002	Health Care Delivery	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 2</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5003	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004	Statistics	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 3</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5102	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103	Advanced Pharmacology	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 4</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5101	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5301	Clinical Nurse Specialist I	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 5</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5302	Clinical Nurse Specialist II	3
*NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	1-2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>4-6</b>

<b>Semester 6</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5403	Clinical Nurse Specialist Residency	9
NRG 5905*	Scholarly Synthesis	1-2

**Total Credits** **10-11**

*\*NUR 5905 may be taken in either Semester 5 for two credit hours or Semester 6 for 2 two credit hours, or it can be taken in both semesters for one credit hour each.*

### NURSE ADMINISTRATOR MAJOR

Nurse Administrator Major Program Objectives:

1. Provide leadership in conceptualization, design, implementation, and evaluation of health care delivery systems across the health care continuum. (Critical Thinking)
2. Synthesize and apply theories, conceptual models, principles and advanced knowledge from nursing and other related disciplines to facilitate clinical and administrative decision making. (Critical Thinking)
3. Develop strategies to achieve quality outcomes in care delivery with respect to patients, fiscal and human resources. (Interventions)
4. Develop collaborative relationships and partnerships that are interdisciplinary and aggregate-focused to improve the health care of populations. (Professional Behaviors)
5. Create a capstone research project for oral and written presentation on a nursing administration topic. (Communication)

<b>Course Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
NRG 5201	Informatics	3

NRG 5204	Economics & Finance	3
NRG 5205	Dynamics of Communication	3
NRG 5501	Human Resource Management	3
NRG 5502	Strategic Planning & Financial Management	3
NRG 5503	Quality, Utilization & Outcomes Management	3
NRG 5504	Health Care Systems Practicum & Integrative Seminar	4
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

\* MSN Core Courses

### Sample Program Plan for Nurse Administrator

Semester 1		Credits
NRG 5000	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002	Health Care Delivery	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

Semester 2		Credits
NRG 5003	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004	Statistics	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

Semester 3		Credits
NRG 5201	Informatics	3
NRG 5204	Economics & Finance	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

Semester 4		Credits
NRG 5205	Dynamics of Communication	3
NRG 5501	Human Resource Management	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

Semester 5		Credits
NRG 5502	Strategic Planning & Financial Management	3
NRG 5503	Quality, Utilization & Outcomes Management	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

Semester 6		Credits
NRG 5504	Health Care Systems Practicum & Integrative Seminar	4
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

### NURSE EDUCATOR (NE) MAJOR

Nurse Educator Major Program Objectives:

1. Synthesize and apply theories and conceptual models from nursing and education to facilitate clinical and educational decision making. (Critical Thinking)
2. Design, implement and evaluate innovative teaching, learning and evaluation strategies used in course and educational programs to achieve quality outcomes. (Interventions)
3. Serve as a leader, consultant, mentor and change agent to advance nursing education and facilitate learner development and socialization. (Professional Behaviors)

4. Participate effectively in curriculum design and evaluation of program outcomes. (Interventions)
5. Pursue continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role. (Professional Behaviors)
6. Create a capstone project for oral and written presentation on a nursing education topic. (Communication)

<b>Course Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
NRG 5101	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5102	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NRG 5601	Clinical Management for Nurse Education	3
NRG 5602	Teaching/Learning in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5603	Curriculum Development in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5604	Evaluation and Testing in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5605	Practicum in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>38</b>

\* MSN Core Courses

### **Sample Program Plan for Nurse Educator**

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002	Health Care Delivery	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 2</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5003	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004	Statistics	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 3</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5102	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NRG 5103	Advanced Pharmacology	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 4</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5101	Advanced Health/Physical Assessment	3
NRG 5601	Clinical Management for Nurse Educators	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 5</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5602	Teaching/Learning in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5603	Curriculum Development in Nursing Education	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

<b>Semester 6</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5604	Evaluation and Testing in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5605	Practicum in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5905	Scholarly Synthesis	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>8</b>

### **COMBINED BSN-MSN DEGREE ENTRY OPTION**

A student wishing to earn a bachelor's degree and an advanced degree in nursing may enroll in the combined BSN-MSN degree program. The student must complete the BSN course work and sit for the registered nurse license examination (NCLEX-RN) before matriculating to the MSN program.

The MSN program requires students to complete twelve hours (four courses) of MSN core courses. Students enrolled in the BSN-MSN option will take one core course (three hours) in their final semester of the BSN program and complete the other nine hours in the MSN program. *MSN course work with a grade of B or better may be applied to the MSN degree.*

### **Undergraduate Course Requirements Credits**

<b>Nursing Major</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NUR 3100	Transfer Student Seminar-Introduction to Nursing Basics	1
NUR 3131	Health Assessment and Promotion I	1
NUR 3131L	Health Assessment and Promotion I Lab	.5
NUR 3132	Health Assessment and Promotion II	1
NUR 3132L	Health Assessment and Promotion II Lab	.5
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms	3
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing	3
NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health	4

NUR 3170	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	3
NUR 4210	Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community	4
NUR 4220	Pediatric Nursing in the Community	4
NUR 4230	Promoting Healthy Families in the Community	3
NUR 4270	Ethics in Nursing	3
NUR 4330	Promoting Healthy People in the Community	4
NUR 4340	Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 4351	Nursing Research	2
NUR 4360	Nursing Leadership and Management	3
NUR 4420	Care of the Older Adult in the Community	3
NUR 4460	Clients with Disruptions of Health II	5
NUR 4470	Professional Role Transition	5
NRG XXXX	MSN Core Course	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

<b>Graduate Core Course Requirements</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
Additional MSN major credits (please refer to specific program requirements)		24-26
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>33-35</b>

\* MSN Core Courses

### Total Credits for Degree

Support and General Studies Courses	61
BSN Nursing Credit	60
MSN Core Courses	9
MSN Nursing Major (please refer to specific major for course requirements)	24-26

**Total Credits** **154-156**

### RN-MSN DEGREE ENTRY OPTION

Students pursuing the RN-MSN completion option must complete the undergraduate pre-nursing and general education requirements before starting the program. In addition, graduates of a state-approved or an NLNAC-accredited program (i.e., an associate's degree or diploma program) with a current Illinois registered professional nurse license who are admitted to the College, will be awarded 38 semester hours of credit for the following nursing courses pending successful completion of NUR 3131-RN, NUR 3132-RN, NUR 3131L-RN, NUR 3132L-RN, Health Assessment and Promotion for the RN I & II and Lab, and NUR 3620 Contemporary Nursing Practice for the RN.

The MSN program requires students to complete twelve hours (four courses) of MSN core courses. Students enrolled in the RN-MSN option will take two core courses (six hours) as part of the RN Completion Bridge courses, and complete the other six hours in the MSN program. MSN course work with a grade of *B* or better may be applied to the MSN degree.

Course Awarded	Credits
NUR 3140 Pathophysiologic Mechanisms	3
NUR 3150 Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing	3
NUR 3160 Clients with Disruptions of Health I	4

NUR 4210 Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community	4
NUR 4220 Pediatric Nursing in the Community	4
NUR 4230 Promoting Healthy Families in the Community	3
NUR 4340 Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	4
NUR 4420 Care of the Older Adult in the Community	3
NUR 4460 Clients with Disruptions of Health II	5
NUR 4470 Professional Role Transition	5

**Total Credits** **38**

### RN Completion Bridge Courses

Course Requirements	Credits
NUR 3131RN Health Assessment and Promotion I for the RN	1
NUR 3131LRN Health Assessment and Promotion I Lab for the RN	.5
NUR 3132RN Health Assessment and Promotion II for the RN	1
NUR 3132LRN Health Assessment and Promotion II Lab for the RN	.5
NUR 4270 Ethics in Nursing	3
NUR 4330 Promoting Healthy People in the Community	4
NUR 4351 Nursing Research	2
NUR 4910 Nursing Electives	3
NRG XXXX MSN Core Course	3
NRG XXXX MSN Core Course	3

**Total Credits** **21**

## MSN Course Requirements:

Core Course Requirements		Credits
NRG 5000*	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice	3
NRG 5002*	Health Care Delivery	3
NRG 5003*	Nursing Research	3
NRG 5004*	Statistics	3
MSN credits (please refer to specific major for course requirements)		24-26
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36-38</b>

\*MSN Core Courses

## Total Credits for Degree

Support and General Studies Courses	61
RN Completion Bridge Courses	21
Awarded Credit	38
MSN Core Courses	6
MSN Credit	24-26
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>150-152</b>

\*MSN Core Courses

## POST MASTERS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

A student must already have a MSN degree and meet the admissions requirements for the MSN program to participate in the post-master's certificate program. Meeting the post-master's course requirements for the chosen major will prepare a student to sit for the certification examination for that major. Depending on a student's prior coursework, additional courses may be required to meet the requirements by a certifying body. The Associate Dean will review the transcript of prior coursework and determine any deficiencies for the major. Post-master's students do not have to complete the End-of-Program Capstone Project.

## Required courses for post-master certificate majors:

### Clinical Nurse Leader

Courses Requirement		Credits
NRG 5401	Clinical Nurse Leader I	3
NRG 5402	Clinical Nurse Leader II	3
NRG 5403	Clinical Nurse Leader Residency	7
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>13</b>	

### Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist

Courses Requirement		Credits
NRG 5301	Clinical Nurse Specialist I	3
NRG 5302	Clinical Nurse Specialist II	3
NRG 5303	Clinical Nurse Specialist Residency	9
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>	

### Nurse Administrator

		Credits
NRG 5201	Informatics	3
NRG 5204	Economics and Finance	3
NRG 5205	Dynamics of Communication	3
NRG 5501	Human Resources Management	3
NRG 5502	Strategic Planning & Financial Management	3
NRG 5503	Quality, Utilization, & Outcomes Management	3
NRG 5504	Health Care Systems Practicum & Integrated Seminar	4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>22</b>

<b>Nurse Educator</b>		<b>Credits</b>
NRG 5601	Clinical Management for Nurse Educators	3
NRG 5602	Teaching/Learning in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5603	Curriculum Development in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5604	Evaluation and Testing in Nursing Education	3
NRG 5605	Practicum in Nursing Education	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>	

## UNDERGRADUATE NURSING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

A prerequisite is a course required to be taken before another course. A co-requisite is a course required to be taken simultaneously with another course.

**Course** **Credits Code**  
(Theory credit: Clinical/Lab credit:  
Clinical/Lab contact hours)

### **NUR 3100** **Transfer Student Seminar-Introduction to Nursing Basics 1(1:0)**

This introductory course focuses on core concepts that underpin nursing practice. Students will learn about professional nursing standards and role expectations, including ethical-legal concerns, collaboration and the impact these have on their behavior as student nurses.

### **NUR 3131** **Health Assessment and Promotion I 1.5(1.:5:1)**

This is a two-part course that focuses on holistic health assessment of clients throughout the life span. Health promotion, primary and secondary prevention strategies are incorporated into the assessment process. Students will practice communication, interviewing and assessment skills in the laboratory setting. This course includes a lab, NUR 3131L.

### **Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar-introduction to Nursing Basics

### **NUR 3131RN** **Health Assessment and Promotion for the RN I 1.5(1.:5:1)**

This is part two of a two-part course that focuses on holistic health assessment of clients throughout the life span. Health promotion, primary and secondary prevention strategies are incorporated into the assessment process. Students will practice communication, interviewing and assessment skills in the laboratory setting. This course includes a lab for NUR 3131L-RN.

### **NUR 3132** **Health Assessment and Promotion II 1.5(1.:5:1)**

This is a two-part course focuses on holistic health assessment of clients throughout the life span. Health promotion, primary and secondary prevention strategies are incorporated into the assessment process. Students will practice communication, interviewing and assessment skills in the laboratory setting. This course includes a lab, NUR 3132L.

### **Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar-introduction to Nursing Basics  
NUR 3131 Health Assessment and Promotion I

### **NUR 3132RN** **Health Assessment and Promotion for the RN II 1.5(1.:5:1)**

This is a two-part course focuses on holistic health assessment of clients throughout the life span. Health promotion, primary and secondary prevention strategies are incorporated into the assessment process. Students will practice communication, interviewing and assessment skills in the laboratory setting. This course includes a lab, NUR 3132L-RN.

### **NUR 3140** **Pathophysiologic Mechanisms 3 (3:0)**

This course focuses on the pathophysiology, etiology, and associated clinical findings of selected diseases. Diseases include those selected from

the Healthy People 2010 objectives according to their prevalence. Acquisition of this core knowledge and its application in clinical nursing practice are emphasized.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics

**NUR 3150**  
**Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing** **3 (3:0)**

This course focuses on the pharmacological interventions for selected diseases. Diseases include those selected from the Healthy People 2010 objectives in accordance to their prevalence. Acquisition of this core knowledge and its application in clinical nursing practice are emphasized.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics

**NUR 3160**  
**Clients with Disruptions of Health I** **4 (2:2:6)**

This course focuses on nursing and collaborative health care in the acute-care setting. The concepts of health assessment, health promotion pathophysiology pharmacology will be emphasized. Students will develop a foundation for the nursing care of clients focusing on those receiving tertiary care. Students will be introduced to the nursing process and emerging nursing nomenclatures (including NANDA, NIC/NOC) for documentation and planning of care.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics

**NUR 3170**  
**Introduction to Community-Based Nursing** **3 (2:1:3)**

This course introduces the human ecological model as the foundation for community-based nursing practice. Concepts and constructs introduced in this course include the history of nursing, professional role development,

nursing theories, client education, epidemiology and cultural influences on health. Data sources to support health will be introduced (including the Healthy People 2010 national objectives) and evidence-based practice as a guide to clinical decision-making. The health care of clients is addressed through collaboration with partners and teaching-learning opportunities in the community.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics

**NUR 3620**  
**Contemporary Nursing Practice for the RN** **3 (3:0)**

In this course the practicing nurse, through the analysis of case studies, and the identification of applicable evidence-based practice measures, enhances knowledge and understanding of contemporary nursing practice for pathophysiological, pharmacological, socio-cultural and developmental care of clients across the lifespan, in a community.

**NUR 4210**  
**Nursing of the Childbearing Family in the Community** **4 (2:2:6)**

This course focuses on the health care needs of the childbearing family in a variety of settings. The role and the responsibilities of the professional nurse from conception to post-partum are the focus for discussion and experiences.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics  
NUR 3131 Health Assessment and Promotion I  
NUR 3132 Health Assessment and Promotion II  
NUR 3140 Pathophysiologic Mechanisms  
NUR 3150 Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing  
NUR 3160 Clients with Disruptions of Health I  
NUR 3170 Introduction to Community-Based Nursing

**NUR 4220****Pediatric Nursing in the Community 4 (2:2:6)**

This course focuses on the health care of children and their families in both acute, primary and community settings. Students gain knowledge of the comprehensive scope of health care for children and the role of the nurse. Core concepts and constructs include health promotion of the developing child, identifying common variations of health parameters and engaging with families and communities. Contemporary issues affecting the child and the family are discussed.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100	Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics
NUR 3131	Health Assessment and Promotion I
NUR 3132	Health Assessment and Promotion II
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing
NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health I
NUR 3170	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing

**NUR 4340****Promoting Healthy Families in the Community 3 (3:0)**

This course provides the student with an opportunity to explore selected topics affecting the family. It examines family theory, family structure and issues important to the family as it develops. The contribution of community agencies, teaching/learning concepts, and research findings in health promotion and disease prevention in families are described and examined. The role of the professional nurse in the promotion of health and the prevention of disease in the family is explored.

**NUR 4270****Ethics in Nursing 3 (3:0)**

This course explores theories, models and principles of ethical decision-making in nursing situations across the lifespan in a variety of settings.

Nursing and health care decision making dilemmas are identified and analyzed toward refining critical thinking and advocacy on the part of the nurse. Ethical principles as a foundation of nursing practice and as a guide to teaching-learning processes are clarified.

**Prerequisites:**

NUR 3100	Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics
NUR 3131	Health Assessment and Promotion I
NUR 3132	Health Assessment and Promotion II
NUR 3140	Pathophysiologic Mechanisms
NUR 3150	Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing
NUR 3160	Clients with Disruptions of Health I
NUR 3170	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing

**NUR 4270RN****Ethics in Nursing 3 (3:0)**

This course explores theories, models and principles of ethical decision-making in nursing situations across the lifespan in a variety of settings. Nursing and health care decision making dilemmas are identified and analyzed toward refining critical thinking and advocacy on the part of the nurse. Ethical principles as a foundation of nursing practice and as a guide to teaching-learning processes are clarified.

**NUR 4330****Promoting Healthy People in the Community 4 (2:2:6)**

This course includes health promotion and primary, secondary and tertiary prevention as applied to the care of individuals, families and groups in the community, and emphasizes evidence-based nursing practice with groups and populations. The concept of system is applied to health and community and evaluated in light of nursing theories and public health frameworks (including Healthy People 2010). Community assessment and collaboration with community partners are explored as essential components in community-focused clinical decision-making. Community-based practicums are the context for identifying patterns of health, gaps in healthcare and

the development of strategic initiatives for change in keeping with the priorities of the people.

**Prerequisites:**

- NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics
- NUR 3131 Health Assessment and Promotion I
- NUR 3132 Health Assessment and Promotion II
- NUR 3140 Pathophysiologic Mechanisms
- NUR 3150 Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing
- NUR 3160 Clients with Disruptions of Health I
- NUR 3170 Introduction to Community-Based Nursing

**NUR4330 RN**

**Promoting Healthy People in the Community 4 (2:2:6)**

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This course includes health promotion and primary, secondary and tertiary prevention as applied to the care of individuals, families and groups in the community, and emphasizes evidence-based nursing practice with groups and populations. The concept of system is applied to health and community and evaluated in light of nursing theories and public health frameworks (including Healthy People 2010). Community assessment and collaboration with community partners are explored as essential components in community-focused clinical decision-making. Community-based practicums are the context for identifying patterns of health, gaps in healthcare and the development of strategic initiatives for change in keeping with the priorities of the people.

**NUR 4340**

**Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing 4 (2:2:6)**

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The focus of this course is the role of the professional nurse in meeting the mental health and psychiatric needs of diverse individuals, families and groups in their communities. Theoretical concepts related to clients' biopsychosocial and cultural responses, mental health promotion, risk reduction and multidisciplinary psychiatric illness management are explored. Clinical experiences promote development of critical thinking,

self-awareness, effective communication techniques and ethical nursing practice. Integration of theory and current research findings provides a foundation for clinical judgment and decision-making in a variety of settings.

**Prerequisites:**

- NUR 3100 Transfer Student Seminar: Introduction to Nursing Basics
- NUR 3131 Health Assessment and Promotion I
- NUR 3132 Health Assessment and Promotion II
- NUR 3140 Pathophysiologic Mechanisms
- NUR 3150 Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing
- NUR 3160 Clients with Disruptions of Health I
- NUR 3170 Introduction to Community-Based Nursing

**NUR 4350**

**Nursing Research 3(3:0)**

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This course focuses on the research process and its significance to nursing as a discipline and a profession. Students develop basic skills needed to utilize research findings toward evidence-based practices in nursing. The emphasis is on critiquing published nursing research, promoting student understanding of their role as a discriminating consumer of research and utilizing research for continuous quality improvement in nursing practice and related areas. The course incorporates content related to ethical, cultural and collaboration issues in health care research.

**NUR 4351**

**Research in Nursing 2(2:0)**

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This course focuses on the research process and its significance to nursing as a discipline and a profession. Students develop basic skills needed to utilize research findings toward evidence-based practices in nursing. The emphasis is on critiquing published nursing research, promoting student understanding of their role as a discriminating consumer of research and utilizing research for continuous quality improvement in nursing practice and related areas. The course incorporates content related to ethical, cultural and collaboration issues in health care research.

**NUR 4351RN****Research in Nursing for the RN****2(2:0)**

This course focuses on the research process and its significance to nursing as a discipline and a profession. Students develop basic skills needed to utilize research findings toward evidence-based practices in nursing. The emphasis is on critiquing published nursing research, promoting student understanding of their role as a discriminating consumer of research and utilizing research for continuous quality improvement in nursing practice and related areas. The course incorporates content related to ethical, cultural and collaboration issues in health care research.

**NUR 4360****Nursing Leadership and Management****3 (3:0)**

This course focuses on the role of the professional nurse as a leader and manager in a changing healthcare delivery system. Leadership and management theory is applied to clients at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care. Critical thinking, research and decision making in culturally diverse health care settings are discussed. Professional behaviors, economics of health care delivery, policy, ethical, legal and selected issues inherent in leadership and management are analyzed.

**Prerequisites:**

All NUR courses in semester 5, 6 and 7

**Co-requisites:**

NUR 4460 Clients with Disruptions of Health II

**NUR 4360RN****Nursing Leadership and Management for the RN****3 (3:0)**

This course focuses on the role of the professional nurse as a leader and manager in a changing healthcare delivery system. Leadership and management theory is applied to clients at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of care. Critical thinking, research and decision making in culturally diverse health care settings are discussed. Professional

behaviors, economics of health care delivery, policy, ethical, legal and selected issues inherent in leadership and management are analyzed.

**NUR 4420****Care of the Older Adult in the Community****3 (3:0)**

This course focuses on the essentials of nursing care of older adults. Students will explore the physiological, functional, cognitive, affective, cultural, ethical and social aspects of the aging process. Research and theoretical perspectives related to nursing management of selected aspects of aging will be examined. Strategies to enhance health aging will be explored.

**NUR 4460****Clients with Disruptions of Health II****5 (3:2:6)**

This course builds on the knowledge and skills developed in previous nursing courses, especially Clients with Disruptions of Health I, which focuses on nursing and collaborative care of clients in the acute care setting. The students will study the practice of professional nursing for clients with complex health problems. Clinical settings at the secondary and tertiary levels of care may include the acute care setting, outpatient setting, long-term setting or home care setting.

**Prerequisite:**

All NUR courses in semesters 5, 6 and 7

**Co-requisites:**

NUR 4360 Nursing Leadership and Management

**NUR 4470****Professional Role Transition****5 (1:4:12)**

This course is designed to provide the student with an in-depth mentored experience within a mutually agreed upon field of nursing practice. The focus of the clinical practice is centered on the use of the nursing process and refinement and of clinical skills in the delivery of quality nursing care

for individuals, families, groups and communities. This experience also fosters professional socialization through the process of self-evaluation of personal and professional goals.

**Prerequisites:**

All NUR courses in semesters 5, 6 and 7

NUR 4360 Nursing Leadership and Management

NUR 4460 Clients with Disruptions of Health II

**NUR 4910 Special Topics**

**Elective** **1-2 (1-2:0)**

Topics to be announced

**NUR 4950**

**Independent Study in Nursing** **1-3**

The student has the opportunity to select a special topic for in-depth study. The student is responsible for identification of objectives, implementation of methodology and criteria for evaluation.

**Prerequisite:**

Consent of West Suburban College of Nursing Dean

**NUR 5000**

**Nurse Refresher Course** **6(4:2:7)**

This RN refresher course entails the review of basic nursing practice and prepares the individual to take the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX). The course consists of three components, didactic learning, skills laboratory and clinical practice. This course is modeled on the guidelines by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) for remedial / refresher education needs. This course includes a clinical and a lab.

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## GRADUATE NURSING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**Course**

**Credits Code**

(Theory credit: Clinical/Lab credit:  
Clinical/Lab contact hours)

**NRG 5000**

**Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice** **3(3:0)**

This course offers a critique and evaluation of nursing and other relevant theories and concepts from the social, behavioral, organizational and biological sciences related to nursing practice. Content incorporates the process of theory development from an historical perspective as well as an application of knowledge of selected nursing theories and frameworks. Emphasis is placed on evaluating the usefulness of theory and the relationship to evidenced based nursing practice.

**NRG 5002**

**Health Care Delivery** **3(3:0)**

This course surveys health care services across the health care continuum. The impact of health care policy, organization of health care delivery systems and health care economics and finance are explored. Quality improvement and the use of informatics and risk reduction strategies in health care are included.

**NRG 5003**

**Nursing Research** **3(3:0)**

The focus of this course is on the critique of published nursing research with an overview of the research process and interpretation of statistical methods. The application of research findings to evidence-based practice in nursing and health care will be emphasized.

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:**

NRG 5004 Statistics

**NRG 5004**  
**Statistics** **3(3:0)**

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The focus of this course is on the use of statistical analyses commonly used in the health sciences. Topics covered include statistical concepts and methods of descriptive and inferential statistics, including selected parametric and nonparametric statistical tests.

**NRG 5101**  
**Advanced Health/Physical Assessment** **3(2:1:2)**

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This course is the study and practice of assessment skills with a focus on differentiation and interpretation of normal and abnormal findings. Selected laboratory techniques are included. The laboratory component of the course provides the opportunity to practice assessment techniques and interpret clinical findings. Includes simulation laboratory practice.

**NRG 5102**  
**Advanced Pathophysiology** **3(3:0)**

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Pathophysiological content at the cellular, tissue, and systems levels is related to alterations in cellular homeostasis in humans. Cellular dynamics, bodily defense mechanisms and organ system mechanisms are explored. Prototypical illnesses are used to illustrate pathologic concepts.

**NRG 5103**  
**Advanced Pharmacology** **3(3:0)**

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The study of the pharmacotherapeutics of select drug groups, special populations and client considerations across the adult life span. The pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs are reviewed. Biochemical and physiological mechanisms of drug actions are discussed.

**NRG 5201**  
**Informatics** **3(3:0)**

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This on-line course focuses on developing and understanding concepts relevant to health care informatics, the use of computerized health information systems and applications that support clinical and administrative decision making.

**NRG 5204**  
**Economics & Finance** **3(3:0)**

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Analysis and evaluation of economic theory, principles and procedures applicable to the health care delivery system. Survey of financial concepts related to health care administration for nurse managers providing an understanding of cost analysis, project management, operational and strategic planning, and forecasting techniques. Policy information and implications are discussed.

**NRG 5205**  
**Dynamics of Communication** **3(3:0)**

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This course explores the social psychology and dynamics of the communication process. Concepts related to best practices and effective communication in health care will be examined.

**NRG 5301**  
**Clinical Nurse Specialist I** **3(3:0)**

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This course focuses on selected common acute and chronic health care problems in the adult in the acute care setting. Illness management, health promotion, and risk reduction are integrated into the care plan using clinical decision making strategies. Interpretation of diagnostic data and treatment protocols through evidenced-based practice research are studied in relation to the given disease entity to refine critical thinking skills. The role of the CNS and the sub-roles of expert clinician and educator are explored.

**Prerequisites:**

- NRG 5101 Advance Health/Physical Assessment  
(may also be taken as a co-requisite)
- NRG 5102 Advanced Pathophysiology
- NRG 5103 Advanced Pharmacology

**NRG 5302****Clinical Nurse Specialist II 3(3:0)**

This course focuses on selected common acute and chronic health care problems in the adult in rehabilitative, outpatient, home, and community settings. The focus of care concentration is on the diagnosis and interpretation of appropriate diagnostic data, in collaboration with other health care members to provide treatment protocols through evidence-based practice and case management of clients. Quality care, human and organizational factors that affect resource management, cost and health promotion activities that reduce risk behaviors. The sub-roles of clinical consultant and change agent are explored.

**Prerequisite:**

- NRG 5301 Clinical Nurse Specialist I

**NRG 5303****Clinical Nurse Specialist Residency (500 clock hours) 9(0:9:33)**

The CNS clinical residency provides the student with specific projects and clinical experiences for implementation of the role of the clinical nurse specialist in a variety of adult medical-surgical clinical settings. Experiences in the sub-roles of expert clinician, educator, consultant, researcher, change agent and leader will be integrated throughout the experience. Each student will select a practice area for development of clinical practice expertise. Integrative clinical seminars will be included with clinical time. Variable credit per semester until clinical hours are completed.

**Prerequisites:**

- NRG 5301 Clinical Nurse Specialist I
- NRG 5302 Clinical Nurse Specialist II

**NRG 5401****Clinical Nurse Leader I 3(3:0)**

This course focuses on the leadership role of the CNL. Content includes role analysis, effective use of self, lateral integration of care, advocacy and team coordination. The team coordination role is explored to include delegation and conflict resolution, principles and practices. The course provides the theoretical basis for the CNL to plan, delegate, and coordinate evidenced based care for specific groups of patients and to coordinate team patient care.

**Prerequisites:**

- NRG 5101 Advanced Health/Physical Assessment  
(may also be taken as a co-requisite)
- NRG 5102 Advanced Pathophysiology
- NRG 5103 Advanced Pharmacology

**NRG 5402****Clinical Nurse Leader II 3(3:0)**

The course provides the foundation for illness/disease management of patients integrating theories and principles of advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology and health assessment. Evidence-based practice guidelines and protocols to reduce risks and effectively manage patients will be discussed for refinement of critical thinking skills. The content provides the theoretical basis to manage, coach, and coordinate care of patients with acute and chronic health problems across a continuum. Quality improvement, risk reduction and the advocacy role of the CNL will be explored.

**Prerequisite:**

- NRG 5401 Clinical Nurse Leader I

**NRG 5403****Clinical Nurse Leader Residency (400 clinical clock hours) 7(0:7:40)**

The 10 week full-time residency will provide the student with a clinical immersion experience for implementation of the role of the clinical nurse leader. Ten weeks of 40 hrs/week equals 400 clinical clock hours. Integrative clinical seminars are included with clinical time.

**Prerequisites:**

NRG 5401 Clinical Nurse Leader I

NRG 5402 Clinical Nurse Leader II

**NRG 5501****Human Resources Management 3(3:0)**

This course explores the knowledge and skills required for effective human resource management. Coaching, motivating, relationship building and collaboration, performance appraisal and measurement, organizational development, self and career management will be taught and practiced in simulated scenarios.

**NRG 5502****Strategic Planning & Financial Management 3(3:0)**

This course examines theories, models, principles and best practices related to strategic planning, marketing, staffing, financial management budgeting and benchmarking to facilitate managerial decision-making.

**NRG 5503****Quality, Utilization, & Outcomes Management 3(3:0)**

This course explores theories and methods related to utilization and outcomes management for quality improvement in health care, including improvement science, patient safety and approaches, health care research, and evidence-based practice and translation research.

**NRG 5504****Health Care Systems Practicum & Integrative Seminar 4(1:3:15)**

This online and practicum course provides an environment where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care system area of focus under the direction of a qualified nurse executive. The required practicum hours per week include 15 hours. An understanding in system structures, processes, and outcomes is gained through practical experiences, personal reflections, and seminar discussions. (225 practicum clock hours).

**Prerequisites:**

NRG 5201 Informatics

NRG 5204 Economics & Finance

NRG 5205 Dynamics of Communication

NRG 5501 Human Resources Management

NRG 5502 Strategic Planning & Financial Management

NRG 5503 Quality, Utilization & Outcomes Management

**NRG 5601****Clinical Management for Nurse Educators 3(2:1:4)**

This course focuses on selected common acute and chronic health problems found throughout the body systems. Illness management, health promotion and risk reduction are integrated into the care plan using critical thinking and clinical decision making strategies. Each student will select a practice area for clinical development for a total of 56 clock hours during the semester.

**NRG 5602****Teaching/Learning in Nursing Education 3(3:0)**

Focus on selected teaching and learning theories with application to nursing education. Examine adult learning concepts with teaching strategies and tools that facilitate their learning styles. Innovative classroom and clinical teaching strategies, trends and issues in nursing education including technology and the role of the nurse educator will be explored.

**NRG 5603**  
**Curriculum Development in Nursing Education** **3(3:0)**

The curriculum development process will be the focus of this course including an examination of the history of curricula development in nursing education. Innovative approaches to nursing curricula will be explored including creative techniques for web-enhanced and online course development.

**NRG 5604**  
**Evaluation and Testing in Nursing Education** **3(3:0)**

This course will focus on classroom and clinical assessment techniques; test development; interpreting test results; philosophical, ethical issues in testing and measurement; and applications to nursing education. Promoting and measuring critical thinking skills in nursing education will be explored.

**NRG 5605**  
**Practicum in Nursing Education** **3(0:3:11)**

Guided practice in classroom and clinical instruction with a nurse faculty preceptor for nine hours/week for a total of 168 practicum hours. Students will choose their clinical specialty area for the practicum.

**Prerequisites:**

- NRG 5601 Clinical Management for Nurse Educators
- NRG 5602 Teaching/Learning in Nursing Education
- NRG 5603 Curriculum Development in Nursing Education
- NRG 5604 Evaluation and Testing in Nursing Education

**NRG 5801**  
**Leadership Roles/Management Functions in Nursing** **3(3:0)**

This survey course of advanced leadership and management concepts will prepare the beginning advanced practice nurse to assume introductory level management roles. Information from nursing, health care, general administration and management, and leadership literature will be

incorporated. Topics will include: work place issues, entrepreneurship, culture, power, influence, politics, policy and the five basic functions of management, e.g. planning, organizing, implementation for human resources and fiscal management and evaluation across a variety of settings.

**NRG 5802**  
**Professional Communication** **3(3:0)**

The course will cover oral and written communication for professional success to include advanced use of Power Point presentations, graphics and sound for oral presentations and business briefs, information papers, writing for publication, and research studies for written communication. Use of the Internet to facilitate individual and group communication will also be presented.

**NRG 5803**  
**Data Management** **3(3:0)**

This course will cover design, implementation and evaluation of data base applications to facilitate leadership and management decisions in the health care arena.

**NRG 5805**  
**Special Topics** **1(1:0)**

This course provides a survey and analysis of selected issues in healthcare. Content varies according to the topic chosen by the faculty. Topics offered will include: legal, ethics, health policy and diversity issues in health care. Topics vary by semester.

**NRG 5900**  
**Independent Study in Nursing** **1-3(1-3:0)**

In-depth study of various topics relevant to nursing administration, education and clinical practice areas.

As a culminating experience, this scholarly project provides the student with the opportunity to complete a synthesis component of their graduate education. The student will complete one of the following scholarly activities under the guidance of a faculty advisor: 1) research project, 2) evaluation project, 3) evidence-based practice protocol, 4) educational project, and 5) grant application. One credit hour may be repeated times four until successful project completion.

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## LEGAL POLICY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to review education records within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access. Students should identify the record(s) they wish to inspect in written requests submitted to the Registrar's Office, the Dean or other appropriate official. The college official will make arrangements for access and will notify the student of when and where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the College official to whom the request was submitted, that official will advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
2. The right to request the amendment of an education record that the student believes is inaccurate. Students may ask the college to amend such a record by writing the college official responsible for the record, clearly identifying the part of the record they want changed and specifying why it is inaccurate. If the college decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the college will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information

regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when he or she is notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the college in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law-enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the college has contracted (such as an attorney, an auditor, or a collection agent); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Another exception to this right is directory information. FERPA designates certain information related to students as directory information and gives the college the right to disclose such information to anyone who requests it without having to ask students for permission, unless the student specifically requests in writing that all such information not be made public without his or her written consent. The following items are considered directory information: student's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, photographs, major field of study, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, most recent previous education agency or institution attended by the student, class (year in school), activities, and current enrollment status. Currently enrolled students may withhold directory information by notifying the Registrar's Office in writing anytime within a semester of enrollment. Requests for nondisclosure will be honored by the college until the student submits a signed authorization requesting that it be removed.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by West Suburban College of Nursing to

comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is as follows:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of West Suburban College of Nursing not to exclude, expel, limit, or otherwise discriminate against an individual seeking admission as a student or an individual enrolled as a student in the terms, conditions and privileges of West Suburban College of Nursing because of sex, creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin or disability.

In keeping with its mission and in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, West Suburban College of Nursing promotes an environment of respect and support for individuals with disabilities. The three recognized categories of individuals with disabilities are:

1. Individuals with a physical and/or a mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
2. Individuals with a record of physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
3. Individuals who are regarded as having such an impairment, whether they have it or not.

(Major life activities include caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, ambulating, seeing, hearing, breathing, learning, and working.)

The faculty, having determined that nursing is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective and psychomotor requirements, has adopted the list of Functional Abilities Essential for Competent Nursing Practice developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. Thus, the applicant or student, with or without reasonable accommodation, must

have the following abilities at the time of application and maintain them throughout the duration of the program.

It is the policy of West Suburban College of Nursing to make available such reasonable accommodations on behalf of individuals as may be required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, or other applicable law. To that end, any applicant, student, or other individual who believes that a reasonable accommodation is necessary to permit such applicant, student, or other individual to seek admission, enroll, or otherwise participate in any course or program is invited and encouraged to contact the College for the purpose of discussing such possible reasonable accommodation.

Examples include but are not limited to:

### **Gross motor skills**

- Move within confined spaces
- Sit, stand and maintain balance
- Reach above shoulders and below waist

### **Fine motor skills**

- Pick up objects with hands
- Grasp small objects with hands
- Write with pen or pencil
- Key type, using computer

### **Physical strength**

- Push, pull, support, and lift 25 pounds
- Defend self against combative client
- Perform CPR (use of upper-body strength)
- Move equipment
- Carry supplies

### **Mobility**

- Twist
- Bend
- Move quickly
- Walk

### **Hearing**

- Hear normal speaking levels

- Hear faint body sounds
- Hear auditory alarms
- Hear in situations in which masks are used

### **Sight**

- See objects up to 20 inches away
- See objects more than 20 feet away
- Use depth perception
- Use peripheral vision
- Distinguish colors and color intensities

### **Touch**

- Palpate pulses
- Detect temperature
- Feel differences in surface characteristics

### **Smell**

- Detect odors
- Detect smoke
- Detect gases

### **Reading**

- Read and understand written documents

### **Arithmetic competence**

- Read digital displays
- Calibrate equipment
- Convert numbers to and from metric system
- Tell time
- Use measuring tools
- Count rates
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers and fractions
- Use a calculator
- Record numbers accurately

### **Emotional stability**

- Establish therapeutic boundaries

- Provide client with emotional support
- Adapt to stressful environments
- Deal with unexpected events
- Focus attention
- Handle strong emotions
- Perform multiple activities concurrently

### **Analytic thinking**

- Transfer knowledge from one situation to another
- Process information accurately
- Evaluate outcomes
- Prioritize tasks
- Use short-term and long-term memory

### **Critical thinking**

- Identify cause-and-effect relationships
- Plan and control activities for others
- Synthesize knowledge
- Sequence information

### **Interpersonal skills**

- Negotiate interpersonal conflicts
- Respect differences in clients and coworkers
- Establish rapport with clients and coworkers

### **Communication skills**

- Teach
- Give and explain information
- Speak on the telephone
- Direct activities of others
- Convey information in writing and orally

*[Yocom, C. J. (1996). Validation study: Functional abilities essential for nursing practice. Chicago: National Council of State Boards of Nursing.]*

Individuals seeking admission, progression to clinical courses and graduation from the College must be able to meet the physical and emotional requirements of the academic program. Individuals who pose a direct threat to the safety and welfare of others or to that of themselves

may be denied admission, progression or graduation. The College's individualized assessment of an applicant's or a student's threat to the safety and welfare of self or others will be based on current medical evidence or on the best-available objective evidence that assesses the nature, duration and severity of the risk as well as the probability that injury will occur.

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## COMMUNITY

The Village of Oak Park, a community more than 150 years old, boasts many famous citizens, including Ernest Hemingway and Frank Lloyd Wright. The

Oak Park Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places and maintained by the National Park Service of the United States under the Department of the Interior, features more than 200 homes and public buildings designed by Wright and other Prairie School architects. Wright's home is included in the district. Downtown Oak Park and the Avenue-Lake Plaza district provide shops, restaurants, and other facilities convenient to the College campus.

Within easy walking distance of the College is the Oak Park station of the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) elevated train system. Here students can board the "El" to travel into Chicago's downtown "Loop" or to the Harlem Avenue station, where they can board the Chicago and Northwestern commuter train, which leads to the western suburbs and downtown Chicago.

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## 2006-2007 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

### FALL SEMESTER 2006

Monday, August 13	Faculty Return
Wednesday, August 22	Faculty Clinical Day
Thursday & Friday, August 23 & 24	Late Registration
Friday, August 24	Orientation for New Students
Saturday, August 25	New Student Family Orientation
Monday, August 27	Fall Semester Classes Begin
Monday, August 27	Convocation
Friday, August 31	Last Day to Add/Drop a First 7-Week Class without Penalty
Monday, September 3	Labor Day Holiday (No Classes), College Closed
Friday, September 14	Census Day
Friday, September 21	Last Day to Withdraw from First 7-week Fall Semester Classes
Friday, October 12	First 7-Week Classes End
Monday thru Wed. October 15-17	Final Exam days for First 7-Week Classes
Thursday, October 18	Final Grades Due by 4:30 pm for First 7-Week Classes

Thursday & Friday, October 18 & 19	Mid-term Break for Students (No Classes)
Monday, October 22	Second 7-Week Classes Begin
Friday, October 26	Last day to Add/Drop a Second 7-Week Class without Penalty
Monday thru Friday, November 5-9	Class Registration for Continuing Students for Spring 2008
Friday, November 16	Last Day to Withdraw from all Fall Semester Classes
Monday thru Friday, Nov. 19-30	New Student Class Registration
Thur & Friday, November 22 & 23	Thanksgiving Holiday, (No Classes), College Closed
Friday, December 7	Second 7-Week Classes End
Mon thru Wed, December 10-12	Final Exam Days for Second 7-Week Classes
Thursday, December 13	Final Grades Due by 4:30 pm for Second 7-Week Classes
Friday, December 15	Fall Semester Closes
Saturday, December 15	Graduation Ceremony
December 17-January 11	Semester Break
Monday, December 24	Christmas Eve Holiday, College Closed
Tuesday, December 25	Christmas Holiday, College Closed
Monday, December 31	New Year's Eve Holiday, College Closed

### SPRING SEMESTER 2008

Tuesday, January 1	New Year's Holiday, College Closed
Thursday, January 8	Faculty Return
Thursday & Friday, January 10 & 11	Late Registration
Friday, January 11	Orientation for New Students
Saturday, January 12	New Student Family Orientation
Monday, January 14	Spring Semester Classes Begin
Friday, January 18	Last Day to Add/Drop or Register for Classes
Monday, January 21	Martin Luther King Holiday, (No Classes), College Closed
Friday, February 1	Census Day

Friday, February 8	Last Day to Withdraw from First 7-Week Spring Semester Classes
Mon thru Wed, March 3-5	Final Exam days for First 7-Week Classes
Thursday, March 6	Final Grades Due by 5:00 pm for First 7-Week Classes
Thurs & Friday, March 6-7	No Classes
Mon thru Fri, March 10 - 14	Spring Break (No Classes)
Friday, March 14	Spring Break Day, College Closed
Monday, March 17	Second 7-Week Classes Begin
Thursday, March 20	Last day to Add/Drop a Second 7-Week Class without Penalty
Friday, March 21	Spring Break/Good Friday, (No Classes), College Closed
Friday, April 4	Last Day to Withdraw from all Spring Semester Classes
Mon thru Fri, April 7-11	Class Registration for Continuing Students for Summer and Fall 2008
Mon thru Fri, April 21-25	New Student Class Registration
Friday, May 2	Second 7-Week Classes End
Mon thru Wed, May 5-7	Final Exam Days for Second 7-Week Classes
Thursday, May 8	Final Grades Due by 4:30 pm for Second 7-Week Classes
Friday, May 9	Spring Semester Closes
Saturday, May 10	Graduation Ceremony

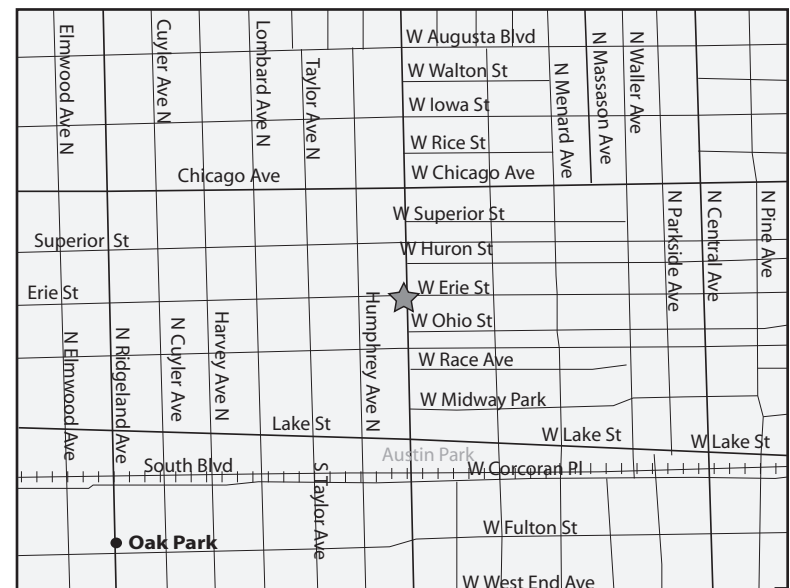
### SUMMER SESSION 2008

Monday, May 19	Summer Session One/First Class Day
Friday, May 23	Last Day to Add/Drop or Register
Monday, May 26	Memorial Day Holiday, (No Classes), College Closed
Friday, June 27	Finals/Summer Session One Ends
Monday, June 30	Final Grades due 8:00 am
Monday, June 30	First Class Day/Summer Session Two
Friday, July 4	Independence Day Holiday, (No Classes), College Closed

Friday, August 8	Final/Summer Session Two Ends
Monday, August 18	Final Grades Due 8:00 am

## DIRECTIONS TO WEST SUBURBAN COLLEGE OF NURSING

The College is located at the West Suburban Medical Center complex in Oak Park. Take the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) to the Austin exit (a left exit). Turn north on Austin. Continue on Austin until just past the medical center which is on the left. Turn west on Erie. Parking is available in the free parking garage. Access to the college is through the entrance of the medical center, across the street from the parking garage.



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## DISCLAIMER

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## NOTES

