The purpose of nursing is to provide people with rational, individualized, and compassionate assistance in the maintenance and promotion of health, in adapting to acute or chronic illness, and in coping with the final stages of life. Completion of a nursing program requires good science and mathematical skills and a sensitivity to the needs of others.

Portland State University (PSU) does not have a nursing program. The pre-nursing program at PSU is designed to prepare students to transfer into Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs in Oregon. The following schools in Oregon currently offer BSN programs: Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), Linfield College – Portland Campus, University of Portland, Concordia University, Walla Walla University, and George Fox University. In addition, OHSU, Linfield, and Concordia each offer an accelerated BSN program for students with a prior bachelor’s degree in a non-nursing field. Admission requirements and prerequisites vary by institution.

Important Information for Pre-Nursing Students

Prerequisites and School Selection: The Prerequisite Course Guide on the following pages was created to help students’ complete prerequisites for multiple nursing programs in Oregon. Check individual schools for requirements especially since requirements are subject to change. Note that most professional schools require that an A, B, or C be earned in all required preparatory courses. Admission to nursing school is limited and extremely competitive. In years past, matriculates to OHSU have had an average statewide prerequisite GPA of 3.85. As programs have become increasingly competitive, it is recommended that students prepare to apply to multiple nursing programs.

Science Sequences: Please note that the year-long science sequences, Biology for Allied Health (BI 207-209 w/labs), Human Anatomy & Physiology (BI 301-303 w/labs), and Intro to Chemistry (CH 104-106 w/labs) begin in the fall quarter and end in the spring and should be taken in sequence.

Academic Plans: Most students complete prerequisites within a three year time frame, but academic plans can vary for each student and time spent at PSU can also vary depending on a student’s background in math and/or prior course work earned (i.e., AP or IB credits). Students who are interested in co-admission with a community college should consult with a pre-nursing adviser to discuss academic plans.

University Studies: PSU’s general education requirements are referred to as the University Studies Program. Students who elect to take prerequisites for nursing school at PSU do not need to enroll in the University Studies Program, UNLESS they know that they will be receiving a bachelor’s degree from PSU. If a student completes the full year of Freshman Inquiry (15 credits total), this sequence could meet all or part of the writing requirement for various nursing programs. Students are encouraged to review how university studies credits transfer by visiting: https://www.pdx.edu/unst/transferring-university-studies-credits

If a student elects not to take Freshman Inquiry when they begin at PSU and later decide that they would like to earn a bachelor’s degree from PSU, they must meet with Laura Marsh 503-725-3822, who will then assess if the student was completing pre-nursing courses and check to make sure the student has completed at least two terms of writing. The student will then be placed back into the University Studies program based on how many credits they have earned on the pre-nursing track.
Prerequisite Course Guide

Core Prerequisites Courses Required by Most Nursing Programs

PSU recommends students interested in nursing programs complete all courses listed below to be most competitive for all local programs. This list may not be comprehensive of all possible courses to complete these requirements and is subject to change. Check individual school websites for the most current information regarding admission policies and admission criteria. If you are interested in learning about individual program requirements, please visit each program’s website to access the transfer equivalency guides.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core prerequisite courses</th>
<th>OHSU</th>
<th>Linfield</th>
<th>University of Portland</th>
<th>Concordia</th>
<th>George Fox</th>
<th>Walla Walla</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>STAT 243</td>
<td>STAT 243</td>
<td>STAT 243</td>
<td>STAT 243</td>
<td></td>
<td>STAT 243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Math</td>
<td>MTH 095 or higher (STAT 243 will meet this requirement)</td>
<td>MTH 111</td>
<td>MTH 111</td>
<td>MTH 111</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology for Allied Health with lab</td>
<td>BI 207*</td>
<td>BI 207*, 208, 209**</td>
<td>BI 207*</td>
<td>BI 207*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Chemistry with lab</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>CH 104+107, CH 105+108, and CH106+109**</td>
<td>CH 104+107, CH 105+108, and CH106+109</td>
<td>CH 104+107, CH 105+108, and CH106+109</td>
<td>CH 104+107, CH 105+108, and CH106+109</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology with lab</td>
<td>BI 234+235</td>
<td>BI 234+235</td>
<td>BI 234+235</td>
<td>BI 234+235</td>
<td></td>
<td>BI 234+235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology with lab</td>
<td>BI 301, 302, and 303</td>
<td>BI 301, 302, and 303</td>
<td>BI 301, 302, and 303</td>
<td>BI 301, 302, and 303</td>
<td>BI 301, 302, and 303</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>CH 250 or PHE 325</td>
<td>CH 250 or PHE 325</td>
<td>CH 250 or PHE 325</td>
<td>CH 250</td>
<td></td>
<td>CH 250 or PHE 325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Development: Recommended prerequisite PSY 200 or 204</td>
<td>PSY 311</td>
<td>PSY 311</td>
<td>PSY 311</td>
<td>PSY 311</td>
<td>PSY 311</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Writing***</td>
<td>WR 121 and WR 222 or WR 323</td>
<td>WR 121 and WR 222 or WR 323</td>
<td>WR 121 and WR 222 or WR 323</td>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>WR 121 and WR 222</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*While some schools do not require an entire year of Biology for Allied Health, PSU requires a year of biology to take Anatomy and Physiology.

**Linfield requires one year of biology or chemistry with labs. Since PSU requires one year of biology in order to take Anatomy and Physiology, students may want to complete BI 207-209 to fulfill this requirement. Complete Chemistry 104-107 with labs if you do not complete BI 207-209.

***Talk to your advisor about how university studies may fulfill writing requirements.
### Additional Prerequisite Courses

Most nursing programs have general education prerequisite requirements that must be completed prior to graduating from the nursing program. While some of these can be in progress at the time of application, it is recommended that students complete most of these requirements prior to applying. **This list is not a comprehensive list of all possible courses to meet general education requirements. These requirements vary by program, check directly with the nursing program for additional general education course options.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite course</th>
<th>OHSU</th>
<th>Linfield</th>
<th>University of Portland</th>
<th>Concordia</th>
<th>George Fox</th>
<th>Walla Walla</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
<td>PSY 200 or 204</td>
<td>PSY 200 or 204</td>
<td>PSY 200</td>
<td>PSY 200 or 204</td>
<td>PSY 204</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Sociology</td>
<td>SOC 200</td>
<td>SOC 200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SOC 200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Philosophy</td>
<td>PHL 201</td>
<td>PHL 201</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PHL 201*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Literature</td>
<td>ENG 104, 201, 204, 205, 253, or 254 **</td>
<td>ENG 104, 201, 204, 205, 253, or 254</td>
<td>ENG 104, 204, 205, 253, or 254</td>
<td>ENG 104, 204, 205, 253, or 254*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History based art or music course</td>
<td>ARH 204, ARH 205, ARH 206, MUS 201, MUS 202, MUS 261, MUS 304, MUS 305, MUS 306, MUS 361, or TA 101**</td>
<td>ARH 204, ARH 205, ARH 206, MUS 201, MUS 202, MUS 261, MUS 304, MUS 305, MUS 306, MUS 355, or MUS 361</td>
<td>ARH 204, ARH 205, ARH 206, MUS 201, MUS 202, MUS 261, MUS 304, MUS 305, MUS 306, MUS 355, or MUS 361</td>
<td>ARH 204, ARH 205, ARH 206, MUS 201, MUS 202, MUS 202, MUS 301, or MUS 303*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>PHL 308</td>
<td>PHL 308</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>HST 104, 105, or 106, and HST 327, 328, or 329 (choose one upper and one lower division course)</td>
<td>HST 104, 105, 106, 201, 202, or 203</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Two of: HST 104, 105, 106, 201, 202, or 203, and 327, 328, or 329</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td></td>
<td>COM 220</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privilege &amp; Oppression</td>
<td></td>
<td>SOC 337, 423, or 444</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
<td>PE any 2 courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Comparative Religions course and 1 Old/New Testament Course***</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Walla Walla requires 12 credits of humanities (Philosophy, Art, Music, and/or Literature) with no more than 8 credits from one department. Choose 3 courses from these categories.
** Linfield has a specific general education curriculum that must be completed prior to graduating. It is recommended students complete all or most of these courses prior to matriculating. Choose one course from the starred categories: history based art or music course, English literature.
*** PSU does not offer theology courses, so these will need to be taken elsewhere. MHCC often offers online courses that may fulfill this requirement. Consult UP directly with any questions about courses.
Accelerated Nursing and Accelerated Bachelors to DNP Programs

OHSU

Accelerated Bachelor of Science major in nursing (Portland & Ashland)
Application Cycle: early September with a deadline in early January. Program length is 15 months.
- Must have a bachelor's degree (a B.A. or B.S. with any major) prior to matriculation in order to be eligible for admission
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- All prerequisite courses must be a grade of “B-” or higher
- All science prerequisites must be completed within the last 7 years
- A&P courses can only be taken twice within the last 7 years. If you have taken the class more than 2 times in the last 7 years, your 2nd course grade will be used.

Accelerated Bachelor of Science to Doctor of Nurse Practice – Midwifery, Psychiatric Mental Health, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, or Family Nurse Practitioner (Portland)
All science prerequisites must be taken within the last seven years. Note:
STAT 243 must be completed within 5 years of matriculation
Application Cycle: early September with deadlines in early-mid January. Program length is a total of 4 years.
- Must have a bachelor's degree (a B.A. or B.S. with any major) prior to matriculation in order to be eligible for admission
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 & minimum science GPA of a 3.0 (this includes coursework from departments such as anatomy, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics, physiology, etc.)
- Applicants must submit three letters of reference.

LINFIELD

Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Application Cycle: Mid November – January. Program length is 15 months
- Bachelor’s degree must be completed at time of application
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” in each course and a minimum prerequisite GPA of 3.0 by the summer start date and a minimum 2.7 Anatomy and Physiology GPA. In the case where a student has more than one repeat on any anatomy/physiology course, only the grade from the first repeated course will be used. A withdraw from any anatomy/physiology course will be counted as an attempt under this rule.
- Linfield places a 7-year time limit on Microbiology, Nutrition, and Human Anatomy & Physiology at the point of application.

CONCORDIA

Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Concordia prefers students work directly with them on admission requirements.
Application Cycle: Three starts per year. Check website
- Must have Bachelor’s degree completed
- All prerequisites completed within 7 years of matriculation
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and math and science GPA of 3.0
- Proof of CNA course completion

Accelerated Program Prerequisite Checklist for OHSU, Linfield and Concordia:

__________ BI 207, 208, 209 Biology for Allied Health w/Labs
Note: PSU highly recommends that students complete this sequence prior to enrolling in the Human Anatomy & Physiology sequence. BI 207 will meet the biology requirement for OHSU and Concordia. BI 207-209 will meet the year of lab science requirement for Linfield.

__________ CH 104/107, 105/108, 106/109 Introduction to Chemistry w/labs
Note: Required for Concordia. Required for Linfield only if student does not take BI 207-209

__________ MTH 111 College Math I (required for Concordia only)

__________ BI 234/2351 Microbiology & Lab

__________ BI 301, 302, & 303 Human Anatomy & Physiology

__________ CH 250 Nutrition OR PHE 325 Nutrition for Health (Concordia requires CH 250)

__________ STAT 243 Introduction to Probability & Statistics

__________ PSY 311 Human Development

1 BI 234 is typically offered during winter and summer terms. Recommend taking it winter term, as the summer course is accelerated. BI 235 does not need to be taken during the same term as BI 234 (although it’s preferable that they be taken concurrently or that 235 follow 234) BI 235 is offered summer, fall, & winter term. Students should always check the PSU Course Projection Guide to verify when courses are offered.