



RN Educational Mobility Guide...BSN, MSN, Doctorate

Assets You Bring

- Nursing experience and clinical practice on which to build
- Motivation for personal and professional growth
- Ability to apply previously learned skills in an educational setting
- Experience in collaboration with other RNs to bring clinical perspective to the learning environment
- Ability to exchange ideas with peers

Benefits To You

- Further development of your nursing career
- Potential for additional career options and advancement opportunities
- Expansion of clinical knowledge areas of community health, health promotion, leadership, and research
- Development of advanced communication skills in interactions with patients, family, and health care professionals and systems
- Opportunities for greater self-development to broaden your nursing focus

Selecting Your Educational Mobility Program

- Make a career plan with goals and timelines.
- Identify the schools of nursing that offer RN mobility programs which fit your needs
- Make an appointment with an academic advisor. Bring a copy of transcript to discuss what course work will apply.
- Determine cost – Include tuition, books and fees, travel expenses, child care, reduced work, etc.
- Explore financial aid and/or scholarship options (including tuition reimbursement from your employer)
- Integrate class schedule with work/personal life
- Submit application. If prior degree is from same university, determine if you need to reapply.

Support Systems

- Nursing colleagues, fellow students, faculty, advisors, and family
- Flexible scheduling to accommodate working RNs
- Potential financial assistance from employer. Talk with your human resource department.

Questions to Ask Your Academic Advisor When Applying to RN Mobility Program

Is a specific advisor assigned to RN mobility students?

Which credits will transfer from my previous educational preparation?

How long do I have to complete the program?

Can I attend part-time? Does any portion require full-time?

How long will it take to complete the program as a part-time or full-time student?

How flexible are class options? Are on-site, on-line, evening, weekend and/or summer classes available?

Are there advanced placement options for clinical courses?

What financial assistance is available?

Educational Degree Mobility

Baccalaureate degree program – The BSN program prepares graduates to provide direct nursing care to patients, families, and groups in a variety of settings that span the continuum of care, including content in leadership, community health, and research.

Master's degree program – The MSN program prepares graduates for advanced specialized practice roles, administration, and teaching.

Doctoral degree program – The PhD or DNP program prepares graduates to be scholarly researchers, university teachers, consultants, administrators, and practitioners.

Career Options

Clinical Practice

Clinical Nurse – This nurse clinician provides direct care to patients.

Advanced Practice Nurse – This nurse clinician has a master's or doctorate degree with advanced knowledge in a clinical specialty, such as, but not limited to, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, and nurse anesthetist.

Additional Opportunities for Nurse with Advanced Degrees

Manager/Administrator – A nurse who coordinates the use of human, financial, and technological resources for patient care.

Educator – An advanced practice nurse whose practice includes teaching student nurses, facilitating professional development of current nurses, and educating patients in the community.

Researcher – An advanced practice nurse who utilizes research methodologies to develop and advance nursing science. This nurse directly develops nursing's expanding knowledge base, while contributing to a quality health care system through research.

For Educational Mobility Programs in the U.S.

American Association of Colleges of Nursing- www.aacn.nche.edu

National League for Nursing- www.nln.org