

# RN-BSN ONLINE PROGRAM, BSN

Atrium Health Floyd 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 two semesters or part-time, in four 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.

Request information from ACEN regarding this program's accreditation at: <https://www.acenursing.org/students-public/verification-accreditation-request-status> (<https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.acenursing.org%2Fstudents-public%2Fverification-accreditation-request-status&data=05%7C02%7Czjohnsto%40highlands.edu%7C9d9b6c3557754fd799e108dcb18a41bf%7C7f8154b777a347c99255e23ec5d69519%7C0%7C0%7C638580454588651910%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLjBjIiwi6k1haWwiiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FzHxKehiteoMNV4nUHaI8TnxIclr0XB3uSEq6Zxvfb8%3D&reserved=0>)

## 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 the 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
Core IMPACTS ( <a href="http://catalog.highlands.edu/core-curriculum/">http://catalog.highlands.edu/core-curriculum/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		42	_____
Program Advice: Students are strongly encouraged to fulfill Core IMPACTS requirements with courses required for completion of the RN-BSN major. Choosing courses that are not appropriate for the pathway/major may leave students with unmet prerequisites, despite having met Core IMPACTS requirements.			
<b>Field of Study</b>		<b>18</b>	_____
<i>Required:</i>			
BIOL 2251 & 2251L	Anatomy and Physiology I and Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory		_____
BIOL 2252 & 2252L	Anatomy and Physiology II and Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory		_____

BIOL 2260 & 2260L	Foundations of Microbiology and Foundations of Microbiology Laboratory		_____
STAT 1401	Elementary Statistics		_____
<i>Select from the following to complete 18 hours:</i>			
PSYC 1101	Introduction to General Psychology		_____
PSYC 2103	Introduction to Human Development		_____
SOCI 1101	Introductory Sociology		_____
<b>Transfer Credit via Georgia's RN-BSN Articulation Model</b>		<b>30</b>	_____
NURS 1001	Health Assessment <sup>2</sup>		_____
NURS 1100	Conceptual Foundations of Nursing <sup>2</sup>		_____
NURS 1200	Nursing Practice for Common Health Issues <sup>2</sup>		_____
NURS 2500	Nursing Practice for Complicated Health Concerns <sup>2</sup>		_____
NURS 2600	Nursing Practice for Complex Health Problems <sup>2</sup>		_____
<b>RN-BSN Major Courses</b>		<b>24</b>	_____
HSCI 3501	Ethics in Healthcare		_____
NURS 3197	Professional Nursing Practice		_____
NURS 3297	Nursing Research Application		_____
NURS 3397	Health Assessment		_____
NURS 4497	Community Health Nursing		_____
NURS 4597	Leadership and Management		_____
NURS 4403	Capstone Project		_____
NURS 4404	Clinical Leadership Practicum		_____
<b>Upper-Level Electives (3000-4000 level)</b>		<b>6</b>	_____
<i>Choose from the following prefixes to complete 6 hours:</i>			

NURS, DHYG, HSCI, HCMT	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>120</b>

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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

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### 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.