

Career preparation milestones:

Graduate Entry Master of Science students seeking employment upon graduation

First year

- Begin creating an ongoing list of nursing-related educational accomplishments, clinical rotations, licenses and certifications, work history, volunteer experience and any other accomplishments.
 - Include date spans, addresses, contact names and contact information. This information will be essential for building your professional nursing resume and will help you identify whom you might be able to use as a professional reference, once needed. Staying in touch with these contacts will help you too!
- Network, network, network – begin building your professional nursing network.
 - Share your career goals with your lecturers and clinical instructors. Consider volunteering and participating in student nurse organizations in order to build relationships with your peers and faculty advisors.
- You may consider working part time as a nurse in your specialty or related area to gain additional experience while in the program. It is not recommended to work full time while in clinicals, as the GE program is time intensive.
- You may connect with College of Nursing Career Services for assistance with your job search or application materials at 614-292-4041.

Second year

- Continue networking and volunteering.
- Continue building your ongoing list of nursing-related experiences and accomplishments.
- Start or continue working up to 10-15 hours per week, or as needed to meet your specialty requirements.
- Continue building your ongoing list of nursing-related experiences and accomplishments. Add this information to your resume. Call the College of Nursing Career Services to schedule an appointment for resume help, if needed, at 614-292-4041.
- Become familiar with the Ohio licensure process and [preregister for the NCLEX](#).
- You are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN for your specialty the spring of your second year, after completing the 6000-level prelicensure coursework.

Third year

- Try not to take on too much during your final clinical year, as comprehensive exams and certification exams will require significant attention.
- Continue networking.
- Ensure you are familiar with your state's advanced practice nurse licensure process for your specialty.
- Finalize your resume using the ongoing list of experiences and accomplishments you have been compiling.
- Contact the College of Nursing Career Services for resume review, cover letter review, interview preparation assistance and career exploration counseling services.
- Apply early!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF NURSING