

DEGREE TYPE	DEGREE DESCRIPTION	LEVEL
LPN/LVN		
LPN/LVN (Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse)	A program that requires at least one year of full-time equivalent coursework and awards a diploma or certificate of completion as a LPN/LVN.	Undergraduate
ASSOCIATES		
RN Diploma	A program that is typically housed within a hospital based structural unit and awards a diploma or certificate of completion.	Undergraduate
Associate Degree in Nursing	A program that requires at least two to three academic years of full-time equivalent college academic work and awards an associate degree in nursing.	Undergraduate
BACHELOR'S		
BSN/BS (for Non-Nurses)	Admits students with no previous nursing education and awards a baccalaureate nursing degree.	Undergraduate
BSN/BS (2nd Degree) for Non-Nurses with a Bachelor's Degree	An accelerated program that admits students with baccalaureate degrees in other disciplines and no previous nursing education and awards a baccalaureate nursing degree.	Undergraduate
RN to BSN/BS (for Registered Nurses)	Admits RNs with associate degrees or diplomas in nursing and awards a baccalaureate nursing degree.	Undergraduate
LPN/LVN to BSN/BS (for Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses)	Admits licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and awards a baccalaureate nursing degree.	Undergraduate
MASTER'S		
Master's (MSN/MS/MN)	Admits students with baccalaureate nursing degrees and awards a master of nursing, master of science with a major in nursing, or a master of science in nursing.	Graduate
Master's (Entry-Level) for Non-Nurses with a Bachelor's degree	Admits students with baccalaureate degrees in other disciplines and no previous nursing education. Program prepares graduates for entry into the profession and awards a master's degree in nursing. Although these programs generally require a baccalaureate degree, a few programs admit students without baccalaureate degrees.	Graduate
RN to MSN/MS/MN (for Nurses without a Bachelor's degree)	Admits RNs without baccalaureate degrees in nursing and awards a master's of science degree in nursing. Typically these programs require students have an associate degree to be admitted.	Graduate
DOCTORAL		
DNP (Post-Bachelor's)	Admits nurses with a baccalaureate degree who want to pursue a doctoral degree that focuses on practice. This program prepares graduates for the highest level of nursing practice beyond the initial preparation in the discipline and is a terminal degree. Also known as BSN to DNP.	Graduate
DNP (Post-Master's)	Admits nurses with a master's degree who want to pursue a doctoral degree that focuses on practice. This program prepares graduates for the highest level of nursing practice beyond the initial preparation in the discipline and is a terminal degree.	Graduate
DNS (Doctor of Nursing Science)	Admits RNs with master's degrees in nursing and awards a doctoral degree. This program prepares students to pursue intellectual inquiry and conduct independent research for the purpose of extending knowledge.	Graduate
DNAP (Doctor of Nursing Anesthesia Practice)	Admits nurses with a baccalaureate or graduate degree in nursing or an appropriate major who want to pursue a doctoral degree that focuses on practice specializing in anesthesia. This program prepares graduates for the highest level of nursing practice beyond the initial preparation in the discipline and is a terminal degree. (Source: The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs).	Graduate
PhD (Post-Bachelor's)	Admits RNs with baccalaureate degrees in nursing and awards a doctoral degree. This program prepares students to pursue intellectual inquiry and conduct independent research for the purpose of extending knowledge.	Graduate
PhD (Post-Master's)	Admits RNs with master's degrees in nursing and awards a doctoral degree. This program prepares students to pursue intellectual inquiry and conduct independent research for the purpose of extending knowledge.	Graduate
NON-DEGREE NURSING		
Non-Degree Nursing	Coursework in nursing, often required as prerequisites or to fulfill pre-nursing requirements.	Undergraduate
CERTIFICATE		
Post-Bachelor's Certificate	Admits students with baccalaureate nursing degrees and awards at completion, a certificate.	Undergraduate
Post-Graduate Certificate	Admits nurses with a graduate degree in nursing, and, at completion, awards either a certificate or other evidence of completion, such as a letter from the program director.	Graduate