



# CAL STATE LA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

**RONGXIANG XU COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL & GLOBAL EDUCATION**

## **ADN-BSN COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM**

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **What is the value of a BSN degree?**

- More than 88% of CA employers now require or strongly prefer to hire BSN-prepared RNs.
- Completion of a BSN degree ensures the graduate will be well-prepared for leadership, population health issues, coordination of care, and the translation of research into practice, which better prepares RNs to function in this evolving and increasingly complex health care environment.
- Evidence supports that RNs with Baccalaureate or higher degrees are better prepared to manage more complex patient needs and improve patient outcomes.
- Growing evidence demonstrates an association between BSN staffing and a lower incidence of pressure ulcers, postoperative deep vein thrombosis, hospital-acquired infections, and post-surgical mortality.

Interpreted or excerpted from: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, *Employment of New Nurse Graduates and Employer Preferences for Baccalaureate-Prepared Nurses* (August 2020).

#### **What are the advantages of the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

- Dual enrollment while in the ADN program
  - BSN courses enhance success in the ADN program
  - Decreased BSN completion time after ADN graduation
- Guaranteed degree completion for qualified students
- Completion of BSN degree in about one year following ADN program graduation
- Eligible to apply for CA Public Health Nurse Certificate upon program completion
- Cohort (group) class structure throughout entire program
- Personalized and face to face engagement and support from program staff and faculty

#### **How do I apply to the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

Students enrolled in the first or second semester of the ADN program at one of our 13 community college partner schools should meet with their nursing counselor or nursing director to inform them of their interest in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program. For more information about the application process, please see the To Apply drop down menu on the ADN-BSN Collaborative website: <http://www.calstatela.edu/page/adn-bsn-collaborative-program>.

#### **How many students are accepted into the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program each year?**

The ADN-BSN Collaborative Program accepts a maximum of 80 students into each cohort.

#### **How many times per year are students admitted to the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

The ADN-BSN Collaborative Program begins a new cohort once per year in the summer term.

<http://www.calstatela.edu/page/adn-bsn-collaborative-program>

**Are ADN-BSN Collaborative courses in-person or online?**

The ADN-BSN Collaborative Program is an in-person program, with classes held on campus and at clinical sites. Some courses may offer a hybrid schedule with a mix of in-person and virtual class sessions, but students can plan to attend classes in-person for the duration of the program.

**If a student already has an ADN from one of the 13 partner community colleges in previous years, can they still apply to the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

No; the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program is only for students who are currently enrolled in an ADN program at one of our 13 community college partner schools. If you already have an ADN degree and RN license, you may be eligible to apply for the RN-BSN Program instead. For more information about the RN-BSN Program, please visit the RN to BSN page on the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing website:

<https://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/rn-bsn>.

**Are students with a previous bachelor's degree eligible to apply to the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

Yes; students with a previous bachelor's degree may apply to the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program through their ADN program if they meet the program eligibility requirements. For more information about program eligibility requirements, please see the To Apply drop down menu on the ADN-BSN Collaborative website:

<http://www.calstatela.edu/page/adn-bsn-collaborative-program>.

**Do students have to complete all the BSN prerequisites before beginning the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program in Summer 1?**

Students must complete the following courses prior to beginning Summer 1 at Cal State LA:

- Anatomy + lab
- Physiology + lab
- Microbiology + lab
- College Chemistry\* + lab
- English Composition
- Oral Communication
- Introductory Psychology
- Introductory Sociology

*\*Please note: Some Community Colleges accept high school level chemistry in order to enter the ADN program. This will not be sufficient to continue in the BSN program; Cal State LA requires a college level chemistry course in order to enter the BSN program. Please meet with your community college counselor for information about specific courses that satisfy this requirement.*

Students must complete the following courses prior to beginning Summer 2 at Cal State LA:

- Inferential Statistics
- Human Nutrition
- Critical Thinking

**Other Requirements**

Students must complete the following requirements prior to beginning Summer 2 at Cal State LA:

- CSU General Education (GE) Breadth Certification (certified by community college)
  - *Effective Fall 2021, a 3-unit Area F: Ethnic Studies course is required for full CSU GE Certification*
- CSU American Institutions & Ideals Requirement (certified by community college)

Students must complete the following requirement prior to beginning the Fall semester at Cal State LA:

- Pass NCLEX-RN licensing exam

See the To Apply drop down menu on the ADN-BSN Collaborative Website for more information:

<http://www.calstatela.edu/page/adn-bsn-collaborative-program>.

**What happens if an ADN student fails a course in their community college nursing program after they have enrolled in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

If a student fails an ADN course at the community college level, they will need to repeat the course. If repeating the course causes the student to fall out of sequence with the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program schedule, the student may be able to postpone their BSN enrollment to the following cohort, pending space availability. Students who are unable to continue in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program may apply to an RN-BSN program after they graduate from the ADN program and earn their RN license.

**How many units will students take at Cal State LA in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

Students who do not have a previous bachelor's degree will take 36 semester units at Cal State LA. These units include 27 nursing major units and 9 upper division general education units required by the university to receive a bachelor's degree. Students with a previous bachelor's degree will take 27 semester units of nursing major courses at Cal State LA.

**Will students with a previous bachelor's degree be able to graduate sooner than students without a previous bachelor's degree?**

No; because this is a cohorted program, classes are scheduled during specific semesters and are not offered early for students with a previous bachelor's degree. Students who have a previous bachelor's degree do not need to take the upper division general education courses required by the university, so they will take fewer classes in the final fall and spring semesters at Cal State LA than students without a previous bachelor's degree.

**How many days per week will students attend class in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

Since the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program is considered a full-time program, students should expect to attend class from 1-3 days per week depending on course requirements. Time commitments for clinical rotations will vary.

**May students automatically transfer from the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program to the RN-BSN Program?**

No; if students are unable to continue in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program for any reason, they will be required to formally withdraw from the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program. They may apply to the RN-BSN Program by submitting a separate application to that program. The RN-BSN Program accepts applications once a year in the fall for entrance into the program the following fall. For more information about the RN-BSN Program, please visit the RN to BSN page on the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing website:

<https://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/rn-bsn>.

**May students in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program choose their own class schedules?**

No; the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program Office schedules BSN courses to meet university regulations and the specific needs of each cohort in the program. Attempts are made to coordinate student class schedules with work and family care obligations, but the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program Office assigns students to specific class sections each semester.

**May students choose their clinical sites for clinical courses?**

Students are encouraged to work with the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing Undergraduate Clinical Placement Coordinator regarding their preference of clinical site, clinical specialty area, and/or geographic region for their clinical placements. Please visit the PACSON Clinical Placement Office website for additional information:

<http://www.calstatela.edu/hhs/nursing/clinical-placement>.

### **Is it possible to work while in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program?**

Many students who choose to work while in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program have been able to successfully balance their school and work load. If you choose to work while in school, we encourage you to carefully consider your anticipated course and clinical workload each semester and to work closely with your employer to let them know about your school schedule and other obligations as soon as possible.

### **Do student health records and background checks from the community college transfer to Cal State LA for use in clinical placement?**

No; Cal State LA does not have access to students' health records and background checks from their previous colleges, and these records are not transferrable. Students will need to upload their immunization and health records to their CastleBranch (formerly known as Certified Profile) account through Cal State LA.

### **Are ADN-BSN Collaborative students considered matriculated students at Cal State LA?**

During the first two summer terms, ADN-BSN Collaborative students are considered "continuing education" students. Once students formally apply to Cal State LA and enroll in the fall term of the program, they are considered matriculated students. Matriculation simply means that students are enrolled in a degree-granting program and will be eligible to receive a BSN degree from Cal State LA. This **does not** mean that students will be considered state-side students. The entire ADN-BSN Collaborative Program is run through the College of Professional and Global Education as a self-support program. Please visit the Tuition / Fees / Financial Aid drop down menu on the ADN-BSN Collaborative website for additional information:

<http://www.calstatela.edu/page/adn-bsn-collaborative-program>.

### **What is the difference between state-supported and self-supported programs?**

In state-supported (or state-side) programs, the state of California partially supports student tuition (approximately 30-40%). This means that the total costs to the University, including faculty compensation, are covered by the state general fund as well as student tuition. The total tuition that state-side students pay is approximately 60-70% of what it actually costs to run these programs. Self-supported programs, which are run through the College of Professional and Global Education (PaGE) at Cal State LA, do not receive any funding from the state of California; therefore, they rely on student tuition and fees to cover 100% of all direct and indirect expenses associated with offering classes and services.

### **Why isn't the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program state-supported?**

Unfortunately, there is not sufficient space or funding to expand state-side programs in California's public universities. The reason nearly all the CSUs have ADN to BSN programs like this offered through Extended Education (PaGE at Cal State LA) is to provide access and the opportunity for many more students to receive their BSN degrees. The ADN-BSN Collaborative Program at Cal State LA allows up to 80 additional nursing students to receive their BSN degree each year, which doubles the capacity of the Patricia A. Chin School of Nursing's undergraduate programs. Without programs like this, hundreds of students would not have the opportunity to complete their BSN in a timely manner.

### **Are there any additional fees besides tuition that students in the ADN-BSN Collaborative Program must pay each term?**

During Summer 2, Fall, and Spring, students are required to pay the Student Health Center fee (\$149.19/semester). In Fall and Spring, students will also pay the University Student Union fee (\$137.25/semester). This allows students to utilize these services while enrolled during these semesters.

**Can I use my Cal-Vet Fee Waiver for programs/courses taken through the College of Professional and Global Education?**

The Cal-Vet Fee Waiver only waives state mandated fees. Self-support (extension) fees are not waived. Therefore, the Cal-Vet Fee Waiver cannot be used for any program or courses offered by the College of Professional and Global Education, including Open University courses. Contact the Veterans Resource Center staff at (323) 343-5080 to inquire about educational programs that qualify under the Cal-Vet fee waiver program at Cal State L. A.