

RN-BSN Completion Program Start Dates

Which Start Date is Right for Me?

The RN-BSN Program now offers two pathways for completion.

- Same degree
- Same courses
- Same learning outcomes
- Both online with Clinical Experience in person
- Flexible for working nurses

The difference is when you begin and how quickly you progress through the program

Student Pathway Full Time Selection

Feature	Fall Start	Spring Start
Program Length	3 semesters	4 semesters
Start Term	Fall	Spring
Pace	Faster	More balanced
Nursing Courses Per Term	Higher concentration	More evenly distributed
Best For	Students who want the quickest path to graduation	Students seeking a slightly lighter pace and additional flexibility
Completion Time	Fall → Summer	Spring → Spring

Quick Decision Guide

Choose FALL START if:

- ✓ You want the fastest route to graduation
- ✓ You are ready for a rigorous pace
- ✓ You can dedicate significant time to coursework
- ✓ You want to finish within one academic year

Choose SPRING START if:

- ✓ You prefer a more balanced workload
- ✓ You work full-time or variable shifts
- ✓ You have significant family responsibilities
- ✓ You want additional flexibility while completing your BSN

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the degree different if I start in Spring?

No. Both pathways lead to the same BSN degree and meet the same program outcomes.

Will employers know which pathway I completed?

No. Your transcript and diploma do not indicate whether you entered in Fall or Spring.

Can I choose either start date?

Yes. Students may select the pathway that best fits their schedule and goals.

Which pathway is faster?

The Fall Start pathway is designed for completion in approximately 9 months.

Which pathway is better for working full-time?

Many students working full-time may prefer the Spring Start pathway because coursework is distributed more evenly across four semesters. But both options are flexible start options unique to each student.

Will nursing courses be different?

No. The same nursing courses, learning outcomes, and faculty standards apply to both pathways.

Which pathway should I choose?

Choose the pathway that matches your availability, work schedule, and preferred pace of learning.

RN-BSN Completion Program Registration Checklist

Before Applying

- ☐ Hold active RN license (or expected before enrollment)
 - ☐ Apply to Cincinnati State NURB
 - ☐ Submit all prior college transcripts
 - ☐ Complete FAFSA (if applicable)
 - ☐ Meet with RN-BSN advisor
 - ☐ Select Fall Start or Spring Start pathway
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Prior to Registration

Verify Completion of:

- ☐ Associate Degree in Nursing
 - ☐ Statistics Requirement
 - ☐ Cultural Diversity Requirement
 - ☐ Arts/Humanities Requirement
 - ☐ History Requirement
 - ☐ Transfer Credit Evaluation Reviewed
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First Semester Registration

Fall Start Students

- ☐ Register for NUR 400 for first 8 weeks
- ☐ Register for NUR 405 and NUR 430 for 2nd 8 weeks
- ☐ Plan for Statistics (if needed)
- ☐ Register/Plan for Diversity Elective
- ☐ Register/Plan for Arts/Humanities Elective

- ☐ Register/Plan History Elective
 - ☐ Review academic plan
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Spring Start Students

- ☐ Register for NUR 400 for first 8 weeks
 - ☐ Register for NUR 405 and NUR 430 for 2nd 8 weeks
 - ☐ Plan for Statistics (if needed)
 - ☐ Register/Plan for Diversity Elective
 - ☐ Register/Plan for Arts/Humanities Elective
 - ☐ Review academic plan
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Every Semester (recommended)

- ☐ Meet with Advisor
 - ☐ Check Degree Audit
 - ☐ Confirm Clinical Requirements (NUR 410)
 - ☐ Verify Financial Aid Status
 - ☐ Register before priority deadline
 - ☐ Review next-semester course schedule
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Graduation Checklist

- ☐ Complete all nursing courses
- ☐ Complete all general education requirements
- ☐ Submit graduation application
- ☐ Verify degree completion

☐ Complete capstone project (NUR 440)

☐ Celebrate earning your BSN! 🎓

Spring Start Full Time [4 Semesters]

*Electives vary per student – plan to discuss with Advisor

Spring

1 st 8-Weeks		Credits
NUR 400	Transition to RN-BSN Role	3
2 nd 8-Weeks		
NUR 405	Healthcare informatics	3
All Semester		
C/D Elective	Cultural Diversity Elective*	3
A/H Elective	Art/Humanities Elective**	3
Math 131	Statistics **	3
	Total Credits	6-12

Summer

1 st 8-Weeks		Credits
NUR 425	Nursing Leadership and Management for Healthcare Practice	4
2 nd 8-Weeks		
NUR 420	Health Care Policy, Ethical and Legal Issues	3
All Semester		
HST Elective	History Elective***	3
	Total Credits	10-12

Fall

1 st 8-Weeks		Credits
NUR 415	Evidence Based Practice, Research, Scholarship and Clinical Decision Making	3
2 nd 8-Weeks		
NUR 430	Health Outcome Measures and Quality Improvement Processes	3
All Semester		
Nur 410	<i>Population Based Community Healthcare</i> <i>*includes 45 Clinical Clock Hours</i>	4
	Total Credits	10

Spring 2

1 st 8-Weeks		Credits
NUR 435	RN-BSN Capstone Seminar	3
2 nd 8-Weeks		
NUR 440	RN-BSN Capstone Project	4
	Total Credits	7