NORTHERN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Nursing, BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing)
2026-2027 LPN to BSN Plan Guide
Major: 60 (*63) credit hours, Total Degree Requirements: 120 credit hours

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree. For official program requirements, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.

Nursing Prerequisite Phase

Many of these credits are fulfilled with courses taken in LPN coursework or otherwise. See your advisor for guidance. Students should apply to the Nursing Major when these courses are completed or in progress with a minimum grade of C.

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
MATH 103 Mathematical Reasoning (or higher)	Major* + SGR 5	3
ENGL 101 English Composition I	Major* + SGR 1	3
PSYC 101 General Psychology	Major* + SGR 3	3
ENGL 201 English Composition II	Major* + SGR 1	3
CHEM 106/L Chemistry Survey	Major* + SGR 6	3/1
BIOL 220/L Anatomy & Physiology I	Major* + SGR 6	3/1
BIOL 315 Nutrition	Major*	3
PSYC 221 Lifespan Development	Major*	3
BIOL 230/L Anatomy & Physiology II	Major*	3/1
MICR 231/L General Microbiology	Major*	3/1
CMST 101 Foundations of Communications	Major* + SGR 2	3
SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology	Major* + SGR 3	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**40**

Nursing Credit Transfer (NURS 391: Independent Study LPN Transition Course required)

To be eligible for nursing credit transfer, students must possess an active LPN license, maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and have documentation of 1000+ hours of direct patient care experience as a licensed LPN within the previous two years. Additionally, all bridge students are required to complete NURS 391: LPN to BSN Bridge Course with a "B" before credits will be awarded

NURS 285 Medical Terminology	Major	3
NURS 239/L Foundations in Nursing	Major + Human Values	2/1
NURS 238 Clinical Practicum: Foundations	Major	2
NURS 269/L Health Assessment & Application	Major	2/1
NURS 329L Health & Illness I (lab only)	Major	2
NURS 328 Clinical Practicum I (need 2 more credits)	Major	1
	Total Credit Hours:	**14**

Optional Credit for Prior Learning: *Students may earn up to 4 additional credits for prior learning experience at a flat fee of $150 per course, regardless of credit value. To qualify, students must meet all Nursing Credit Transfer requirements and successfully complete the corresponding NLN NACE (National League for Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam) at their own expense with a passing score of 75%*

Course	NACE Exam	Cost of Exam	Credits Awarded
NURS 379 Health & Illness II (OB Theory Content)	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	$63	1
NURS 379 Health & Illness II (Pediatric Theory Content)	Nursing Care of Children	$63	1
NURS 459 Health and Illness III (Mental Health Theory Content)	Nursing Care of the Mental Health Client	$63	2
		Total POSSIBLE Credit Hours:	**4**

LPN to BSN Required Transition Courses

Semester 1

NURS 391: LPN-BSN Bridge	*Required BEFORE nursing credit transfers*	2
NURS 327 Pathophysiology	Major	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**5**

Information subject to change. This is not a contract.

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Nursing Program Phase (4 consecutive semesters)

Semester 2

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 355 Pharmacology	Major	3
NURS 329 Health & Illness I (Theory Only)	Major	4
NURS 328 Clinical Practicum I	Major	2
NURS 369 Professional Principles in Nursing	Major + Human Values	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**12**

Semester 3

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 379/L Health & Illness II	Major	4/2
NURS 378 Clinical Practicum II	Major	3
NURS 333 Quality, Safety, & Scholarship in Nursing	Major + Quantitative Course	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**12**

Semester 4

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 459 Health and Illness III	Major	5
NURS 458 Clinical Practicum III	Major	4
NURS 467 Leadership Principles in Nursing	Major	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**12**

Semester 5

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 479/L Population-Based Healthcare	Major	2/1
NURS 489 Transition to Professional Nursing	Major	3
NURS 495 Nursing Practicum	Major	4
	Total Credit Hours:	**10**

Additional Degree Requirements (*Can be completed any time before graduation*)

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
Arts & Humanities	SGR 4	3
Arts & Humanities	SGR 4	3
Civics Requirement	SGR 3	3
Elective	Elective ***generally fulfilled by LPN coursework*	3
Elective	Elective ***generally fulfilled by LPN coursework*	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**15**

COMMENTS & NOTES

Program Overview:
The LPN-to-BSN Pathway provides Licensed Practical Nurses with a streamlined route to earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Total time to degree varies based on prerequisite and general education coursework still needed to meet program admission requirements and fulfill baccalaureate degree completion.

Admission Requirements to the LPN to BSN Pathway

- Active, unencumbered LPN license
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Minimum of 1000 hours of direct patient care within the preceding two years
- Grade of C or higher in all pre-nursing courses & courses required for completion of the BSN degree
- Completion of NURS 391: LPN to BSN Bridge course with a grade of B
- Completion of NURS 327: Pathophysiology with a grade of C

Important Notes
Students should always consult with their advisor before completing their schedules. Taking incorrect courses can alter your pathway and impact your ability to progress in the program on schedule. Some course substitutions may be allowed but require authorization and additional documentation.

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