NURSING CAREER DEVELOPMENT

RN to Bachelor of Science with a Major in Nursing Degree Program

Division of Nursing Education & Health Sciences
Department of Nursing Education (DNE)
Campus Box 39, 100 E. Claflin Avenue
Salina, KS 67401-6196
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785-833-4456 M - F, 8:30 - 12:00; 1:00 - 5:00

KANSAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Admission Policy

Licensed graduates from a regionally accredited Associate Degree or Diploma nursing program are eligible to apply for articulation into the Bachelor of Science, major in nursing degree program. Students will have completed 120 credit hours to earn this degree. Licensed graduates will be evaluated individually for program eligibility. Applicants must hold and maintain an unencumbered Registered Nursing License. Students will be able to complete their degree in a minimum of one year with full-time study.

Students can expect the articulation process, from application and portfolio submission to the awarding of credit hours, to take **at least 4 weeks**.

The Registered Nurse will follow these steps for articulation:

1. **Admission to Kansas Wesleyan University (KWU).**

   Return the following to the **Office of Admissions**:
   - Application for admission to Kansas Wesleyan University (www.kwu.edu);
   - $20.00 application fee (for **KWU application only**);
   - Official final transcript **from EVERY college or university ever attended.**

2. **Admission to the RN to BS program.** (A fee is not required for the Department of Nursing Education application.)

   a. **Registrar will award 60 credit hours** for completion of an Associate's Degree or Diploma Degree in nursing.

   b. **Complete Admission Application to the Nursing Program.** Applications are available at www.kwu.edu / nursing or by contacting the Department of Nursing Education (DNE).

   c. **Achievement of Admission GPA Requirement.** Students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.8 on a 4 point scale. Nursing courses which are eligible for transfer to the KWU nursing program may be included in the calculation of the GPA.

   d. **Conference / Teleconference with Nursing Advisor.** RN to BS students are assigned an advisor upon admission to the nursing program.

   e. **Submit Experiential Credit Portfolio.**   Students may apply for college credit based on their official transcripts, professional development documentation, work and life experiences, and their technical, vocational and diploma/certificate work from other educational institutions. Experiential credits qualify for "elective credit" only; they do not qualify for required Major courses. *The guideline for determining experiential credit is available on the Nursing webpage and will be discussed during the conference with the Nursing advisor.* All Experiential Credit policies and guidelines are subject to change without notice and all credits must be approved by the University's Provost. The maximum amount of credit hours possible for transfer from these sources is 35. At least 24 credit hours must be taken at KWU, and at least 21 credit hours must be within the nursing major. Required evaluation and transcription fees do not qualify for Financial Aid or Federal loans.

   The baccalaureate degree, major in nursing program at Kansas Wesleyan University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.ccneaccreditation.org).

CCNE ACCREDITED

3. **Completion of KWU Foundational Course - 1 credit hour.** The university requires all students to complete the following course:

      INTD 115 Wesleyan Heritage   1 cr hrs   1 contact hr/week

        To be completed prior to or during the first semester of the Nursing program.

4. **Completion of Admission Prerequisite Courses– 3 credit hours.** The Registered Nurse applicant must complete a 3 cr hr statistical analysis course prior to taking NURS 461 Application of Evidence-Based Practice. The following course is available at KWU:

      BSHS210 Statistical Analysis*   3 cr hrs   3 contact hrs/week

        See prerequisite in BSHS course descriptions.

5. **RN to BS students must complete all of the following nursing courses – 27 credit hours:**

		Credits	Contact Hrs per Week
NURS 302	Community Health for the Practicing Nurse	3	3
NURS 351	Transition to Professional Nursing	3	3
NURS 385	Pathophysiology for the Practicing Nurse*	3	3
NURS 388	Pharmacology for the Practicing Nurse*	3	3
NURS 421	Health Assessment for the RN*	3	3
NURS 452	Leadership and Issues in Professional Nursing	4	4
NURS 461	Application of Evidence-Based Practice	4	4
NURS 475	Healthy Aging for the Practicing Nurse	3	3
NURS 481	Capstone Practicum for the Professional Nurse	1	3

  *These courses may be transferred from another institution. *Nursing courses in pharmacology, pathophysiology, and health assessment from an accredited school with a grade of C or better, regardless of course nomenclature, will meet KWU's requirements and be accepted as transferred credits toward the nursing RN to BS requirements in NURS 385 pathophysiology, NURS 388 pharmacology, and NURS 421 Health Assessment. Successful completion of the associates or diploma degree in conjunction with successfully passing the NCLEX RN exam demonstrates competency in these areas of study*

The following is a _summary_ of the guidelines for Experiential Credit:

1) Experiential Work Credit: KWU may grant a maximum of 30 credit hours to meet the Liberal studies and Foundational requirements, provided the student adequately describes and documents the college-level learning achieved in their position as a licensed Registered Nurse. These credit hours will be transcribed as no grade; consequently, these credits will not be used for GPA purposes.

2) Experiential Life Credit: Credit may be granted based on actual life activities pursued by the student and the amount of college-level learning achieved during each activity. These activities may consist of acting in plays, singing in organizations, writing, research, extensive travel, community service, assisting in blood drives, participating in charity walks such as Relay for Life, etc. However, the experience and learning must be extensive and fully documented in the student's portfolio. A maximum of 5 credit hours may be granted in this category. These credit hours will be transcribed as "elective life credits" with no grade; consequently, these credits will not be used for GPA purposes. These credits may be used to meet Liberal studies and Foundational requirements.

3) Experiential Course Credit: KWU will grant "specific course credit" for professional development course work. A maximum of 3 credit hours may be granted in this category. These credit hours may be used to meet Liberal studies and Foundational requirements. No grade will be assigned to these courses; consequently, these credits will not be used for GPA purposes.

4) All credit obtained by alternate means do not count toward KWU residency requirements. Experiential work and life credits do count as four-year institution hours, and technical/vocational or certificate credit hours will be counted as either two or four-year institution hours depending on the type of institution where the credits were originally earned.

5) All requests will be reviewed and evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The number of credit hours granted will be determined by the student's ability to adequately document and explain the college-level learning achieved in each category to the appropriate evaluation person or group. *The Provost has final approval of all requests.* Upon approval and the payment of fees, the granted credit hours will be applied to the student's official transcript.

Please refer to the Guidelines for Experiential Credit.

English Not as the First Language and/or International Students
When English is not considered the applicant's first language, the following minimum Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Internet-Based Test (iBT) score must be attained. Each area must meet the minimum requirement. **Scores must be submitted with the application to the nursing program.**

Writing = 20   Speaking = 20   Reading = 19   Listening = 20

Students not meeting the minimum requirement in any area are not eligible for admission to the nursing program. For information and application for TOEFL contact:

TOEFL Educational Testing Service ◆ PO Box 6151, Princeton, New Jersey 08541-6154
606-771-7760 ◆ http://www.toefl.org

Background Queries
Learning in clinical settings is an important aspect of the nursing program at Kansas Wesleyan University. Many health care facilities require information about students engaged in clinical learning opportunities, including, but not limited to: verification of your name, address and social security number; personal health and immunization information; drug and alcohol testing; criminal background search; verification of education; listing on any registered sex offender lists; listing on the U.S. Office of Inspector General's Excluded Individual's list; and listing on the U.S. General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List; and/or your residential state's Bureau of Investigation background search and/or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) background search; and Department on Aging and Disability Services (DOADS).

The KWU Department of Nursing Education uses an online vendor to search, review and store the student's background information. All DNE students must complete the background and criminal history check by the DNE designated date. Students will not be allowed to participate in activities involving a practicum setting until the background and criminal history check is completed. Should the background check disclose any information not in compliance with the Kansas State Board of Nursing legal requirements for licensure, the result may be non-acceptance to, or withdrawal from, the KWU Nursing Program.

Drug Screening
In keeping with the responsibility of the nursing profession for protecting the public from harm, clinical agencies and/or the Department of Nursing Education may ask nursing students to submit to drug screenings.
1. Students will pay all fees for such screenings.
2. Refusal to allow mandatory or requested drug testing will result in immediate program dismissal. Positive results will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the nursing program.
3. Post-licensure students will receive specific instructions so that the results of a drug screen will be received two weeks prior to the NURS 481 Capstone Practicum course.
4. If drug screen results are positive, the applicant will be withdrawn from the applicant pool for:
    ◆ being unable to practice with skill and safety due to current abuse of drugs or alcohol; and/or
    ◆ exhibiting professional incompetency, defined as a pattern of practice or other behavior which demonstrates a manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice nursing.
    Kansas Nurse Practice Act section 65-1120-a)-4 and 651120-e)-3.

Health Documentation Required by Clinical Agencies
Students are responsible for obtaining health and immunization information required by a health care facility, as well as for any cost of obtaining such information. The DNE uses an online vendor to review and store students' health documentation. The information required to permit a student to participate in a clinical setting is determined by the respective health care facilities. Any student who does not consent to required disclosure or background checks, or does not meet the clinical settings' eligibility requirements, may not be allowed to enter clinical settings. If a student is unable to fulfill the clinical experiences required by his/her program of study, the student will be unable to graduate.

Documentation requirements continued on next page.

Personal Health Insurance
Evidence of personal health insurance must be submitted to the online vendor prior to starting the nursing program, and will be verified at the beginning of each fall semester.

Students are responsible for paying for their use of the online vendor, which comprises the background check, drug screen, and housing of all uploads of required immunization proof. Please see the Department of Nursing's Administrative Assistant for vendor information and cost.

Laptop Computer Specifications
The following are the minimum technical requirements to take Internet-based courses from KWU Online:
CHROMEBOOKS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE LAPTOPS DUE TO LACK OF FUNCTIONALITY WITH ONLINE COURSE REQUIREMENTS!
PC Operating System:
- Windows 7 or higher, "full" version, not "RT" or "Mobile"
- 2+ GHz CPU, 4+ Gb RAM, ample Hard Drive Storage Space, and Internet/WiFi connectivity

Mac Operating System: **(not recommended)**
- The highest available IOS, Mac OS X 10.7 or higher (Lion, Mountain Lion, Mavericks, Yosemite, El Capitan – 10.9.5 "Mavericks" or higher recommended)
- 1.6 GHz or higher "Intel-Based" CPU, at least 4_ Gb RAM (8+ recommended), ample Hard Drive storage, Ethernet and/or WiFi connectivity
- Purchase of the Microsoft Office suite is **required** for those or have or choose Macs. Online assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Office form in order for faculty to accept and view coursework.

Software:
- IE 11 or higher, Firefox 38 or higher, Safari 7 or higher (Firefox highly recommended) or Chrome
- Adobe Reader, newest version available at (free download): https://get.adobe.com/reader/
- Adobe Flash Plugin, newest version available at (free download): https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
- Java browser plugin, newest version available at (free download): http://www.java.com/en/
- Microsoft Office (Office365 available online after registration)

Internet:
- Students must have regular access to reliable, high-speed, internet access. (DSL, U-Verse, Cable Modem, Fiber link, etc.)
- Satellite-based or cell phone "Hot Spot" based connections are typically unsuitable. (Contact Technology Services for more information if this is your only option.)
- Graphics card and monitor capable of 1024x764 display (or better)
- Stereo sound card, speakers and/or headset. A microphone may be needed for select courses. Check with your instructor.
- Adequate hard drive space for downloading of class related files
- A webcam may be required in some classes. Check with your instructor.

Other Devices:
Mobile computing devices; SmartPhones, iPads, Tablets, etc. are NOT fully supported with all features of KWU online courses. There may be some features or assignments that CANNOT be done with a mobile device, and will require a "full" Desktop/Laptop computing system. If your mobile device is your primary computing device, make sure you have access to a full computer system if needed. Before classes begin, please check with your instructors for any other special technical requirements they may have.

KANSAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY NURSING
www.kwu.edu/nursing

The mission of the Department of Nursing Education is to prepare students as professional nurse generalists by incorporating the areas of biopsychosocial, behavioral, and spiritual development into the delivery of nursing education so that students may provide client-centered care, pursue graduate studies and continue lifelong learning.

The program is also supported by the University's accreditation by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602-2504, www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org. Telephone: (800) 621-7440 or (312) 263-0456).
    The Kansas Wesleyan University baccalaureate nursing program is on conditional approval by the Kansas State Board of Nursing (Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 1051, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230, Phone: 785-296-4929, Fax: 785-296-3929, ksbn.org).