



**COLLEGE OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**
George Mason University®

BSN Information Session



Traditional BSN Program for
Incoming Freshmen Students

College of Public Health Undergraduate Admissions Team

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Agenda

Presentation (30-40 minutes)

- Program Background
- Eligibility Guidelines
- Application Process
- Admission Decisions
- Program Information

Q&A

Nursing, BSN

This program prepares students to deliver superior nursing care and provide leadership in nursing in the increasingly complex and challenging field of modern health care. The program emphasizes health promotion and disease prevention, capitalizing on early detection of potential health problems, health maintenance in ambulatory services, and preparation for the managerial responsibilities of nursing.

Nursing Programs

- Traditional BSN (Freshmen vs. Transfer/Current Mason Students)
- Accelerated Second Degree BSN
- RN to BSN
- Co-enrollment BSN

Why Mason's BSN Program?

State of the art facilities: Upgraded labs and classrooms in Peterson Family Health Sciences Hall

Prime Location

- Clinical Placements: include hospitals, community health, and school setting in Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia (Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties)
- Employment: More than 8,000 graduates nationwide as staff nurses in clinics, hospitals, schools, community health, health department, home health, and hospice settings

Exceptional Student Experience

- Virginia's largest public research university
- 1:8 faculty-to-student ratio in clinical settings
- High retention and low attrition rates
- BSN program offered for more than 50 years
- One of the largest BSN programs in Virginia
- One of the most diverse public universities in the country (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- Ranked #93 nationally and #70 among public institutions (*U.S. News & World Report*)

Cost-effective education: Public university with an in-state option

Faculty Strengths

Emphasis on Faculty Practice and Research

- **Workforce Development:** \$2.6 million grant in CDC and AmeriCorps partnership to help rebuild the nation's public health sector (*R. Sutter*)
- **Forensic Nursing:** \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice pairing forensic bruise analysis with machine learning (*Scafide*)
- **School Health:** \$150,000 partnership-building grant to create collaborative research activities that advance health equity in Virginia K-12 schools (*Maughan*)
- **Underserved Populations:** Mason and Partners (MAP) Clinics-students and faculty provide health care and social services (*R. Sutter*)
- **Mental Health:** The behavior health clinic in the Population Health Center is the only teaching clinic in the country for psychiatric medication management service that is affordable for all (*Eklou*)



VR & Simulation Lab

- More than 1,500 square feet of dedicated simulation/VR lab space
- VR extends beyond the lab and is portable to other classrooms and meeting spaces. Any space can be a VR lab
- Three state-of-the-art control rooms, each manages two simulation lab rooms



Interdisciplinary Learning Opportunities

- Standards-based simulation curriculum is integrated into course objectives to ensure a holistic learning experience
- The VR/Sim Lab will extend learning opportunities in areas such as OB/GYN, pediatrics, and gerontology
- High-fidelity VR simulators and augmented reality simulators

Traditional BSN (Direct Entry)

Important things to know:

- Competitive admissions process
- Admission is offered only once a year for the fall semester
- Limited enrollment is due to the available clinical spaces
- Meeting the eligibility guidelines does not guarantee admission
- Have an alternative or parallel path to achieve your goal

Direct Entry is for incoming freshmen ONLY and it is a four-year, full-time program.

BSN Program Information

Clinical Information

- Sites are located in Northern Virginia and D.C.
- Currently no Maryland sites
- Approximately 600 clinical hours completed in:
 - Medical Surgical
 - Long-Term Care
 - Obstetrics
 - Pediatrics
 - Community Health
 - Critical Care
 - Psychiatric Care
- School of Nursing schedules your clinical assignments

Direct Entry Application Process

- Applicants must apply by the **Non-Binding Early Action Deadline of November 1** as a degree-seeking, freshman student at George Mason University (can also apply through the CommonApp)
 - If students apply Regular Decision, they will only be considered on a space-available basis
 - *After fall 2025, applicants will not be considered for nursing if they apply Regular Decision*
- *If you're currently participating in dual-enrollment classes, you are still considered a freshman applicant*
- Specify Nursing as your intended major
- Additional application requirements will be included for you to complete to be considered for the Nursing Program
- **Connect with the Office of Admissions for more information on the Mason Application Process:**
 - <https://www.gmu.edu/admissions-aid>
 - admissions@gmu.edu
 - (703) 993-2000

Deadline Type	Date	Decisions Mail
Freshman Non-Binding Early Action Deadline	November 1	December 15
Freshman Regular Decision Deadline	February 1	Mid March

Direct Entry Application Process

Additional Application Requirements

- Students are required to respond to short answer prompts regarding: your interest in nursing, leadership experiences, overcoming obstacles, and diversity and inclusion

Evaluation Criteria for Admission

- 3.0 High School Cumulative GPA
- Science and Math Courses
- Nurse Preparation Courses or Programs
 - Knowledge and understanding of the nursing/medical field
- Leadership experiences and other experiential learning opportunities
- Responses to short answer prompts

The School of Nursing will only be looking at these requirements for admission into the program.



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***Admission decisions for the
nursing program will be
sent separately from your
university admission decision.***

***Admission to the university
does not mean you are
automatically admitted
into the nursing program.***

BSN Program Information

If not admitted, here are some common reasons for denial:

- Sheer volume: given the volume of applications received for the limited number of clinical spaces, other applicants presented stronger applications
- Performance in Science and Math courses
- High School GPA
- Lack of evidence in leadership and experiential learning opportunities
- Lack of thoughtful responses to the short answer prompts
- Lack of understanding of the nursing field

If not admitted, you will have another opportunity to apply to the nursing program after your first year at Mason.

Traditional BSN Curriculum for Direct Entry

George Mason University ♦ College of Health and Human Services

BSN NURSING – DIRECT PROGRAM PLANNING FORM

2022-2023 Catalog Year

Date _____ Student _____ G# _____

☐ Pending AP scores Course recommendations made without copies of transcripts/transfer equivalency worksheet.

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

Course	Credit	Course	Credit
*HHS 270 Applied Anatomy/Physiology or BIOL 124 Human Anatomy & Physiology	4	*HHS 271 Applied Anatomy/Physiology or BIOL 125 Human Anatomy & Physiology	4
ENGH 101 Composition	3	Literature	3
Global Understanding (<i>GCH 205 recommended</i>)	3	COMM 101 Fund. of Communication	3
NURS 103: Intro to Prof. Nursing	3	*STAT 250 Introductory Statistics I	3
UNIV 100/150 Intro to Mason	1	NURS 113 Population Health Nursing	3
Course	Credit	Course	Credit
*CHEM 103 Chem Science in a Modern Society	4	*PHIL 309 Bioethics	3
*PSYC 211 Developmental Psychology	3	NURS 215: Nursing Care: Community II	1
*NUTR 295 Introduction to Nutrition	3	NURS 241 Essentials of Nursing Practice	3
*BIOL 246 Intro Microbiology	3	NURS 244 Essentials of Nursing Practice	2
*BIOL 306 Bio of Microorganisms Lab	1	NURS 243 Hlth Assessment for Nurs Prac	3
NURS 214 Nursing Care: Community I	1	NURS 240 Pharmacology for Nursing Practice	3

Traditional BSN Curriculum for Direct Entry

Course	Credit	Course	Credit
NURS 300 Nursing Care: Adults I	2	NURS 400 Nursing Care: Adults I	2
NURS 306 Clinical Mgmt: Adults I	2	NURS 406: Clinical Mgmt: Adults II	2
NURS 311 Nurs Care: Mental Hlth & Well Being	2	NURS 320 Nursing Care: Women & Childbearing Fam	2
NURS 314 Clin Manage: Mental Hlth & Well Being	2	NURS 324 Clin Mgmt: Women & Childbearing Fam	2
NURS 315: Nursing Care: Community III	1	NURS 316 Nursing Care: Community IV	1
Information Technology & Computing core	3	HAP 360 Into to Health Info Systems	3
ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	3	GCH 300 Introduction to Public Health	3
Course	Credit	Course	Credit
NURS 331 Nursing Care: Child & Adolescents	2	NURS 413 Transition to Practice (Preceptorship)	3
NURS 335 Clin Mgmt: Child & Adolescents	2	NURS 470 Clinical Reasoning (NCLEX Prep)	3
NURS 450 Evidence Based Practice in Nursing	3	NURS 480 Professional Issues in Nursing	3
NURS 460 Leadership in Nursing	3	NURS 490 Health Policy & Advocacy	3
HIST 100 West Civ or HIST 125 World Hist	3	Arts core	3
Elective (Nursing)	3		

Academic Progression Policy & Grading Standards

Cumulative GPA of 2.5 each semester to progress

- If lower than 2.5, you will have one semester to bring GPA back to 2.5 or will be ineligible to continue in the program

Must have at least a C in all nursing prerequisite courses and Mason Core

- No more than one (1) nursing prerequisite course can be repeated due to unsuccessful completion

Must have at least a C+ or higher in Nursing classes/S for Satisfactory

- If you receive lower than a C+ in a class, you have one chance to retake the course and will not be able to take Nursing classes the following semester
- If you receive lower than a C+ in more than one class, you are ineligible to progress in the program

NURS classes must be taken in their respective semesters; cannot take courses earlier

Other Undergraduate Programs in CPH

Majors

- Community Health
- Health Administration and Policy
- Health Informatics
- Social Work
- Nutrition

Minors

- Aging Studies
- Food Systems
- Nutrition
- Public Health
- Global Health
- Physical Activity in Public Health
- Health Information Technology
- Health and Social Policy
- Health Systems Management
- Health, Disease, and Culture
- Senior Housing Administration
- Social Work

Accelerated Masters Programs

Earn a Masters Degree quicker with an Accelerated Masters Program

These programs allow you to streamline the application process with no GRE requirement. It gives you the ability to take 6 credits of graduate courses as an undergrad that will double count towards the bachelor's degree and the master's degree.

Health Administration, BS/Health Systems Management MHA

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Health Informatics, MS

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Nutrition, MS

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Public Health, MPH

Advanced Standing MSW Program

- Eligible for students who complete Mason's BSW program
- Allows students to skip MSW generalization year and move directly into specialization year

College of Public Health Learning Community

- For students admitted into the nursing program OR enrolled in another CPH major
- Opportunity to live and study together
- UNIV 150: 1-credit course complete during the first semester of your freshman year
- If interested, apply when you complete your housing application through the Housing and Residence Life Office

Student Advising in CPH

Freshmen and Transfer students will meet advisors during orientation to be advised for their first semester of enrollment. Once enrolled, all students should initiate a meeting with their advisor at least once a semester.

Holistic Advising

- Course selections each semester
- Ensure degree completion
- Connect students with important Mason resources
- Educate students on Mason academic policies
- Receive personal, academic, and professional advising
- Advising is offered both in-person and online

Experiential Learning

We partner with more than 400 agencies, NGOs, non-profits, health care facilities, and corporations to provide all students with hands-on experience in their field of study. Internships and practicum opportunities help students develop the skills employers are seeking including leadership, problem-solving, and communication-in addition to the specialized training required.

- **Mason and Partners Clinics** – Free clinics for uninsured community members, students from many majors can participate and gain clinical experience
- **Practicum and Internship Opportunities** – Mason is located just outside of Washington, D.C., offering countless opportunities to gain experience in a range of fields and organizations
- **Study Abroad:**
 - Botswana (HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care)
 - Peru (Maternal and Child Health)
 - Kenya (Zoonotic Disease, Food and Nutrition Security)
 - Mongolia (Zoonotic Disease)
 - Equatorial Guinea (Zoonotic Disease)

Scholarships

Once students are admitted to the BSN Program, they will be eligible to apply for scholarships within the School of Nursing. For more information, visit: <https://publichealth.gmu.edu/students/scholarships>

Involvement Opportunities

- College of Public Health Student Organizations
 - Student Nurses Association (SNA)
 - Social Work Student Association (SWSA)
- Other Health-Related Mason Organizations
 - AcademyHealth Student Chapter
 - Active Minds
 - Best Buddies
 - MEDLIFE
 - MedX Global
 - Multicultural Association of Pre-Health Students (MAPS)
 - Patriots for Health Assistance
 - Student Health Advisory Board
- Honor Societies
- Clubs
- Professional Organizations
- Intramural and Club Sports
- Student Leadership (Patriot Leaders, Mason Ambassadors, Student Government)
- For a full list, visit <https://mason360.gmu.edu/>

What can I do now?

- Learn about nursing programs, different pathways into nursing, and other health care careers
- Take advantage of your high school curriculum
- Discover and participate in experiential learning opportunities:
 - Clubs/Organizations
 - Volunteer Experience
 - Work Experience
 - Health Care Experience
 - Research Opportunities
 - Honors and Awards
 - Study Abroad
- Consider Licensure and Certifications
 - CPR (American Heart Association – BLS for Healthcare Providers)
 - CNA
 - LPN
 - EMT
 - Medical Assisting
- Connect with the Office of Student Affairs in the College of Public Health
- Connect with the Mason Office of Admissions
- FINISH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER AND ENJOY IT!



Stay Connected with CPH

- On the web: <https://nursing.gmu.edu/>
- Information Sessions: <https://nursing.gmu.edu/admissions/information-sessions>
- Online Hours for Prospective Students: <https://gmu.zoom.us/j/97972840868?pwd=R2Q4bExmbVA5eDBqd3BXN2pRZz09>
- Upcoming Admission Events: <https://events.admissions.gmu.edu>
- Email cph@gmu.edu OR bsnapps@gmu.edu

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