

Complete Credit Breakdown

- 50 Nursing credits – Dual Enrollment level
- 39 Liberal Arts Core credits – Dual Enrollment level
- 25 Nursing credits – BSN level
- 9 Liberal Arts Core credits – BSN level
- BSN total: 123 credits

Credit Hours

Credit assigned to nursing courses does not constitute “college credit” and does not imply nursing courses earn the equivalent of college credit. The term “credit” assigned to nursing courses is for grading and/or financial aid purposes only; only an authorized degree-granting institution in which a student enrolls may determine whether the completed nursing course may be accepted for “college credit.” It does not refer to academic credits or to the awarding of college credit and degrees.

The Nursing Program defines a credit hour as a unit of measure that places a value to the level of instruction and time requirements for a nursing course and is responsible for determining the credit hours awarded for the nursing courses offered in the program of study.

Accreditation

The diploma nursing program at Reading Hospital at the Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences located in Reading, PA, is accredited by the: Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326 Phone: 404-975-5000

The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the diploma nursing program is Continuing Accreditation. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) welcomes comments from interested individuals from the nursing community, students, and graduates, as well as the public-at-large. The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) provides information on program type and accreditation of nursing programs at www.acenursing.org.

Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing

The diploma nursing program at Reading Hospital at the Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, PO Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105. Phone: 717-783-7142; Fax: 717-783-0822.

Email: ST-NURSE@pa.gov

www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing



The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) grants Reading Hospital with Magnet® recognition, giving Reading Hospital status as a Magnet-recognized organization. ANCC’s Magnet Recognition Program® honors healthcare organizations that are dedicated to nursing excellence, professionalism, and patient-focused care. Research shows that hospitals honored with the ANCC Magnet Recognition achieve a high level of patient satisfaction and patient safety; foster a collaborative work environment; and attract and retain top talent because nurses and physicians want to work in a healthy and engaging environment.

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Scan the QR code to learn more about the programs we offer at Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences.



RHSchoolofHealthSciences.org



NURSING PROGRAM



READING HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING PROGRAM

Program Overview

The Nursing Program offers a Registered Nurse Diploma. Our three-year program prepares students to become competent and accountable professional nurses capable of providing compassionate, high-quality, cost-effective nursing care.

**Dual Enrollment with Alvernia University**

Dual Enrollment is structured to provide a seamless career mobility pathway while providing our graduates with the knowledge, skills, and credentials to sit for national licensure examination. Qualified graduates will be eligible to receive the following credentials:

- Diploma in Nursing
- Associate of Science Degree in Applied Health from Alvernia University

The three-year Dual Enrollment Program is designed to provide theoretical knowledge and hands-on application through the human life span. Classes and clinical experiences are held Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Evening clinical preparation may be required throughout the course of study. The liberal arts courses are taught by Alvernia University faculty. These courses provide students with a well-rounded background as well as meet the requirements for the Associate of Science degree from Alvernia University.

RN to BSN

Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences fosters the understanding of the importance of a lifelong commitment to continuing education, clinical skills, and professionalism. We strongly encourage our graduates to pursue advanced degrees which serve to support career mobility in the profession of nursing. Employers today are requiring advanced degrees, and there is no time better than the present to start earning your advanced degree.

To that end, we are excited to provide a seamless transition to Alvernia University’s RN to BSN. After completing our three-year program Alvernia University offers blended and online course formats which provide our graduates with an opportunity to earn a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) within one year after completing the dual enrollment program at Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences.

NURSING PROGRAM FAQ



What type of program do you offer?

The Nursing Program is a hospital-based registered nurse diploma program. Our graduates will be able to take advantage of our affiliation with Alvernia University for the RN to BSN Completion Program. The RN to BSN Completion Program duration will be dependent on the pace of study and whether the student enrolls full time or part time. Nursing Program students will earn college credits for completing general education courses, which are included in the curriculum.

Can I transfer coursework?

Yes, The School will evaluate post-secondary transcripts and course outlines to see if credit can be awarded.

When transferring in courses, please be aware that entry into 2nd or 3rd year of nursing cannot be guaranteed. Applicants are encouraged to seek guidance from Admissions before registering and completing courses at another institution.

Please note: In alignment with our collegiate vendor, Alvernia University, Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences does not grant credit for online courses in laboratory science for major science courses, including Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, Microbiology, and Physics. Our policy prohibits transfer of biology/science credits for all courses (didactic and laboratory) that are not delivered face to face in a classroom with a teaching professor present. Online courses may be labeled by a college in a variety of terms including, but not limited to, "online", "distance education", "asynchronous", or "hybrid" formats, all of which are nontransferable.

Will I have clinical and simulation experiences?

With hospital-based learning programs, you are provid-

ed with hands-on simulation and clinical experience. By graduation, students will have acquired all the necessary experiences needed to be prepared for application for licensure in the state of her/his choice and complete the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX- RN).

The nursing simulation lab is the heart of nursing education. The simulation lab has been designed to look identical to an actual nursing unit. Simulation works by having students face and act upon real life situations while in a safe environment where no harm – just learning – can take place in a constructive manner. You will be able to use state-of-the-art technology and simulation equipment when you practice your skills in preparation for clinical experiences in the hospital.

Do you offer Shadow experiences to see if nursing is a good fit for me before applying?

Yes. The Shadow program gives individuals interested in a career in nursing a closer look at our Nursing Program. Attendees will spend a few hours observing classroom instruction and simulation, meeting faculty and students, and touring the school to get an understanding of the student experience at Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences.

Schedule for the Day

- Welcome by an instructor
- Classroom observation
- Nursing simulation laboratory observation
- Tour of the School of Health Sciences
- Admissions information
- Meeting with Admissions, upon request

Selection of Participants

- Complete Shadow Request Form (found on our website or through the Admissions Office).
- Complete Shadow Permission Form for High School students.
- Brief written statement as to why you wish to shadow a nursing student.
- Provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Shadow Request Forms can be found at <https://reading.towerhealth.org/academics/health-sciences/programs/nursing/nursing-shadow-program/>

What are the Admissions Requirements?

We evaluate both minimum requirements and preferred criteria in admissions decisions. Successful applicants have above average grades in all required high school and /or

college coursework, favorable references, and satisfactory preadmission test scores. Applicants must document a minimum GPA of 2.5. The most recent college or high school GPA is used in the decision process. For additional details, about the admissions process, please refer to the school's webpage for the Selective Admissions Policy at reading.towerhealth.org/academics/health-sciences/school-policies.

Admission to the Nursing Program is highly competitive. Applicants need to be aware that meeting the minimum requirements does not ensure admission to the program. We utilize an applicant point system to rank our applicants. Applicants will be ranked by total points accumulated based upon the following criteria: personal composition, essay, recommendations, past and current progress in high school and post-secondary level coursework, GPA, and standardized test scores. Acceptance is contingent upon submitting post-acceptance documents and fee in accordance with established deadlines.



Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

What is the application deadline?

The Nursing Program admits new classes every August. For August enrollment the deadline for completed applications is April 1 or when the admission class is filled.

Do you require preadmission testing?

Yes, unless notified otherwise, all applicants must complete the latest version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS), a preadmission examination. It is a web-based exam that assesses an individual's skills in Reading,

Mathematics, Science, and English Language usage. A fee is required at the time of registration. Preadmission testing will begin in the fall and conclude when the cohort is filled.

Do you require an interview?

No. Interviews are not required currently.

What are the post-acceptance requirements?

Upon acceptance, applicants will need to submit a non-refundable confirmation fee of \$300 within two weeks of the acceptance date. Additionally, accepted students must complete all background checks and provide all health information through documentation, screenings, tests, and immunizations. A valid two-year American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare Provider CPR certification is required for clinical experiences.

What is the NCLEX-RN and Job Placement Rate?

The current NCLEX success rate for the Class of 2023 is 100% percent. The job placement rate for the class of 2023 is 100% percent.

Do you provide financial resources?

Yes. Our financial resources include Title IV Financial Aid, outside scholarships, experienced financial aid advisors, and student financial payment options. All students who wish to be considered for financial aid must complete the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please contact the Financial Aid Office at 484-628-0106 or 484-628-0105. To see the current tuition and fees, go to reading.towerhealth.org/health-sciences/financial-information/tuition-and-fees/.

Visit Us

The Nursing Program is located in Reading Hospital's School of Health Sciences. The school is adjacent to Reading Hospital in West Reading, PA. West Reading is about one hour from Philadelphia, Allentown, and Harrisburg.

We welcome visits through formal events and personal appointments. To register or to schedule an appointment with an admissions representative, please call 484-628-0100 or email: RHSHS@towerhealth.org. Directions to our school are located at www.RHSchoolofHealthSciences.org.

Questions

For additional information, call us at 484-628-0100. We look forward to helping you reach your educational goals.

 **To Learn More, Go To:**
www.RHSchoolofHealthSciences.org