

## General Information

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### ***Pacific Union College is:***

- A Christian liberal arts college
- A fully accredited four-year college
- Ranked among the top ten western regional liberal arts colleges in the *U.S. News and World Report*
- A 200-acre campus that overlooks the beautiful Napa Valley

Pacific Union College has been educating nursing students since 1958 when it first established the Associate of Science degree in Nursing. The RN-to-BSN program began in 1981 at the Los Angeles Campus at the White Memorial Medical Center. The AS degree pre-licensure program is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, and both the AS and BSN programs are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, INC. (ACEN). <sup>1</sup>

## The RN-to-BSN Program

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**Curriculum:** A description of the RN to BSN program, degree requirements, and curriculum is available at: <http://www.puc.edu/academics/degrees-programs> - select documents NHSC-06 and A-06. Students select courses in consultation with a nursing faculty advisor.

### ***Campus Locations and Resources:***

- Pacific Union College Campus, Angwin, CA - Full-time or part-time options

**Program designed for the working nurse:** The RN to BSN Program at Pacific Union College is designed for the registered nurse who has an associate degree in nursing. The program has been developed to meet the needs of the individual who must work while pursuing an education. Full-time and part-time options are available.

Classes are developed on adult learning principles and tailored for interactive learning experiences. On the Angwin campus, classes are scheduled in concentrated core week sessions during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> week of each quarter. Students schedule their clinical hours for the two courses requiring practicums during the four weeks following each core week, for a total of eight clinical weeks each quarter. With pre-approval, clinical experiences may be arranged at local agencies.

**Full-time:** Student can take this program and work full time. They will take 17 units per quarter; BSN requirements may be fulfilled in 3 (11-week) quarters or one academic year.

**Part-time:** This option is open to students eligible for RN licensure who would like to take less credits each quarter. Practicum hours are usually completed the second year. At a part-time pace, BSN and general education requirements can be completed 5 (11-week) quarters or 18 months.

**Several starting dates per year:** New students may be admitted to the program at the beginning of each of the three quarters that make up the academic year: September, January, March/April

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<sup>1</sup> ACEN, 3343 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 850, Atlanta GA 30326; (404) 975-5000. [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org)

### Application Deadlines

For all programs, applications are considered on a rolling admission and will be reviewed in time. Students will begin the following quarter and advised at that time.

### Admissions Process

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- \_\_\_A. Apply to the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences (see application form to follow)
- \_\_\_B. Submit all high school and/or college transcripts to the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences. Transcripts must document the successful completion of an AS degree in nursing and required cognates. Records Office staff review transcripts to determine appropriate credit (see Transcript Analysis).

*Notification of admissions committee decision will be in writing from the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences.*

### Clinical Clearance Requirements for BSN Degree Nursing Students (Initial and Ongoing)

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The following items are required of all BSN Degree Nursing Students in order to obtain clinical clearance. *Submit all documentation to CastleBranch. (See - CastleBranch)*

1. **Health Clearance:** (see - *Health Clearance Requirements for all Nursing Students*) at: [www.puc.edu/academics/departments/nursing/degrees-programs](http://www.puc.edu/academics/departments/nursing/degrees-programs).
2. **HealthStream Educational Modules:** Purchase and complete the required HealthStream modules prior to the start of the first clinical course and annually thereafter. (See - HealthStream)
3. **CPR for Healthcare Professionals:** Current card showing completion of an American Heart Association *Basic Life Support Provider (BLS Class)*.
4. **Background Check and Drug Screen:** A clear background check and clear drug screen are required of all students entering the program. Screenings are completed through CastleBranch.
5. **Current RN License**
6. **Professional Liability Insurance:**
  - a. You will need RN-level coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000/6,000,000.
  - b. Coverage is available through the Nurses Service Organization (800-247-1500; [www.nso.com](http://www.nso.com)). Coverage may also be available through your own Insurance vendor.
  - c. Be sure to request a Certificate of Insurance be sent to the NHS office (FAX 707-965-6499). Keep a copy showing the policy number for your own records.

### Criminal Background Check and Drug Screen

All students are required to undergo a criminal background check and drug screen prior to participating in required clinical experiences.<sup>2</sup> Both the criminal background check and the drug screen must be completed satisfactorily as determined by the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences prior to beginning any clinical experience. Students are responsible for all costs associated with criminal background check and drug screen. Students must further agree that all results are available to the program and the clinical sites associated with the program. Should a clinical agency refuse to place a student based on the outcome of either the background check or the drug screen, the Program has no responsibility for arranging alternate clinical placements.

**Criminal Background Check:** Students must clear a criminal background check before finalizing admission to the nursing program. Failure to undergo the background check will result in dismissal from the program. If the background check indicates criminal behavior the student may be dismissed from the program. Students may appeal the decision and will have the opportunity to present information to dispute the background check. Determination by the Department that a student has passed the criminal background check does not guarantee that every clinical facility will accept this assessment and allow the student to participate in clinical experiences. A student who has a gap in continuous enrollment in the program may be required to undergo another criminal background check prior to readmission into the program.

**Drug Screen:** Students must clear a urine drug test before finalizing admission to the nursing program. Failure to undergo the drug test will result in dismissal from the program. If the student fails the test, the student will not be admitted to the program. If a student contests the results of a test, the student has the right to request that the sample be retested at a second location (provided that the request is made and the second drug test is completed within seven (7) days after the results of the failed test).

**Readmission:** Should the Department obtain evidence of criminal behavior and/or drug use after a student has been cleared for admission into the program, the student may be dismissed from the program. Readmission into the program may be considered in the sole discretion of the Department if a subsequent background check shows a clear record, or the student follows a treatment plan developed in collaboration with Student Health Services and the Career & Counseling Center, and clears subsequent random urine drug testing.

### Transcript Analysis

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The graduation analyst evaluates transcripts to determine appropriate credit for courses already completed.

A maximum of 108 quarter-units with up to 57 credits in nursing may be transferred from a community college. Any credits exceeding 108 must be taken at PUC or other four-year college or university. PUC places no time restriction on courses previously completed.

Pacific Union College is on the quarter system with three quarters during the academic year. Two semester units of credit are equivalent to three quarter units. For questions regarding transfer credit or graduation requirements, contact the graduation analyst in the Records Office (1-800-862-7080, opt. 2) or (707)965-6678.

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<sup>2</sup> Further information about obtaining the required background check and urine screening is provided upon admission to the designated program.

## Financial Information

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### *How can I meet the cost of the BSN program?*

- Employer reimbursement
  - Many hospitals have educational benefits. PUC will assist you in documenting enrollment for reimbursement purposes.
- Financial aid options
  - FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Apply on line at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>
- Grants/Loans - based on completed FAFSA
  - Cal Grant
  - Pell Grant
  - Federal Stafford Loan
- Other loan programs - non PUC
  - No FAFSA required
  - Alternative Loans (credit based)

### *What happens to my PUC financial package if I fail or withdraw from a class?*

- Stay in close communication with your financial advisor with any changes in your plans once you have started the program.
- Any failures (less than passing grade) in courses are not covered by loans.
- A passing grade for all BSN program coursework is a C-.

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The Department of Nursing & Health Sciences reserves the right to add, amend, or cancel any of its programs, policies, and procedures, in whole or in part, at such time as it may choose and for any reason.

Every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information in our publications. Applicants should be advised, however, that such information is subject to change without notice, and that they should consult with the Admissions Coordinator and/or their Academic Advisor for current information. Information in this document does not constitute a contract between the Department of Nursing & Health Sciences and a student or an applicant for admission.

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