

## Clarion University of Pennsylvania Nursing Programs

The following chart may help you decide whether the 2-year ASN or 4-year BSN program is best for you. Both programs offer diverse clinical experiences in medical-surgical and specialty rotations and opportunities to participate in a living learning community. Graduates from either program are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam for RNs (NCLEX-RN®). Successful completion of the exam is required for entrance into nursing practice. Students in both programs enjoy the support of their peers as they take many of the same courses.

<b>Associate of Science in Nursing Program</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program</b>
<p><b>May be completed in 2 years of full-time study:</b></p> <p>The curriculum in the 2-year program offered at Venango College is high paced with earlier hands-on clinical patient care experiences. You can more quickly determine if nursing is your preferred career.</p>	<p><b>May be completed in 4 years of full-time study:</b></p> <p>The program, offered at Clarion Campus, provides a slower introduction to nursing allowing students to acclimate to the profession throughout the 4-year program, and culminates in many hours of clinical experience, including a preceptorship.</p>
<p>Nursing instructors are present with you on the nursing units during the clinical hospital experiences. Occasionally students will participate in experiences within the community.</p>	<p>Nursing instructors are present with you on the nursing units during the clinical hospital experiences. Students will participate in experiences within the community and with the RN during the preceptorship.</p>
<p>You can graduate within 2 years and enter the workforce as an RN upon successful completion of the NCLEX exam. As a working RN, your employer may help you pay for earning higher nursing degrees. Upon graduation you may be eligible to enter a nursing job in a medical-surgical unit or a specialty of your choice depending on the specific facility's hiring policies.</p>	<p>Enjoy the full college experience while completing your 4-year BSN degree and enter the workforce upon successful completion of the licensure exam. In addition to working in medical-surgical or specialty areas, earning a BSN degree may provide you with additional opportunities such as becoming a nursing supervisor, an educator in a health care facility, or a quality assurance nurse.</p>
<p>You can build on the ASN degree by earning RN-BSN and higher degrees. Students easily transition into the online RN-BSN program and all of the ASN credits transfer directly into the program. In the RN-BSN program students can complete classes around work and family obligations while earning a living.</p>	<p>After gaining clinical experience graduates of the BSN program are eligible to apply to the MSN-FNP program. Graduates of the MSN program become nurse practitioners and may choose to teach in a clinical setting.</p>
<p>Students in this program have a very busy schedule which severely limits their ability to participate in organized athletic or ROTC programs. However, many recreational, cultural, and social activities are available at Venango College.</p>	<p>Students may have more time to participate in organized athletic and ROTC programs while completing the four year BSN program. Additionally, many cultural, recreational, and social activities are available at the Clarion Campus.</p>
<p>Simulation experiences are used to enhance learning each semester. Beginning in the first semester, students participate in direct patient care at health care facilities.</p>	<p>Simulation experiences are incorporated throughout the program. Students are immersed in clinical experiences in the fourth year and work directly with a nurse preceptor in the last 5 weeks to gain additional expertise.</p>