



**Bachelor of Science in Nursing
RN to BSN option (Online)
Effective Fall 2025**

Option Description

The RN to BSN option provides educational mobility for registered nurses who are seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. RNs have the opportunity to use their prior education and professional experiences to earn advanced placement status at East Carolina University. East Carolina University College of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, Telephone: 202.887.6791, and approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing.

The purpose of the option is to educate students to become professional nurses and to assume leadership roles in a variety of settings. The American Nurses Association and many other organizations recognize the baccalaureate degree as the requirement for entry into professional nursing. This professional option is built upon the liberal arts and the natural and behavioral sciences. The option stresses the learning of concepts and principles, as well as the use of the nursing process in caring for individuals, families, and groups.

Upon completion of the option, the RN to BSN graduate:

- Integrates knowledge from nursing, social and natural sciences, and humanities to provide professional nursing care across the health care continuum.
- Demonstrates competency as a care provider, communicator, advocate, collaborator, coordinator, manager, educator, consumer of research, leader, information manager, innovator and change agent.
- Demonstrates pursuit and application of knowledge, respect for diversity, application of principles of critical reasoning, and informed moral and ethical decision-making.
- Applies strategies to manage issues of professional nursing practice in a diverse and global health care environment.
- Engages in caring nurse-client/patient relationships using effective therapeutic nursing interventions, evidenced-based practice, communication, and critical reasoning to optimize client/patient and population outcomes.
- Functions in professional nursing roles as a member of inter- and intra- professional teams.

Tuition and Fees

Information and a schedule of current tuition and fees are available from the ECU Cashier's Office at <https://online.ecu.edu/tuition-financial-aid/tuition/>

Admission Requirements

Admission to the RN to BSN option requires that the following University and College of Nursing requirements be met:

- Associate degree or diploma in nursing from an accredited educational institution
- Current, unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse in the United States or a recognized US territory. Newly graduated ADN or Diploma Program students who are NCLEX board eligible but have not yet received their license may enroll with the expectation that they receive their RN license prior to starting the second semester of the curriculum. International applicants must validate credentials with the Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools before applying for RN licensure.
- Minimum requirements as specified in the current undergraduate catalog.
- Minimum overall grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Grade of "C" or higher in required mathematics and science courses.
- Satisfactory completion of [prerequisite general education and cognate courses](#).

*[RIBN](#) and [aRIBN](#) students who are successful at their respective community colleges will be admitted to the RN to BSN option as per their school's Bilateral Agreement with ECU.

If you're a resident of a state other than North Carolina, please read this important note.

Admission Process

Applying to the RN to BSN option is a two-application process:

- 1) **Submit your application to [ECU Office of Undergraduate Admissions](#)**
- 2) **Submit your [RN to BSN application](#)**

Students cannot be admitted to the RN to BSN option without admission to the University.

The East Carolina University and the RN to BSN applications should both be submitted by posted dates.

Prospective students interested in the RN to BSN option should request an [unofficial transcript review](#) prior to applying. This review will provide information regarding required prerequisites that should be completed prior to applying to the RN to BSN option. ECU Undergraduate Admissions and the Registrar complete official transcript evaluations and award transfer credit when students apply for admission to ECU.

Curriculum Plan

| Semester | Course(s) | Weeks | Hours |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------|
| I Fall, Spring | NURS 4950 – Professional Concepts for RN to BSN (WI) | Semester | 6 |
| II Spring, Summer (4951 also available Fall) | NURS 4951 – Application of Evidence-based Nursing Practice for RN to BSN NURS 4952 – Nursing Leadership for RN to BSN | Semester 5 ½ or 7 weeks | 4 3 |
| III Summer, Fall (4954 also available Spring) | NURS 4953 - Population Health for RN to BSN (WI) NURS 4954 – Global Health for RN to BSN | Semester 5 ½ or 7 weeks | 6 4 |
| IV Fall, Spring | NURS 4955 – Quality and Safety for RN to BSN NURS 4956 – Transition to Professional Practice for RN to BSN | 5 ½ or 7 weeks Semester | 3 6 |
| Total hours | | | 32 |

The RN to BSN curriculum was designed with the working registered nurse in mind and includes the following special features:

- No placement examinations.
- Online courses.
- The curriculum is based on feedback from prospective students and is designed to meet recommendations and requirements of accrediting bodies. The courses focus on areas of study congruent with the needs of preparing nurses to practice as BSNs. Summer courses are required. Students will earn their BSN in 4 semesters.
- Some courses are presented in a blocked (5 ½ or 7 week) format.
- *Currently* two admission points (spring, fall) each year.
- Some courses (for example NURS 4952, 4955) contain practice experiences in which the student may be required to complete activities away from the computer. An example of such an experience may include being asked to interview an individual in a leadership role in the community.

Contact Information

For further information, contact:

Director, RN to BSN Option
East Carolina University
3164 Health Sciences Building
Greenville, NC 27858-4353
Telephone: 252.744.6470
Email: RNBSN@ecu.edu

The University

East Carolina University is the third largest in the University of North Carolina system (UNC), which consists of the state's sixteen degree-granting public institutions. ECU is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees and is designated as an academic health center by the Association of American Health Centers. Governed by its own Board of Trustees, which is responsible to the UNC Board of Governors, ECU offers 104 departmental certificates, 85 baccalaureate degree programs, 68 master's degree programs, and 13 doctoral programs. It confers more than 6,000 degrees annually and has over 200,000 alumni.

Reviewed June 6, 2025