

Indiana State University  
School of Nursing  
Undergraduate LPN to BSN Track

Program Summary for the LPN to BSN Track  
of the Baccalaureate Nursing Program

Thank you for your interest in Indiana State University's online LPN/LVN to BSN track of the Baccalaureate Nursing program. The Baccalaureate Track for Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) and has received full approval from the Indiana State Board of Nursing.

**Admission and Application Requirements**

***Step 1: Verify Program Availability in your state of licensure and residence***

While Indiana State University endeavors to offer all of its programs to as wide an audience as possible, the LPN to BSN Track may not be available in all states. Each of the states has its own approval process for out-of-state institutions offering distance education. ***You are expected to complete your clinical rotations in the approved state in which you were admitted, licensed in, and in which you physically reside. State availability is subject to change.***

A move to an unapproved state (including travel nursing) or military deployment outside the continental United States must be communicated to the student's academic advisor and the Clinical Coordinator. Such moves can impact the student's progression and degree completion. Our [U. S. map](#) indicates in which states the LPN/LVN to BSN Track is currently available.

***Step 2: LPN Pre-Nursing Application to University/Transcript Evaluation***

The LPN Transcript Evaluation / Pre-Nursing University Application is for LPN/LVN's who wish to determine eligibility for the LPN to BSN Track at Indiana State University. Upon receipt **of all transcripts and the non-refundable evaluation and admission fees**, Indiana State University will review each transcript and determine eligibility for the LPN/LVN to BSN Track. (The ***prospective student must request*** the transcripts from previous higher education institutions – see below). This evaluation is required for each student planning to apply to the LPN-BSN Track. Notice of transcript evaluation review will be sent via the email address provided on the evaluation request.

Admission criteria include:

- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale of all pre-admission courses to the major is required for ***admission to the program***. (Meeting the minimum does not guarantee admission – the average GPA for recently admitted students can be seen under [LPN-BSN Track Admission Ranking Criteria](#)).
- A current, unencumbered LPN/LVN license (and residence) in an available state along with submission of a complete [admission portfolio](#) by the deadline.

- Failure of any two (2) nursing courses whether taken at ISU or in another RN program will result in ineligibility for admission to the major for a minimum of five (5) years.

These admission criteria are only intended to be an overview. The full list of admission criteria is available on the [LPN-BSN web site](#).

***Admission to Indiana State University as a pre-nursing major does not guarantee admission to the nursing program. The admission process for the nursing program is highly competitive***

Instructions for the LPN-BSN Transcript Evaluation request are available on the [LPN-BSN web site](#).

The Transcript Evaluation process can take 4-6 weeks beginning only when ALL transcripts have been received. To meet nursing program admission due dates, transcript evaluation must be completed with enough time for review and submission of required documents. All transcripts must be received at least 6 weeks prior to nursing program admission due dates. Exact dates can be found on the [LPN-BSN website. Earlier submission is recommended as the volume of reviews increases as each deadline approaches.](#)

**Completion of foundational studies/general education courses required for the nursing major:**

Credit for these courses may be obtained through a combination of transfer credit previously awarded from regionally accredited colleges/universities; courses completed in a traditional classroom setting or online; and/or successful completion of equivalency examinations. Credit from nationally accredited colleges and universities will be considered on a case by case basis. Courses from other institutions which have not been previously evaluated must be evaluated by the equivalent departments at Indiana State University. This additional step can lengthen the transcript evaluation process. Students should not request to have exam scores sent to the University until the student has completed the LPN Transcript Evaluation/Pre-nursing application to the University.

Students must complete the **following pre-admission courses**, or their equivalent, with a C or better, ***prior to consideration for admission into the nursing program***:

1. **ENG 101 & 105 or ENG 107 - English Composition 1 & 2 (6 credit hours)**
2. **PSY 101 - General or Intro Psychology (3 credit hours)**
3. **CHEM 100/100L - Chemistry (4 credit hours)**
4. **BIO 231/231L & 241/241L - Anatomy & Physiology 1 & 2 (6 credit hours)**
5. **BIO 274/274L - Microbiology (3 credit hours)**

You will need to have transcripts from all educational institutions you have attended sent to the University directly from the institution. Including:

- High School Transcript
- LPN Certificate Training
- CLEP exams
- Any institution of higher education that you have ever attended – even if another institution has listed transfer credit from a particular institution, you must have that

particular (original) institution send a transcript, too.

Please request the institutions to send your official transcripts directly to ISU. A transcript may be submitted electronically or through the mail. To avoid delays, please use the following address exactly and **do not include School of Nursing** in the address as it will incorrectly route mail and delay the transcript evaluation process:

Electronic: [Admissions@indstate.edu](mailto:Admissions@indstate.edu)

By Mail:

**Indiana State University  
Office of Admissions  
318 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47809**

**\*\*Note:** Applicants who have received college credit from an institution outside the U.S. must submit an official copy of the transcript to Indiana State University Admissions Office (International Department) for an official evaluation to determine U.S. equivalency. Applicants who have a course-by-course evaluation completed by an [accepted member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services](#) may submit an official copy of the report to ISU in addition to official transcripts. A NACES' evaluation does not take the place of an Official Transcript. Students who have not previously attended a U.S. institution must also demonstrate English language proficiency, by submitting an official report of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score from Educational Testing Services (ETS).

**Important:** Upon completion of the transcript evaluation process, an email with instructions for the next steps will be sent to the prospective student. To insure that you receive our emails, please set [ISU-DistanceNursing@indstate.edu](mailto:ISU-DistanceNursing@indstate.edu) to be a safe sender using [these instructions](#). (Be sure to check your junk and spam folders for ISU emails if you have not received notification.) Therefore, **when completing the request, applicants should ensure that they use their primary email address for all contacts.**

If you have not had an email regarding your transcript evaluation in 4 - 6 weeks after your transcripts were sent to ISU), **it is your responsibility to verify that all official transcripts have been received by the ISU Office of Admissions - 812-237-2121.**

### **Step 3: Application for Nursing Program Admission**

When a student has **met all pre-admission coursework requirements**, an e-mail will be sent to the student to schedule the Kaplan Admission Test (KAT) and upload all nursing admission documents. **Admission to Indiana State University as a pre-nursing major does not guarantee admission to the nursing program.**

**Admission to the nursing program is competitive. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the nursing program.** The following items will be required for nursing program admission:

1. Proof of an unencumbered LPN license from a [recognized](#) state as well as residence in that

state.

2. Completion of the online [Kaplan Admission Test](#) (KAT) with a score that meets [the benchmark](#). **Please note:** there is a \$29.00 proctoring fee per each attempt. A student may test up to two (2) times per application cycle. [\*\*Please note that Spring 2024 application cycle is the last one for which we will be offering the Kaplan Admission Test. Beginning with Fall 2024 application submissions, the LPN-BSN Track will be utilizing a different admission test. Therefore, previous KAT scores will not be accepted on applications to the LPN-BSN Track after the September 1, 2023 application deadline. Details on the new exam will be released soon.]
  - [Accessibility Resource Office](#) (accommodations)
3. Submission of the documents indicated on the [Nursing Admission Material Checklist](#).

### Nursing and University Coursework

The online nursing courses are designed to be completed in nine (9) semesters of study. A minimum of 120 semester hours is required for degree completion.

Upon full admission into the **Nursing Program**, students will complete the required courses for the major.

- NURC 208: Transition from LPN-BSN (3 credit hours)
- NURC 304/L: Comprehensive Health Assessment for Nursing Practice (4 credit hours)
- NURC 322: Research/Theoretical Basis for Nursing Practice (3 credit hours)
- NURC 338/L: Mental Health Nursing (4 credit hours)
- NURC 324/L: Nursing Care of Adults II (5 credit hours)
- NURC 424/L: Nursing Care of Adults III (5 credit hours)
- NURC 444/L: Community Health Nursing (4 credit hours)
- NURC 470: Nursing Leadership (3 credit hours)
- NURC 484/L: Reflective Nursing Practice (3 credit hours)
- NURC 486: Professional Nursing Synthesis (3 credit hours)
- NURC 490: Licensure Preparatory Course (2 credit hours)

Other required support courses for the major necessary for degree completion are:

- BIO 412: Pathophysiology (3 credit hours)
- EPSY 221 or PSY 266: Development Psychology (3 credit hours)
- AHS 240 or MATH 241: Statistics (3 credit hours)

Other foundational studies courses required are:

- Junior Composition (3 credit hours)
- Health and Wellness (3 credit hours)
- Historical Studies (3 credit hours)

- Literary Studies (3 credit hours)
- Fine & Performing Arts (3 credit hours)
- Ethics & Social Responsibility (3 credit hours)
- Global Perspectives & Cultural Diversity
  - Non-Native Language Pathway (6 credit Hours)
  - or
  - Global Pathway (3 Credits)

### **Kaplan Integrated Testing**

Kaplan is an educational partner that offers resources to increase content learning and test preparation throughout the program. [Kaplan Resources](#) are required and utilized during the entire undergraduate nursing program.

*Students are responsible for a one-time payment of \$620 for Kaplan materials during their first semester in the nursing major.*

### **Clinical Learning Experience**

**Clinical Nursing Courses:** Students enrolled in the LPN-BSN Track are required to participate in clinical rotations as part of the curriculum. A minimum of 450 clinical hours are completed within six of the online nursing courses. Contracts are arranged with clinical agencies prior to the start of clinical. The clinical experience will occur at an approved site with an approved preceptor in the student's geographical area. There is a one-to-one preceptor to student ratio during the clinical learning experiences. The remaining 135 clinical hours are articulated upon successful completion of NURC 208: *Transition from LPN-BSN* for a total of 585 clinical hours upon graduation. There are 450 clinical hours to be completed through the following ISU online nursing courses:

- NURC 304: Comprehensive Health Assessment for Nursing Practice involves **45 hours** of clinical education in the comprehensive health assessment of the child and adult.
- NURC\_338: Nursing in Mental Illness involves **45 hours** of clinical education hours through simulation and community experiences related to psychiatric nursing care of clients with common acute and chronic mental health disorders.
- NURC 324: Nursing Care of Adults II involves **90 hours** of clinical education in medical-surgical inpatient care and discharge of clients with common acute and chronic health problems.
- NURC 424: Nursing Care of Adults III involves **90 hours** of clinical education in medical-surgical inpatient care with clients in acute and intensive care with complex health problems.
- NURC 444: Community Health Nursing involves **45 hours** of clinical learning experience in a community agency, such as (but limited to) a public health nurse experience in a local health department, a school nurse experience in a local school corporation, or working with staff and clients in a local homeless shelter.
- NURC 484: Reflective Nursing Practice involves **135 hours** of clinical learning experience only. This clinical concentration course provides an opportunity for synthesis and evaluation of

professional nursing role behaviors essential to the care of clients experiencing complex health care needs across the lifespan in a variety of settings.

***Preceptor and Clinical Facility Agreements:***

The preceptor used throughout the clinical experience must be currently licensed as an RN, BSN preferred, in his/her state, with a minimum of 18 months experience in the clinical setting. The clinical sites may vary according to the course requirements and may include hospitals, home healthcare agencies, public health departments, primary care clinics, nursing homes, schools, wellness centers, and other community-based settings.

***Students are responsible to follow the clinical placement process to arrange their clinical experience.*** ISU will collaborate with students in coordinating the clinical portion of the program and the assignment of the clinical preceptor. The clinical placement process is explained in the first nursing course (NURC 208). Clinical placement is not guaranteed.

**Helpful Links**

- ISU [“Net Price Calculator”](#)
- ISU [Office of Student Financial Aid](#)
- [Military/Veteran Services/GI Bill](#) Information
- [Sycamore Express](#) for Undergraduate Students
- [Distance Learning Tuition and Fees](#)
- [Canvas](#)
- [Accessibility Resource Office](#) (accommodations)

**LPN-BSN Frequently Asked Questions**

***General Program***

**Q:** I would like to have information about the LPN to BSN Track?

**A:** The LPN-BSN track information will be emailed to you when you submit the [Nursing Inquiry Form](#)

**Q:** How long does the program take to complete?

**A:** Usual progression is nine semesters.

**Q:** Will courses I took previously transfer?

**A:** You may use our [Transfer Tool](#) to see if previous courses will transfer. You may also use the tool to see if courses you want to take at other institutions will transfer in to assist in meeting prerequisites.

**Q:** How much will the program cost?

**A:** The ISU [“Net Price Calculator”](#) can help you determine costs.

**Q:** What type of financial aid is accepted or available?

**A:** The ISU [Office of Student Financial Aid](#) will have information.

Or, if Military then contact: [Veteran Services](#)

**Q:** I notice that the program is not available in my state. Will I have to move in order to enroll in the LPN-BSN Track?

**A:** Please, always view our [map of currently recognized states](#) to see if the LPN-BSN Track is available. You are required to have a physical address in **and** an unencumbered license in a state that recognizes our program. (Recognizes = allows our program to be taught in the state, it is NOT related to ability to be licensed in the state after completion of the program)

**Q:** How do I request a fee waiver for the application fee and the transcript evaluation fee?

**A:** Due to the cost of processing applications and transcript evaluations, we are not able to provide any fee waivers for these costs.

### ***Transcript Evaluation***

**Q:** I did the transcript evaluation which stated that a course is needed, but I have already completed that course. What do I do?

**A:** It may be that your previous institution was not regionally accredited. Please reply back to that specific e-mail, identifying the course you completed and the Student Services personnel will provide guidance on the next steps.

**Q:** I did the transcript evaluation a week or so ago and still have not heard anything, what should I do?

**A:** You will receive an email regarding the outcome of your Transcript Evaluation after all transcripts are received and evaluated. ***The approximate wait time is four to six weeks but may be longer during high volume times (i.e. close to admission deadlines).***

**Q:** Have my transcripts been received by ISU Admissions?

**A:** It is your responsibility to confirm with the Office of Admissions that your transcripts have been received. To check whether transcripts have been received, contact the Office of Admissions at 812.237.2121 or [Admissions@indstate.edu](mailto:Admissions@indstate.edu)

Upon receipt of all transcripts and payment of the application and transcript review fees, your LPN-BSN transcript evaluation will begin and you will receive an e-mail once the process is completed.

### ***Pre-admission/Previous Coursework***

**Q:** What are the pre-admission courses for the LPN to BSN Track?

**A:** Please refer to the list of [Pre-admission courses](#) (or see above).

**Q:** Can I complete all of the pre-admission courses through Indiana State University?

**A:** At this time, Indiana State University offers most, but not all of the pre-admission courses online. It is your option to go through a local [regionally accredited college or university](#).

However, to be eligible for admission to the LPN-BSN **pre-nursing major**, one must have completed a minimum of 3 of the following 5 courses with a grade of “C” or better (and a minimum GPA of 2.5 in these courses):

- 3 credit hour anatomy course including laboratory component
- 3 credit hour physiology course including laboratory component
- 4 credit hour chemistry course including laboratory component
- 3 credit hour microbiology including laboratory component
- 3 credit hour introduction to psychology course
- Other requirements can be seen at [Minimum Requirements of Admission to the University for the LPN-BSN Premajor](#)

**Q:** I took a course a few years back. Is that still okay to transfer into ISU?

**A:** Yes. There is no expiration date on previous courses.

**Q:** I have finished the pre-admission courses, what should I do now?

**A:** Be sure to have any transcripts listing newly completed courses sent to the Office of Admissions so they can be added to your transcript evaluation.

**Q:** How can I schedule an appointment with my advisor?

**A:** Once you have been admitted to the University, are able to activate your ISU Portal, and have been notified of your advisor’s name, make an appointment with your academic advisor using the Microsoft Bookings system.

**Q:** Do I have to have my LPN License completed prior to applying for the nursing program?

**A:** Yes. You are required to have an unencumbered LPN License and reside in a state in which the LPN-BSN track is available to apply for admission to the University as a pre-nursing student. (Application for admission to the nursing program is a separate, subsequent process).

**Q:** Are you affiliated with Achieve Test Prep or College Network?

**A:** We are **not** affiliated with Achieve Test Prep nor with College Network.

### ***Clinicals***

**Q:** Where will I do my clinical?

**A:** The clinical experience will occur at an approved site with an approved preceptor in the student’s geographical area. Arrangements will be made to have clinical locally if possible.

**Q:** How many clinical hours are involved?



**A:** LPN to BSN = 450 clinical hours; 6 of your nursing courses require clinical hours.

### ***Required Admissions Test***

**Q:** I took the TEAS Exam last year, is that still current?

**A:** Indiana State University is **no longer accepting the TEAS exam for admission** to the nursing program. The [Kaplan Admission Test \(KAT\)](#) is the required test for admission to the nursing program and must be taken through ISU. We do not accept KAT test scores from other institutions. **[\*\*Please note that admission testing for Spring 2024 admission is the last semester we will be offering / accepting the Kaplan Admission Test.** Beginning with Fall 2024 application submissions, the LPN-BSN Track will be utilizing a different admission test. Therefore, previous KAT scores will not be accepted on applications to the LPN-BSN Track after the September 1, 2023 application deadline. Details on the new exam will be released soon.]

**Q.** How long are my Kaplan test results considered acceptable?

**A.** Passing Kaplan test results will only be accepted for the September 1, 2023 application deadline. Beginning with Fall 2024 application submissions, the LPN-BSN Track will be utilizing a different admission test.

**Q:** I have a documented disability, how can I be allowed accommodations for testing?

**A:** Information about obtaining accommodations is available from the [Accessibility Resource Office](#).