

Students entering the Accelerated BSN track must have earned a non-nursing baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university prior to their enrollment in the program.

Prerequisite Courses Required:

The following prerequisite (or their equivalent) coursework needs to be completed with a “C -” or better prior to the Accelerated BSN track program start, with official transcripts on file with the Registrar's office.

- Anatomy & Physiology I and II with labs
- Essentials of Chemistry + lab
- Organic & Biochemistry
- Microbiology with lab
- Intro to Sociology
- Statistics
- General Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Oral Communication
- Written Communication

Curriculum Plan:

SUMMER SEMESTER 1 (6-week sessions): 12 credits total

Session 1

ACNU201 *Fundamentals & Health Promotion + Lab* (4 credits)

ACNU202 *Assessment & Health Promotion + Lab* (4 credits)

Session 2

ACNU208 *Nutrition for Healthcare* (3 credits)

ACNU308A *Pathophysiology & Pharmacology Part I* (1 credit)

FALL SEMESTER (8-week sessions): 16.5 credits total

Session 1

ACNU302 *Psychosocial Health + Lab & Clinical* (4.5 credits)

ACNU308 *Pathophysiology & Pharmacology* (3 credits)

ACNU 289: Special Topics course (2 credits) **This course runs for the duration of the 15-week semester.

Session 2

ACNU301A *Care of the Family Part I + Lab & Clinical* (1.5 credits)

ACNU304 *Illness Across the Lifespan I* (4 credits)

ACNU305A *Clinical Nursing Care I Part I* (1.5 credits)

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SPRING SEMESTER (8-week sessions): 14.5 credits total

Session 1

ACNU301B *Care of the Family Part II + Lab & Clinical* (3 credits)

ACNU305B *Clinical Nursing Care I Part II* (1.5 credits)

ACNU404A *Illness Across the Lifespan II Part I* (2 credits)

Session 2

ACNU307 *EBP Research Methods* (3 credits)

ACNU404B *Illness Across the Lifespan II Part II* (2 credits)

ACNU414 *Community & Public Health Nursing* (3 credits)

SUMMER SEMESTER 2 (6-week sessions): 14 credits total

Session 1

ACNU413 *Clinical Nursing Care II* (3 credits)

ACNU406 *Leadership & Management + Lab & Clinical* (4 credits)

Session 2

ACNU417 *Capstone Clinical & Seminar* (3.5 credits)

ACNU427 *Comprehensive Nursing Review* (3.5 credits)

REQUIRED CORE COURSES for Post-baccalaureate students (may be taken either Summer, Fall, or Spring if not already completed):

One Theology course (3 credits) AND

One Philosophy course (3 credits)

One must be an ethical reasoning course (for example: PHIL205 Ethics, PHIL208 Bioethics, TH222 Healthcare Ethics)

Major in Nursing

The nursing program at Carroll College offers a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing, preparing students to practice as professional nurses and for graduate studies in nursing. Upon graduation, students are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Successful passage of the NCLEX-RN is required for practice as a registered nurse. The Montana Board of Nursing makes all final decisions on issuance of RN licenses in Montana. The baccalaureate degree in nursing at Carroll College is accredited by the [Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education](http://www.ccnaccreditation.org/) (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org/>). The program is also approved by the Montana State Board of Nursing.

Baccalaureate in Nursing

A baccalaureate degree in nursing represents a comprehensive, holistic approach to the delivery of health care for individuals, families, and both local and global communities. Baccalaureate nurses utilize evidence-based practice models as they assess and plan care for the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of their clients. Proficient in nursing skills, leadership skills and health systems assessment, the Carroll nursing graduate is well-prepared to function as a generalist practitioner.

Admission and Progression in the Accelerated BSN Track

To progress in the nursing major, the student must:

1. Have a grade of “C-” or better in all required nursing classes and any necessary philosophy, theology, and/or ethical reasoning courses. All nursing courses must be taken at Carroll College unless the nursing department grants an exception
2. Maintain a minimum CUM Carroll GPA of 2.75 at the end of each semester after admission into the nursing major.
3. Pass/Fail grades may be acceptable for courses not co-requisite to nursing courses as long as the student is within the parameters of the guidelines of the Academic Policies as stated in the Carroll College Catalog currently in effect.
4. In the event of a college academic integrity violation, the student’s ability to progress in the nursing major will be determined on an individual basis.
5. Provide documentation noting completion of and compliance with the expectations and requirements of the nursing program clinical affiliates to include, but not limited to, official documentation for specific immunizations, a criminal background check, a 10-panel urine drug screen, maintenance of current health insurance, and American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers certification. Costs to complete these clinical readiness requirements are to be paid by the student. Instructions for completing these requirements will be provided by the Department of Nursing prior to 200-level nursing courses. Students with background checks that reveal a record and/or urine drug screen that reveal a positive result will be evaluated individually to determine whether they will be eligible to progress in the nursing major. Inability to comply with the outlined clinical readiness requirements may interfere with a student's ability to participate in the nursing program clinical requirements, making the student ineligible to progress in the major. Alcohol and drug violations may interfere with Montana Board of Nursing approval to sit for the NCLEX-RN exam.
6. Students who receive any legal action that would appear on a criminal background check, such as a misdemeanor or felony charge or conviction, must immediately inform the chair of the Nursing Department, and will be evaluated individually to determine whether they will be allowed to progress in the nursing major.
7. Students must demonstrate the academic achievement, emotional maturity, integrity, and motivation necessary for progression in the nursing major.

If the student does not meet the above progression criteria, they may not continue in the nursing major. If a student does not pass required nursing course(s), they must demonstrate competency in the failed course(s) with a grade of “C-” or better prior to taking any other nursing courses.

Access to Clinical Experiences

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Clinical experience begins in the 200-level nursing courses and occurs in diverse community settings, varying from Helena's hospitals to public health, assisted-living, long-term care, home visits, and psychiatric and school settings. Although nursing clinical is primarily in Helena, out of town clinical may be required, necessitating personal transportation at the students' expense. In addition, on-campus clinical experiences are provided in the on-campus nursing clinical simulation center. Each nursing course at Carroll provides quality, personalized learning experiences.

Nursing students are expected to purchase Carroll College nursing scrubs, nametag, hand-held mobile device, and other items needed for clinical/lab experience. As part of the program onboarding process and prior to beginning 200-level courses, nursing students must demonstrate specific clinical readiness requirements required by our third-party clinical affiliates. These requirements must be kept current throughout the program duration and include, but may not be limited to, up-to-date immunization records, a criminal background check, a 10-panel urine drug screen, maintenance of current health insurance, and American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers certification.

Professional nursing is regulated in Montana by the Board of Nursing to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. As part of their educational program, student nurses are entrusted with the responsibility of providing certain kinds of nursing care to clients/patients. It is the responsibility of the faculty to determine that the student nurse has demonstrated reasonable competence to render nursing interventions without risk to the client/patient. If the faculty member's evaluation of the student nurse's behavior or health status indicated that he or she is likely to provide unsafe nursing care as outlined in the course expectations, the Statutes and Rules of Nursing, and the ANA Code of Ethics, the faculty has the legal responsibility to deny the student nurse access to clinical learning experience. Professional liability insurance coverage is required for students engaged in clinical experiences and is included in registration fees.

The Carroll College Department of Nursing reserves the right to make changes in these admission and progression criteria.