



PRE-NURSING

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES ADVISING CENTER
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The purpose of nursing is to provide people with rational, individualized, and compassionate assistance in the maintenance and promotion of health, in adapting to acute or chronic illness, and in coping with the final stages of life. Nurses are very important members of the health care team and are extensively involved in direct contact with patients. Completion of the nursing program requires good science and mathematical skills and a sensitivity to the needs of others. It should be understood that nurses work shifts (day, evening, and night) and weekends. Many nursing activities require physical strength.

Portland State University (PSU) does not have a nursing program. The pre-nursing program at PSU is designed to prepare students to transfer into Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs in Oregon. The following schools in Oregon currently offer BSN programs: **Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Linfield College – Portland Campus, University of Portland, Concordia University, Walla Walla University, and George Fox University.** In addition, OHSU and Linfield offer an accelerated BSN program and The University of Portland offers an Alternate Entry Master's Program (AEM UP) for students with a prior bachelor's degree in a non-nursing field. Admission requirements and prerequisites vary by institution.

As programs have become increasingly competitive, it is recommended that students prepare to apply to multiple nursing programs. This guide is designed for students who are preparing to apply to multiple nursing programs in Oregon.

Prerequisite Courses Required by Most Nursing Schools:

- One year of Anatomy & Physiology
- One term of Microbiology
- One term of Nutrition
- One term of Statistics
- One term of English Composition
- One term of Human Development

Additional Prerequisite Courses Required by Some Nursing Schools:

- One year of Introductory Biology
- One year of Introductory Chemistry
- One year of English Composition
- One term of Biology with a Genetics component
- One term of Cultural Anthropology
- One term of Communication
- One term of College Algebra
- Behavioral Sciences such as Psychology or Sociology
- Minimum credit requirements in the humanities and/or social sciences

The above lists are not exhaustive. Check individual schools for requirements. Note that most professional schools require that an **A, B, or C** be earned in all required preparatory courses. **Admission to nursing school is limited and extremely competitive.** In years past, school matriculates to OHSU have had an average statewide prerequisite GPA of 3.65.

List of Requirements for Admission to Oregon Health & Science University/OCNE, Linfield College, and University of Portland

The following is an outline of **OHSU/OCNE** (for a description of OCNE, please see page 8), **Linfield** and the **University of Portland's** prerequisite courses (subject to change at any time). This comprehensive list has been created to prepare students who plan to apply to all three of these programs. If a student decides not to apply to one of the above mentioned programs, this list of required courses may change. Students should research the admissions requirements of additional nursing schools at www.discovernursing.com or www.allnursingschools.com.

MATH & SCIENCE
Statistics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAT 243 (4 credits) – Introduction to Probability & Statistics (recommended prerequisite: second year high school algebra or MTH 95)
Chemistry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH 104/107 (5 credits) – Introductory Chemistry with lab (recommended prerequisite: second year high school algebra or MTH 95) <p>Note: This requirement applies to University of Portland only; they require either completion of chemistry in high school or one term of college level chemistry.</p>
General Biology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BI 207, 208, 209 (12 credits) - Biology for Allied Health (three term preparatory biology lecture and integrated lab course for students preparing for allied health career tracks) <p>Note: PSU highly recommends that students complete this sequence prior to enrolling in the Human Anatomy & Physiology sequence. BI 207 will meet the biology with genetics requirement for; University of Portland, OHSU and other OCNE programs.</p>
Human Anatomy & Physiology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BI 301, 302, 303 (12 credits) – Human Anatomy & Physiology (recommended prerequisite: one year of college level biology and a background in chemistry)
Microbiology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BI 234/235 (6 credits) Microbiology with Lab <p>Note: This course is taught at PSU in the winter and summer terms. Recommend taking it in the winter term, as the summer course is taught in a condensed format. It is also recommended that students take BI 234/235 after completion of BI 207-209.</p>
Nutrition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHE 425 (4 credits) – Nutrition for Health or • CH 250 (4 credits) – Nutrition <p>Note: CH 250 is the preferred nutrition course for Linfield</p>

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Psychology

- **PSY 200** (4 credits) - **Psychology as a Natural Science** *or* **PSY 204** (4 credits) - **Psychology as a Social Science**
and
- **PSY 311** (4 credits) - **Human Development** (recommended prerequisite: PSY 200 or 204)

Additional Social Sciences

- **SOC 200** (4 credits) – **Introduction to Sociology**
and
- **ANTH 103** (4 credits) – **Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology**
and
- **One history course from the following list:**
 - **HST 101 or 102 or 103 (History of Western Civilization) or 201 or 202 (US History)**

English Composition

Choose two courses from the following list:

- **WR 121** (4 credits) College Writing
- **WR 222** (4 credits) Writing Research Papers
- **WR 227** (4 credits) Introductory Technical Writing
- **WR 323** (4 credits) Writing as Critical Inquiry

Note: Although OHSU and Linfield require 2 English Composition courses prior to admission, University of Portland does not.

Humanities

Sixteen credits of philosophy, English literature, and fine art, as follows:

- **Philosophy (8 credits):**
 - **PHL 201 or 300 or 303**
and
 - **PHL 308** (PHL 308 not required by OHSU & Linfield)
- **English literature (4 credits) – choose one of the following:**
 - **ENG 100, 101, 104, 105, 106, 204, 205, 253, 254**
- **Fine art (4 credits) – Choose one of the following art history, history-based music, or theater arts courses:**
 - **ARH 204, ARH 205, ARH 206, MUS 201, MUS 202, MUS 261, MUS 262, MUS 304, MUS 305, MUS 306, MUS 355, MUS 361, MUS 362, TA 101**

Titles for the above courses are available in the PSU Bulletin (catalog).

Foreign Language (Required by OHSU)

Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement: Language proficiency is a baccalaureate graduation requirement that can be met by 1) two years of high school language, 2) two quarters of college level (100 and above) language, or 3) a language proficiency examination. American Sign Language is an accepted language to meet this requirement. Neither high school nor proficiency examination as a means of meeting the language requirement can be used toward the 45 college credits required prior to program admission or toward total credits required for the BSN.

Additional Requirements for Admission to Concordia, Walla Walla, and George Fox University

Complete the following <i>additional</i> courses for admission to: Concordia, Walla Walla and George Fox University
College Algebra
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTH 111 (4 credits) – Introductory College Mathematics (recommended prerequisite: second year high school algebra or MTH 95)
Chemistry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH 104/107, 105/108, 106/109 (15 credits) – Introductory Chemistry with lab (recommended prerequisite: second year high school algebra or MTH 95)
Speech
<p>Required by Walla Walla University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMM 220 (4 credits) – Public Speaking <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMM 313 (4 credits) – Communication in Groups <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p>Required by George Fox University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMM 100 (4 credits) – Introduction to Communication
Physical Education
<p>Required by Walla Walla University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE 185 (3 credits) – Physical Education <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p>Required by Concordia University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHE 295 (4 credits) – Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
English Composition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A writing course in addition to the 2 courses from the OHSU, Linfield and University of Portland list
History
<p>Required by Walla Walla University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One additional History course – either US History or Western Civilization
Statistics
<p>Required by Walla Walla University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAT 244 (4 credits) – In addition to STAT 243

Requirements for Admission to Accelerated B.S.N and the Alternate Entry Nursing Programs in Oregon

The Accelerated and Alternate Entry programs require that students will have earned a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing field prior to matriculation.

Admission Requirements:

OHSU www.ohsu.edu/son

Online application begins: early September

Deadline: January 5, 2011

- Must have a bachelor's degree (a B.A. or B.S. with any major) **prior to matriculation** in order to be eligible for admission
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- Applicants are evaluated on the cumulative GPA from all previous coursework
- All prerequisite courses must be a grade of "B" or higher
- Program starts in the summer

LINFIELD www.linfield.edu

Applications Available Online: Mid November - January

Deadline: check website for exact date

- Admission consideration requires completion of a prior Bachelor's degree
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" in each course and a minimum prerequisite GPA of 2.75 by the summer start date

UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND – Alternate Entry Masters Program (AEM UP) www.up.edu

Rolling admission process

Check website for application deadline (typically early November)

- Bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing from a regionally accredited college or university
- A 3.25 minimum undergraduate GPA
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with a score of 500 on verbal and 3.5 or above on analytical writing score, **or** a score of 50 or greater on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT)
- Writing Sample
- 2 letters of recommendation
- Candidates who are competitive after the admission screening (GRE, G.P.A., prerequisites) will be invited to participate in an interview

Please see back side for Accelerated and Alternate Entry Master's program prerequisite checklist

Required Prerequisites for OHSU, Linfield (Accelerated BSN) and University of Portland (AEM UP)

_____ Bi 207, 208, 209 **Biology for Allied Health**

Note: PSU highly recommends that students complete this sequence prior to enrolling in the Human Anatomy & Physiology sequence. BI 207 will meet the biology with genetics requirement for both the University of Portland and OHSU. BI 207-209 will also meet the requirement for Linfield, which is either one full year of biology or one full year of chemistry.

_____ *Bi 234/235¹ **Microbiology & Lab**

_____ Ch 104/107 or 221/227² **Introductory Chemistry or General Chemistry** (University of Portland requirement only)

_____ *Bi 301, 302, & 303 **Human Anatomy & Physiology**

_____ Ch 250 **Nutrition OR** PHE 425 **Nutrition for Health**

_____ Stat 243 **Introduction to Probability & Statistics** (non-business section preferred)

_____ Psy 311 **Human Development**

_____ Soc 200 **Introduction to Sociology** (Linfield requirement only)

_____ Anth 103 **Introduction to Social & Cultural Anthropology** (Linfield requirement only)

_____ Two quarters of **writing**. Complete two of the following: UNST 1xx (freshman Inquiry), UNST 2xx (sophomore inquiry), WR 121, 211, 222, 227, 323, 327 or 333. (Linfield requirement only)

Pathophysiology **is not offered at PSU** (specifically a requirement for the University of Portland) It is preferred that students complete this course at UP. Please check UP's website for approved courses.

***Linfield** places a seven-year time limit on these classes at the point of application.

Please note: All nursing programs require computer experience/literacy (ability to use a PC for word processing, email and access to Internet).

¹ Offered only in WI and SU terms. Recommend taking it WI term, as SU course is compressed. Bi 235 does not need to be taken during the same term as Bi 234 (although it's preferable that they be taken concurrently or that 235 follow 234).

² Not necessary if student took and passed chemistry in high school (see UP requirements for more detail).

Applying to Nursing School

Application Process in Brief:

Students typically apply to nursing school about a year before they expect to matriculate to nursing school (e.g. in the fall term during their last year of prerequisites). Nursing programs are becoming increasingly competitive with average GPA's above a 3.4. Each program varies in how they review and admit applicants. Some programs focus on a prerequisite nursing GPA, while others look at an overall GPA. It is important to understand each program's admission requirements prior to applying. Although nursing programs allow prerequisites to be in progress during the application year, it is becoming more common that students are being admitted with the **majority of prerequisites complete at the time of application**. The best example of this is the Human Anatomy & Physiology requirement. In recent years, the majority of admitted students have had this requirement met by the application deadline.

Most BSN programs are typically 2 years in length. The exception are OCNE programs, which are 3 years (please see description of OCNE on page 6).

Most nursing programs hold information sessions for prospective students throughout the year. The information sessions are held to go over specific prerequisites, the application process and any additional program requirements. It is highly recommended that students plan to attend information sessions for each school they are applying to.

Tips & Recommendations:

- **Personally read the admission brochure and Web site** of each of the nursing schools to which you plan to apply to obtain information on admissions requirements and deadlines and to determine if the school is a good fit for you.
- **Participate in paid, volunteer, and/or shadowing experience** in the health care field and in the community at large early on in your college experience. It is important that you understand the realities of the nursing field and illustrate through action your commitment to serving the community.
- **Get involved with other pre-nursing students on campus** – joining the Portland Pre-Health Society (<http://www.pps.pdx.edu/>) is a great way to start.
- **Check periodically with the adviser** for recent changes, remaining requirements to meet, and application procedures.
- **Begin the application process early** in the fall of your last year of prerequisites at PSU. Submit your application as early as possible without compromising the quality of your application. Visit the pre-nursing advisers at PSU to discuss the application process.
- **Utilize free university resources** such as the pre-nursing advisers, Writing Center, and Career Center for help with your admission essays.
- **Begin completing financial aid forms in January; the priority filing deadline is March 1.**

Additional Resources:

All Nursing Schools: www.allnursingschools.com

American Association of Colleges of Nurses: www.aacn.nche.edu

Discover Nursing: www.discovernursing.com

Oregon State Board of Nursing: www.osbn.state.or.us/

Oregon Center for Nursing: www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education: www.ocne.org

Oregon Student Nurses Association www.oregonsna.org

Contact and Application Information for Oregon BSN Programs:

<p>OHSU /OCNE www.ohsu.edu/son Jennifer Anderson – Director of Recruitment, Admissions, and Progression 503-494-7725 E-mail: proginfo@ohsu.edu</p> <p>OCNE Applications available and accepted online: Early October Deadline: February 15, 2011</p> <p>Accelerated BS Applications available and accepted online: Early October Deadline: Mid January Check website for exact dates</p>	<p>Linfield College http://www.linfield.edu/index.php Mindy Cowan Assistant Director of Admissions Portland Campus 503-413-7830 E-mail: mcowan@linfield.edu</p> <p>Applications accepted: Early January Deadline: Early February Check website for exact dates</p>	<p>University of Portland http://nursing.up.edu/ Elisa Majors, BSN Nursing Program Counselor 503-943-7211 E-mail: nursing@up.edu</p> <p>Stacey Boatright, Nursing Program Counselor AEM UP 503-943-7423 E-mail: boatrigh@up.edu</p> <p>BSN applications accepted: September 1st Deadline: Mid January</p> <p>AEM UP applications accepted: Fall quarter Priority deadline: Early November – Check website for exact date</p>
<p>Concordia University http://www.cuportland.edu/som/nursing/ 503-280-8501 E-mail: admissions@cu-portland.edu Applications available: early August online Applications accepted between: Mid January through early March– check website or exact date</p>	<p>Walla Walla School of Nursing http://www.wwc.edu/academics/departments/nursing/ Jan Thurnhofer 503-251-6115 ext 7304 E-mail: jan.thurnhofer@wallawalla.edu</p> <p>Deadline: early February – check website or exact date</p>	<p>George Fox University http://www.georgefox.edu/academics/undergrad/departments/nursing/ Elaine Smith 503-554-2950 E-mail: esmith@georgefox.edu Deadline: early October – check website for exact date</p>

Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) www.ocne.org:

The Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) is a partnership of community colleges and public and private university schools of nursing. The Consortium was formed as part of the 2001 Strategic Plan of the Oregon Nursing Leadership Council (ONLC) in response to the critical nursing shortage.

- OCNE consists of a shared curriculum taught on all consortium campuses. Through OCNE, students can complete their BSN coursework at OHSU or at any of the participating community college campuses and earn their BSN from OHSU.
- OCNE is currently a partnership of 8 community colleges and OHSU. Local programs include: Portland Community College (2010), Mt. Hood Community College, and Clackamas Community College. Students interested in applying to the community college programs will apply directly to each school.
- OHSU has five campuses: Portland, LaGrande, Ashland, Monmouth, and Klamath Falls. Applicants can apply to all of the OHSU campuses through the online OHSU application and rank the campus they would like to be considered at.
- OCNE is a three year program – a combination of nursing and non-nursing courses.
- Most PSU students prepare for other (non-OCNE) programs and have completed most of the non-nursing courses that are required. This means that PSU students accepted to the OCNE program may progress through most of the OCNE program on a part-time basis.