



IUP Graduate Program in Nursing Handbook

Department of Nursing

Handbook Updated 2026-2027

Graduate Program in Nursing
Department of Nursing
1010 Oakland Avenue, Johnson Hall
Indiana, PA 15705-1087

Program Website: www.iup.edu/academics/find-your-degree/programs/nurs/gr/master-of-science-nursing-degree-programs.html

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Welcome to the Master's Program in Nursing at IUP

The faculty members are confident you will find this program both challenging and rewarding. We look forward to working with you throughout your studies and wish you every success in earning a Master of Science degree in Nursing.

IUP has an outstanding history of excellence. From 1871 when the Pennsylvania General Assembly legislated the establishment of a Normal School in the Ninth District at Indiana, Pennsylvania to the present, IUP has been committed to the preservation, expansion and transmission of knowledge in all its forms. As the largest state-owned university in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, IUP has a primary responsibility to assess and respond to the higher educational needs of the Commonwealth and to include within its concern the needs of the nation as a whole and those of the international community at large.

Graduate work began at IUP in September 1957. Academic offerings include more than 70 graduate programs including 10 doctoral programs. In all graduate programs the objectives are to: (1) encourage excellence, and scholarship, (2) provide depth in the student's special field, and (3) stimulate enthusiasm for continued cultural and professional growth on the part of the student.

IUP's Nursing Department first opened its doors to undergraduate students in 1968. The master's degree program in nursing at Indiana University of Pennsylvania is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>).

Faculty are experts in the areas of nursing education, nursing administration and advanced nursing practice. The classroom courses are supplemented with clinical experiences which utilize a wide variety of health care and education sites. Students find their studies exciting, challenging and rewarding and appreciate the services and support provided by the department and the university.

Recognizing the national and regional demand for nurse educators, the department submitted a proposal for a PhD in Nursing program which was approved by the Pennsylvania State System Board of Governors in January 2008. The first cohort began with the Fall 2008 term.

The PhD in Nursing program is designed for nurses interested in pursuing a career in academia with a research focus on nursing education. Graduates are prepared to assume leadership roles in diverse teaching environments as professors and educators.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Founded in 1875, IUP is a vibrant, comprehensive, research-based, teaching-focused, student-centered learning community. IUP combines the academic opportunities of a large university with the highly personalized and intimate learning-centered environment of a small college.

Almost 13,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled in our accredited and nationally recognized programs, enjoying traditional and nontraditional classroom experiences, engaging in research and service activities with their faculty mentors, becoming lifelong learners, preparing for rewarding careers and productive lives, and developing leadership skills for effective citizenship.

IUP's Civility Statement

As a university of different peoples and perspectives, IUP aspires to promote the growth of all people in their academic, professional, social, and personal lives. Students, faculty, and staff join together to

create a community where people exchange ideas, listen to one another with consideration and respect, and are committed to fostering civility through university structures, policies, and procedures. We, as members of the university, strive to achieve the following individual commitments:

To strengthen the university for academic success, I will act honestly, take responsibility for my behavior and continuous learning, and respect the freedom of others to express their views.

To foster an environment for personal growth, I will honor and take care of my body, mind, and character. I will be helpful to others and respect their rights. I will discourage intolerance, hatred, and injustice, and promote constructive resolution of conflict.

To contribute to the future, I will strive for the betterment of the community, myself, my university, the nation, and the world.

Affirmative Action

www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Title IX Reporting Requirement

www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Student Conduct and Student Rights

www.iup.edu/studentconduct/policies/

www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Department of Nursing

The faculty members are confident you will find this program both challenging and rewarding. We look forward to working with you throughout your studies and wish you every success in earning a Master of Science degree in Nursing.

Vision Statement

The DNAHP will have a significant impact on health, especially in the rural environment, through education, scholarship, service and partnerships. The department will sustain high-quality programs and will serve as a catalyst for healthcare careers and professional development.

Mission Statement and Program Objectives

The Department of Nursing is strongly committed to quality undergraduate and graduate education in the health professions.

- We strive to meet the diverse needs of students.
- Partnerships and teamwork are key elements in our education, scholarship, and service.
- We prepare students for leadership in the health professions

Department of Nursing Philosophy

The philosophy of the programs of nursing is consistent with the mission of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the College of Health Sciences. The Nursing faculty believe in preparing future graduates to practice within a complex healthcare system and assume the roles of provider of care, designer/manager/coordinator of care, and member of a profession. The nursing faculty make a dynamic contribution to the discipline of nursing, the university, college, department, and community at large. Faculty also aid student development and success through active learning, discovery, and civic engagement. The faculty believes in preparing nurse generalists at the baccalaureate level, nurse educators and administrators at the master's level, and researchers, educators, and leaders at the doctoral level. The master's degree in nursing at Indiana University of Pennsylvania is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>). The nursing faculty embraces an eclectic approach to our philosophical framework incorporating nursing education, systems, and care theories. We believe our philosophical framework incorporates the following concepts of person, environment, health, nursing, education, and caring.

The person is a synergistic blend of body, mind, and spirit with unique beliefs, ideas, and expectations. Persons are individuals with diverse ethnicity, age, gender, religion, lifestyle, genetic heritage, culture, and socioeconomic status. The person has the right and responsibility to participate in decisions which affect his/her health. Nurses, as persons, provide care for such populations across the health-illness continuum in a variety of settings, and we believe that, as care providers, nurses need care for self in order to provide holistic care for other persons.

Environment is a system of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations where the person is in constant interaction with internal and external environments. Through system interactions the person influences and is influenced by the environment.

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, spiritual, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Health is determined by the ability to adapt to internal and external environmental changes and maintain a dynamic equilibrium.

Nursing is a caring profession which promotes health by assisting the person to adapt to internal and external environmental changes. Nursing practice is based on holistic, caring, ethical, and legal frameworks. Nurses provide safe and high-quality care that incorporates therapeutic relationships established with the person in the global health system. Nursing incorporates the use of scientific nursing practice, research, critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and judgment to address simple to complex situations. The nurse utilizes evidenced-based practice guidelines to provide high-quality, cost-effective care for patients in and across all environments.

Education is a dynamic, developmental, and collaborative process that fosters life-long and self-directed learning while helping to develop critical thinking and personal and professional growth. We believe nurses must engage in continuous professional development and assume accountability and responsibility for one's own and delegated nursing care.

Caring is a value that perceives the needs of others and responds to those needs in a way beneficial to the patient as well as the nurse. It is both active and emotive. Caring is evident through respect of persons, understanding, compassion, and competence and is essential to the practice of nursing. The nurse and the patient cultivate sensitivity to one another in order to optimize caring and well-being.

—Watson, J. (2008). *Nursing: The Philosophy and Science of Caring*. Boulder, Colorado: University Press of Colorado.

Master’s Program

The Master of Science in Nursing is designed to prepare registered nurses for leadership roles in advanced nursing practice as nurse administrators or nurse educators. It also serves as a foundation for doctoral study. The Indiana University of Pennsylvania Master’s Degree in Nursing Program holds initial accreditation from the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA), located at 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20037. 202-909-2487.

At the graduate level the Master’s program prepares graduates to:

- Provide leadership that influences quality outcomes in the healthcare and educational environments.
- Synthesize advanced skills, professional attributes, and scientific knowledge into Master’s level.
- nursing practice roles.
- Employs strategies to translate evidence, to improve practice and associated outcomes.
- Utilize effective communication strategies across diverse healthcare and educational settings.
- Utilize evaluation strategies to analyze practice and advocate for change.

Faculty and Staff

Faculty with Graduate Teaching Eligibility

Faculty Member	Office Location	Phone Number	E-mail Address
Dr. Janis Barner	225 Johnson Hall	724-357-3251	jbarner@iup.edu
Dr. Johanna Boothby	253 Johnson Hall	724-357-3421	J.E.Uncapher@iup.edu
Dr. Kristy Chunta	223 Johnson Hall	724-357-3091	KChunta@iup.edu
Dr. Taylor Edwards	226 Johnson Hall	724-357-7988	T.E.Edwards@iup.edu
Dr. Theresa Gropelli	211 Johnson Hall	724-357-2279	Theresa.Gropelli@iup.edu
Dr. Riah Hoffman	214 Johnson Hall	724-357-3265	R.L.Skavang@iup.edu
Dr. Lora Hromadik	229 Johnson Hall	724-357-3261	L.K.Ott@iup.edu
Dr. Benjamin Martin	246 Johnson Hall	724-357-2559	martinb@iup.edu
Dr. Pamela O’Harra	227 Johnson Hall	724-357-3255	P.S.Oharra@iup.edu
Dr. Meigan Robb	257 Johnson Hall	724-357-3425	MRobb@iup.edu
Dr. Nashat Zuraikat	236 Johnson Hall	724-357-3262	Zuraikat@iup.edu

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Secretary, Master's Program
210 Johnson Hall
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana, PA 15705-1063
724-357-2557

Admission

An applicant must have achieved a bachelor's degree and successful completion of an accredited nursing program. Applicants must have a current license as a registered nurse. Students should also have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale). If the bachelor's degree is older than five years, the minimum GPA required is 2.6 (4.0 scale). Evidence of course work in statistics and research is also required.

For international graduate students who do not meet the TOEFL requirements, consider the Provisional Admission Program through the American Language Institute Intensive English Program. Students who successfully complete nine credits through the Bridge program are eligible to waive the TOEFL/IELTS requirements. International transfer students who have successfully completed six graduate level transfer credits at another US college or university may be eligible to waive the TOEFL/IELTS requirement.

Applicants must also meet the general requirements for admission to the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

To be considered for admission, the following items must be submitted to IUP's Admission Office:

- Application form: Apply online at www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/howto
- Successfully completed an accredited nursing program.
- A bachelor's degree (not necessarily in the field of nursing). If Bachelor's degree is not in Nursing, the student will be required to complete a 3-credit course: NURS 554 Transition to Advanced Professional Nursing in their first semester admitted.
- Current licensure as a registered nurse
- A minimum QPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale if your degree has been completed within five years of the application date. If your degree is older than five years, the minimum QPA is a 2.6 on a 4.0 scale.

- Evidence of coursework in statistics and research.
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, including those institutions from which a degree was not earned.
- Signed and dated statement of career and academic goals.
- Two letters of recommendation
- \$50 nonrefundable application fee
- GRE scores are not required.

For International Student Admissions:

- TOEFL score of 540 or above or IELTS score of 6
- Current nursing license from home country

Graduate Admissions: www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/

For more information regarding Admission Classification and Provisional Admission for International Graduate Application, view the Graduate Catalog: www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Financial Assistance

For information about financial aid contact the Office of Financial Aid.

Office of Financial Aid: www.iup.edu/financialaid/

Additional information may also be found at:

<http://www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/financialaid/assistantships-and-scholarships/>

Graduate Assistantships (GA)

Each year the Department of Nursing is allocated a limited amount of funding to hire Graduate Assistantships. Assistantship awards are based upon academic achievement. To be considered for a graduate assistantship, the following requirements must be:

- Admitted to the School of Graduate Studies and Research following the procedures outlined in the Catalog.
- Newly admitted students can indicate their interest in a GA position on their admission application. Returning students should contact the program coordinator.
- Successful completion of the Departmental Review Process.

Purpose of the Graduate Assistantship Program

The purpose of the graduate assistantship program is to provide mutual professional development opportunities for the graduate student and the faculty mentor. The graduate assistant program is one important way in which the School of Graduate Studies and Research supports research and scholarship at IUP.

GA Employment

Graduate assistant position awards will include a stipend and a tuition dollar award. To qualify for an 8 or 10- hour graduate assistant (GA) position (in-person or online), students must be registered for 6 credits in the fall and spring semesters. Upon completion of a GA award processing and approval an awards letter and agreement will be sent to the student via IUP email. The student should review the

agreement, sign it and return it by the stated deadline. This is viewed as a binding work commitment. The student will need to complete payroll forms and background clearances before the GA appointment can begin.

- www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/financialaid/assistantships-and-scholarships/
- Office of Financial Aid: www.iup.edu/financialaid/

Academic Advisement

Students are assigned an academic advisor within the DNAHP at the time of admission. The advisor is responsible for assisting the student with the development and implementation of the Program of Studies Plan. All students follow the cohort model for scheduled classes. However, in the event that a student must digress from the Program of Studies Plan, changes must be approved by the advisor BEFORE the student registers for classes. The student maintains the responsibility for fulfilling program requirements, meeting deadlines, etc.

Students receive information from their advisor each semester prior to registering for course work. The advisor will help students plan their course schedule, select electives, approve transfer credits, and provide guidance with program requests in a timely fashion. The Master's Program Coordinator is an additional resource for discussion of University and Departmental policies and program requirements. Students may also refer to the School of Graduate Studies and Research catalog for additional policy information. <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>

Navigator

All graduate students will be assigned a navigator, this is a full-time staff member assigned specifically to you. They are your go-to person. Their goal is to support you so you can succeed at IUP. They also work with your academic advisor to make sure your academic needs are met. Your navigator will contact you frequently with important resources, dates, deadlines, and reminders to keep you on track toward graduation.

<https://www.iup.edu/life-at-iup/support/navigators.html>

Campus Resources & Student Support

The School of Graduate Studies and Research: <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>

Graduate Catalog: www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Office of the Bursar: www.iup.edu/bursar/

Office of the Registrar: www.iup.edu/registrar/

Disability Support Services: www.iup.edu/disabilitysupport/

Office of Social Equity: www.iup.edu/socialequity/

IUP Campus Library: www.iup.edu/library/index.html/

MyIUP: www.iup.edu/myiup/

IT Support Center: www.iup.edu/itsupportcenter/

Veterans and Service Members: www.iup.edu/veterans/resource-center/

IUP Writing Center: www.iup.edu/writingcenter/

IUP Career and Professional Development Center: www.iup.edu/career/

IUP Parking Services and Visitor Center: www.iup.edu/parking/

University Policy: www.iup.edu/police/ | 724-357-2141

Crisis Intervention 24/7 Hotline: 1-877-333-2470

Student Registration: www.iup.edu/registrar/students/registration/

IUP Email

IUP offers an email account to all active students. Your IUP email address is the primary means by which the university will contact you with official information and you should use for all IUP official communications. It is your responsibility to check your IUP email regularly. Visit www.iup.edu/itsupportcenter/howTo.aspx?id=23401 to learn more about setting up this account. For more information regarding University Policy on email communications, view the Graduate Catalog: www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Graduate Student Assembly

The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) represents the graduate student body's interests at IUP and within the Indiana community. The GSA makes recommendations related University-wide and graduate-specific policies and in areas of concern in the cultural, intellectual, and social life of the part- and full-time graduate student. Visit <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html> for more information.

Master's in Nursing Advisory Board

The Master's in nursing advisor board consists of key stakeholders in the community. Board members are involved in assisting the Master's Program Committee in making program decisions to ensure graduates are best prepared for their role in nursing education and /or nursing administration. Board Members play an important role in helping the Master's Program committee ensure that quality indicators of the program's accrediting body are being met. The advisory board meets one time per semester via zoom. As Master's students in the program, you are eligible to serve on the advisory board. Please reach out to the Master's Program Coordinator at mrobb@iup.edu if interested.

Programs and Degrees

Master's Program

The Master of Science in Nursing program is a 36-credit curriculum designed to intentionally integrate the competencies of nurse educators and nurse leaders for baccalaureate-prepared registered nurses. Nurse educators play a vital role in academic and healthcare settings, leading curriculum design, implementing evidence-based teaching strategies, evaluating learner outcomes, and fostering the development of a skilled and practice-ready nursing workforce. Nurse leaders serve a critical role in healthcare decision-making, including the management of personnel, patient care, and financial resources, as well as the evaluation of outcomes across healthcare environments.

The curriculum includes 24 credits of graduate nursing core courses, complemented by 12 credits of specialty coursework focused on the roles and responsibilities of nurse educators and nurse leaders.

Core Courses (24 semester hours)

NURS/HSAD 555 Healthcare Informatics
NURS 610 Health Promotion and Social Issues
NURS/HSAD 614 Health Policy and Advocacy
NURS 619 Leadership Strategies in Healthcare
NURS 623 Translating Research into Nursing Practice
NURS 628 Advanced Professional Role Development

NURS 629 Healthcare Quality and Safety
NURS 744 Advanced Nursing Roles Capstone

Specialty Courses (12 semester hours)

NURS 722 Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education
NURS 723 Program Development and Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education
NURS 730 Financial Management in Healthcare
NURS 732 Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration

Students who choose the Thesis option may graduate with more than the required 36 credits.

Certificates

Simulation and Technology Certificate of Recognition (COR)

The Simulation and Technology Certificate of Recognition (COR) will present an avenue to prepare nurses and faculty for roles in clinical practice and education including those teaching in licensed practical nurse (LPN), pre-licensure registered nurse (RN), graduate nursing, and staff development settings. The COR program will provide courses that focus on leadership, pedagogical teaching strategies, curriculum design or evaluation methods, designing, implementing, and evaluating simulation scenarios, informatics, teaching via distance education, and the use of technology in the classroom and clinical settings.

The Simulation & Technology COR prepares graduates to:

- Utilize pedagogical principles to design, implement, and evaluate simulation as a teaching/learning strategy.
- Develop realistic simulation scenarios for clinical instruction.
- Employ appropriate strategies to evaluate student learning using simulation and technology.
- Effectively use current technologies in academic or clinical practice settings.
- Incorporates technology as a nurse leader in clinical or academic settings.

COR requirements:

Students must successfully complete 12 credits of the required

Courses:

NURS/HSAD 555 – Health Care Informatics
NURS 711 – Simulation in Nursing Education
NURS 864 – Technology in Nursing Education

And one of the following courses:

- * NURS 722 Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education
- * NURS 723 Program Development and Teaching Strategies in Nursing education
- * NURS 619 – Leadership Strategies in Healthcare
- * NURS 732 – Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration

Course Descriptions

NURS 554 Transition to Advanced Professional Nursing 3 cr.

Designed for graduate nursing students with a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing. Provides foundational knowledge related to leadership, quality and safety, evidence-based practice, health care policy, inter-professional collaboration, and health promotion and disease prevention.

NURS/HSAD 555 Healthcare Informatics 3 cr.

Focuses on aspects of acquiring, storing, retrieving, and effectively utilizing health information to support decision making, knowledge, and outcomes. Combines concepts, theory, and practice from the cognitive, computer, and information sciences.

NURS 610 Health Promotion and Social Issues 3 cr.

Introduces students to current social issues, models, and evidence-based research in health promotion, disease prevention and population health relevant to individuals and communities. Explores individual and population health promotion assessment, health behavior interventions, and disease prevention in diverse populations to improve patient and population health outcomes. Develops and implements an intervention and prevention plan which addresses individual and population health problems. Critique's research and evidence-based practice relevant to population health.

NURS/HSAD 614 Health Policy and Advocacy 3 cr.

Focuses on the legislative, regulatory, political and advocacy issues including safeguarding autonomy, and promoting social justice process that impacts the health care delivery services in the United States. Examines the impact of policy and politics on health care, social equity, accessibility, cost, and affordability. Examines their role in health policy development at the federal, state, and local level. Analyzes selected policies for their effect on social issues, health care finance and delivery. Explores the influence of global health.

NURS 619 Leadership Strategies in Health Care 3 cr.

This course will provide an overview of the characteristics and qualities needed for leadership in health care. Leadership theories and how they apply to health care will be discussed. Career planning, leadership development, and aspects of the leadership role, and gender perspectives will be explored. Strategies for managing leadership challenges will be reviewed including change process.

NURS 623 Translating Research into Nursing Practice 3 cr.

The course emphasizes how research can contribute to the improvement of nursing practice. Students will identify nursing problems and questions that can be answered with research evidence. Rigorous appraisal of the evidence will allow students to determine the quality and relevance for integrating findings into practice and assessing implementation potential. Students will develop evidence-based practice protocols that will translate research findings into nursing practice. **Pre-requisites:** NURS 610, NURS 619 *This course is taught over 14 weeks.

NURS 628 Advanced Professional Role Development 3 cr.

Analysis of the current and changing roles of advanced nursing in the current healthcare environment. Provides opportunities for reflection upon personal career development. Emphasis is placed on the development of a variety of professional communication and presentation skills needed for the advanced nursing role. Students will prepare an article appropriate for a professional journal and deliver a professional presentation. Skills in resume/vitae writing and grant writing will also be included. Opportunities will be provided for development of skills that enhance the advanced nurse's ability to work collaboratively with others.

NURS 629 Healthcare Quality and Safety 3 cr.

This course is designed to teach students to critically evaluate safety and quality in the health care arena. Students will be introduced to the agencies and resources involved with patient safety and health care quality monitoring. Knowledge of the impact of patient safety initiatives, resources, and regulations on practice and the use of benchmarks and quality improvement models to improve practice will be presented. Students will learn to evaluate current practice, identify a safety or quality issue, design, and implement a plan of correction.

NURS 711 Simulation in Nursing Education 3 cr.

This course provides a foundation for the nurse educator to use simulation in nursing education. Students will explore the use of theoretical frameworks for developing simulations and focus on designing, implementing, and evaluating simulation scenarios. Students will incorporate reflection/debriefing in simulation teaching learning experiences.

NURS 722 Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education 3 cr.

This course presents various methods of evaluating programs, classroom, and clinical performance in nursing. Students will develop classroom and clinical examinations for nursing. Principles of test construction and methods for developing various test items as a means of measuring critical thinking in nursing students will also be addressed. Social, ethical and legal issues of evaluation are included.

NURS 723 Program Development and Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education 3 cr.

Focuses on teaching and the process of program development for nursing education. Addresses the issues surrounding diverse needs, social, ethical, and legal issues of teaching and program development that challenge nurse educators will be addressed. Studies the role of accreditation agencies in program development and evaluation and students are given opportunities to plan a curricular program, develop teaching / learning strategies, and evaluation plans that address future education needs of the nursing profession.

NURS/HSAD 730 Financial Management in Health Care 3 cr.

Provides an opportunity for students to examine the financial decision-making process used by health care administrators. Emphasis will be on understanding health care payment systems, assessing and developing financial plans, and making financial decisions in a variety of health care settings.

NURS 732 Organizational Behavior in Health Care 3 cr.

Provides the student with knowledge of advanced concepts and theories in health care organizations. Students will explore the role and responsibilities of the health care administrators dealing with issues and problems related to human resource management, staff development, strategic planning, organizational culture and climate, marketing strategies and cultural diversity in health care settings.

NURS 744 Advanced Nursing Roles Capstone 3 cr.

Examines issues that impact nurses in advanced administrator or educator roles. Through a mentored immersion experience, students will demonstrate integration of advanced nursing knowledge in the healthcare and/or education setting. This course provides students an opportunity to develop a culminating advanced role project that uses research, critical thinking, and leadership skills to address an identified need in the healthcare and/or education setting. Pre-requisites: NURS 722, 723, 725 and NURS 623 or NURS 729, 730 and NURS 623 or by permission *This course is taught over 14 weeks.

Clinical Clearance Requirements

Rationale

The purposes for policies for clinical attendance are:

- To safeguard the health of students.
- To encourage students to practice health maintenance and preventative care.
- To provide protection to patients, agency employees, other students and faculty from students who are unsafe to practice clinical nursing.
- To meet employee health and clearance criteria established by clinical agencies.

Policy Description

The following requirements are necessary for entrance into graduate clinical courses to maintain student, faculty and patient safety and adhere to contractual agreements and requirements of our affiliating clinical agencies:

- Health Requirements
- Clearance Requirements
- CPR verification
- Liability Insurance

The Department Chair or Assistant Chair will review the health and clearance records for completion. All information will be entered into Castle Branch (CertifiedBackground.com). Students are not permitted at the clinical site unless all clinical requirements are met and up to date.

Requirements For Any Clinical Courses (Including Internships With Clinical Or Capstone Courses With Clinical)

- * Prior to entry to clinical nursing courses or capstone graduate courses with clinical, students are required to open an account with Castle Branch <http://iup.castlebranch.com> to place an order for an account. All clinical requirements are maintained on this student account. The student is responsible to complete these requirements and upload all of their information to their account.

- * Information regarding Castle Branch and all clinical requirements will be provided to students by faculty teaching clinical and capstone courses.
- * All requirements must be completed by the date specified by the Nursing Department or students may be dropped from their courses.

The clinical requirements are as follows:

Name	Description	Due Date for the Semester Entering the Clinical Course
Health Insurance	Provide a copy of your current health insurance card OR proof of coverage. Verification of coverage from the provider is required if the name on the card does not match the student's name.	July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester
Covid Vaccine	Upload your covid vaccine card. If you have an approve exemption for your clinical site upload the exemption. (Please check with Dr. Gropelli if you have questions about exemptions since policies vary from clinical sites. Some clinical sites will not accept the exemptions and the review process are site specific.) If you received the booster then please upload your booster card. Please note that some clinical sites are requiring the booster.	July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester
Measles, Mumps & Rubella (MMR)	Please submit documentation of two documented doses of MMR vaccines and Submit documentation of positive antibody titers for all 3 components (lab report required). If series is in process, submit where you are, and new alerts will be created for you to complete the series and submit your titers. If vaccination records cannot be obtained a positive titer for each is acceptable. If the titer is negative despite receiving two MMR vaccines, the health care provider must provide a signed letter that the student remains nonimmune (or a nonresponder), and no further treatment is indicated.	July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	Please submit documentation of a positive antibody titer (lab report required). If your series is in process, submit where you are, and new alerts will be created for you to complete the series and titer.	July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester

	<p>If titer is negative or equivocal, new alerts will be created for you to receive a booster shot and submit a repeat titer (if appropriate depending on past vaccinations). If the titer is still negative, the health care provider must provide a signed letter that the student remains nonimmune (or a non-responder), but no further treatment is indicated.</p>	<p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Hepatitis B	<p>Please submit documentation of one of the following: a positive antibody titer (lab report required) OR declination waiver (submitted on the school form) If series is in process, submit where you are, and new alerts will be created for you and complete the series and titer. If titer is negative or equivocal, new alerts will be created for you to receive 1 "challenge dose" of Hep B and in 4 weeks have a titer rechecked. If the titer is still negative two additional doses are given. (If your physician recommends repeating the entire series then a re-titer, this is acceptable) If the titer is still negative, the health care provider must provide a signed letter that the student remains nonimmune (or a non-responder), but no further treatment is indicated.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Tuberculosis (TB)	<p>Please submit documentation of one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. negative 2-Step TB skin test (administered 1 - 3 weeks apart) and all subsequent 1-Step TB skin tests (10 - 13 months apart), with the most recent administered within the past 13 months. 2. negative quantiFERON Gold blood test administered within the past 12 months. 3. negative T-Spot test administered in the past 12 months. 4. if positive results, submit a clear chest x-ray AND a symptom free TB questionnaire on the school form administered within the past 12 months. <p>Renewal will be set to 1 year. Upon renewal, submit one of the following:</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • negative one-step skin test • negative quantiFERON Gold blood test • if positive results, submit a completed TB Questionnaire on the school form. <p>No student may be in clinical with expired TB screening which is due every 12 months (annually).</p>	
Tetanus, Diphtheria & Pertussis (Tdap)	Submit documentation of a Tdap booster administered within the past 10 years. The renewal date will be set 10 years from the administered date.	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
CPR Certification	<p>Please submit your current CPR certification. Must be the Health Care Provider BLS course for the American Heart Association course. Copy of BOTH the front AND the back of the card is required and the card MUST be signed. Temporary certificate or letter from provider will be accepted and temporarily approved for 30 days by which time the permanent documentation must be uploaded. Renewal date will be set based on the expiration of certification.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p> <p>Student must have a current CPR card to be in clinical</p>
Influenza	<p>Please submit documentation of a flu shot administered during the current flu season (August-March). Documentation must indicate that the vaccination you received is from a batch for the current flu season.</p> <p>Declination form from the clinical agency may be acceptable depending on agency policy. Form must be signed by the student OR a healthcare provider. Students must follow the individualized policy for the clinical agency. If the student has questions about specific agency policy, then he/she needs to consult their clinical instructor.</p> <p>Renewal will be set annually.</p>	Due date is varied depending on the clinical agency requirement for the particular influenza season.
Physical Examination	Please submit documentation of your physical exam completed and signed by a medical professional within the past 12 months on the school form.	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p>

	<p>For initial submission: Complete the first two pages of the form that is available to download for this requirement.</p> <p>Upon Renewal: Complete the 3rd page of the form that is available to download from this requirement. Renewal will be set 1 year from the administered date.</p>	<p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Professional License (For LPN – BSN ; or MSN Program only)	<p>Submit documentation of your current Pennsylvania RN License if in MSN program. Renewal date will be set based on the expiration of licensure.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Professional Liability Insurance	<p>Please submit your current Professional Liability Insurance coverage in the amount of at least \$1 million per occurrence for personal injury and \$3 million annual aggregate for personal injury to, or death of any one person must be carried by all students who are caring for patients/clients in nursing practice courses. Renewal date will be set to the expiration of coverage.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Hepatitis C	<p>Submit documentation of an antibody Hepatitis C titer (lab report required). If titer is positive, you will be rejected and instructed to contact your program administrator for further instruction</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Student Consent for Audiovisual Recording of Simulation	<p>Complete and submit the Student Consent for Audiovisual Recording of Simulation form available to download from this requirement.</p> <p>The renewal date will be set to 1 year.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p> <p>May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
Guest/Host Relationship Guidelines	<p>Complete and submit the Guest/Host Relationship Guidelines that is available to download for this requirement. Renewal date will be set three times annually: 5/01</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester</p> <p>December 6 for Winter Semester</p> <p>January 1 for Spring Semester</p>

	7/15 1/01	May 1 for Summer Semester
Student Accountability Sheet	Please complete and submit the Student Accountability Sheet that is available for download for this requirement. Renewal date will be set three times annually: 5/01 7/15 1/01	July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester
Screening for Ebola Virus Disease	Complete and submit the Screening for Ebola Virus Disease form that is available for download from this requirement. Renewal date will be set three times annually: 8/15 1/15 5/01	August 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 15 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester
Drug Screening	Urine Drug Screen (UDS) must be ordered and completed through Castle Branch. IUP UDS for Sophomores are due annually. IUP UDS for Juniors, Seniors, and Graduate students are a comprehensive panel and are due each semester that the student is in a clinical course. Only UDS following the Castle Branch procedures, using a Castlebranch approved Quest Diagnostic lab will be accepted. The UDS must be done within the window set by the Department Chairperson. If a UDS is performed outside of the window set for the semester a student is currently in, the UDS will be rejected and is considered a failed test. If the UDS results are positive, the drug screen will be rejected (unless documentation is provided for prescription/s to the Medical Review Officer at Castle Branch). If a student has a positive UDS and is not cleared by the Medical Review Officer, they need to contact Dr. Gropelli immediately because this is considered a failed UDS. Due to federal law, a drug test positive for marijuana, even with a prescription, is considered a failed drug test. Students with a failed drug test are not permitted in clinical for the semester as per agency requirements.	Fall Semester: 08/2 to 08/12 Spring Semester: 01/04 to 01/14 Summer Semester: 05/02 to 05/13 Winter Semester: set by the Department Chairperson annually for any student participating in a Winter Internship.

	<p>If a UDS is positive, the student has the right to dispute the results of the UDS. The student must immediately notify the Department Chairperson or designee, in writing, that they would like to dispute the results. The Chairperson or designee will then notify Castle Branch officially and a dispute package will be formulated for the student to purchase. The cost of the dispute package is several hundred dollars and is the responsibility of the student to pay. Once the dispute package is officially purchased, the original specimen from the original UDS is shipped to another Quest Lab location and re-tested. Once the results are finalized from the re-test, the results are posted to the student's Castle Branch account. This entire process takes about 4-6 weeks to be completed so the student is not able to participate in clinical for that semester.</p> <p>If UDS results show Dilute Negative, the results are considered neither positive nor negative. The presence or absence of drugs cannot be ruled out because the urine was dilute. Castle Branch will mark the UDS result with an exclamation mark indicating that a new UDS must be completed. The student must order a new drug screening and give a specimen within 48 hours of the results being posted. The additional drug testing will be at the expense of the student. If the student fails to complete another UDS within the 48 hours, the Dilute Negative UDS will be considered a failed drug screening. If a student shows Dilute Negative results for a second time, this will be considered a failed drug screening unless documentation from a medical provider can be provided to explain a medical condition that would cause a dilute urine specimen.</p> <p>If a student should have positive results on more than one UDS, a recommendation will be made to the Dean's Office for the student to be removed from the Nursing program. If a student is removed from the Nursing program for this reason, the student will not be admitted back to the Nursing program at any time.</p> <p>Anytime a student goes to the clinical site and shows signs of impairment or erratic behavior,</p>	
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	<p>the nursing faculty or a representative from the clinical facility can report this immediately. A drug screening will be called, and the student must comply with the process of completing a drug screening immediately. The drug screen is at the student's expense. If the student refuses a drug screening or doesn't follow the process then it is considered a failed drug screening. In the case of a failed drug screening, the student would be removed from clinical for the rest of the semester and fail the course.</p> <p>Drug Screen Windows: Fall Semester: 08/02 to 08/12 Winter term: 11/30 to 12/12 Spring Semester: 01/04 to 01/14 Summer Semester: 05/02 to 05/13</p>	
<p>Criminal Clearances: 1. PA Department of Human Services (FBI background check with fingerprinting) 2. ACT 34 Criminal History (PA State Background Check) 3. Act 151 Child Abuse Clearance</p>	<p>Clearances Required for Completion Annually and Must be Current during the entire Clinical Course: 1. PA Department of Human Services (FBI background requires fingerprinting) 2. ACT 34 Criminal History (PA State Background Check) 3. Act 151 Child Abuse Clearance Students are required to follow the instructions on the Castle Branch site. The PA State Police Background check will be conducted by Castle Branch. The student must follow the instructions for the Act 151 Child Abuse Clearance and PA Department of Human Services (FBI background check with fingerprinting) clearance and obtain these results and upload the results into their account. The clearances must be run as employee and not volunteer.</p>	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester</p>
<p>Criminal Clearance: Department of Aging requirement</p>	<p>This requirement needs to be done once while in the program.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If you have been a resident of PA for the last 2 years, you must complete the Verification of PA Resident Form and submit it to Castle Branch along with two (2) additional forms of official, signature-bearing identification (one of which must be a current photo identification document) If you have not been a resident of PA for the last 2 years, you must submit a Department 	<p>July 15 for the Fall Semester December 6 for Winter Semester January 1 for Spring Semester May 1 for Summer Semester</p>

	of Aging FBI clearance. The clearance must be dated when you are a student in the program at IUP.	
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The following requirements must be updated annually:

1. TB Screening
2. Physical
3. Criminal Clearances (All three as listed): PA Department of Human Services (FBI background check with fingerprinting), ACT 34 Criminal History (PA State Background Check), and Act 151 Child Abuse Clearance
4. Liability Insurance
5. Student Consent for Audiovisual Recording of Simulation
6. Influenza Vaccine

The following requirements must be updated every semester the student is in clinical:

1. Ebola Screening
2. Guest Host Procedure and Guidelines
3. Student Accountability Sheet
4. Comprehensive Drug Screening for all students (Sophomore level students are required to do the basic drug screen annually.)

Evaluation of Students

For information regarding School of Graduate Studies and Research policies on grading, view the Graduate Catalog: www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Requirements: As part of the graduation requirements, each student is required to complete a final reflection indicating how the courses and course assignments assisted them in meeting the student learning outcomes of Leadership, Role, Research, Communication, and Critical decision making. The final reflection is due the semester in which the student graduates (April 1st for May & August graduates, November 1st for December graduates).

Degree Completion

Academic Good Standing

IUP master's students must maintain a minimum of 3.0 (B) cumulative graduate quality point average to be in good standing academically. Students who fall below good standing are placed on probation for their next active term, during which the cumulative average must be raised to 3.0. Students who fail to raise their cumulative averages to at least 3.0 during their probation period will be dropped from their degree program as well as from the School of Graduate Studies and Research and will not be permitted to register for further courses. A student must be in good standing to be admitted to degree candidacy and to graduate. A student repeating a course for the second time (following an F grade), who fails to earn a passing grade is dismissed.

Graduation Application Process

Graduate students are required to apply for graduation by the established deadlines. The graduation application process is an online function at www.iup.edu/myiup. It is the student's responsibility to submit the application by the appropriate deadline date.

Students will be invited to participate in the University's commencement ceremony scheduled in May and December of their graduation year. Students graduating in August have the option of participating in the May ceremony. Students that will graduate in January can participate in the December ceremony.

Details about commencement may be found at www.iup.edu/commencement.

<u>Graduation Date</u>	<u>On-line Application Deadline Date</u>
May Graduation	May 1
August Graduation	August 1
December Graduation	December 1

For more information, view the Graduate Catalog: www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

University Policies and Procedures

University policy is the baseline policy. Programs may have policy that is more stringent than the University baseline policy; however, not less stringent than the University baseline policy. For questions regarding this statement, please contact [Program Coordinator] or the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Academic Calendar

View the IUP Academic Calendar: www.iup.edu/news-events/calendar/academic/

The Following University and SGSR policies can be found at www.iup.edu/gradcatalog

Academic Good Standing
Academic Integrity
Bereavement-Related Class Absences
Continuous Graduate Registration for Dissertation and Thesis
Grade Appeal Policy
Graduate Fresh Start Policy
Graduate Residency Requirement
Leave of Absence Policy
Time Limitations
Time-to-Degree Masters/Doctoral Dismissal Appeal Policy
Time-to-Degree Extensions for Master's Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation
Transfer of Credits Policy

Research

Graduate Student Research Grants

The School of Graduate Studies and Research provides support (up to \$1,000 per year) to graduate students in support of their research project, creative project, thesis, or dissertation. Applications for support must reflect excellent academic scholarship and must carefully follow the proposal guidelines

which are available at <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>; click “students” under the “Research Tab” on the right hand of the page. The deadline for submission of an application is the first Monday in November and the first Monday in February.

Graduate Student Outstanding Research Awards

The School of Graduate Studies and Research recognizes graduate students who have completed what their academic departments believe to be outstanding research projects during the academic year. Three to five \$100 awards are made, on a competitive basis, to graduate students each spring, following a review of a faculty nomination letter and a completed proposal. Guidelines are available at <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>; click “students” under the “Research Tab” on the right hand of the page.

Department/Program Awards

Graduate Student Professional Development Fund

Graduate students can apply for up to \$300 to support their participation in scholarly and creative activities that add to professional development in a significant way. The graduate student must provide a clear description of the proposed activity and explain how it adds to his or her scholarly development. As part of the application, a faculty member must describe the importance of the activity as it relates to the student’s scholarly goals and educational progress. Examples of eligible activities include: serving as a moderator, discussant or session chair at a disciplinary conference; presenting research methodology for feedback at a roundtable discussion at a conference; or leadership activities related to professional or disciplinary associations. Simply attending a conference, while a valuable learning experience, is not eligible for support. Guidelines and applications are available at <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>; click “students” under the “Research Tab” on the right hand of the page.

Funding for Graduate Student Travel to Present Papers

This fund supports graduate students currently enrolled in a doctoral or master’s program who are presenting papers at professional meetings. Doctoral and master’s students may apply for up to a total of \$750 in funding for the fiscal year (with \$500 maximum per conference).

Application and instructions for the student travel are available at <https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>; click “students” under the “Research Tab” on the right hand of the page.

Marian A. Murray Scholarship

Awarded to a graduate student in the field of nursing. Scholarship is based on academic achievement and professional involvement. The Department of Nursing faculty shall make selection for the annual award.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, view the graduate Catalog:

<https://www.iup.edu/graduatestudies/index.html>

Resources

APA Citation Policy

All written assignments should follow APA-style guidelines. Students should include in-text citations when using direct quotes and reference pages, as applicable. This includes any format of written assignments. Additional resources are available at <https://www.apastyle.org>.

Stapleton Library – Indiana Campus

The Stapleton Library contains hundreds of books, electronic resources, nursing journals and other related course materials. As an IUP student, you can order books from other libraries, access course materials for your class on E- reserve and search electronic databases. For more information on these resources, visit the library on-line at <https://www.iup.edu/library/index.html> or contact 724-357-2340.

Librarians are available to help with becoming familiar with resources and to assist with research. Assistance is also available using the new CHAT feature. Stapleton Library regular session hours are 7:45 a.m. to 12:45 a.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:45

a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 12:45 a.m. on Sunday. The libraries provide a toll-free telephone number to talk directly with a reference librarian. The number is 866-836-8815. Reference service is provided during regular hours.

If IUP does not own the books or other material needed for research, a variety of access points are available for obtaining these at no cost to users.

- Books can be requested through PALCI EZ-Borrow. U-Borrow allows users to request books from any of the Pennsylvania State System libraries.
- Users may also initiate a request through ILLIAD, the library's interlibrary loan service. Journal articles not available at IUP may be requested through ILLIAD as well.
- Students can also check NetLibrary for nursing books available electronically.

Writing Center

The IUP Writing Center is available to all IUP students and offers one-on-one help at any stage of the writing process. Students can get help with research papers, analytical and persuasive writing, organizing and developing ideas, editing and proofreading, and using MS word. The Writing Center is located at Stabley 203 and can be accessed at www.iup.edu/writingcenter or at 724-357-3029.

Buying Your Books

Textbooks may be purchased in person at the Coop Store on the lower level of the Hadley Union Building (HUB) or by calling 1-800-537-7916. The Coop Store sells both new and used textbooks. Be sure to have a copy of your class schedule with you when buying your books.

Important information printed on the schedule, such as the course number, section number, and instructor, will help you buy the correct textbooks.

Advantext is The Coop Store's textbook reservation system. Orders may be placed by filling out an Advantext form available at www.iupstore.com and mailing or faxing it to The Coop Store. The required textbooks for your classes will be pulled and ready for pick up before the semester begins. Textbooks can also be ordered "to be shipped". Information on this process is available at www.iupstore.com; then select the "Textbooks to be Shipped" link.

University Computer Facilities

The Applied Research Lab (ARL) is open to students and can provide assistance with research instrument design and statistical analyses of many kinds. Additional information about the services of the ARL can be found at www.iup.edu/ar1.

Information on the public university computing facilities is available at www.iup.edu/ITSupportCenter, then *Facilities*.

The I-Card

The I-Card – your key to convenience on campus. Every IUP student is issued an I-Card at the HUB I-Card Office. As an IUP student, you can use your I-Card for free bus pass, library access, HUB Rec Center, Coop store purchases, snack and soda machines, photocopying, computer lab printouts, entrance to campus events. Money can be placed on your I-card for the above purchases at any of the twenty cash-to-card machines on campus. One is located on the first floor of Johnson Hall. Additional information on the I-card is available at 724-357-1314.

Inclement Weather Policy

Indiana University of Pennsylvania is committed to the safety and security of its students, faculty, staff and visitors. Therefore, the decision as to whether the university should close or remain open during periods of adverse weather conditions is based on the overall concern for the university community. In general, however, IUP's practice will be to remain open and to conduct classes as usual during periods of inclement weather.

Closure of the university: Should adverse weather conditions arise or be anticipated that would make it inadvisable to conduct classes or events on a given day, the president may, at his or her discretion, cancel classes or events. In the event of cancellation of classes or events, notification will be provided to the following radio and television stations: WDAD Radio-1450 (Indiana), WCCS Radio-1160 (Homer City), U-92 FM-92.5 (Indiana, Punxsutawney, and Greensburg),

WJAC-TV (Johnstown), KDKA-TV and KDKA Radio-1020 AM (Pittsburgh), WPXI-TV, and WTAE-TV and WTAE Radio-1250 AM (Pittsburgh). In addition, inclement weather information will be posted on the IUP website, www.iup.edu and on the IUP information line 724-357-7538.

Students are also encouraged to check their e-mail, and voice mail messages both at home and work prior to traveling to IUP for class for messages relating to the status of that particular evening's class.

IT Support Center

Located at the Delaney Hall, Suite G35, 950 Grant St., is available to assist students with technology problems. Contact the IT Support Center at 724-357-4000, or email IT-Support-Center@iup.edu or visit www.iup.edu/ITSupportCenter for

assistance with your student account.

IUP Parking Permit

To secure an IUP commuter parking permit, go to www.iup.edu/myiup; login to *Personal Info*; select *Campus Services*; and click *IUP Parking Account* for additional instructions. Visit www.iup.edu/police and follow appropriate links for parking lot designations and specific guidelines/restrictions on parking.

Professional Organizations

Sigma Theta Tau International

Sigma Theta Tau International is a prestigious organization of nurse leaders, scholars, and researchers, founded in 1922. Membership in the society is awarded to bachelor's, master's and doctoral nursing candidates who achieve high scholastic averages, and graduates of nursing programs who have made outstanding contributions to nursing.

IUP has its own chapter of Sigma Theta Tau – Zeta Lambda.

An applicant must have completed a minimum of 9 credits of the required 36-credit graduate curriculum, have demonstrated ability in nursing, and have a grade point average of at least a 3.5 on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent) based on existing grades at the time of application.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective honor society in the United States that recognizes excellence in all academic disciplines. Founded in 1987, Phi Kappa Phi, along with Phi Beta Kappa, is a charter member of the Association of College Honor Societies. Today, Phi Kappa Phi has more than one million members around the world with more than 280 chapters on college and university campuses throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. The IUP Chapter was founded in 1993. Admission to the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter in accordance with the bylaws of both the chapter and the national organization. Both require superior scholarship and good character as criteria for membership. Graduate students are eligible for election to Phi Kappa Phi. The number elected must not exceed ten percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees during the year.

Appendices

Appendix A: Course Offerings Plan for Fall 2026 Start

The program leading to a Master of Science degree in Nursing is accredited by the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation. It is designed to prepare the graduate for an advanced-practice nursing role as a nurse educator and leader and serves as a foundation for doctoral study. The Master of Science in Nursing is a 36-credit program for baccalaureate prepared registered nurses.

Fall 2026

NURS 614	Health Policy and Advocacy
NURS 628	Advanced Professional Role Development

Spring 2027

NURS 610	Health Promotion and Social Issues
NURS 722	Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education

Summer 2027

NURS 619	Leadership Strategies in Healthcare
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Fall 2027

NURS 555	Healthcare Informatics
NURS 730	Financial Management in Healthcare

Spring 2028

NURS 623	Translating Research into Nursing Practice
NURS 723	Program Development and Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education

Summer 2028

NURS 629	Healthcare Quality and Safety
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Fall 2028

NURS 732	Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration
NURS 744	Advanced Nursing Roles Capstone

- ❖ Courses taught in a 100% online format.
- ❖ Summer schedule delivery subject may be offered in alternate format (i.e., one week workshop)
- ❖ Course sequencing is subject to change and dependent upon adequate enrollment.

Information on course offerings for the graduate nursing program is available at www.iup.edu/MyIUP under "University Course Offerings."

Appendix B: Course Offerings Plan for Spring 2027 Start

The program leading to a Master of Science degree in Nursing is accredited by the National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation. It is designed to prepare the graduate for an advanced-practice nursing role as a nurse educator and leader and serves as a foundation for doctoral study. The Master of Science in Nursing is a 36-credit program for baccalaureate prepared registered nurses.

Spring 2027

NURS 610	Health Promotion and Social Issues
NURS 722	Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education

Summer 2027

NURS 619	Leadership Strategies in Healthcare
NURS 555	Healthcare Informatics

Fall 2027

NURS 614	Health Policy and Advocacy
NURS 628	Advanced Professional Role Development

Spring 2028

NURS 623	Translating Research into Nursing Practice
NURS 723	Program Development and Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education

Summer 2028

NURS 629	Healthcare Quality and Safety
NURS 730	Financial Management in Healthcare


Fall 2028

NURS 732	Organizational Behavior in Healthcare Administration
NURS 744	Advanced Nursing Roles Capstone

- ❖ Courses taught in a 100% online format.
- ❖ Summer schedule delivery subject may be offered in alternate format (i.e., one week workshop)
- ❖ Course sequencing is subject to change and dependent upon adequate enrollment.

Information on course offerings for the graduate nursing program is available at www.iup.edu/MyIUP under "University Course Offerings."

Appendix C: Instructions for Placing an Order on CastleBranch




Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Instructions for Order Placement

To place your first order, go to:

iup.castlebranch.com



Contact your administrator if you are not sure of your program or package before continuing.

To place your order, you will be prompted to create a secure myCB account. Personal identifying information will be needed to complete this process. The email address provided will become your login.


Important Information


Documents uploaded to immunization requirements and background check searches take **3-5 business days** on average to complete.


Drug screening is required annually for sophomores. For Juniors and Seniors it is required each semester. To begin this process, return to the portal, select your program and the "I need a drug test only" package. You will receive your drug test registration form within 48 hours. Upload your completed drug test report posted in your account to the drug screening requirement within the clinical requirement to-do list.

You are required to renew your **Pennsylvania Statewide Criminal Search, Fingerprints, and Abuse** every year. To do this, return to the portal (iup.castlebranch.com), select your program and the "I need to renew my clearance" package.

For annual clinical requirements (e.g. **TB, CPR, Influenza**), you will be alerted via email when your due dates are approaching. You be alerted at 60 days, 30 days, and 21 days prior to the deadline.

 888.914.7297

 Castlebranch.com



Submitting Documents

Submitting documents to myCB can be achieved three ways: via upload, fax, or mail. This guide will cover all three options. If you need any further assistance, please call the number located at the bottom right of every page.

UPLOADING DOCUMENTS

The most efficient way to submit. Uploading your documents through myCB is not only secure, but ensures faster processing time.

Options for Digitizing Your Document

- Take a picture
- Use the myCB app
- Scan your document
- Utilize a local FedEx, UPS, Library, or University's resources

Submitting Through myCB

- Click **To-Do Lists** within the myCB panel on the left
- Expand the requirement you wish to upload to
- Click **Browse** next to **Your Computer or Flash Drive**
- Select file(s) needed, one at a time
- Hit **Submit**



All Documents uploaded are stored in your **Document Center** for future use.

To attach a previously uploaded document to a requirement, follow the same steps and then click **Browse** next to **My Documents**.

Note: Document removal may only happen before submission. Make sure you have attached the correct file name(s) before submitting. To remove a document, simply click **Remove Document** and re-attach the correct version.

Replacing Rejected Documents

- Read the rejected reason
- Re-upload using the same steps above

The two most common rejection reasons are missing information and illegible documentation. Make sure your documents are easily legible and contain their essential information, such as: signatures, physical exam dates, vaccination dates, or titer collection dates.

Submitting Documents

FAXING DIRECTLY TO REQUIREMENTS

Following the steps below will result in your documents **automatically attaching to their specific requirements**, designated by their included cover letters.

Print Cover Letters

- Click **To-Do Lists** within the myCB panel on the left
- Expand the requirement you wish to upload to
- Click **Download** at the bottom
- Read and close the warning prompt
- Print the cover letter
- Follow the directions on the cover sheet
- Repeat for all requirements to be faxed

FAXING TO DOCUMENT CENTER

Following the steps below will result in your documents going into your myCB document center, where **you will need to attach them to each requirement individually**.

Print Cover Letter

- Click **Document Center** within the myCB panel on the left
- Click **Print/Fax Mail Cover Sheet** on far right
- Read and close the warning prompt
- Print the cover sheet
- Follow the directions on the cover sheet
- Faxed documents will display under **My Documents** within the **Faxed** folder

Submit Through myCB

- Click **To-Do Lists** within the myCB panel on the left
- Expand the requirement you wish to upload to
- Click **Browse** next to **My Documents**
- Choose the **Faxed** folder
- Pick document needed
- Hit **Submit**

Submitting Documents

MERGING FAXED PAGES

If submitting more than one document to a requirement, you have the option to merge them together.

To Merge Pages

- Click **Document Center**
- Find the **Faxed/Mailed Documents** folder
- Select one file you wish to merge with another
- Click **Add PDF to Merge Queue**
- Repeat until all pages you wish to merge are queued
- Select **Merge These Documents** at the top right
- All merged files can be found in the **Merged Files** folder.

MAILING DOCUMENTS TO CASTLEBRANCH

Follow the steps below to mail documents to CastleBranch for review.

Print Cover Letters

- Click **To-Do Lists** within the myCB panel on the left
- Expand the requirement you wish to mail in
- Click **Download** at the bottom
- Read and close the warning prompt
- Print the cover letter
- Repeat for all requirements to be sent in

➤ **Mail to:**

CastleBranch
1844 Sir Tyler Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405
Attn: TDL Document Center



Note: Pages mailed to CastleBranch should be ordered accordingly:

Cover letter A, document A
Cover letter B, document B

Appendix D: Pandemic Flu Policy

In compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control recommendations, students should not attend class/clinical or any public gatherings while ill with influenza. Students with flu symptoms will be asked to leave campus if possible and to return home to recover. The illness and self-isolation period will be about a week. It is very important that individuals avoid spreading the flu to others. Please be advised that the campus Center for Health and Wellbeing will not provide documentation of suspected flu virus. Check the IUP home page regularly for further information and updates from the state and CDC.

In addition, students must comply with the Nursing Student Handbook regarding the Nursing Department Test Policy. Furthermore, students in clinical must abide by individual facility policies regarding any flu virus.

Procedure for Skin Test:

1. Receive initial tuberculin injection.
2. Return for reading of injection site within 48-72 hours.
3. Documentation of reading of first injection site
4. If test is negative, a second test is repeated 1-3 weeks later.
5. Return for reading of second injection site within 48-72 hours.
6. Documentation of reading of second injection site

A TB test called interferon-gamma release assays or IGRAs is also an acceptable method of screening for TB according to the CDC. IGRAs is an acceptable method for people which have received Bacilli Calmette–Guérin (BCG) vaccine.

If skin test is positive, a chest x-ray is required along with statement of appropriate follow up care from physician.

Students who have a documented history of a positive TB test and a negative chest x-ray will be exempt from further TB skin testing. Since you do NOT receive TB skin testing, you will be required to complete the Positive Skin Test TB Surveillance Survey. This form must be signed by the physician that you are cleared for clinical (see below).

Indiana University of Pennsylvania Department of Nursing
Positive Skin Test TB Surveillance Form

Our records indicate that you have a “Positive” History to Tuberculin Skin Testing. Students who have a documented history of a positive TB test, will be exempt from further TB skin testing. Since you do NOT receive TB Skin testing, you will be required to complete this symptom survey in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendation (see below).

Please answer “YES” or “NO” to each symptom. Answer “YES”, if you have experienced the symptom in the last twelve (12) months:

- _____ “Excessive” Fatigue
- _____ Loss of Appetite (Anorexia)
- _____ Unexplained Weight Loss
- _____ Low Grade Fever
- _____ Chronic Persistent Cough
- _____ Night Sweats
- _____ Dull Aching Pain or Tightness in the Chest
- _____ Coughing up Blood, Sputum with Blood at any time

PLEASE REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER
OR YOUR PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN IF YOU HAVE HAD ANY OF THE
ABOVE SYMPTOMS FOR FOLLOW UP CARE.

STUDENT’S SIGNATURE

DATE

PLEASE HAVE THE HEALTH CENTER OR PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN SIGN
BELOW TO VERIFY THAT YOU ARE CLEARED TO ATTEND CLINICAL.

COMMENTS

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SIGNATURE

DATE

Signature Page

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Department of Nursing

Student Accountability Policy

Master's nursing students must verify that they have read, comprehend, and acknowledge their responsibility to comply with all existing, new, and revised graduate nursing policies as evidenced by completion and submission of a signed original copy of this Student Accountability statement.

The Student Accountability Form states:

I, the undersigned, have read, comprehend, and acknowledge my responsibility to comply with all.

existing graduate nursing policies as written in the Student Information Handbook of the IUP Master's in Nursing Program. I also understand that this Student Information Handbook and the policies as stated are both subject to revision at any time during my academic program. I further acknowledge that it is my responsibility to read and adhere to these revisions when they occur.

The Student Accountability Form states:

I, the undersigned, have read, comprehend, and acknowledge my responsibility to comply with all existing graduate nursing policies as written in the Student Information Handbook of the IUP Master's in Nursing Program. I also understand that this Student Information Handbook and the policies as stated are both subject to revision at any time during my academic program. I further acknowledge that it is my responsibility to read and adhere to these revisions when they occur.

My signature below indicates that I am responsible for reading and understanding the information provided and referenced in this department/program student handbook.

_____ [please initial] I understand my program coordinator may share this document with the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Submit to Meigan Robb

The Department of Nursing will keep this signed document on file.