

Choice of Major

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree has two majors: **nursing administration or nursing education.**

- The MSN in nursing administration prepares nurses for unit, department, service line, or system-level leadership.
- The MSN in nursing education prepares nurses to teach patients, families, healthcare consumers, nurses, and nursing students.

MSN Program Highlights

- Online coursework with two practicums toward the end of the program
- Start dates at the beginning of each fall and spring semester (2 start dates per year)
- Courses are every 8 weeks
- Complete in 12 months (full time)
- Capstone or thesis completion options

Two Step Admission Process

Step 1: The applicant must be admitted to the College of Graduate Studies.

Notes:

- The GRE is not required for admission into the MSN program.
- The essay submitted with the College of Graduate Studies application will be reviewed by the School of Nursing.

The application process for step 1 begins by applying online (through Apply Texas) to the College of Graduate Studies at Tarleton State University at <https://goapplytexas.org/>

Step 2: The applicant must be admitted to the School of Nursing graduate program.

1. Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from an accredited program of nursing (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing [ACEN] or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE] program of nursing)
2. A GPA of 3.0 on the last 60 hours of BSN coursework is preferred. A GPA between 2.5 and 3.0 will be considered for conditional admission.
3. Hold a current, unencumbered license as a registered nurse in the United States and be eligible for unencumbered licensure in Texas. Proof of unencumbered current Texas license must be demonstrated by the start of course work
4. Basic statistics course with grade of "C" or better
5. Resume submitted to applynursing@tarleton.edu

Admission Cycles

Applications accepted for spring and fall admission cycles.

Overview of Curriculum

The MSN curriculum consists of courses in the core, each major, and degree completion options. All students take the core courses followed by the courses in their selected major. Students work with their advisor to identify a degree completion option (capstone or thesis). The capstone course focuses on the development of a scholarly product for dissemination. A thesis is a research project in which the student works closely with a faculty chair to plan, conduct, analyze, and report on a research question related to the major. Both degree completion options are a synthesis of the concepts, theories, principles, roles, and skills learned in the MSN program and satisfy the College of Graduate Studies requirement for a comprehensive assessment.

Core Courses (all MSN students take the core courses)	Semester Credit Hours
NURS 5300 Nursing Theory	3
NURS 5303 Advanced Nursing Role Development	3
NURS 5398 Nursing Research	3
NURS 5306 Nursing Informatics	3
Core Subtotal	12

Courses in the Major			
Administration		Education	
Course Title	Semester Credit Hours	Course Title	Semester Credit Hours
NURS 5310 Leadership Development	3	NURS 5312 Advanced Health Assessment	3
NURS 5322 Healthcare Change and Communication	3	NURS 5314 Advanced Pharmacology and Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5301 Organizational Behavior and Human Resources	3	NURS 5330 Instructional Methods and Strategies for Adult Learners	3
NURS 5320 Healthcare Finance	3	NURS 5332 Curriculum Development	3
NURS 5324 Outcomes and Evaluation in Healthcare	3	NURS 5334 Outcomes and Evaluation in Education	3
NURS 5328 Administrator Role I*	3	NURS 5338 Clinical Focus Role*	3
NURS 5329 Administrator Role II*	3	NURS 5339 Educator Role*	3
Major Subtotal	21	Major Subtotal	21

Degree Completion Options (students pick one option)			
NURS 5373 Nursing Administration Capstone OR	3	NURS 5383 Nursing Education Capstone OR	3
NURS 5388 Thesis	3 (repeat for a total of 6)	NURS 5388 Thesis	3 (repeat for a total of 6)
ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	36 to 39	EDUCATION TOTAL	36 to 39

*Practicum course with 60 contact hours

About Tarleton State University:

A founding member of The Texas A&M University System, Tarleton transforms generations by inspiring discovery, leadership and inclusion through teaching and research. Degree programs for more than 14,000 students in Stephenville, Fort Worth, Waco, Midlothian, at RELIS Academic Alliance in Bryan, and online emphasize real-world learning that addresses regional needs while sustaining the values of excellence, integrity and respect.

The nursing master's degree program at Tarleton State University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.