



Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)

Tremendous opportunities await PhD-prepared nurses. According to the American Nurses Association, this group constitutes less than five percent of the total nursing population, and many are expected to retire in the next 10 years.

A PhD in nursing further develops skills in research and education, enhancing your opportunity to participate in research that will have a far-reaching effect on the science of nursing and changing nursing practices. Our faculty are committed to the development and dissemination of new knowledge and the creation of collaborative relationships with students, clinical agencies, and communities to support innovative, interdisciplinary, outcome-based research.

Entry Options

Unique to FPB's PhD program is a variety of possible entry points into the program

TRADITIONAL FORMAT

If you have already earned the MSN degree, you can enter the PhD program directly and complete the PhD core coursework during fall and spring semesters.

FAST-TRACK OPTION

If you have a BSN or equivalent, you can pursue the PhD degree without earning an MSN. In addition to PhD core requirements, students must complete transition courses to gain clinical knowledge and be able to develop a research focus pertinent to nursing in the context of care.

DUAL DEGREE MSN/PhD PROGRAM

If you have a BSN or equivalent degree and would like to pursue an MSN degree in a specialized area on the way to a PhD in nursing, you can achieve that goal through our combined MSN/PhD program. With up to eight credits of overlapping courses between the programs (depending on the MSN major), your path to the PhD can be shortened as you meet your goal of a master's degree in a specialty of your choice.

DUAL-DOCTORAL PROGRAM

If you're interested in a research doctorate (PhD) combined with a clinical doctorate (DNP), this post-MSN program is for you. The dual-doctoral program integrates coursework to prepare you for a career as a clinical researcher, faculty member, or healthcare administrator and can be completed in five years.

ADVANCED STANDING FOR DNP GRADUATES

If you already have a DNP degree and would like to become a nurse scientist, you can enter the PhD program with advanced standing and have the opportunity to waive up to three PhD nursing courses. You can complete your PhD in three years.

PhD Program Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing requires a minimum of 57 semester hours of coursework, which includes the foundation for your dissertation as well as dissertation completion. Our programs are individualized, taking into account your interests, aspirations, and work experience.

If you're entering the program with a BSN, you will be required to take additional courses to help your transition to doctoral study. The general program requirements are listed to the right. Additional coursework may also be necessary, as determined by your faculty advisor.



To be eligible for the PhD program, you must:

- Submit an application, transcripts with your GPA, and three letters of recommendation that describe your professional nursing competence and potential for success in research
- Demonstrate potential for academic success and significant contributions to nursing
- Show satisfactory performance on the GRE; international students must supply evidence of English proficiency
- Submit a statement of academic, career, and research objectives and written responses to essay questions contained in the application packet
- Interview with two faculty members
- Provide proof of graduation from an accredited school of nursing program leading to a BSN (or equivalent) or MSN degree
- Show evidence of RN licensure or international equivalent

Application Deadlines:

February 1 for Fall semester | **October 1** for Spring semester

Legacy Fellow Application Deadline:

January 1 for Fall semester | **September 1** for Spring semester nursing.case.edu/PhD/legacy-fellows/



FRANCES PAYNE BOLTON
SCHOOL OF NURSING

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

For more information

Office of Student Services
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106-4904

Web: nursing.case.edu

Telephone: 216.368.2529

Email: admissionsfpb@case.edu

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