

2015-2016

AAS in Nursing to Master of Science in Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program



MARICOPANURSING

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GRAND CANYON
UNIVERSITY™

COLLEGE OF NURSING & HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS

MaricopaNursing-Grand Canyon University AAS-MSN Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program (NCEP)

If you're a prospective nurse who brings a bachelor's degree in another field to your pursuit of a nursing career, the MaricopaNursing-Grand Canyon University (GCU) Associate in Applied Science in Nursing to Master of Science in Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program (AAS-MSN NCEP) may be for you.

Building on the academic foundation of your previous degree, the AAS-MSN NCEP allows you to take six core nursing courses from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at GCU concurrently with your AAS courses at MaricopaNursing. Once you complete your AAS and BSN courses and pass the NCLEX, you will move into the MSN portion of your program.

Why Choose This Path?

- **Jump start your nursing career.** By concurrently enrolling in the AAS with MaricopaNursing and the GCU MSN Bridge (the core courses from the BSN), you'll learn hands-on nursing skills, as well as gain the core competencies of the highly sought-after bachelor's-prepared nurse.
- **Take a step forward, not sideways.** You've already earned a bachelor's degree, so advancing to the master's level is the efficient next step toward your career goals. This accelerated path to your MSN allows you to put your prior education and experience to work sooner.
- **Set yourself apart from the competition.** NCEP courses will help you develop clinical reasoning, critical thinking and problem solving skills — all highly valued skills in the marketplace. With these skills, you'll put yourself ahead of 60 percent of other nurses who graduate with an associate degree or diploma in nursing¹. Additionally, your commitment to earning your master's degree can give you an advantage especially with hospitals that have or are seeking Magnet status.
- **Specialize in an area of interest.** The MSN is the new standard for positions of leadership in a variety of health care environments (MSN with emphasis in Leadership in Health Care Settings) and is the required degree for higher education and many roles in clinical and community settings (MSN with emphasis in Education). You can also develop your expertise to pursue a career in a key nursing area with emphases in Public Health or Informatics. You may also choose to use this NCEP to move into the dual degree MSN/MBA.
- **Save money.** You'll receive a significant tuition reduction on your MSN-bridge courses while enrolled in the NCEP. As an MCCCCD graduate, you'll also be eligible for a discount on your MSN program at GCU.

Things You Should Know

- 1) You will need to apply for acceptance into the NCEP and also provide documentation showing that you have met eligibility requirements. Participation in the NCEP is limited to a select number of applicants who have demonstrated completion of prerequisite coursework and have met eligibility requirements specific to the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP.
- 2) If accepted into the NCEP, you will be enrolled in MCCCCD and GCU at the same time. You will be responsible for financial obligations to both schools.
- 3) GCU MSN-bridge courses are five weeks and delivered in a convenient online modality.
- 4) When you enter your master's program, you can choose an emphasis in either Education, Leadership in Health Care Systems, Public Health, Health Care Informatics or a dual degree MSN/MBA. See descriptions on page 7.
- 5) Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN graduates will be prepared with the expected professional knowledge and skills of a new graduate master's prepared nurse.
- 6) **Students accepted into this pathway will have a previous bachelor's degree and will not receive a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) as part of this program.**

¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration. (September 2010) Nurse Population Findings from the 2008 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses. Retrieved from <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/healthworkforce/rnsurveys/rnsurveyfinal.pdf>



Eligibility

To be considered for participation in the AAS-MSN NCEP, the following is required:

- Acceptance into the MaricopaNursing pool.
- Completion of all MaricopaNursing and GCU prerequisite requirements.
- Have a previous bachelor’s degree.
- Meet the minimum GPA of 3.0 in all MaricopaNursing and GCU courses that are noted with one asterisk (*) below.

Submit your CEP application to a nursing advisor at the MaricopaNursing college you prefer to attend. Please note specific MaricopaNursing college placement is not guaranteed and you may be asked for a second or third choice. Applications will be accepted at all colleges and specific cut-off times will be advertised.



Required Pre and Co-Requisites

MaricopaNursing Prerequisites and Co-requisites	Additional Prerequisites
First Year Composition (ENG 101 & ENG 102 or ENG107 & ENG 108)*	HCR240 Human Pathophysiology*
Critical Reading (CRE 101) or test exempt	HCR210 Clinical Health Care Ethics
Chemistry (CHM 130, CHM 130LL)	HCR220 Introduction to Nursing and Health Care Systems
Intermediate Algebra (MAT 120 or higher)	HCR230 Culture and Health
Introduction to Psychology (PSY 101 or PSY 240) *	
Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II (BIO 201; BIO 202)*	
Microbiology (BIO 205)*	
Humanities Elective (2 credits)	

*Courses used for GPA calculation
 To ensure that prerequisites meet program requirements you are encouraged to meet with MCCC and GCU college advisors.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP



Who can apply to the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program (NCEP)?

All students who have completed the eligibility requirements for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP, and are not currently enrolled in a MaricopaNursing program, are encouraged to apply. A previous bachelor's degree is also required.

Will I receive a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree along this pathway?

No, students who are accepted into this NCEP will have a previous bachelor's degree in another subject and will not be granted a BSN. The coursework will result in an AAS in Nursing (from MaricopaNursing) and a MSN (focus to be determined by student) from GCU.

Where does the program take place?

The Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP will be offered at MaricopaNursing program sites and AAS courses will be offered at the selected MaricopaNursing campus. All GCU courses will be taught online.

Is there a waiting list for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP?

There is no waiting list for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP. If you are not accepted into the program for the semester to which

you applied, you must reapply to be considered for enrollment in future semesters.

Do I have to attend an AAS-MSN NCEP Information Session?

Yes – all students who wish to make application to AAS-MSN NCEP must attend either an information session or review and confirm understanding of the materials presented online at www.nursing.maricopa.edu. The applications can be downloaded from the MaricopaNursing website noted above.

What should I bring to consult with the nursing advisor prior to applying?

Bring your completed NCEP Application; NET and/or HESI A2 scores; and copies of unofficial transcripts from all educational institutions attended. The MaricopaNursing advisor will review your application and will send to the GCU advisor for review as well.

What do you look for in a potential candidate that is applying for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP?

We look for applicants who have demonstrated strong academic achievement and the ability to balance personal, academic and professional commitments. Specifically, student selection will be based on GPA and HESI A2 or NET scores. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a previous bachelor's degree are required.

If I am not selected for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP, can I reapply?

As long as you meet the current NCEP requirements, and are not enrolled in a MaricopaNursing program, you are eligible to reapply.

Do I need to be admitted to the MaricopaNursing pool and to GCU?

To be eligible to apply for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP, you must be in the MaricopaNursing applicant pool. Following your acceptance into the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP, you will apply to GCU. Official transcripts from all educational institutions attended must then be submitted to both the MaricopaNursing college location you will attend and to GCU.

If I will not be finished with all of my prerequisite and co-requisite (Maricopa) courses the semester before I plan to start the program, can I still apply for the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP?

Prior to starting the program all prerequisite and Maricopa co-requisite courses must be completed. Students may apply to the NCEP with up to 7 HCR credits pending – all other MaricopaNursing pre and co-requisite courses must be completed prior to application.

How much does the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP cost?

Tuition costs* for the (approximate) 36 credits of MaricopaNursing AAS courses = approximately \$3,025. Textbooks, supplies, registration and course fees are additional.

Tuition costs* for the required credits of GCU BSN bridge courses are significantly reduced to \$250 per credit hour. Textbooks, supplies and course fees are additional. Graduate Nursing Program tuition is currently \$495 per credit (not including the MCCCCD alumni discount). A GCU representative can help you determine your total cost of tuition and fees with our Net Price Calculator.

*Maricopa tuition effective July 1, 2013 is \$84 per credit hour and subject to change. GCU tuition rates effective 4/29/2014 and subject to change.

If I am receiving financial aid, how will it be disbursed between the two schools?

Because federal regulations require that financial aid can only be disbursed through one college at a time, you will need to apply for financial aid through Maricopa Community Colleges for the first four blocks of the program. You will be responsible for arranging payment for the concurrent GCU courses. At the completion of the MaricopaNursing blocks, you will have the ability to apply for financial aid through GCU for the completion of the MSN coursework. Financial aid is dependent on many factors that vary from student to student such as previous degree(s), number of courses previously taken, etc., and aid or loans for this program are not guaranteed. You will need to be prepared to pay your GCU program tuition out of pocket or by arrangement with GCU until the balance of your financial aid is awarded by GCU.

How are classes scheduled?

You will be registered for your MaricopaNursing classes through the community college admissions and records department. Course schedules will be posted on Canvas. A GCU student services advisor (SSA) will help you register for the GCU nursing courses. You will conduct your GCU nursing courses online in LoudCloud. Your SSA will help you get started and make sure you are comfortable with this interactive online classroom.

When do I choose my MSN specialization?

You will choose your MSN specialization when you enroll for the graduate portion of your program at GCU from one of the following:

Health Care Informatics — learn to apply patient and health data to achieve better patient outcomes, reduce costs and optimize operational efficiency.

Nursing Education — prepare for a variety of roles in nursing education including patient education, as well as nurse educator in clinical and academic settings

Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems — develop skills to lead or manage teams of health care providers and organizations in today's rapidly changing health care environment

Public Health — prepare for a career coordinating, planning, developing, implementing and evaluating health programs and services in the public sector

Where do I go for academic advisement for this program?

There are GCU counselors assigned to each MCCCCD campus who are available to meet with students while at MCCCCD or at a location convenient to you. Once accepted into the program, you will be assigned a GCU student services advisor to assist you with any scheduling or financial questions you may have. MaricopaNursing advisors are available on each Maricopa campus.

Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN Nursing Concurrent Enrollment Program
(Previous Bachelor's Degree Required)
Course of Study: Spring Entry

Semester I	Spring	Total: 15 credits
(MN) NUR 152	Nursing Theory and Science I	9 credits
(GCU) NRS430V	Professional Dynamics	3 credits
(GCU) NRS434V	Health Assessment	3 credits
Semester II	Summer	Total: 3 credits
(GCU) HLT362V	Statistics	3 credits
Semester III	Fall	Total: 12 credits
(MN) NUR 172	Nursing Theory and Science II	9 credits
(GCU) NRS433V	Nursing Research	3 credits
Semester IV	Spring	Total: 12 credits
(MN) NUR 252	Nursing Theory and Science III	9 credits
(GCU) NRS427V	Community and Public Health	3 credits
Semester V	Summer	Total: 12 credits
(MN) NUR 283	Nursing Theory and Science IV	9 credits
(GCU) NRS410V	Pathophysiology and Nursing Management of Clients' Health	3 credits

Graduate from Maricopa Nursing with AAS degree; take NCLEX-RN within 60 days
Notify GCU of successful completion of NCLEX-RN

GCU Graduate Core	Each 4-Credit Master's Course is Completed in 8 Weeks	Total: 36-66 credits
GCU Graduate Core NUR502, NUR504, NUR508	Theoretical Foundations for Nursing Roles and Practice; Health Care Research Analysis and Utilization; Ethics, Policy, and Finance in the Health Care System	12 credits
	Graduate program concentration	24-54 credits

Key Information

- You must have a current application in the MaricopaNursing pool before being considered for the program.
- You must complete all prerequisites and co-requisites for MaricopaNursing and GCU.
- You must have a previous bachelor's degree.
- To ensure that prerequisites meet program requirements you are required to meet with MCCCCD and GCU advisors.
- Review and confirmation of NCEP Information located at www.nursing.maricopa.edu under Concurrent Enrollment Programs is mandatory before application to the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP program.
- All Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP nursing courses will be taught at the MaricopaNursing program location or online. MaricopaNursing coursework may be offered in a hybrid format (a portion of classes in person and a portion online).
- Final determinations of transfer credits will be made by both Maricopa and GCU admissions personnel.
- Students currently enrolled in a MaricopaNursing Program, are not eligible to transfer into the Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP.

Health and Safety Requirements

MaricopaNursing and GCU have Health and Safety Requirements that must be met prior to enrolling and participating in any clinical experience. Health care agencies throughout the state require vaccinations, titers and other requirements such as background checks, CPR, drug and nicotine testing, etc. These requirements are subject to change per health care agency contracts with the educational institution. You must be compliant (with no exception) with agency requirements prior to and throughout the program.



11 Steps to Successful Completion of Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN Nursing Concurrent Enrollment (NCEP) Program

- 1) You decide to pursue application to Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP.
- 2) Meet with MaricopaNursing and GCU advisors to determine course prerequisites and co-requisites for MaricopaNursing and GCU College of Nursing and Health Care Professions are met.
- 3) Apply and be accepted into the MaricopaNursing pool.
- 4) Review the AAS-MSN NCEP Information materials online or attend an information session at one of the MaricopaNursing colleges.
- 5) Meet with a MaricopaNursing advisor to apply for the NCEP. Bring NCEP application, HESI A2 scores, and unofficial transcripts from all educational institutions attended and bring to the advisor appointment.
- 6) Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP Acceptance Committee reviews applications and selects applicants for admission into Maricopa-GCU AAS-MSN NCEP for upcoming semester.
- 7) Applicants selected for placement notified of application status and accept/refuse placement.
- 8) Apply to GCU and enroll in first two courses. Enroll in first Maricopa Nursing course.
- 9) Study and maintain minimum 3.0 GPA for progression into the MSN.
- 10) Graduate with AAS in Nursing from Maricopa and take NCLEX-RN licensure exam within 60 days. Notify GCU of successful completion of NCLEX-RN.
- 11) Select MSN specialization and complete final credits of GCU MSN courses and graduate with MSN from GCU.

Contact Information

MaricopaNursing

Health Care Education
Administrative Secretary
480-731-8264
nursing@domail.maricopa.edu

Grand Canyon Representatives for each MCCCDC site:

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Maricopa Community Colleges

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For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at www.gcu.edu/disclosures. Please note, not all GCU programs are available in all states and in all learning modalities. Program availability is contingent on student enrollment. The baccalaureate degree in nursing and master's degree in nursing at Grand Canyon University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>). GCU's College of Nursing and Health Care Professions is approved by the Arizona State Board of Nursing. Grand Canyon University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. (800-621-7440; <http://hlcommission.org/>).

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