

NURSING BSN

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

NURSING AT SRU

In Fall 2026, Slippery Rock University launched a new pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program to directly address the growing regional and national nursing shortage. Demand for registered nurses continues to exceed educational capacity, with national projections indicating sustained workforce shortages through 2035. In Pennsylvania alone, shortages exceed 2,500 nurses annually, including a deficit of more than 1,200 BSN-prepared nurses within a 150-mile radius of SRU. This program is designed to help meet those urgent healthcare workforce needs while expanding access to high-quality nursing education in the region.

The 120-credit, four-year BSN program meets Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing requirements and aligns with national standards, including NOF competencies, NCLEX-RN content areas, and CNEA accreditation expectations. Students begin nursing coursework in their first semester, with lab and clinical experiences starting by the third semester to build strong clinical judgment and professional readiness. Through partnerships with leading regional medical centers, students will gain diverse hands-on experiences across specialties and the lifespan, preparing graduates to enter the workforce as compassionate, ethical, and practice-ready registered nurses.

NURSING BSN ADMISSION CRITERIA

Slippery Rock University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is a direct-entry, four-year program for first-year students seeking to pursue a nursing degree. Admission to the BSN program is highly competitive and based on academic achievement and preparation in core math and science areas.

Minimum Requirements for Admission to BSN Nursing

Meeting the criteria below qualifies a student for review; however, admission to the BSN program is competitive and space is limited.

Applicants must have:

- Completion of a standard high school curriculum with a minimum of 16 units, including:
 - 4 units of English
 - 3 units of Social Studies
 - 2 units of Mathematics (including Algebra)
 - 2 units of Science (Biology w/ lab and Chemistry w/ lab preferred)
- A minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale
- A grade of B or higher in all math and science courses

Meeting these minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the BSN program. Admission is selective due to limited clinical and seat availability.



MAJOR

Nursing BSN (pre-licensure program)

**Slippery Rock University (SRU) is required by the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement and US Department of Education to notify you whether our program meets the academic licensure/certification requirements in another state. All jurisdictions have their own requirements for licensure/certification eligibility. SRU is approved to offer programs that may lead to licensure/certification in Pennsylvania. We are unable to determine our program's eligibility in states other than PA. Please review the licensing board contact resource at www.sru.edu/licensure-certification to seek guidance on the requirements of licensure in your home state or where you would like to practice professionally. Note that state requirements are subject to change at any time and without notice.*

SlipperyRock
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SELECTION & ENROLLMENT TIMELINE

- **November 1:** Priority deadline for first wave of BSN offers. By mid-November, applicants will receive notification if they have been offered admission to the BSN program or placed on the waitlist.
- **Early February:** A second review of applications will occur as seats remain available. Additional offers may be extended at that time.
- **By May 1** (National College Decision Day): Students who are offered admission must submit their enrollment deposit to reserve their seat in the BSN program. Students who do not submit their deposit by May 1 will forfeit their seat.
- **After May 1**, any unclaimed seats will be offered to students on the waitlist.

COURSEWORK & CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- 120 total credits
 - Classroom Hours: 1,425
 - Clinical Hours: 730
 - Lab Hours: 188
 - Simulation Hours: 82
- Students begin nursing-specific courses in their first semester, building foundational knowledge and professional identity from the start of the program.
- Nursing laboratory experiences begin by the third semester, with supervised clinical placements starting in the fourth semester to progressively develop clinical judgment and patient-care skills.
- Through partnerships with leading regional medical centers that are internationally renowned, such as UPMC and the Allegheny Health Network (AHN), students gain hands-on experience across specialty areas and patient populations, caring for individuals across the lifespan.
- Designed to be completed in 4 years during fall and spring semesters.
- Classroom learning, clinical experiences, and simulation-based learning will be provided for all specialty courses to prepare students to take care of people across the lifespan.



DESIGNED AROUND STUDENT SUCCESS

Personalized advising from day one. A dedicated nursing advisor supports you starting your first semester.

Early start in your major. Immediate integration into nursing coursework to build confidence and professional identity early.

Comprehensive academic support. Access to nursing-specific resources and campus-wide services designed to help you thrive.

Hands-on, holistic learning. Engaging instruction through labs, simulation, and diverse clinical experiences across healthcare settings.

Experienced, supportive faculty. Learn from expert nurse educators with decades of clinical and teaching experience.

High-quality, academic program. Curriculum aligned with PA State Board of Nursing requirements, national standards, NOF competencies, NCLEX-RN content areas, and CNEA expectations.

Career-ready graduates. Develop strong clinical judgment, critical thinking skills, and professional readiness to confidently enter the nursing profession.

ACADEMIC CONTACT:

Patterson Hall
Jessica Kamerer, program director
jessica.kamerer@sru.edu
724.738.2565

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.sru.edu/majors

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

North Hall Welcome Center
asktherock@sru.edu
724.738.2015