



Concurrent Enrollment at College of the Desert

College of the Desert's Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) is designed to help students work towards their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) *while* enrolled in the Associate Degree in Nursing program (ADN). In collaboration with our partnered universities, not only can students earn their BSN sooner, but they can also reap the benefits of flexibility, and affordability from these universities.

There are three pathways to a BSN:

1. Direct entry into a 4-year program
2. ADN-BSN Concurrent Enrollment Pathway - students work on BSN courses *while enrolled* in an ADN program. BSN can be earned in as little 2 years total.
3. RN to BSN pathway -for those already working as an RN and want to obtain their BSN. BSN is earned in ~1-2 years *after* earning your ADN. Some employers offer tuition reimbursements.

Here at College of the Desert, we offer the ADN-BSN Concurrent Enrollment Pathway. You must be admitted into COD's Registered Nurse program first before applying to the CEP pathway. The

benefit to this is that you have access to a seamless transition that involves close coordination between the faculty and advisors at both institutions. Our three partnered schools are Azusa Pacific University Grand Canyon University and Loma Linda University. To be enrolled in the CEP, students must be actively enrolled in the Nursing Program at College of the Desert, be in good standing and meet requirements of your chosen university.

Why get a BSN? Aside from the financial benefits (\$17,000/year difference according to Payscale.com in 2026), BSN-prepared graduates are highly sought after by potential employers for many reasons. According to the American Association of College of Nursing (AACN), BSN-prepared nurses were associated with greater odds of surviving cardiac arrest in hospitals, lower rates of medication errors and procedural errors, lower odds of mortality and decrease length of hospital stay! Additionally, a BSN can expand career opportunities such as advanced practice roles, research, education and leadership positions.

Azusa Pacific University (APU)

Ranked #1 in California in 2025 by Nurse.org, the RN-BSN program is designed for students to take both ADN courses and BSN courses simultaneously. APU's Integrative Enrollment Pathway (IEP), is the fastest way to obtain your BSN - you can earn your BSN in as little as 2 years! Students will take one asynchronous online BSN course per semester. This means students can access lectures on their own time without needing to meet in real-time. Students work at their own pace but still need to complete their work by specified deadlines. All RN-BSN program faculty are doctorate-prepared.

For more information, please visit

<https://www.apu.edu/programs/rn-to-bsn-integrative-enrollment-pathway/>



Grand Canyon University (GCU)

Located in Phoenix, Arizona, Grand Canyon University is no stranger to online degree programs. Grand Canyon University's classes are offered online, one class at a time (with the exception that clinical, practicum and immersion hours are completed locally). It is the most affordable and flexible out of our three partnered schools. GCU also has options for those with a B.S. in another field.

For more information, please visit:

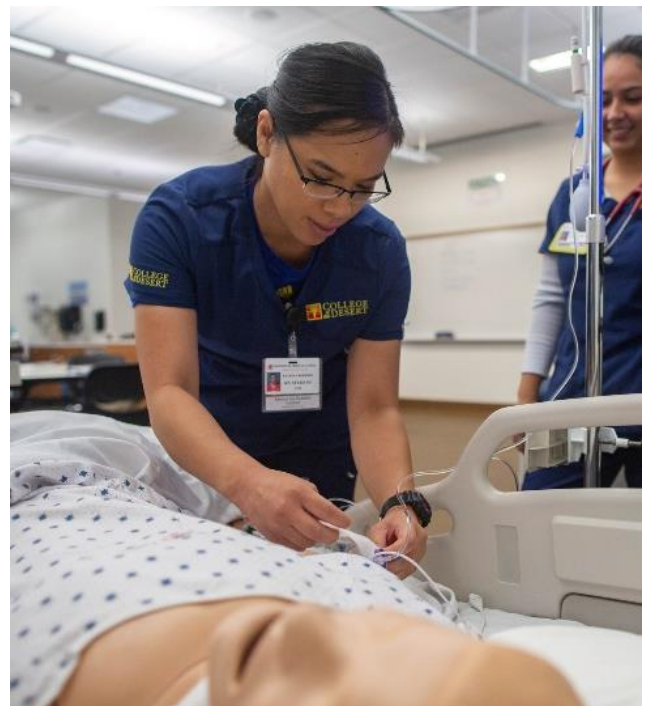
<https://www.gcu.edu/college-of-nursing-and-health-care-professions.php>

Loma Linda University (LLU)

Affiliated with a level one trauma teaching center and Children's Hospital, Loma Linda University of Nursing provides their asynchronous BSN courses in the summer, so there is no overlap with ADN courses. Medical mission opportunities are also available to students -Brazil, Africa, and Thailand are just a few abroad trips! LLU is perfect for those who want the flexibility and access to all the opportunities they have to offer.

For more information, please visit:

<https://nursing.llu.edu/programs/rn-bs-nursing-concurrent-enrollment>



The following three pages are samples of what your course schedule may look like. Please meet with the Concurrent Enrollment Program Coordinator for more details.

***LVN students interested in obtaining their BSN, please contact the CEP Coordinator.**

COD-Azusa Pacific University Partnership

	School	Courses	Units
	COD	NRN110 + NRN110C Foundations of Nursing Practice <i>AND</i>	7
First semester	COD	* NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	* NRN140 + NRN140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
	APU	*Pathophysiology	5
Summer break	APU	Ethics/Spirituality in Nursing	6
	APU	APU Research/Stats	4
	COD	NRN120 + NRN120C + NRN120L Concepts of Nursing: Commonly Occurring Alterations <i>AND</i>	7
Second Semester	COD	* NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	* NRN 140 + 140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
	APU	*Health Assessment	5
Winter break		---	
	COD	NRN210 + NRN210C + NRN210L Chronic Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
Third semester	COD	* NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	* NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
	APU	*Evidence-Based Practice/Nursing Theory	5
Summer Break	APU	Public Health/Population Health	4
	APU	Community Health/Care Transitions	4
	APU	90 hours practicum (have 16 weeks to complete)	2
	COD	NRN220 + NRN220C + NRN220L Acute Complex Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
Fourth semester	COD	* NRN 250 Transition to Practice <i>AND</i>	0.5
	COD	* NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	* NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
	APU	*Patient Outcomes, Risk/Quality/Patient Safety	5

Graduate from COD with ADN

* 8 week courses

-Total units at APU to obtain BSN: 40 units

-Fall start students will complete the BSN in their second summer with the public/community health course and clinical practicum

Eligibility and Requirements

- Minimum overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (students with an overall GPA below 3.0 may be given conditional admission on a case-by-case basis).
- Completion of the partnering institution's prerequisites and lower-division general education requirements.
- Personal statement (1-page essay) answering the question, "Why would you be a good candidate for the Integrative Enrollment Pathway program?"

Start Date Options

1st semester at COD *OR*
Summer Bridge (Summer classes only)

Estimated time to complete BSN

As soon as 1-3 months after passing your NCLEX

Discount Rate

10% off tuition
Current Tuition \$460/unit→\$414/unit
≈ \$16,650

COD-Grand Canyon University Partnership

	School	Courses	Units
First semester	COD	NRN110 + NRN110C Foundations of Nursing Practice <i>AND</i>	7
	COD	*NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN140 + NRN140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
Summer break	GCU	NRS434VN Health Assessment	3
	GCU	PHI431V Ethical and Spiritual Decision-Making in Healthcare	3
Second Semester	COD	NRN120 + NRN120C + NRN120L Concepts of Nursing: Commonly Occurring Alterations <i>AND</i>	7
	COD	*NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN 140 + 140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
Winter break	GCU	NRS430V Professional Dynamics (5 weeks online)	3
Third semester	COD	NRN210 + NRN210C + NRN210L Chronic Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
	COD	*NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
Summer Break	GCU	NRS428VN Concepts in Community and Public Health	3
	GCU	NRS410V Pathophysiology & Nursing Management of Clients' Health	3
Fourth semester	COD	NRN220 + NRN220C + NRN220L Acute Complex Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
	COD	*NRN 250 Transition to Practice <i>AND</i>	0.5
	COD	*NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
Graduate from COD with ADN			
Remaining courses at		NRS429VN Family-Centered Health Promotion	3
		NRS451VN Nursing Leadership & Management	3
	GCU	HLT362V Applied Statistics for Health Care Professionals	3
		NRS433V Introduction to Nursing Research	3
		NRS440VN Trends and Issues in Healthcare	3
		NRS493 Professional Capstone and Practicum (10-week course, completed locally)	6

* 8 week courses

-Total units at GCU to obtain BSN: 36 credits

Eligibility and Requirements

No pre-requisites required

Start Date Options

Summer or Winter break

Estimated time to complete BSN

30-35 weeks after NCLEX

15-20 weeks for bachelor holding students

Discount Rate

\$90/unit discount

Current Tuition \$340/unit→\$250/unit

≈ \$9,000

COD-Loma Linda University Partnership

	School	Courses	Units
First semester	COD	NRN110 + NRN110C Foundations of Nursing Practice <i>AND</i>	7
	COD	*NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN140 + NRN140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
Summer break	LLU	NRSG337 Strategies for Prof Transition	4 qu
	LLU	NRSG324 Nursing Informatics/Evidence-Based	3 qu
	LLU	NRSG425 Intro to Epidemiology	3 qu
	LLU	REL_ Religion Course (5 week course)	2 qu
Second Semester	COD	NRN120 + NRN120C + NRN120L Concepts of Nursing: Commonly Occurring Alterations <i>AND</i>	7
	COD	*NRN130 + NRN130C Concepts of Nursing: Mental Health <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN 140 + 140C Concepts of Nursing: Gerontology	
Winter break		---	
Third semester	COD	NRN210 + NRN210C + NRN210L Chronic Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
	COD	*NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
Summer Break	LLU	NRSG429 Nursing Research	3 qu
	LLU	NRSG407 Complex Nursing Concepts of Health & Disease	6 qu
	LLU	NRSG428 Health Promotion for Nurse	4 qu
Fourth semester	COD	NRN220 + NRN220C + NRN220L Acute Complex Alterations in Health <i>AND</i>	6.5
	COD	*NRN 250 Transition to Practice <i>AND</i>	0.5
	COD	*NRN230 + NRN230C Pediatric Health and Wellness <i>OR</i>	2
	COD	*NRN240 + NRN240C Health & Wellness in Growing Families	
Graduate from COD with ADN			
Remaining courses at LLU (10 weeks)		RELE ___ Religion Course	2 qu
		NRSG414 Mgmt/Leadership for the RN	5 qu
		NRSG424 Professional RN Capstone	7 qu
		NRSG416 Public Health Nursing	4 qu
		NRSG434 Public Health Nursing Lab for RN	3 qu

* 8 week courses

-Total units at LLU to obtain BSN: 46 units (LLU operates on a quarter system. 1 Semester Unit = 1.5 Quarter Units)

Eligibility and Requirements

- Have the majority of prerequisites completed with a plan to complete all with a "C" or better from a regionally accredited college or university
- Three electronic recommendations (recommenders will receive an e-mail once application is submitted)
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in all college coursework
- Completion of HS or equivalent
- All qualified applicants will be invited for an interview

Start Date Options

Summer (Part-time or Full-time)

Estimated time to complete BSN

As little as a year after NCLEX

Discount Rate

\$297/unit discount

Current Tuition \$705/unit → \$408/unit

≈ \$18,768

At a Glance

	APU	GCU	LLU
Est. program duration	Completion of ADN & BSN programs will be almost simultaneous, or within 1 semester (IEP route)	30-35 weeks after NCLEX, 15-20 weeks for bachelor degree holding students	as little as 1 year (full time) (after completion of ADN)
Course structure	IEP route –BSN classes taken at the <i>same time</i> as ADN classes Summer Bridge program – take 10 units in the summer	BSN classes taken only during summer and/or winter	BSN classes taken only during summer
Online courses?	100% (except for practicum)	100% (except for clinicals)	100% (no clinicals required)
Units Required	40 units	36 units	46 quarter units
Discount	10% discount Current tuition \$460/unit → \$414/unit after discount	\$90/unit discount Current Tuition \$340/unit → \$250/unit after discount	\$297/unit discount Current Tuition \$705/unit → \$408/unit after discount
Est. total cost	~ \$16,650	~ \$9,000	~ \$18,768

*These are estimated prices based on current tuition and units. Individual scholarships, financial and military benefits are not included in these estimates.

Please be advised that **coursework at the ADN level holds primary priority**. Successful completion of all ADN program requirements is mandatory prior to submitting an application for the NCLEX examination. The NCLEX serves as the official licensure assessment required to obtain your Registered Nurse (RN) license, which must be secured before engaging in professional nursing practice.

Contact us

A College of the Desert Nursing Counselor is available for information related to pre-admission, nursing applications and transcript related matters.

A Concurrent Enrollment Program Coordinator is available regarding all other matters related to concurrent enrollments.



To make a one-on-one appointment with either the Nursing Counselor or Concurrent Enrollment Program Coordinator, please visit our website at <https://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/acad-prog/health-sciences/nursing/bsn-concurrent.php>

Additionally, you'll find upcoming General CEP Information Sessions via Zoom. You may also send us an e-mail at: NursingCEP@collegeofthedesert.edu

