

# CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY



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Information about Nursing Programs



*Claflin Nursing*

Elevation and Transformation

## Undergraduate and Graduate Programs Information

400 Magnolia Street  
Orangeburg, SC 29115

Send program inquiries to  
[nursing@claflin.edu](mailto:nursing@claflin.edu)  
or call 803-535-5843

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## *Greetings from the Nursing Department Chair*



Hello Future Claflinite,

Thank you for taking the time to explore Claflin University's Department of Nursing. You are considering your next academic home at a pivotal moment in the history of healthcare, when the demand for compassionate, clinically-excellent, emotionally-resilient nursing leaders has never been greater. We are honored that you are exploring this journey with us.

Since our founding in 1869 as the first Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in South Carolina, Claflin has remained committed to access, innovation, and excellence for learners of diverse backgrounds. That same spirit guides our contemporary nursing programs today. Our fully online RN to BSN, MSN in Nursing Leadership, and MSN Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) pathways are intentionally designed to support working professionals, nurses who are ready to elevate their practice, expand their impact, and lead change in their communities.

At Claflin, we understand that nursing is more than a profession; it is a calling. Our curriculum emphasizes clinical judgment, population health, leadership, cultural humility, resilience, mental wellness, and the ability to care for individuals, families, and communities through an evidence-based and holistic lens. Our faculty are experienced nurse leaders, scholars, and advanced practice clinicians who are committed to mentoring you toward success.

We admit:

RN-BSN students every Fall and Spring

MSN-FNP students every Fall

MSN-Leadership students every Fall and Spring

As an online learner, you will experience flexible coursework, personalized faculty support, competency-based education aligned with the AACN Essentials (2021), and opportunities for community-building and mentorship.

I encourage you to begin your application soon. The online application is simple, and our team is here to assist you every step of the way. You may apply at <https://apply.claflin.edu/>

Thank you for considering Claflin University. We look forward to the opportunity to welcome you into a community grounded in excellence, resilience, and purpose.

Warm regards,

Dr. Melissa Knight, PHD, RN, MSN, CNE  
Interim Associate Dean of Nursing/Department Chair  
Claflin University Nursing Department

Revised Nov. 1, 2025





## MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

*Claflin seeks to foster a rich community who work to nurture and develop the skills and character needed for engaged citizenship and visionary and effective leadership.*

### MISSION STATEMENT

**Claflin University** is a comprehensive institution of higher education affiliated with the United Methodist Church. A historically black university founded in 1869, Claflin is committed to providing students with access to exemplary educational opportunities in its undergraduate, graduate and continuing education programs. Claflin is dedicated to providing a student-centered, liberal arts education grounded in cutting-edge research, experiential learning, state-of-the-art technology, community service, and life-long personal and professional fulfillment. (Claflin University, 2016).

Claflin is a diverse and inclusive community of students, faculty, staff and administrators who work to cultivate practical wisdom, judgment, knowledge, skills and character needed for globally engaged citizenship and effective leadership.

**Nursing Department's Mission Statement** – Building upon the mission, vision and guiding principles of Claflin University, the Nursing Department's mission is to use disciplined study to explore and confront the substantive challenges facing the global society to provide students with the essential foundation of a liberal arts education and enhance their skills to improve health and well-being of the community and beyond, and to enhance job marketability to meet global health needs; emphasizing critical and analytic thinking and the knowledge to serve in health care settings with diverse populations

### CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Claflin University will be recognized as a leading 21<sup>st</sup> Century institution of higher education that develops a diverse and inclusive community of globally engaged visionary leaders.

**The Vision Statement of the Department of Nursing** is that Claflin University's Nursing Department will be nationally recognized as a leader for innovative programs in nursing education, community-centered scholarship, and interdisciplinary partnerships that prepare professional nurses to meet the rapidly changing healthcare needs of the diverse community.

### CLAFLIN UNIVERSITY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

At the center of everything the University does, is a system of values informing and guiding all policies and programs. These values, expressed through Claflin's decisions and actions, are defined by five overarching guiding principles:

1. **Commitment to Excellence** through doing things better and differently.
2. **Commitment to Valuing People** by providing a safe, wholesome and healthy environment for our people to live, learn and work.
3. **Commitment to Being Customer Focused**, ensuring that everyone knows who the customer is, and takes steps to show it.
4. **Commitment to Exemplary Educational Programs** by educating our students in a way to help them have a full, quality life and function as productive citizens.
5. **Commitment to Financial Accountability** by putting in place sound and effective fiscal policies which are consistent with the mission and goals of the university.



# Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Information



## **Clafin University BSN Program Outcomes**

Building on a foundation of the liberal arts, the graduate will:

1. Demonstrate leadership skills that integrate an understanding of organizational systems and the internal and external forces that impact them.
2. Engage in evidence-based practice to enhance the quality of patient care and outcomes.
3. Use information technologies to document nursing care and improve patient care outcomes.
4. Use the nursing process to plan and implement culturally appropriate care to promote health and prevent disease and injury in diverse populations.
5. Advocate for patients, the nursing profession, and access to quality care through the development of interprofessional and interprofessional collaborative relationships.
6. Model professionalism based on personal values, ethical principles, and the nursing profession's values and standards.

\*The BSN and MSN programs at Clafin University integrate the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials, including the updated 2021 AACN Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education. These competencies guide curriculum design, assessment, and evaluation to ensure graduates are prepared to deliver safe, equitable, evidence-based, person-centered care in an evolving healthcare environment.

## **ACCREDITATION**

Clafin University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Clafin University.

The baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at Clafin University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccneaccreditation.org>).

## RN to BSN Curriculum Summary

<i>Requirements</i>	<i>Semester Hours</i>
a. General Education	60
b. Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) courses	30
c. Upper Division Nursing Courses	30
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>120</b>

The **General Education** curriculum consists of a distribution of 60 credit hours.

<b>Prerequisite</b>	<b>Semester Hours</b>	
English Composition/Public Speaking/ Literature	6	
Lifespan Human Growth and Development	3	
Human Anatomy	4	
Human Physiology	4	
Microbiology	4	
Statistics or College Algebra	3	
Science, Social Science and Humanities	16	
General Electives	20	
<b>Total General Education Prerequisites</b>		<b>60</b>
<b>Associate Degree Nursing Courses</b>		<b>30</b>
(i.e. Medical Surgical Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Fundamental Nursing, etc.)		

<b>Claflin University Upper Division Nursing *</b>	<b>Semester Hours</b>	
NURS 310 Role Transition: Baccalaureate Role Development	3	
NURS 320 Health Assessment	3	
NURS 330 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3	
NURS 340 Nursing Informatics	1	
NURS 350 Issues in Professional Practice	3	
NURS 360 Community Health Nursing	4	
NURS 410 Nursing Practice in a Multicultural Society	3	
NURS 430 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	3	
NURS 440 Nursing Leadership	4	
NURS 450 Healthy Communities (Capstone)	3	
<b>Total Upper Division Credit Hours</b>		<b>30</b>

\*All upper-division nursing courses must be taken at Claflin University and cannot be transferred from another University.

***Total Credit Hours Required for Program Completion 120***

*Upper-level course descriptions can be viewed on our website at [www.claflin.edu/nursing](http://www.claflin.edu/nursing)*



**Curriculum Guide – Fall and Spring Entry (Full-time Option)**  
**Nursing Major - 120 credit hours (CH)\***

**Fall Semester Entry**

	<b>Course**</b>	<b>CH by Term</b>
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 310 Role Transition: Baccalaureate Role Development -3 CH NURS 320 Health Assessment - 3 CH <b>6CH</b>	12
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 330 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice - 3 CH NURS 350 Issues in Professional Practice - 3 CH <b>6CH</b>	
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS 440 Nursing Leadership – 4CH NURS 340 Nursing Informatics -1 CH <b>5CH</b>	12
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 430 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan -3CH NURS 360 Community Health Nursing– 4CH <b>7CH</b>	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 410 Nursing Practice in a Multicultural Society – 3CH) NURS 450 Healthy Communities - 3CH (Capstone) <b>6CH</b>	6
<b>Program Completion</b>		<b>30</b>

**Spring Semester Entry**

	<b>Course**</b>	<b>CH by Term</b>
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS 310 Role Transition: Baccalaureate Role Development -3 CH NURS 320 Health Assessment - 3 CH <b>6CH</b>	12
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 330 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice - 3 CH NURS 350 Issues in Professional Practice - 3 CH <b>6CH</b>	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 430 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan -3CH NURS 410 Nursing Practice in a Multicultural Society – 3CH <b>6CH</b>	6
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 340 Nursing Informatics -1 CH NURS 440 Nursing Leadership – 4CH <b>5CH</b>	12
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 360 Community Health Nursing– 4CH NURS 450 Healthy Communities - 3CH (Capstone) <b>7CH</b>	
<b>Program Completion</b>		<b>30</b>

\* Students will be required to complete additional free electives to meet the 120 credit hours to earn the bachelor's degree. Electives can be chosen in consultation with your academic advisor to best meet your needs.

\*\*A description of each course is included in this curriculum

**Curriculum Guide – Fall and Spring Entry (Part-time Option)**

**Nursing Major – 120 credit hours (CH)\***

**Fall Semester Entry**

	<b>Course**</b>	<b>CH by Term</b>
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 320 Health Assessment - 3 CH	6
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 350 Issues in Professional Practice - 3 CH	
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS 310 Role Transition: Baccalaureate Role Development -3 CH	6
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 330 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice - 3 CH	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 410 Nursing Practice in a Multicultural Society – 3CH)	3
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 340 Nursing Informatics -1 CH	5
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 360 Community Health Nursing– 4CH	
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS 440 Nursing Leadership – 4CH	7
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 430 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan -3CH* (320 is prereq).	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 450 Healthy Communities - 3CH (Capstone) (must be in last semester)	3
<b>Program Completion</b>		<b>30</b>

**Spring Semester Entry**

	<b>Course**</b>	<b>CH by Term</b>
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS320 Health Assessment – 3CH	6
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 350 Issues in Professional Practice - 3 CH	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 410 Nursing Practice in a Multicultural Society – 3CH)	3
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 310 Role Transition: Baccalaureate Role Development -3 CH	6
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 330 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice - 3 CH	
<b>Spring 1</b>	NURS 340 Nursing Informatics -1 CH	5
<b>Spring 2</b>	NURS 360 Community Health Nursing– 4CH	
<b>Summer</b>	NURS 430 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan -3CH * (320 is prereq).	3
<b>Fall 1</b>	NURS 440 Nursing Leadership – 4CH	7
<b>Fall 2</b>	NURS 450 Healthy Communities - 3CH (Capstone) (must be in last semester)	
<b>Program Completion</b>		<b>30</b>



# **Master of Science in Nursing Program Information**

# Overview

The Department of Nursing is committed to providing excellence in nursing education that prepares nurses to integrate critical thinking to solve diverse patient care issues, embrace diversity, integrate evidence-based nursing care and demonstrate professional standards in nursing practice. The nursing department seeks to develop collaborative partnerships and innovation in nursing education, scholarship, practice and service. Student responsibility for participation in learning is fostered through the utilization of contemporary teaching methodologies. Student professional growth and development as an exemplary life-long learner, member of the profession, and accountable advocate are emphasized throughout the program.

## Master of Science in Nursing General Objectives

Upon completion of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program at Claflin University, graduates will be able to:

1. critique, evaluate, and synthesize theoretical or scientific findings from nursing and other relevant fields for continual improvement of nursing care across diverse settings. (EMEN\* - I)-AACN (2021): D4 Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline; D1 Knowledge for Nursing Practice)
2. demonstrate leadership in ethical and clinical decision-making using a system's perspective to apply quality principles within an organization. (EMEN - II, III) AACN (2021): D7 Systems-Based Practice; D5 Quality & Safety; D9 Professionalism; D10 Personal, Professional, & Leadership Development)
3. apply research outcomes within the practice setting, resolves practice problems, and disseminates result. (EMEN - IV) AACN (2021): D4 Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline; D5 Quality & Safety)
4. communicate, collaborate, and consult with other health professionals to manage and coordinate care integrating patient-care technologies in care coordination. (EMEN -V, VII) AACN (2021): D6 Interprofessional Partnerships; D8 Informatics & Healthcare Technologies; (supports D2 Person-Centered Care)
5. provide holistic care in an advanced specialty nursing practice respectful of a client's cultural, spiritual, ethnic, and gender diversity, within an increasingly global, multicultural society. (EMEN -VIII, IX) AACN (2021): D2 Person-Centered Care; D3 Population Health)
6. employ advocacy and health policy strategies to influence health care. (EMEN - VI) AACN (2021): D7 Systems-Based Practice; D3 Population Health; D9 Professionalism)

\*EMEN –AACN (2021) The BSN and MSN programs at Claflin University integrate the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials, including the updated 2021 AACN Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education. These competencies guide curriculum design, assessment, and evaluation to ensure graduates are prepared to deliver safe, equitable, evidence-based, person-centered care in an evolving healthcare environment.

**Target Population:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduates seeking advanced practice or leadership-specific roles in nursing and healthcare.

**Course Delivery:** Online, clinical learning, and onsite clinical intensives.

1. Application submitted to the Office of Admissions accompanied by the appropriate application fee (please see [Admissions](#) website). If an application fee applies it is neither deductible nor refundable. The application for admission and supporting credentials must be received in the Office of Admissions by the published deadline. Materials submitted in support of this application cannot be returned.
2. Possession of a four-year US (or equivalent) Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing degree with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA from an accredited college or university with national nursing accreditation. 12



3. Official transcripts of all previous academic work attempted beyond high school. Transfer credit posted on the records of other institutions is unacceptable and official transcripts of these credits must be supplied.
4. Official copies of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for International Students. A score of 80 or higher (550 or higher prior to 2007) will be required.
5. Two letters of recommendation from former professors/ instructors or professionals qualified to comment on the applicant's graduate study potential. (i.e., past or present employers and/or past faculty members).
6. A 300-500-word personal statement describing the applicant's objective in undertaking graduate study.
7. A current resume or Curricula Vitae (CV).
8. Verification of unencumbered RN licensure and BLS certification

### **Curriculum Requirements**

Students must complete the prescribed program of study (POS) to complete the MSN. A sample POS follows:

#### **Master of Science (MSN) in Nursing Curriculum**

#### **Sample Program of Study – MSN – Nurse Leader/Administrator**

##### **Spring – Year 1 CH**

NURS506: Theoretical Foundations in Nursing*	3
NURS607: Patient Education and Advocacy	3
NURS602: Nursing Management of Human Resources	3

##### **Summer – Year 1**

NURS504: Research Methods and Evidenced-Based Practice*	3
NURS512: Management and Leadership for Nursing Administration	3
NURS605: Financial Management in Nursing	3

##### **Fall – Year 2**

NURS507: Advanced Nursing Informatics	3
NURS513: Quality and Safety in Nursing	3
NURS603: Organizational and Health Systems Dynamics	3

##### **Spring – Year 2**

NURS503: Health Policy and Advocacy*	3
NURS613: Nursing Leadership Practicum	6

Program completion = 36 credit hours in 18 months

## Sample Program of Study – MSN – Family Nurse Practitioner

<b>Fall - Year 1</b>		<b>CH</b>
NURS501: Advanced Pharmacology		3
NURS502: Advanced Pathophysiology		3
<b>Spring - Year 1</b>		
NURS509: Advanced Health Assessment – Across the Lifespan – (50h clinical)		4
NURS506: Theoretical Foundations in Nursing*		3
<b>Summer - Year 1</b>		
NURS511: Advanced Care Management I- Adults – (150h clinical)		5
NURS504: Research Methods and Evidenced-Based Practice*		3
<b>Fall - Year 2</b>		
NURS611: Advanced Care Management II- Adults – (150h clinical)		5
NURS601: Epidemiology, Population Health, and Related Biostatistical Principles		3
<b>Spring - Year 2</b>		
NURS614: Advanced Care Management III- Special Populations (pediatrics, women's health) – (6) (200h clinical)		6
NURS505: Organizational Theory and Role Transition		2
<b>Summer – Year 2</b>		
NURS617: Role Practicum and Residency -Family Medicine (200h clinical)		6
NURS503: Health Policy and Advocacy*		3

**Program completion = 46 credit hours in 24 months**

\*Courses are taken by all MSN students (both tracks)

MSN Course descriptions can be found on our website at [www.claflin.edu/nursing](http://www.claflin.edu/nursing)



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