

ASN to MSN First Year Quick Facts Fall 2021

For students entering with an ASN, ADN or Hospital Diploma

Welcome to Vanderbilt University! The Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) has a long tradition of leadership in nursing and delivery of optimal patient care. Our program is focused on preparing you to become an advanced practice nurse in your chosen specialty. As RNs entering the MSN program, the first-year curriculum is designed specifically for you; we refer to this first year as the ASN to MSN PreSpecialty year. You will hear more about your selected advanced specialty as the year progresses and you are closer to entering the specialty level of the MSN program.

Admitted Students Web Page

Please refer to the VUSN web page and click on the “Admitted Students” tab for regularly updated information between now and orientation. Bookmark this page as updates will be added frequently.

https://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/students/admitted/admittedstudents_msn.php

Overview of the Curriculum and Schedule

The two-semester, ASN to MSN pre-specialty curriculum focuses on coursework that provides learning experiences to expand your knowledge base and skills in preparation for your chosen advanced practice role. Learning activities vary by course, but may include classroom discussions, on-line conferencing, writing papers, and composing and delivering presentations. The course content is delivered in a modified learning format that includes: (1) courses offered in concentrated blocks of time on campus (typically 3-4 days on campus three times per semester), (2) on-line conferencing, and (3) video-streaming, voice-over-power-point, and distributed learning methods which allow for continued faculty contact between sessions.

A community health clinical placement is required in the spring semester, but it can be arranged in your home area provided a suitable agency is available and there are no regulatory restrictions. Due to certain State Boards of Nursing and/or State Higher Education rules, the School of Nursing may not be able to provide clinical placements in your location of choice, but every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate your placement request. Sites are subject to VUSN faculty approval.

For part-time students, an assigned program of studies is outlined to assure that the courses you are taking are offered in that semester and that the needed prerequisites are obtained prior to taking the course. Refer to the curriculum plans on the VUSN web site at https://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/msn/asn_msn/asn_msn_curriculum.php to see the complete course load and course descriptions.

Health, Textbook and Dress Requirements

You must complete a background check, any needed immunizations, and CPR certification as outlined on the enclosed page and the VUSN website. These requirements must be complete upon arrival to VUSN orientation. You will **not** be allowed to begin classes until all requirements

are met. Questions concerning these requirements may be directed to Lisa Boyer at lisa.boyer@vanderbilt.edu .

Required textbook information will be posted on the VUSN admitted students' website in July.

You will need a white, thigh length lab coat in your specialty year depending on your specialty. You may purchase this from the VUSN Graduate Council this year or next. More information about lab coats and patches will be provided to you by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs prior to the fall semester.

Module Requirements

There will be several online learning modules which must be completed prior to starting classes. More information on these requirements will be posted on the Admitted Students web page.

Important dates for fall 2021 semester:

- **New Student Orientation (on campus)** – 8/18 – 8/19
- **Block 1** - 8/18-21
- **Block 2** - 9/29-10/1
- **Block 3** - 11/10-12

Important contact information:

New student orientation or other student services:

Tamika Hudson, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, tamika.s.hudson@vanderbilt.edu

Financial Aid information:

Kristie Smith, Director of Student Financial Services, kristie.l.smith@vanderbilt.edu

Immunization/CPR & clinical requirements:

Lisa Boyer, Clinical Placement Office Compliance Officer, Lisa.boyer@vanderbilt.edu

Registration information:

Sara Donahoe, Registrar sara.a.donahoe@vanderbilt.edu . Note: You will receive registration information in June.

If you have any questions regarding the classes or schedules, please contact me. I look forward to meeting you in August!

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