

Admissions Department

**Admissions Department** 

Campus Box 2003

Philippi, West Virginia, 26416

1-304-457-6256 or

1-800-263-1549

ab.edu/academics/rn-to-bsn-online/

**School of Nursing** 

Campus Box 2033

Philippi, West Virginia, 26416

Office: 1-304-457-6285

Fax: 1-304-457-6293

# School of Nursing Online RN to BSN Program



An Innovative Online
Program
Designed Specifically
for
Registered Nurses with an
Associate Degree or Diploma

Lesa Jordan, MSN, RN

Director, Rn-BSN Program

Office: 1-304-457-6394

E-mail: jordanll@ab.edu

Offering a Bachelor of

Science in Nursing

## Alderson Broaddus University- School of Nursing developed the Online RN to BSN

**Degree Completion Program** to meet the needs of registered nurses who have an Associate Degree or Diploma in Nursing. If you are interested in obtaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing without sacrificing work and family responsibilities, this program is for you. Our innovative format will allow you to earn your bachelor's degree in a way that fits your schedule, with class times and locations that are convenient. You will earn a bachelor's degree in Nursing designed to meet your career goals and to allow you to be a more effective leader.

From the beginning in 1945 as the first 4-year baccalaureate nursing

program in West Virginia, the nursing program at Alderson Broaddus has attracted high-quality students and has graduated professionals who are leaders in nursing all across the United States and excel in many interesting nursing careers. The ABU School of Nursing is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The School of Nursing is an agency member of the National League for Nursing. In addition, the program is approved by the West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses.

As a graduate of the ABU nursing program, you will be prepared as a generalist in nursing, qualified to provide leadership in a variety of settings. The high quality of nurses graduating from ABU relates directly to the fine caliber of students who enter the program and to the personal commitment of the nursing faculty as well as the excellence of the total university curriculum. At ABU your liberal studies core requirements will strengthen your general knowledge, improve your learning skills, and give you more confidence to advance in your profession.

Upon graduation, you will receive a BSN degree. If you choose to pursue graduate education, you can advance in nursing leadership roles such as nurse practitioner, clinician, educator, administrator, or researcher. The current focus in health care, including the demands of gerontology, managed care, and community-based health care, has highlighted the unique contributions that nurses can provide. The nursing curriculum at ABU prepares nurses to meet these unique challenges. At ABU your professors will be men and women of high academic and moral standing, who are committed to making a difference in the lives of the students they serve, as well as, the advancement of their profession.

With a baccalaureate degree in nursing from Alderson Broaddus University you will join the professionals dedicated to excellence in health care. At ABU you can prepare to make a difference.

### Program Student Learning Outcomes

- 1. Create patient-centered, safe, quality evidence-based nursing care with diverse patients across the lifespan.
- 2. Design a caring environment for the patient, family and community to promote wellness, prevent disease, and facilitate healing.
- 3. Generate critical thinking necessary to provide quality patient care.
- 4. Professionally communicate/collaborate with members of the inter-professional team, the patient, family and community to provide and improve patient care.
- 5. Exemplify leadership in a variety of healthcare settings for diverse patient populations.
- 6. Synthesize information technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate errors and support decision-making.
- 7. Assimilate professional, ethical, and legal guidelines in practice as a baccalaureate-prepared professional nurse.

### Program Features

The Online RN BSN Program is designed to be completed in 18 months of full time study. RN's admitted to the Alderson Broaddus University School of Nursing Online RN to BSN Program will be assigned a nursing faculty member who advises the student relative to course registration and other academic issues as needed. Making the transition from associate degree nursing to baccalaureate professional nursing can be challenging and as one of the steps to success, the program as designed a required course that facilitates that transition.

#### **CREDIT TOWARD DEGREE COMPLETION:**

- 1. Credit by examination.
- 2. Credit by transfer.
- 3. Credit by escrow. Upon completion of 10 semester credit hours at Alderson Broaddus University in the Nursing major and a GPA of 2.5, the student may receive up to 40 semester hours of credit toward the required 120 credits necessary for graduation.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: Not required

**LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAM:** As outlined on Liberal Studies Check Sheet, which can be found at ab.edu/academics/liberal-studies.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION:** The student must earn a grade of C or higher in all required nursing courses and support courses, and a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

### Program Benefits

- Complete nursing course requirements for the bachelor's degree in approximately 18 months of fulltime study
- 2. Attend class in an asynchronous format each week, thus minimizing interference with work schedules and family responsibilities
- 3. Improve communication and other management skills and strengthen their position in the job market
- 4. Graduate with a baccalaureate degree (a B.S.N.) from an accredited institution and be eligible to enter graduate school
- 5. Participate in classroom discussions and live classroom seminars and benefit from the varied experiences and ideas of classmates
- 6. Attend small classes with the same students throughout the program, and develop group cohesiveness
- 7. Receive individualized instruction and specific attention to problem areas
- 8. Gain satisfaction from fulfilling an educational goal.

### Admission Criteria

Each applicant will be required to provide:

- 1. Current unencumbered license as a registered professional nurse.
- 2. Graduate from an approved associate degree or diploma program in nursing
- 3. Transcript from all prior academic work.

### Policy II.T.-Students with Disabilities-Admission & Progression

The Alderson-Broaddus University Department of Nursing complies with the University's admission and progression policy in response to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students admitted to the nursing major are expected to be able to complete curriculum requirements which include physical, cognitive, and behavioral skills that are essential to the function of the entry level professional nurse. Reasonable accommodations will be made in order that nursing students with disabilities can successfully complete the nursing program; however, the successful candidate for graduation is expected to perform in a reasonably independent manner.

### **Standards:**

- 1. Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.
- 2. Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
- 3. Communication abilities sufficient for interactions with others in verbal and written form.
- 4. Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small places.
- 5. Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.
- 6. Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.
- 7. Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment in nursing care.
- 8. Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.

### Progression Within the Nursing Major

Once a student enters the nursing major, progression within that student's nursing course sequence depends upon the student being able to maintain the following:

- 1. A cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- 2. A grade of "C" or better in all Nursing courses and a grade of "C" or better in all program required courses.
- 3. A progression grade of 78% or higher on testing in all nursing courses

### Graduation Requirements

This program requires 120 credits for graduation with 24 credits in nursing from Alderson-Broaddus University. Students are required to complete all graduation requirements for a bachelor's degree as specified in the Alderson-Broaddus University Catalog. Upon completion of 10 credits at Alderson Broaddus University in the nursing major and a grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), the student may receive 40 hours of credit toward the required 120 credits necessary for graduation. These credits are determined by evaluating the nursing courses completed at the previous institution and granting escrow credits for these course as if they had been taken at Alderson Broaddus University

### Computer Technology Recommendations

Access and use of computer technology is required. To help students with their academics and to facilitate communication, the following computer technology recommendations are made:

- 1. A Laptop or Desktop PC running MS Windows 7 or higher and Internet Explorer 10 or higher, or an Apple laptop or desktop running OS X 10.8 or higher and the Mozilla Firefox browser.
- 2. Computer access to the internet via a broadband connection (Cable Modem, DSL, etc.) with at least 1 Mbps bandwidth. Dial-up connections are NOT suitable.
- 3. Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.) available at journeyed.com at a significant student discount.

### Fees & Financial Aid

The total cost of educating a student at Alderson Broaddus University for one year is significantly more than the amount paid by the student. Gifts to Alderson-Broaddus from churches, trustees, alumni, and other friends, along with endowment income and certain efficiency factors, provide the difference. The University strives to keep the cost to parents and students as reasonable as possible, consistent with the development and maintenance of an instructional staff and campus facilities, which assure high-quality education. The University reserves the right to adjust charges from year to year in accordance with operating costs and inflationary trends.

### Tuition & Fee Schedule

### **Tuition**

Tuition is due at registration prior to the first class session; second and third semester payments are due on or before registration at the last class session of the prior semester.

Tuition charges are based on the number of university-sponsored semester hours attempted. These rates apply to full-time and part-time students. The charge for 2015-2016 is \$295 per semester hour.

### Payment Plans

<u>Nelnet Budget Plan</u> - For those who desire to pay their educational expenses on a monthly basis, the University will accept the Nelnet Budget Plan provided by Nelnet Business Solutions. An information pamphlet is available upon request.

<u>Employer Reimbursement Plan</u> - If your employer will reimburse tuition costs upon successful completion of each semester, you are still responsible for payment at registration.

<u>Visa and MasterCard</u> – are accepted for payment of tuition and fees.

### Other Fees throughout the program

- 1. Background check, drug test & immunization tracker \$100 (one-time fee)
- 2. HESI Leadership Exam in Capstone Course (\$30-\$40).
- 3. Books (\$50 -\$300 a course)

### About Financial Aid

Financial aid is money available from federal, state, university and private sources to help students meet university costs. Financial aid helps fill the gap between the costs of attending college and the amount that students and their families can afford to pay. These funds may be comprised of grants and scholarships, work opportunities and low-interest student loans.

To receive your personalized financial aid package, simply apply and be accepted to Alderson Broaddus University and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### The Financial Aid Office

Any student wishing to apply for financial assistance should contact the Financial Aid Office at (304) 457-6354. The Financial Aid Office is available to answer your questions and to help estimate your eligibility for financial assistance. Office hours are 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Other hours are available by appointment.

### Loans

Federal Stafford loans are fixed-rate student loans for undergraduate and graduate students attending college at least half-time. Stafford loans are the most common and one of the lowest-cost ways to pay for school. Nearly all students are eligible to receive Stafford loans regardless of credit. Stafford loans may be subsidized by the U.S. Government or unsubsidized depending on the student's need. Also, available is the Federal Perkins Student Loan, a limited funding that may be awarded on the basis of demonstrated financial need.

### Grants

Grants are awarded based upon a variety of factors, but primarily upon your demonstrated financial need.

<u>Federal Pell Grant</u> - Provided by the federal government and administered by the University, this grant is awarded on the basis of an eligibility index published yearly by Congress. The amount of each student's award is based upon cost of attendance and the effective family contribution (EFC).

<u>Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants</u> - This grant is awarded to the student who demonstrates exceptional financial need and is eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. Renewal of these awards is based upon continued need and satisfactory academic progress.

<u>West Virginia Higher Education Grant</u> - This grant is available to students who are residents of the state of West Virginia and is based on need. Pennsylvania also awards its state grants to students attending Alderson Broaddus University. Application is made by filling the state questions on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### Financial Aid Checklist

- 1. Fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the year in which you are seeking admission. If you file after March 1st (priority deadline), it is not too late to receive financial aid. However, to be eligible for the maximum amount of financial aid, you must file before March 1st. The FAFSA is the application for all financial aid at Alderson Broaddus University. Go to <a href="www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a> to apply. AB's school code is 003806. You do not have to be accepted to your program of study before you complete the FAFSA.
- 2. To complete and sign you FAFSA on-line as well as complete steps 8 and 9, you must have a PIN number. You can go to <a href="www.pin.ed.gov">www.pin.ed.gov</a> to register for your PIN number. This PIN will allow you to access all your federal information on-line.
- 3. Once you have filled out the FAFSA and have been accepted to your program, the financial aid office will send you a financial aid award letter that lists all financial aid you qualify for through the university.
- 5. Sign and return one copy of every award letter that is sent to you to the financial aid office. You may accept, decline, or reduce any items of financial aid. Once we have received your signed financial aid award letter, the financial aid office will be able to start processing your financial aid.
- 6. Some applicants will be chosen by the federal government for the verification process. If you are selected, we will notify you, and you must complete the certification worksheet, turn in copies of a signed federal tax return, and copies of all W-2 forms. We cannot apply any financial aid to your account until you fully complete the verification process.
- 7. If you are a first time borrower of federal Stafford loans, you must complete a promissory note. Go to <a href="www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a> to complete a new MPN (master promissory note) for student loans. Follow the steps and be sure to list Alderson Broaddus as the University you are attending.
- 8. After the All first time borrowers of Stafford loans must complete an entrance counseling interview. You may go to <a href="www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a> and click on Entrance Counseling to complete the required counseling. Be sure to list Alderson Broaddus as the University you are attending. You must apply for financial aid each year. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Financial Aid Office at 304-457-6354. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am until 4:30 p.m.

Division of Health Sciences:
Major in NURSING (RN -BSN)
Leading to Bachelor of Science Degree

Required:										
	Computer Science 225 Philosophy 391		(3) (3)	Medical Informatics Ethical Perspectives for Health Related Issues						
Plus the Following Professional Courses (NRSG):										
	510 515 520 530 531 532 533 550	Health Assessment Nursing Research Nurse as Manager Nursing Professional Development Community Mental Health Nursing Community as Client								
Plus:	Comple	ete Liberal Studies Chec	ck Sheet							

### Nursing Course Descriptions

The curriculum's seven Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's) progressively build from Level I through III. Successive levels target the same seven nurse-learner behaviors, but with each new level, the initial action verb augments the depth and complexity of the learning outcome behavior and the growth expected. The RN-BSN students begin the program with two Level I courses including "Transition to Professional Baccalaureate Nursing Practice" (described below) and "Health Assessment". These are followed by Nursing Research, which is the sole Level II course. The remaining RN-BSN courses comprise Level III, ending with a capstone entitled "Excellence in Nursing."

#### Nursing (NRSG)

#### NRSG-510 Transition to Professional Baccalaureate Nursing Practice

This initial course in the RN-BSN online program introduces the student to the conceptual basis of professional baccalaureate nursing using the knowledge, skills, and behaviors associated with the nursing process as venue for introducing the Program Student's Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) and the A-B curriculum. The baccalaureate experience portion culminates in portfolio development providing a means to describe one's current and potential practice. Student learning outcomes provide a

framework pertaining to quality evidence-based nursing care, environment, critical thinking, interprofessional communication/collaboration, leadership, informatics and professional ethical and legal practice. The course incorporates therapeutic communication, mental health, family and transcultural considerations. (3 semester hours). Pre-Requisites: Admission to Nursing Program (Class 3 semester hours).

#### **NRSG 515 Health Assessment**

This course focuses on the theoretical basis and psychomotor skills used when assessing the health status of individuals while emphasizing cultural diversity, age-related differences, and lifestyle factors. It introduces the role of the professional nurse in identifying and communicating normal findings and common deviations from normal. This course provides the opportunity to apply cognitive and psychomotor skills incorporating caring while performing a systematic, patient-centered health assessment. Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, (Class 3 semester hours)

#### **NRSG 520 Nursing Research**

Building on the introductory concepts of evidence-based nursing practice from earlier courses, students examine all aspects of the research process as it relates to the baccalaureate nurse's role in research. Identification of practice issues, appraisal and integration of evidence, evaluation, of patient outcomes and sharing best practice occurs with the interprofessional healthcare team as addressed. Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515 (Class 3 semester hours)

#### NRSG 530 Nurse as Manager

This theory course provides a basis in evidence-based processes used in the nursing leadership role in a variety of healthcare settings for the purpose of providing and improving patient care that is safe, as well as developmentally and culturally appropriate. It focuses on healthcare systems, organizational designs and governance, quality improvement, cost-effective care, change theory, conflict resolution, delegation and the role of the professional nurse as a leader Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515, 520 (Class 3 semester hours)

#### **NRSG 531 Nursing Professional Development**

This course focuses on lifelong learning in which nurses engage to develop and maintain competence, enhance professional nursing practice, and support achievement of career goals. It focuses on current health policy issues, health care ethics, evidence-based practice, communication, informatics, leadership and management strategies with diverse client populations across the lifespan. Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515, 520 (Class 3 semester hours)

### **NRSG 532 Community Mental Health Nursing**

Community Mental Health focuses on the acquisition and application of the theoretical basis for quality, safe, evidence-based, patient-centered nursing care in the community for patients experiencing mental health problems. This course focuses on care that is developmentally and culturally appropriate for

patients needing mental health interventions and incorporates critical thinking, quality improvement, collaboration and information technology as they relate to the care of diverse patients in the community mental health system. Integration of standards of practice and legal and ethical responsibilities occur as the self-aware professional nurse examines therapeutic groups in the community. Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515, 520 (Class 3 semester hours)

#### NRSG 533 Community as Client

Operationalizing the Program Student Learning Outcomes this course adds the additional focus of strengthening the theory base and continuing to experience community as patient. Through a variety of venues and modalities, students continue to experience the paradigm shift to community as patient and provides baccalaureate nursing care that promotes health and wellness Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515, 520 (Class 3 semester hours)

#### **NRSG 550 Excellence in Nursing**

This is the capstone course for the RN–BSN program. The student engages in academic endeavors that reflect application, synthesis and evaluation of concepts and nursing issues studied throughout the completion program. Application of educational experience to professional growth and contribution to the nursing profession is emphasized.

Pre-requisite: NRSG 510, 515, 520, 530, 531, 532, 533 (Class 3 semester hours)

Effective Date: July 2013.

### Sample Program of Study for Online RN-BSN Students

Progression within the program will be based on time of enrollment and students program of study decision to proceed as a part-time or full-time student.

Part-time student will be scheduled 3 credit hours per 8 week session. Full-time student will be scheduled no more 6 credit hours per 8 week session.

Number of electives will depend on students transfer credits received. Students will proceed with taking required nursing courses first (24 credit hours) and then liberal arts electives until the required 120 credits are acquired for graduation.

Nursing 510 is the first required course at Level I following with Nursing 515 and N520 at Level II, Nursing 530, 532, 533 are all Level III courses that can be taken in any sequence and Nursing 550 is the nursing capstone course.

1 <sup>st</sup> 8 weeks	2 <sup>nd</sup> 8 weeks	3 <sup>rd</sup> weeks	4 <sup>th</sup> 8weeks	5 <sup>th</sup> 8 weeks	9 <sup>th</sup> 8weeks
Nursing F10	Nursing F1F	Nursing F20	Nursing F20	Nursing F21	Nursing F22
Nursing 510	Nursing 515	Nursing 520	Nursing 530	Nursing 531	Nursing 532
3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit
hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours
Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal
Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies
3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit
hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours
<b>10</b> <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>12</b> <sup>th</sup>			
8 weeks	8 weeks	8 weeks			
		(if needed)			
Nursing 533	Nursing 550	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal
3 credit	3 credit	Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies
hours	hours	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit
		hours	hours	hours	hours
Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal	Liberal
Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies	Studies
3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit	3 credit
hours	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours

### Accrediting Agencies

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850 Atlanta, Georgia 30326 Phone: (404) 975-5000 Fax: (404) 975-5020

Email: info@acenursing.org

State of WV Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses

101 Dee Drive Charleston, WV 25311 304-558-3596

#### **Notice of Disclaimer**

Nothing in the catalog or any of Alderson Broaddus University's written policies, handbooks, or other documents, and nothing stated orally by a representative of the University should be construed to create any contractual obligations on the part of the University. Furthermore, no one at the University is authorized to contractually obligate the University to any student unless the obligation is in writing and is signed by the President of the University or his designee. Recognizing that changes may be necessary, the University reserves the right to change at any time its policies, guidelines, and procedures, including without limitation, the University's curricula, course offerings, fees, requirements for graduation, and any other matter set forth in the various catalogs, manuals, written policies, and other documents, at the sole discretion of the University.

#### **Notice of Non-Discrimination**

Alderson Broaddus University is committed to providing and maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from any form of illegal discrimination or harassment in accordance with federal, state and local law, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the West Virginia Human Rights Act, and their implementing regulations. Specifically, the University does not discriminate on the basis of sex, age, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state and local law in recruitment, admission, educational programs, University activities or employment. There will be no retaliation against any individual who makes a good faith report of discrimination or harassment or participates in or cooperates with any investigation of alleged discrimination or harassment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policies:

Matthew Sisk/Title IX Coordinator 101 College Hill Drive Philippi WV 26416 304-457-6356 siskmr@ab.edu

Additionally, you may contact the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights

Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building 400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington DC 20202-1100

Telephone: 800-421-3481 FAX: 202-453-6012 TDD 877-521-2172

Email: OCR@ed.gov

Alderson Broaddus University provides support for disabled students. If you are qualified for such support, contact the coordinator of your course.

"If you are a student with a disability and would like to discuss eligibility for accommodations, please visit the Academic Center for Educational Success (ACES) on the lower level of the library. ACES supports students with disabilities and coordinates provisions of services between students and faculty. Contact the Director of ACES for assistance at (304)-457-6274."