FAQs

What is a master’s prepared nurse?
A master’s prepared nurse is one who has completed advanced level nursing education. Master’s prepared nurses can provide advanced level care through the diagnosis of illness, treatment of patients, leadership of other nurses, and implementation of evidence-based practices. Competence in a master’s prepared nurse is cultivated through advanced coursework and extensive clinical experience in a specialty area.

What is the Traditional Master option?
The Traditional Master option allows students with a BSN or a RN license and a non-nursing baccalaureate degree to earn a Master of Science degree in nursing. Students are only admitted in the autumn semester each year. This option can be completed in approximately two years as a full-time student or three years as a part-time student. At the time of application, you will need to select one area of specialization by which to be considered. After graduation, you will be eligible for certification in the specialty to which you are admitted.

What do I need to be a competitive applicant? As a prospective student, you must meet the following admission requirements of both Ohio State’s Graduate School and the College of Nursing:
- Bachelor’s degree in nursing, or a RN license with a non-nursing bachelor’s degree completed at the time of application
- A strong purpose and goals statement that addresses your motivation to pursue graduate study and your chosen specialties.
- Three letters of academic reference from professors or professionals addressing your critical and analytical thinking skills for success in a rigorous graduate program.

Graduate specialties
When applying to the Traditional Master’s option, the selection of one specialty is required. Details on the specialties, including sample curricula for each, may be found at www.nursing.osu.edu/specialties.

- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Clinical Nurse Leader
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Midwifery
- Nursing Science
- Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner

* Also available in a distance learning option
**How do I apply?**

You should submit the following items to Graduate Admissions by the deadline date:

- Graduate School application [www.gpadmissions.osu.edu](http://www.gpadmissions.osu.edu)
- Application fee ($60)
- All college transcripts (except for OSU coursework)
- GRE general test scores (if needed)

The following materials need to be uploaded with your Graduate Admissions Application:

- Current résumé
- Purpose and goals statement
- Three letters of academic recommendation - you will provide the names and email addresses of your recommenders at the time of application. An email will be automatically sent to your recommenders with instructions after your application is submitted.

You can visit the website for more information on all of your application materials!

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**Do I have to take the GRE?**

You will need to take the GRE if you meet any of the following criteria:

- A combined cumulative undergraduate GPA of below 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- A combined cumulative graduate GPA of below 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- If you hold a degree or have taken any coursework from an unaccredited college or university
- You are interested in being nominated for the Graduate School’s Fellowship competition
- The Graduate School may require you to take the GRE for other reasons in order to more fully evaluate an applicant.

GRE scores in the 50th percentile or higher are considered competitive. Your GRE scores must be within the past five years, and can be sent directly to OSU, using the code 1592.

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**Are there any prerequisite requirements or classes?**

No, you do not need to complete any prerequisite classes prior to applying. You will need to have a bachelor’s degree and hold an unrestricted nursing license prior to beginning the graduate program. Your nursing education also needs to be completed at an AECN or CCNE accredited institution.

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**Can I take any of my courses online?**

Yes! Three of our specialties have the option of being completed on campus or in a distance learning format: Family, Neonatal, and Psychiatric Mental Health. On campus students will also have the opportunity to take some core courses online.

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**Is financial aid available?**

Yes, financial aid is available. You will have the opportunity to apply for financial assistance in the form of scholarships and loans. More information about financial aid can be found on our website.

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**Can I work while completing my graduate degree?**

Yes! As a graduate student, what grades do I need to maintain?

- As a graduate student, you must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA, which is a B average, for the duration of the program.

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**How do I apply to be nominated for the Graduate School’s Fellowship competition?**

Please be sure to visit our website [www.nursing.osu.edu](http://www.nursing.osu.edu) for the most up-to-date information about financial aid!

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**Additional questions can be sent to nursing@osu.edu**

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**Master’s core curriculum**

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N7403</td>
<td>Innovative Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N7483</td>
<td>Quality Improvement and Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N7491</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N7500</td>
<td>Nursing in the American Health Care System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N7780</td>
<td>Evidence Based Nursing Scholarship</td>
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**Our post-master’s option**

For nurses who already have a master’s degree in nursing, the College of Nursing provides a post-master’s option to prepare for an advanced specialty certification (see list on front). Application requirements may be found at [www.nursing.osu.edu/pm](http://www.nursing.osu.edu/pm)

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**Sample full-time curriculum**

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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Nursing 7491</td>
<td>Nursing 7500</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

**Total credit hours**

Year 1: 11
Year 2: 13-16
Year 3: 10-12

**Approximate total credit hours:** 54-71

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**Sample part-time curriculum**

<table>
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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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</table>

**Total credit hours**

Year 1: 8
Year 2: 10-16
Year 3: 7

**Approximate total credit hours:** 54-71

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1 Specialty course requirements vary by specialty track.

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*These sample curricula are for illustration purposes only. Your specific curriculum plan must be confirmed by your faculty advisor. Course numbers, semesters of offering, and specialty requirements are subject to change. Additional information may be found at [www.nursing.osu.edu](http://www.nursing.osu.edu).*