



SHENANDOAH  
UNIVERSITY

Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing

# SCHOOL OF NURSING



*2025 First-Year Program*



# ***REPUTATION FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE*** ★ ★

**The Shenandoah University School of Nursing** enjoys a strong reputation locally, regionally and nationally. Our nursing graduates are recognized within the health care community as knowledgeable, capable and able to excel in the workplace. In addition, many return to SU after graduation to pursue master's degrees, post-master's certificates and doctoral degrees.

## ***NURSING IS AN ESSENTIAL PROFESSION***

in the delivery of health care, with tremendous possibilities and options for career growth. Registered nurses make up the largest part of the health care profession. Nurses are critical members of health care teams and they provided essential care to millions during the coronavirus pandemic. A student with a strong academic background in math and science, and the ability to recognize and address problems, will find nursing a rewarding lifelong profession. Shenandoah-educated nurses demonstrate skills in professional nursing care delivery, management and leadership, as well as values consistent with holistic and ethical care delivery.



## Cecil Pruitt, Jr. Health & Life Sciences Building

Study in our state-of-the-art, 71,000-square-foot science facility. The Pruitt HLSB offers premier academic classrooms and specialized nursing labs. Students practice and hone their skills in our specialized labs prior to starting clinical rotations, which enables them to learn the most from their clinical preceptors. It's also where students, faculty, staff and community members come to meet and learn together in specialized study rooms and faculty offices.



*Cecil Pruitt, Jr. Health & Life Sciences Building on main campus*

### **The mission of the School of Nursing**

is to educate lifelong learners who provide evidence-based, compassionate, holistic care and promote wellness to diverse populations inspired by global health ideals.

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

## Traditional Four-Year BSN

As a first-year student, you will find yourself launching headfirst into a rigorous nursing curriculum. With the support of an experienced nursing faculty advisor, you will receive academic and professional guidance throughout your four years in the program. Our state-of-the-art, specialized nursing labs create an environment that prepares you exceptionally well for situations you will experience in your clinicals. You will also have direct access to a full range of student-life activities on and off campus. After you've completed your studies, you will be prepared with the skills and knowledge needed to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination while applying for entry-level professional nurse positions.

## Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet all general Shenandoah University admission requirements as well as specific requirements for the School of Nursing. A strong background in the sciences, mathematics and humanities is recommended.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and successfully complete high school Biology and Chemistry with a grade of B- or better.

Students are selected by a variety of methods, including an evaluation of high school transcripts, course grades and other indicators of ability to be successful in the program.

## Once enrolled in our nursing program:

- students are required to undergo a criminal background check and random urine drug screening, as well as maintain required vaccinations.
- students are required to pass the TEAS exam, a nationally standardized test, at the end of the first year of study
- students are required to maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA, and a 3.0 GPA in prerequisite courses.
- students must meet all prerequisite requirements prior to entering 200-level nursing courses.

*"I chose Shenandoah because of how welcomed I felt from the moment I stepped onto campus. My nursing cohort became my best friends and we all supported each other through the hard times. My professors were the biggest supporters and encouraged us everyday. It felt good to be on a campus that felt like home. Shenandoah immensely prepared me for the challenges I face now as a PICU nurse by encouraging me to always keep moving forward no matter how hard it gets."*

*– Mackenzie Dierberg '23, BSN, RN,  
Pediatric ICU RN at Golisano Children's  
Hospital of Southwest Florida*



## BSN Program Outcomes

1. **Synthesize** knowledge from the liberal arts, sciences and nursing science as a basis for professional nursing practice.
2. **Apply** evolving information technology to monitor health care outcomes.
3. **Integrate** concepts of illness prevention/wellness, quality, care, safety, ethics and leadership into professional nursing practice.
4. **Demonstrate** effective communication and collaboration with patients, families and interprofessional teams.
5. **Deliver** safe, quality nursing care to diverse populations.
6. **Advocate** for institutional, professional and governmental policies to influence positive health care outcomes of diverse populations.
7. **Incorporate** evidence-based research into professional nursing practice to provide quality care to families and communities.

*The baccalaureate degree in nursing at Shenandoah University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, D.C., 20001, 202-887-6791. Approved by the Virginia State Board of Nursing.*



## NCLEX Pass Rates

NCLEX first-time pass rates are updated every quarter and are consistently above the national average. Find our most recent pass rates at [su.edu/nursing](https://www.su.edu/nursing).

# HANDS-ON LEARNING

## Simulation Technology

Shenandoah University uses high- and low-fidelity simulation equipment in laboratories to enhance student learning. Simulation technology, in the form of human models/manikins, allows faculty members to design specific events or scenarios that simulate actual clinical situations and

events. This technology provides an interactive, educational approach to teaching theory, assessment, technology skills, pharmacology and decision-making in a safe environment that allows you to apply and integrate knowledge, skills and critical thinking.

## Outstanding Clinical Preceptors

Shenandoah University enjoys collaborative relationships with many regional hospitals and, in addition to our full-time faculty, our clinical preceptors are some of the finest practitioners in the region. Nursing students study with clinical preceptors at:

- Valley Health System
- Inova Health System
- Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Novant Health UVA Health System
- WVU Medicine Berkeley Medical Center
- Hospital Corporation of America
- And 250 additional affiliated clinical locations

## Interprofessional Experience

The Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing fosters interdisciplinary learning and practice through collaboration with our other health care programs, including pharmacy, physician assistant studies, physical

and occupational therapy, athletic training, public health and music therapy.



***“My Shenandoah nursing education prepared me to be a caring healer in my career by exposing me to people from many different environments so I know that it’s about treating the patient and not the disease. Each individual is unique and needs personalized care, so that they can get the proper care they need.”***

*– Benjamin Crowder '20, BSN, RN  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota*



# PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Several organizations support the academic and professional development of nursing students as well as facilitate volunteer activities and community service opportunities.

**Student Nurses Association (SNA) and National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)** are pre-professional organizations open to all nursing students.

**The Rho Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI)** is Shenandoah University’s chapter of the distinguished national honor society with a focus on leadership recognition and scholarship.

Our **Nursing Student Mentors** program provides peer support that facilitates nursing student connectedness, progress, retention and successful completion.

**Nurses Christian Fellowship (NCF)** is a student-run, faith-based nursing organization.

## THE HONORS PROGRAM

Nursing students are eligible for the Shenandoah Honors Program which fosters the continued intellectual and personal growth of undergraduate students who excel academically and creatively by providing them with rigorous and engaging learning experiences within a cohesive multidisciplinary community. All honors courses complement the SU general education program and the university’s dedication to advancement in knowledge, critical thinking and communication. Each course emphasizes the multidisciplinary nature of any career or scholarly activity and provides advanced instruction in communication, reflection and ethical reasoning.

[su.edu/honors](https://www.su.edu/honors)

# SHENANDOAH'S ELEANOR WADE CUSTER SCHOOL OF NURSING

- Ranked #7 in Nursing Schools  
Almanac's 50 Best Nursing Schools  
in Virginia
- Average starting salary for nurses  
ranges from \$50,000 to \$75,000.
- Approximately 100% of graduates  
have job offers within six months  
of graduation.
- Boasted one of the highest first-  
time pass rates for the NCLEX in  
Virginia with compassionate and  
rigorous education.



SHENANDOAH  
UNIVERSITY

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Contact the Office of Admissions



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