If you're ready to change lives in profound ways, nursing is the career for you. Our Bachelor of Science in nursing degree program gives you the nursing knowledge, theory and clinical experience you need to become a successful nurse, providing direct and indirect patient care for individuals, families, groups, communities and populations. With our dedicated faculty who are committed to student success, NIU’s reputation in nursing education sets our graduates apart from others.

**Program Benefits**
- Over $200,000 in student scholarships awarded to nursing students each year.
- A dedicated advisor for undergraduate students.
- A wide range of clinical experiences available with our regional health care partners.
- A robust Student Success Program that helps you meet program demands.
- Student organizations aimed to support you like the Black Student Nurse Organization, Sigma Theta Tau and the Student Nurses Organization.
- Our curriculum is approved by the Committee on Nursing of the Illinois Department of Professional Financial Regulation and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

**Admission Requirements**
NIU admits well-qualified freshman applicants to our nursing program. Freshmen are applicants with fewer than 24 transferable postsecondary credit hours completed by Jan. 15.

Direct admission is competitive and will be based on such factors as previous academic performance and high school rank. An established NIU GPA may also be a factor considered in admission decisions.

This direct admission process guarantees a place in our program starting your second semester of your sophomore year, providing satisfactory academic progress is maintained.

**Application Process**
Must be completed by Jan. 15. Application materials include an official high school transcript — including those from all colleges attended — which may include dual-credit coursework (if applicable).

Apply through our Office of Admissions and specify your major as nursing. Our additional online nursing application is not required for incoming freshmen.
Requirements

Prerequisite courses outside the department (31-33 credit hours)

1. BIOS 103 General Biology (3)
   and
   BIOS 105 General Biology Lab (1)
   or
   BIOS 313 Microbiology (4)
   BIOS 357 Anatomy and Physiology (5)
   or
   CHEM 110 Chemistry (3)
   and
   CHEM 111 Chemistry Lab (1)
   or
   CHEM 210 General Chemistry I (3)
   and
   CHEM 212 General Chemistry Lab (1)
   ENGL 203 Rhetoric and Composition II (3)
   or
   ENGL 204 Rhetoric and Composition (3)
   PSYC 102 Introduction to Psychology (3)
   or
   NUTR 201 Human Nutrition (3)
   HDFS 280 Human Development, the Family and Society (3)
   or
   PSYC 225 Lifespan Development: Childhood through Adulthood (3)
   STAT 100 Basic Statistics (3)
   or
   STAT 200 Elementary Statistics (4)

BIOS 213 or BIOS 313; and BIOS 357 must be completed within seven years of admission to our nursing program.

Required courses within the department (60 credit hours)

Semester I (14 credit hours)

NURS 302 Professional Nursing (3)
NURS 303 Foundations of Nursing Clinical (2)
NURS 304 Health Assessment (3)
NURS 305 Foundations of Nursing (3)
NURS 308 Alterations in Biological Systems (3)

Semester II (13 credit hours)

NURS 313 Adult Health Nursing I Clinical (2)
NURS 314 Mental Health Nursing (3)
NURS 315 Adult Health Nursing II (3)
NURS 316 Pharmacology (3)
NURS 323 Mental Health Nursing Clinical (2)

Semester III (13 credit hours)

NURS 317 Nursing Research and Evidence-based Practice (3)
NURS 318 Adult Health Nursing II (3)
NURS 319 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family (3)
NURS 333 Adult Health Nursing II Clinical (2)
NURS 343 Childbearing Family Clinical (2)

Semester IV (10 credit hours)

NURS 419 Population-focused Nursing (3)
NURS 422 Child Health Nursing (3)
NURS 433 Child Health Nursing Clinical (2)
NURS 443 Population-focused Nursing Clinical (2)

Semester V (10 credit hours)

NURS 431 Transition to Professional Nursing (3)
NURS 432 Processes for Nursing Leadership (3)
NURS 453 Capstone Clinical (4)

To Qualify

You’ll begin our five-semester nursing curriculum after you meet the following requirements:

A cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in all NIU or transferable postsecondary work.
Achieve a minimum grade of C or better in all attempted prerequisite courses.

A drug screen and criminal background check. A positive drug screen or negative criminal background check may result in your inability to begin our nursing program.