SCHOOL OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH

Director: Dr. Mary Bennett

Health Sciences Complex, Office 2200
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Website: http://www.wku.edu/nursing

Programs

The School of Nursing and Allied Health (SONAH) offers the following Nursing Programs: Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN), Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Master’s Entry Professional Nursing (MEPN), Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), and Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DSNP), and BSN to Doctorate in Nursing Practice - Family Nurse Practitioner focus (BSN-DNP). The School of Nursing and Allied Health offers the following Allied Health Programs – Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene, Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene. The School of Nursing and Allied Health also houses the WKU College of Health and Human Services’ Institute for Rural Health.

This catalog provides information about the undergraduate Nursing and Allied Health programs. For information about the graduate programs, see www.wku.edu/graduate or contact the program.

Program Accreditation

The Associate of Science in Nursing program is accredited by:
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
404.975.5000
http://www.acenursing.org

The Baccalaureate, Masters, and Doctoral Nursing programs are accredited by:
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
655 K Street NW, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 887-6791
http://www.ccncaccreditation.org

All WKU nursing programs are approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing.

The Associate and Baccalaureate Dental Hygiene programs are accredited by the Council of Dental Education/Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

Admission

Admission to the nursing and allied health programs is competitive and requires a separate application. Enrollment is limited and based on student qualifications, availability of faculty, and clinical resources. Additional admission information and application deadlines are available on the School of Nursing and Allied Health website. Students interested in one of the SONAH programs should contact the program coordinator for the program of choice. See the individual programs listed below for phone and email information.

Colonnde Requirements and Regulations

When planning a program of study in the School of Nursing and Allied Health, each student should be aware of the University’s academic requirements contained in this catalog in the chapter “Academic Information.” Specific attention should be given to the subsections regarding (a) Academic Programs, (b) Colonnde Requirements and (C) Academic Requirements and Regulations. For the most current curriculum requirements, please review the program curriculum information located on the School of Nursing and Allied Health website at http://www.wku.edu/nursing.

Upon acceptance into a School of Nursing and Allied Health program, students will be required to provide the following information/documentation:

- Professional Liability Insurance
- Immunization records
- Drug Screen
- Annual Tuberculin (TB) test
- Completed medical exam
- Criminal Background check
- Current medical history
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification (CPR)
- Health Insurance
- Annual Influenza Vaccination

The Kentucky Board of Nursing (KBN) requires a criminal background check when applying for a Registered Nurse (RN) license and rejects candidates with some types of misdemeanors and any felony conviction. Therefore, students will be required to disclose any felony or misdemeanor convictions at the time of application to the nursing program and have a criminal background check and drug screen upon acceptance into the program and at random intervals throughout the program. Additionally, there may be certifications, training seminars, or other requirements specified by the program, facility, or agency that students must meet in order to be eligible for a clinical experience. Students will be responsible for purchasing uniforms as described in the student handbook and any necessary supplies. Students are responsible for program, testing and course fees each semester in addition to the regular tuition. See the School of Nursing website for most current fee information. Students are responsible for providing transportation to and from off-campus experiences. It is expected that prospective students review the School of Nursing Student Handbook for additional information on policies, regulations, and requirements.

Core Performance Standards for Nursing Students

These are the Southern Regional Educational Board approved technical standards for students in nursing programs. These standards must be met by all nursing students with or without reasonable accommodation. Students with disabilities who require accommodation (academic adjustment and/or auxiliary aids or services) to meet the core performance standards must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC) and obtain evaluation of any necessary accommodations prior to entering the WKU nursing programs. Please see the student handbook located on the School of Nursing website at http://www.wku.edu/nursing for more information.
Degrees

- Dental Hygiene (Associate of Science) (226P, 226) (http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/nursing/dental-hygiene-as)
- Dental Hygiene, Bachelor of Science (524P, 524) (http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/nursing/dental-hygiene-bs)
- Nursing, Associate of Science in Nursing (273P, 273) (http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/nursing/nursing-asn)
- Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (586P, 586) (http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/nursing/nursing-bsn)

Faculty

Professor

Cathy H. Abell PhD (Educational Leadership & Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2009
Mary P. Bennett DNS (Doctoral Nursing, Medical Nursing), Rush University, 1997
Crista L. Briggs EdD (Instructional Technology/Education Studies, Instructional Technology), University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2004
Maria E. Main DNP (Nursing Practice), University of Kentucky, 2010
Lizbeth P. Sturgeon PhD (Nursing), University of Kentucky, 2012
Dawn G. Wright PhD (Nursing Science), Vanderbilt University, 2008

Associate Professor

Lori J. Alexander DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2016
Tonya M. Bragg-Underwood DNP (Nursing Practice, MSN to DNP), Western Kentucky University, 2014
Mary L. Branstetter DNP (Nursing Practice, Post Master Science in Nursing), University of Kentucky, 2011
Barbara C. Bush MSED (Clinical and College Teaching), University of Kentucky, 1986
Terry R. Dean DMD (Dentistry), University of Louisville, 1990
Carol W. Evans MSN, University of Southern Indiana, 2009
Joseph W. Evans DDS (Dentistry), Meharry Medical College, 2003
Mary K. Green MSN, Vanderbilt University, 2000
Kimberly W. Harris MSN (Nursing), Bellarmine University, 1994
Sonya L. House EdD (Education Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2013
Sherry M. Lovan PhD (Educational Leadership and Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2009
Lora W. Moore DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2015

Assistant Professor

Maire M. Blankenship DNP, Western Kentucky University, 2014
Elizabeth A. Groves DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2019
Kara S. Haughtigan DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2016
Kimberly A. Link DNP, Western Kentucky University, 2016
Marian R. Smith DNP (Advanced Practice), University of Southern Indiana, 2012
Melissa K. Travelsted DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2014
Kim Y. Vickous EdD (Educational Leadership, Organizational Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2015

Clinical Assistant Professor

Mark W. Flener MSN (Nursing, Nursing Educator), Gonzaga University, 2016

Clinical Associate Professor

Audrey S. Cornell PhD (Educational Leadership and Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2010
Lori K. Fox MSN (Nursing), Western Kentucky University, 2001
Neena W. Jones MSN (Nursing, Education), Walden University, 2008

Instructor I

Kimberly M. Bourne MSN (Nursing (RN to BSN)), Western Kentucky University, 2012
William S. Cole MSN (Nursing, Nursing Educator), Western Kentucky University, 2010
Synthia L. Frank MSN (Nursing), Western Kentucky University, 2018
Tracy L. Jenkins MSNED (Nursing), Aquinas College, 2014
Leanna Miller DNP (Nursing Practice), Western Kentucky University, 2016
Miranda D. Peterson DNP (Nursing Practice), Northern Kentucky University, 2016
Rhonda B. Quenzer MSN (Nursing, Nursing Educator), Western Kentucky University, 2014
Dianna L. Ransdell MAE (Adult Education), Western Kentucky University, 2014
Talitha W. Richards MSN (Nursing, Nurse Educator), Western Kentucky University, 2015
Heather J. Scarborough MS (Nursing), Western Kentucky University, 2013
Kelly A. Watson MSN (Nursing), Western Kentucky University, 2016
Lindsay S. Wheat MSN (Nursing, Nursing Educator), Western Kentucky University, 2014
Diana Wooden DNP, Western Kentucky University, 2018

Instructor II

Christy DeHay MSN, University of Missouri - Kansas City, 2013
Chandra C. Ellis-Griffith MSN (Nursing), University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2011
Deanna L. Hanson MSN (Nursing), Western Kentucky University, 2005
Wendi J. Hulsey MDH (Dental Hygiene), University of Tennessee, Memphis, 2010
Vickie L. Shoumake MSN (Nursing, Nurse Educator), Western Kentucky University, 2011