
General Information

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 BS 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). ¹ The MSN program will be approved by WASC in Fall 2022 and will begin admission for our first class in 2023.

The MSN Program

The goal of the Master of Science (MS) in Nursing program is to prepare the nursing graduate to be a leader in nursing education and healthcare organizations through leadership opportunities.

Program designed for the working nurse: The MSN 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.

Application Deadline

Rolling admissions. Applications are reviewed upon receipt.

Admission Criteria

Applicants to the Master's program must meet the following criteria to be eligible for admission.

- Statement of purpose (Minimum 300 words)
Indicate your graduate study objectives, research/creative interests and experience, undergraduate and graduate experience, and industry experience, as applicable. We will use this essay to assess how well your academic interests and long-range goals match the academic program to which you are applying. Be sure that your name and the name of your desired program appear on the first page.
- Resume
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Hold a current license to practice professional nursing in the state where you live
- Hold a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from a program accredited by the NLNAC or CCNE.

Registered Nurses with a bachelor's degree in a related field may seek admission through the Bridge program

- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate study
- Submit a list of professional emails for a reference check.

References should be able to speak to your leadership and professional integrity in nursing practice. If the applicant recently completed undergraduate studies, a reference from a former nursing professor is appropriate.

¹ ACEN, 3343 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 850, Atlanta GA 30326; (404) 975-5000. www.acenursing.org

Admissions Process

Routes of Entry to the Master of Science in Nursing

Pacific Union College offers three routes of entry for Registered Nurses seeking a Master of Science in Nursing degree. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE), generally required for admission to master's degree programs, is NOT required for admission. The pathways to the Master of Science Degree are as follows:

- A. Traditional Entry: For students with a BS degree in Nursing.
 - B. Bridge Program: For Registered Nurses with a Non-Nursing BA or BS degree.
 - C. RN-to-MS Fast Track: For associate-degree or diploma-prepared Registered Nurses seeking to proceed directly to the Master of Science in Nursing Degree from the BSN program.
 - ☐ 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).
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A. Traditional Entry:

For students with a BS degree in Nursing

- Baccalaureate degree in Nursing
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Introductory or undergraduate courses in statistics and research
- Unencumbered license to practice as a Registered Nurse in your state of residence.

B. Bridge Program:

For Registered Nurses with a Non-Nursing BA or BS degree. The Bridge Program option enables students to enter directly into the Master of Science in Nursing program

- B.A. or B.S. degree in non-nursing discipline
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Introductory or undergraduate courses in statistics and research
- Unencumbered license to practice as a Registered Nurse in your state of residence.

C. RN-to-MS Fast Track:

For Registered Nurses seeking to proceed directly to the Master of Science in Nursing Degree from the BSN program. Students will earn a BS in prior to completing the MS in Nursing.

- Associate of Science Degree in Nursing or Diploma in Nursing
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Unencumbered license to practice as a Registered Nurse in your state of residence.
- Please refer to the Undergraduate Nursing handbook. All requirements for the BS in Nursing must be completed with the following exception:
 - o NURXXX Nursing Technology & Informatics (4 credits)
 - o NURXXX Christian Ethics OR Integrating Faith in Leadership (3)
 - o NURXXX Concepts of Nursing Leadership (4)

*Course descriptions for all undergraduate courses may be found in the Pacific Union College catalog.

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

1. **Clinical Clearance Requirements for MSN Degree Nursing Students (Initial and Ongoing)**
2. **Health Clearance:** (see - *Health Clearance Requirements for all Nursing Students*) at: www.puc.edu/academics/departments/nursing/degrees-programs.
3. **HealthStream Educational Modules:** Purchase and complete the required HealthStream modules prior to the start of the first clinical course and annually thereafter. (See - HealthStream)
4. **CPR for Healthcare Professionals:** Current card showing completion of an American Heart Association *Basic Life Support Provider (BLS Class)*.
5. **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.
6. **Current RN License**
7. **Professional Liability Insurance:**
 - a. You will need RN-level coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000/6,000,000.

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.² 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.

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.

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

Financial Information

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 MSN program coursework is a C-.

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.

Pacific Union College
Department of Nursing & Health Sciences

One Angwin Avenue
Angwin, CA 94508

Phone: (707) 965-7262
Fax: (707) 965-6499
E-Mail: nursing@puc.edu
Web: www.puc.edu/nursing

PUC Department of Nursing & Health Sciences
Masters of Science Degree in Nursing Program
APPLICATION FORM - Part A

Preferred Campus (choose one)

☐ OnlineAnticipated Enrollment Date ☐ Fall☐ Winter☐ Spring

Year _____

Preferred Enrollment Status ☐ Full-time☐ Part-time (see guidelines for FT vs PT admission)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

PUC Student ID# _____

Last Name		First Name	Middle Name	Previous Names (Including Maiden)	Religious Affiliation
Sex	Marital Status	Date of Birth	RN License Number	Social Security Number	
☐ M ☐ F	☐ S ☐ M ☐				
Home/Permanent Mailing Address			School Mailing Address (if living away from home)		
Street			Street		
City, State, ZIP			City, State, ZIP		
Telephone (including Area Code) ☐ Residence ☐ Mobile			Telephone (including Area Code) ☐ Residence ☐ Mobile		
Email Address			PUC Email Address -required		
Military Status: ☐ Active Duty ☐ Active Reserves ☐ GI Bill/Rehab ☐ Spouse/Dependent ☐ Civilian					
Ethnic and Race Group (used for statistical purposes only) Please mark at least one in each group					
Ethnicity (select one) ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino		Race (select one or more) ☐ American/Alaskan Native ☐ Black/African American ☐ White ☐ Asian ☐ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
Educational Background					
School Name, Location			Dates Attended and Degree Received		
Academy/High School					
College					
College					
College					
College					

Emailed or faxed application forms are NOT acceptable.

Signature of Applicant_____
Date

PUC Department of Nursing & Health Sciences
Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing Program
APPLICATION FORM - Part B

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name _____
PUC Student ID# _____

Anticipated Location for Completion of Clinical Practicums (required information)

____ Napa County, Lake County, Sonoma and/or Solano counties (circle only those that apply)
____ Bay Area (include county and facility) _____
____ Loma Linda /San Bernardino area (include facility) _____
____ Los Angeles area (include facility) _____
____ Other (include county and facility) _____

Professional Experience/Professional Recommendations

Are you employed as a nurse? Yes ____ No ____ Name of Facility _____

If not, do you plan to work as a nurse while in the BSN program? _____

Please attach a resume or provide your professional work experience history on the attached page.

Please provide two professional references (not required for continuing PUC nursing students).

EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND PRACTICUM COMPLETION

The clinical practicums for the MSN Program at PUC are designed for the working nurse. While employment as a nurse is not a requirement, be advised that you will be the central person in planning your practicums. Advisers and teachers will work with you to establish mentor relationships, however your own clinical base and/or network may impact mentorship selection and confirmation.

ATTACH THE FOLLOWING CURRENT DOCUMENTS:

☐
☐
☐

California RN license (and/or current license for state in which practicum will be completed)
CPR certification (AHA BLS Provider)
Professional liability insurance

You may also send the documents listed above to the attention of the Nursing & Health Sciences Office Manager via FAX at 707-965-6499, or via email to NHS@puc.edu, or by mail to Department of Nursing & Health Sciences, One Angwin Ave., Angwin, CA 94508. All required documents must be submitted before participating in any clinical experiences.

Signature of Applicant

Date

PUC Department of Nursing & Health Sciences
Masters of Science Degree in Nursing Program
APPLICATION FORM - Part B (cont.)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name _____
PUC Student ID# _____

Professional References we can contact

1.

Facility	Address	Telephone
Position		Dates
 2.

Facility	Address	Telephone
Position		Dates
 3.

Facility	Address	Telephone
Position		Dates
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