



**POLK  
STATE  
COLLEGE**

## **AA to BSN: Concurrent Enrollment in AS Nursing and BSN Programs**

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# Historical Overview

## Baccalaureate Programs at Polk State College

- First approved to offer baccalaureate programs in July 2009.
- First program submitted and approved was Baccalaureate in Applied Science (BAS) in Supervision and Management in July 2009. First BAS students admitted Spring 2010.

## Historical Overview, BAS in Supervision and Management

- Currently enrollment of 1127 students
- Specialization in
  - Business Administration (665)
  - Public Administration (77)
  - Public Safety Management (16)
  - Healthcare Administration (added in Fall 2012) (264)
  - Business Information Technology (added in Fall 2013) (105)
- Graduated total of 443 through December 2014.

## Historical Overview, BSN

- BSN approved August 2011 and first students admitted August 2011.
- Graduated first students December 2012.
- Graduated 116 students.
- Current enrollment of 397 students.

## Historical Overview

- **BS in Criminal Justice**
  - Approved July 2012 with first group of students October 2012.
  - Current enrollment of 166 students.
  - 19 graduates.
- **BS in Aerospace Science**
  - Approved September 2013 with first students admitted August 2014.
    - Aerospace Administration
    - Professional Pilot
  - Current enrollment 9 students.
  - First graduates anticipated in December 2016.

# BSN Program

- Admission is open admission.
- Requirements include
  - Active, unrestrictive RN license.
  - AS degree from a regionally accredited institution (or credits evaluated on course-by-course basis) OR diploma from program accredited by Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).
  - At least 2.5 cumulative GPA.

- General Education Requirements 36 credits
  - English Comp I and II, Introduction to Literature (6/9)
  - College-level math and Statistics (3/6)
  - Humanities (3/6)
  - Social Sciences: General Psychology, plus one (3/6)
  - Natural Sciences (9) A & P I and II (actually 10 credits at Polk)
- Technical Courses from ADN 42 credits
  - Lower-division nursing and nutrition courses (blanket credit of 32 credits for RN license)
  - Human Development (3)
  - Microbiology (4)
  - One additional science (3)

## BSN: Upper Division Nursing Courses (33 credits)

- **3000-level courses**
  - Role Transformation
  - Health Assessment
  - Nursing Science (Pathophysiology)
  - Promoting Health and Wellness
  - Nursing Theory
  - Nursing Informatics
- **4000-level courses**
  - Professional Nursing Advocacy
  - Evidence-Based Practice
  - Community Health Nursing
  - Nursing Leadership
  - Professional Nursing Excellence (Capstone)



## BSN Upper Level Courses, Non-Nursing

- Nine credits from BAS, Healthcare Administration
  - Healthcare Organization and Management
  - Two electives from following list
    - Issues and Trends in Healthcare
    - Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations
    - Healthcare Accounting and Finance
    - Healthcare Risk Management
    - Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare
    - Foundations of Global Health

## BSN Program

- Students do not have to complete lower-level non-nursing classes before beginning BSN classes.
- Courses are taught in 8-week terms, except for Community and Capstone which have a clinical component. These are regular 16-week terms.
- Students are encouraged to limit themselves to no more than two courses in a 8-week period.
- Courses are online. May be hybrid if there is a demand.
- Students must start with Role Transformation and end with Capstone; however, sequencing of other courses is flexible (except that Community has pre-requisite restrictions of (1) Health Assessment and (2) Promoting Health & Wellness)

# Recommended Sequencing for a FT Student

	Fast Track 1	Fast Track 2
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Semester</b>	NUR 3825 Role Transformation HSA 3110: Healthcare Organization & Management	Two of the following: NUR 3687 Health & Wellness NUR 3125 Nursing Science NUR 3065 Health Assessment NUR 3874 Informatics
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester</b>	Remaining two courses from the preceding list.	Two of the following: NUR 3846 Theory NUR 4169 EBP NUR 4108 Advocacy NUR 4827 Leadership
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Semester</b>	NUR 4636 Community Health (pre-req NUR 3065 and NUR 3687) NUR XXXX One of remaining courses from preceding list	NUR 4636 continued NUR XXXX One of remaining courses from preceding list
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Semester</b>	NUR 4940 Prof Nsg Excellence (pre-req all other NUR courses) Elective, choose one: HSA 3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, or HSA4553	NUR 4940 continued Elective, choose one: HSA3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, HSA4553, or HSC3624

# Recommended Sequencing for PT Student

	Fast Track 1	Fast Track 2
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	NUR 3825 Role Transformation	NUR 3687 Health & Wellness
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	NUR 3125 Nursing Science	NUR 3065 Assessment
3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester	NUR 3874 Informatics	NUR 3846 Theory
4 <sup>th</sup> Semester	NUR 4169 EBP	NUR 4108 Advocacy
5 <sup>th</sup> Semester	NUR 4827 Leadership	HSA3110 Healthcare Organization & Management
6 <sup>th</sup> Semester	NUR 4636 Community Health (pre-req NUR 3065 and NUR 3687) Elective, choose one: HSA3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, or HSA4553	NUR 4636 continued Elective, choose one: HSA3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, HSA4553, or HSC3624
7 <sup>th</sup> Semester	NUR 4940 Prof Nsg Excellence (pre-req all other NUR courses)	NUR 4940 continued

# AA to BSN--Overview

- Dual enrollment program in AS nursing and BSN program
- Students must meet specified criteria.
- Participation is optional. If a student elects to start with BSN courses, it is not required that they continue with BSN courses each term.
- Students are allowed to take selected BSN courses on space-available basis.
- Students must complete AS and get license to complete program.

## AA to BSN: Criteria to Qualify

- Must have completed AA degree or AA equivalent
  - AA equivalent is only approved for students who have met all of course requirements for AA degree but due to attendance at multiple institutions did not meet residency requirements at one institution to qualify for awarding of degree.
  - This keeps us compliant with state regulations that baccalaureate programs at the state colleges are post-AA/AS degrees.
- Must have completed Nursing 1 (or Transition 1) and Pharmacology with at least a B in first enrollment.
- Must have overall cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

## AA to BSN

- If student is qualified and seeks permission for enrollment, the student's primary program code is changed from AS nursing to AA to BSN, which is a different program code than both AS nursing and RN to BSN. They retain the AS program code as a secondary code.
- The AA to BSN program code lists all classes of the AS program and the BSN program on the degree audit.
- Financial aid will cover the AS classes and the BSN classes if the student qualifies because the courses are all "program courses."

## AA to BSN

- Must make at least a B in first enrollment in all nursing courses of AS program to be allowed to continue with concurrent BSN courses.
- Allowed to take no more than one BSN course each 8 week term.
- Allowed to take 3000-level courses only; must be licensed RN in order to take 4000-level courses and complete the program.
- When a student completes the AS classes, they must apply for graduation from the AS program (which they can do with the AS program code as secondary). This is necessary for them to qualify to take the NCLEX-RN licensing exam.



## AA to BSN

- There are no special considerations given to students as far as course expectations, due dates for assignments, test dates, or other course activities in either program.
- Currently only 7 students have enrolled in program. Most have limited their BSN classes to summer, when they do not have AS nursing classes.

## AA to BSN: Advantages

- Allows faster pathway to BSN than traditional RN to BSN.
- Students with previous AA/AS degree commonly do not qualify for financial aid for the AS program; however, since the student is enrolled in a baccalaureate program code, they may qualify for financial aid assistance.

# Courses Potentially Completed by AS Graduation

	Fast Track 1	Fast Track 2
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	<b>NUR 3825 Role Transformation</b> <b>HSA 3110 Healthcare Organization &amp; Management</b>	Two of the following: <b>NUR 3687 Health &amp; Wellness</b> <b>NUR 3125 Nursing Science</b> <b>NUR 3065 Assessment</b> <b>NUR 3874 Informatics</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	Remaining two courses from the preceding list.	Two of the following: <b>NUR 3846 Theory</b> NUR 4169 EBP NUR 4108 Advocacy NUR 4827 Leadership
3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester	NUR 4636 Community Health (pre-req NUR 3065 and NUR 3687) NUR XXXX One of remaining courses from preceding list	NUR 4636 continued NUR XXXX One of remaining courses from preceding list
4 <sup>th</sup> Semester	NUR 4940 Prof Nsg Excellence (pre-req all other NUR courses) <b>Elective, choose one: HSA 3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, or HSA4553</b>	NUR 4940 continued <b>Elective, choose one: HSA3113, HSA3160, HSA3170, HSA4502, HSA4553, or HSC3624</b>

## AA to BSN: Disadvantages

- Biggest obstacle: Insufficient slots available in classes. Enrollment is limited to space-available basis and classes tend to fill early with RNs.
- Potential problem: non-completers of AA to BSN program code but this is not likely. Most students who started the classes will be committed to completing the degree and will graduate at some point with BSN as AA to BSN student.

# Questions?



For more information or copy of slides, email [ahutcherson@polk.edu](mailto:ahutcherson@polk.edu)

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