

# Nursing

<p><b>Nature of the Work</b></p>	<p>For descriptions of this profession see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Students</i> section of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) website (<a href="http://www.aacn.nche.edu/">http://www.aacn.nche.edu/</a>)</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.explorehealthcareers.org">www.explorehealthcareers.org</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Options</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gettysburg College graduates complete an accelerated program for adults with baccalaureate degrees in a field other than nursing</li> <li>• 12-18 month accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs</li> <li>• 3 year accelerated, entry-level Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs</li> <li>• Check the <i>Students</i> section of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) website (<a href="http://www.aacn.nche.edu/">http://www.aacn.nche.edu/</a>) for lists of accelerated BSN and MSN programs</li> <li>• Clinicians at the MSN level (Advanced Practice Registered Nurses):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Nurse Practitioners</li> <li>— Clinical Nurse Specialists</li> <li>— Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists</li> <li>— Certified Nurse-Midwives</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A doctoral degree (DNP) will likely be the standard for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in the future</li> </ul>
<p><b>Course Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirements vary by school</li> <li>• Check the <i>Students</i> section of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) website (<a href="http://www.aacn.nche.edu/">www.aacn.nche.edu</a>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application Timeline</b></p>	<p>Nursing school directly after Gettysburg College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required courses completed by end of senior year (although preference may be given to applicants who complete the required courses sooner)</li> <li>• Apply summer between junior and senior year</li> </ul>
<p><b>Standardized Test</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perhaps Graduate Record Exam (GRE) revised General Test (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Given year-round at computer-based test centers</li> <li>• Length ~ 4 hours</li> <li>• 3 sections : Verbal Reasoning (score 130-170), Quantitative Reasoning (score 130-170), Analytical Writing (score 0-6)</li> <li>• Register on-line (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Free and low-cost preparation materials (<a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>)</li> <li>• Unofficial scores on test day, official scores in 10-15 days</li> </ul>

<b>Application Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing's Centralized Application Service (NursingCAS) (<a href="http://nursingcas.org/">http://nursingcas.org/</a>)</li> <li>• Available continuously</li> <li>• Schools not participating in NursingCAS: apply directly to school</li> <li>• APPLY EARLY!!! Do not wait until application deadlines!</li> </ul>
<b>Admissions Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GPA</li> <li>• GRE scores</li> <li>• Letters of evaluation</li> <li>• Health-related experience</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varies by school</li> <li>• ~ 12-18 months for accelerated BSN programs</li> <li>• ~ 3 years for accelerated, entry-level MSN programs</li> </ul>
<b>Degree</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing)</li> <li>• MSN (Master of Science in Nursing), MN (Master of Nursing), MS</li> <li>• PhD, DNS (Doctorate in Nursing Science), DNP (Doctorate of Nursing Practice)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Association of Colleges of Nursing (<a href="http://www.aacn.nche.edu">www.aacn.nche.edu</a>)</li> <li>• American Association of Nurse Practitioners (<a href="http://www.aanp.org">www.aanp.org</a>)</li> <li>• National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (<a href="http://www.nacns.org">www.nacns.org</a>)</li> <li>• American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (<a href="http://www.aana.com">www.aana.com</a>)</li> <li>• American College of Nurse-Midwives (<a href="http://www.acnm.org">www.acnm.org</a>)</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.discovernursing.com">www.discovernursing.com</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.allnursingschools.com">www.allnursingschools.com</a></li> </ul>