

RN-BSN ONLINE PROGRAM, BSN

School of Health Sciences

The RN-BSN online program is designed for RNs with an associate or diploma degree in nursing who have an unencumbered Registered Nurse license in the state of residence. Admission to the program is based upon meeting the criteria for acceptance to Georgia Highlands College and the Department of Nursing. All BSN courses are delivered online with one course, NURS 4404 Clinical Leadership Practicum, having a leadership field experience component that may be completed at the student's place of employment.

Students may be enrolled full-time or part-time. The program can be completed full-time in three semesters or part-time, in four to five semesters.

Accreditation and Approval

The Georgia Highlands Nursing RN-BSN program is accredited by the:

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326
(404) 975-5000
<http://www.acenursing.org/>

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the RN-BSN program is Continuing Accreditation.

View the public information disclosed by the ACEN regarding this program at: <http://www.acenursing.us/accreditedprograms/programSearch.htm>

Criteria for Admission

1. A current valid license to practice as a registered professional nurse in the U.S. with no current disciplinary actions
 - a. New graduates may apply pending results of NCLEX-RN.
 - b. Graduated from initial program of professional nursing in the last four years.
 - c. Applicants with four years or more of practice as an RN must submit a completed Verification of Employment form.
 - d. Georgia Highlands College RN-BSN program adheres to the Georgia RN-BSN Articulation Model.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
3. ENGL 1102 English Composition II and STAT 1401 Elementary Statistics (formerly MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics -eCore or MATH 2200) must be completed prior to admission with a grade of "C" or better
 - a. Students may enter the program with three outstanding general education courses, excluding those listed above. (See pre-requisites for NURS 4404 Clinical Leadership Practicum).
4. Verification of employment form (if applicable)
5. Submit required transcripts
6. Submit all required documentation

Consideration for Admission to the RN-BSN Program is a Four-Step Process

1. Complete the process for admission to Georgia Highlands College
2. Meet criteria for admission to the RN-BSN program as stated above
3. Submit online application to RN-BSN program located here: <http://forms.highlands.edu/nurs/bsn/>
4. Submit documentation as required by the RN-BSN program.

Admission to Georgia Highlands College

1. If applying for initial admission to the College, student must submit a \$30 non-refundable application fee made out to Georgia Highlands College, a copy of your high-school transcript, and official transcripts from any college(s) previously attended.
2. If applying for readmission, you may be required to submit a \$30 non-refundable fee made out to Georgia Highlands College and any official transcripts from any college(s) you attended since last attending GHC.
3. Information regarding admission to Georgia Highlands College is located at <http://sites.highlands.edu/admissions/>.

Admission to RN-BSN Program

1. Complete application process to become GHC student.
2. Complete no-cost, online application for RN-BSN program by June 30. <http://forms.highlands.edu/nurs/bsn/>
3. Submit GHC student ID number once admitted to GHC

Required Documentation for RN-BSN Program

Students must complete and submit the following requirements online by due date noted in acceptance letter.

- Verification of employment (if applicable).
- Signed Acknowledgment and Agreement for all RN-BSN required documentation.
- Student contact information must remain current in Banner and RN-BSN office throughout program enrollment.
- A copy of student's current valid license to practice nursing in the state of residence with no current disciplinary actions.
- Copy of State or Federal ID for verification purposes
- Evidence of good health as documented by a nursing health form signed by a physician or a certified nurse practitioner.
- The RN-BSN program may require additional proof of physical and/or mental well-being.

All students are required to submit the following **prior to being registered** for the required **Leadership Practicum course** (NURS 4404 Clinical Leadership Practicum).

- Drug testing and a background check through StudentAdvantage.
 - A student may be tested if drug abuse is suspected.
 - Students are responsible for all costs associated with the drug test and background check.
- Current (within 1 year) negative tuberculin screening. Documentation must remain current throughout enrollment. In addition, students will adhere to requirement(s) of agency used for assigned learning experiences.

- Students who have been advised against tuberculin skin testing must maintain current documentation from Health Dept. or healthcare provider of TB risk assessment and completion of any recommended follow-up care.
- Completion of annual influenza vaccine or signed declination form (if applicable for facility) which meets state requirements on file in BSN office.
- Proof of two MMR injections or positive rubella, rubeola and mumps titers.
- TDAP within the last ten years. (Note: if TDAP is greater than 10 years ago, must provide proof of the TDAP and a TD booster)
- Two varicella vaccines or positive varicella titer (proof of disease is not sufficient).
- Positive Hep B titer/declination form
- Current certification by American Heart Association in Basic Life Support. (Heartsaver courses are not acceptable).
- Maintain proof of health insurance in BSN office.
- Professional liability insurance will be purchase as a group plan and premium added to student fees in NURS 4404 Clinical Leadership Practicum.

For registered nurses with a diploma or associate degree who are returning to school to earn a baccalaureate in nursing degree.

To qualify for graduation, students must meet all graduation requirements (<http://catalog.highlands.edu/academic-information/#graduationrequirements>).

Code	Title	Hours	Completed
A. Essential Skills			
ENGL 1101	English Composition I	3	_____
ENGL 1102	English Composition II	3	_____
Select one of the following or a mathematics course for which one of these is a prerequisite:		3	_____
MATH 1001	Quantitative Reasoning		_____
MATH 1111	College Algebra		_____
MATH 1113	Precalculus		_____
STAT 1401	Elementary Statistics		_____
B. Institutional Options			
COMM 1100	Human Communication	2-3	_____
or COMM 1110 Public Speaking			_____
Select one of the following:		2	_____
GHHU 2901	Special Topics: Humanities		_____
GHMA 2901	Special Topics: Mathematics		_____
GHSC 2901	Special Topics: Science		_____
GHSS 2901	Special Topics: Social Science		_____

C. Humanities/Fine Arts			
Select one of the following:		3	_____
ENGL 2111	World Literature I		_____
ENGL 2112	World Literature II		_____
ENGL 2121	British Literature I		_____
ENGL 2122	British Literature II		_____
ENGL 2131	American Literature I		_____
ENGL 2132	American Literature II		_____
ENGL 2135	Latino Literature		_____
ENGL 2140	African-American Literature		_____
Select one of the following:		3	_____
ARTS 1100	Art Appreciation		_____
ARTS 1111	Art History to Renaissance		_____
ARTS 1112	Art History Renaissance to Pre		_____
ENGL 2010	Humanities in Drama		_____
ENGL 2111	World Literature I		_____
ENGL 2112	World Literature II		_____
ENGL 2121	British Literature I		_____
ENGL 2122	British Literature II		_____
ENGL 2131	American Literature I		_____
ENGL 2132	American Literature II		_____
ENGL 2135	Latino Literature		_____
ENGL 2140	African-American Literature		_____
HUMS 2011	Studies In Humanities		_____
MUSC 1100	Music Appreciation		_____
PHIL 2010	Introduction to Philosophy		_____
RELI 1116	Intro to Religion		_____
SPAN 1001	Elementary Spanish I		_____
SPAN 1002	Elementary Spanish II		_____
SPAN 2001	Intermediate Spanish I		_____
SPAN 2002	Intermediate Spanish II		_____
THEA 1100	Theater Appreciation		_____
D. Science, Mathematics, and Technology¹			

Select one of the following science sequences: 7-8 _____

BIOL 1010 & BIOL 1012 & BIOL 1012L	Introduction to Biology I and Introduction to Biology I Lab and Introduction to Biology II and Introduction to Biology II Lab	_____
BIOL 1107K & BIOL 1108K	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology II	_____
CHEM 1151K & CHEM 1152K	Survey of Chemistry I and Survey of Chemistry II	_____
CHEM 1211 & CHEM 1212 & CHEM 1212L	Principles of Chemistry I and Principles of Chemistry I Lab and Principles of Chemistry II and Principles of Chemistry II Lab	_____
PHYS 1111K & PHYS 1112K	Introductory Physics I and Introductory Physics II	_____
PHYS 2211K & PHYS 2212K	Principles of Physics I and Principles of Physics II	_____

Select one of the following: 3-4 _____

MATH 1113	Precalculus	_____
MATH 2040	Applied Calculus	_____
MATH 2261	Calculus I	_____
STAT 1401	Elementary Statistics (strongly recommended)	_____

E. Social Sciences³

POLS 1101	American Government	3	_____
HIST 2111	American History I	3	_____
or HIST 2112	American History II		_____
Select one of the following: 3 _____			
HIST 1111	World Civilization to 1500		_____
HIST 1112	World Civ Since 1500		_____
HIST 1121	Western Civilization I		_____
HIST 1122	Western Civilization II		_____
Select one of the following: 3 _____			

ECON 2105	Principles of Macroeconomics		_____
HIST 1111	World Civilization to 1500		_____
HIST 1112	World Civ Since 1500		_____
HIST 1121	Western Civilization I		_____
HIST 1122	Western Civilization II		_____
HIST 2111	American History I		_____
HIST 2112	American History II		_____
HIST 2154	Minorities in U.S. History		_____
HIST 2400	Economic History		_____
POLS 2401	Intro to Global Issues		_____
POLS 2501	Intro to Domestic Issues		_____
PSYC 1101	Intro to General Psychology (strongly recommended)		_____
RELI 1116	Intro to Religion		_____
SOCI 1101	Introductory Sociology (strongly recommended)		_____
SOCI 1160	Intro to Social Problems		_____

F. Courses Related to the Program of Study

BIOL 2251K	Anatomy & Physiology I	4	_____
BIOL 2252K	Anatomy & Physiology II	4	_____
BIOL 2260 & 2260L	Foundations of Microbiology and Foundations of Microbiology La	4	_____
STAT 1401	Elementary Statistics ⁴	3	_____

Approved Lower-Level Electives

Select from the courses below to complete 18 hours: 3-6 _____

PSYC 1101	Intro to General Psychology ⁵		_____
PSYC 2103	Intro to Human Development		_____
SOCI 1101	Introductory Sociology ⁵		_____

RN-BSN Courses

Transfer Credit via Georgia's RN-BSN Articulation Model _____

NURS 1001	Health Assessment ⁶	2	_____
NURS 1100	Conceptual Fndns of Nursing ⁶	6	_____
NURS 1200	Nurs Practice/ Common Hlth Issu ⁶	8	_____
NURS 2500	Nurs Prctce/ Complic Hlth Cncrn ⁶	9	_____
NURS 2600	Nurs Prctce Complex Hlth Prob ⁶	5	_____
<i>RN-BSN Major Courses</i>			
HSCI 3501	Ethics in Healthcare	3	_____
NURS 3197	Professional Nursing Practice	3	_____
NURS 3297	Nursing Research Application	3	_____
NURS 3397	Health Assessment	3	_____
NURS 4497	Community Health Nursing	3	_____
NURS 4597	Leadership and Management	3	_____
NURS 4403	Capstone Project	3	_____
NURS 4404	Clinical Leadership Practicum	3	_____
<i>Upper-Level Elective (3000-4000 level)</i>			
Any NURS, DHYG, HSCI, or HCMT courses (3000-4000 level) to equal 6 hours		6	_____
Total Hours		120-125	_____

1

Students should consult an advisor to coordinate Area D course selections with Area F requirements.

2

Beginning Fall 2020 - The Introduction to Biology I/BIO 2190 Principles of Nutrition sequence is only allowed for the following students:

- Student who has completed coursework at GHC prior to Fall 2020
- Spring 2022 and earlier graduates of Associate Degree and Diploma Nursing programs, this can be at GHC or other institutions

3

Students should consult an advisor to coordinate Areas E and F requirements.

4

If not taken in Area D

5

Any course already taken to satisfy an Area E requirement may not be used to satisfy an Area F requirement

6

Georgia's RN to BSN Articulation Plan

GHC participates in the statewide articulation plan that streamlines getting into an accredited RN-BSN program in nursing. The plan was developed through the collaborative efforts of faculty of the ASN and BSN nursing programs in Georgia and the Georgia Board of Nursing. To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a graduate of an ASN or diploma program within the last 4 (four) years, or be a graduate from one of these programs more than four years ago with documentation of 1,000 hours of clinical nursing practice in the last three years.
- Hold a current, valid RN license to practice in the United States and be eligible for licensure in Georgia.

Graduates of ASN or diploma programs, who meet the above criteria, will be granted credit by exam transfer for 30 semester hours. The credit-by-exam hours are earned by satisfactory completion of NURS 3197 Professional Nursing Practice Concepts of Professional Nursing with a grade of C or higher.

Progression and Graduation in the RN-BSN Program

In order to progress in the RN-BSN program, the student must:

- Monitor dates on all required documents and update prior to expiration (health records, vaccinations, CPR (American Heart Association Basic Life Support), background checks, negative drug screen, and any other requirement document)
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Maintain certification in American Heart Association basic life support
- Achieve a grade of C (2.00) or better in each nursing course in the RN-BSN curriculum and upper-level elective

Note: A numeric grade of 75 is required to earn a grade of C in nursing; a grade of D or F constitutes a failure in any nursing course. If a grade of D or F is earned in any RN-BSN nursing course, the course must be repeated and a C or better must be earned for the student to progress to the next nursing course in the program. Faculty approval is needed for students to attempt other RN-BSN courses while repeating a course.

- Students are permitted to repeat a BSN course due to failure only one time during the program. More than one incidence of failing any RN-BSN course will result in dismissal from the program and the student being ineligible for readmission.
- Student must meet all requirements for graduation as specified by the College and the nursing program.