

**Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
School of Health Sciences
RN-BSN Nursing Program**

Frequently Asked Question –Richard Stockton College RN-BSN Program

1. If I have an associate’s degree (AD) from a NJ community college, how many credits will I be able to transfer?

- You will usually transfer 66 credits – which is the maximum number of credits that can be accepted from a two year college

2. What is the typical breakdown of my credits with an associate’s degree

- You will transfer:
 - 26 credits in nursing science
 - 2 courses in Anatomy & Physiology
 - 1 course in chemistry
 - 1 course in microbiology
 - 24 credits in liberal arts
- Some AD programs do not require statistics and chemistry; students must complete them prior to senior level studies.

3. What if I do not have an associate’s degree from a NJ community college?

- Your transcript will be evaluated on a course by course basis. You will still receive 26 credits in nursing science. If you come from a diploma program and your science and other electives were awarded through a community college, you will receive credit for those courses. If your diploma credits did not come from a community college, you will have to discuss the situation with an academic advisor in order to develop a plan for earning those credits.

4. How many credits will I have to take at Stockton to earn the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing? (with the associate's degree)

- You will have to take 38 credits in Nursing Science and 16 credits in general studies. Since a BSN requires a total of 128 credits you must take 8 additional credits either in general studies or At Some Distance (ASD) courses in order to reach 128.

5. What does general studies consist of?

- Richard Stockton College is a liberal arts institution which means students in all majors must complete courses that contribute to breadth of education. These courses enable a commitment to lifelong learning, the exploration of ideas outside of nursing science, a commitment to citizenship and knowledge of arts and humanities. Categories are GAH (arts and humanities), GEN (general interdisciplinary studies), GSS (general social and behavioral sciences) GNM (general natural sciences and mathematics and GIS (integration and synthesis).

6. What is an At Some Distance course?

- At Some Distance courses are courses that are unrelated to your major. For instance, if you wanted to learn something about financial management, you could take a MGMT course in the School of Business Studies; this would be an ASD course. You can only take 2 of these courses, or 8 credits. You can also select additional general studies courses to fulfill this requirement.

7. Are there any other requirements I need to know about?

- Yes, all Stockton students must fulfill a **writing** requirement and a **math** requirement. Also there is a requirement to complete general studies outcome requirements courses: a **V course (values/ethics)**, an **A course (arts)**, an **H course (historical consciousness)** and an **I course (international perspective)**. The V and the I requirement are met in courses in the Nursing major. The *RN-BSN Advisement and Policy Guide* and your preceptor can help you with this.

8. What prerequisites will I need to enter the Program? What happens if I don't have those courses completed at the beginning of the Program?

- You need all of the courses noted in #2, page 1. Many students need a chemistry course and a statistics course. You have until the beginning of your senior level courses to complete prerequisites. You may take them at a community college, **but it is imperative you** have the proper paperwork filled out (*Request to Take a Course at Another Institution*). Also, it is possible the actual number of credits earned in these courses will not be added to your transcript, but you will have met Program prerequisites.

9. Will I have to do any clinical time while in the Program?

- While the didactic portion of this educational experience is on line, there are **three courses that require some clinical time**. Health Assessment requires you perform a comprehensive history and physical examination on an adult, the Practicum requires the same assessment on a child and an older adult, and Professional Nursing in the Community requires **6 hours a week in a community health setting**. This occurs in your last semester.

10. Is there any classroom time required in the Program?

- No classroom time is required. However, we will offer optional 3 hour seminars once a month on campus or at Atlantic Regional Medical Center.

11. Will there be anyone to assist me in selecting courses and meeting graduation requirements?

- Yes, as soon as you are matriculated, you will be assigned a nursing faculty member as your preceptor. You will meet with your preceptor once a semester to plan the next semester's work and to guide you in meeting all graduation requirements.

12. What grades do I have to maintain in the Nursing Program?

- You must maintain a 77% (C+) in all clinical courses and a 73% (C) in all other nursing courses. You may repeat courses once. If your GPA falls below 2.0, you will be placed on academic probation and will be required to raise it to 2.0 or > in order to avoid dismissal.

13. How long does it take to complete the program?

- If you take 8 – 11 nursing credits per semester, it will take you 4 semesters to complete the nursing course requirements. You must then factor in the general education requirements. Realistically, if all of your prerequisites are met before you enter the Program in the fall semester and you take two general education courses that first summer, two the second summer and two the summer after completing your nursing courses, you could complete the program in 4 academic semesters and 3 summers, or the August following the completion of your nursing courses. Your schedule would look like this:

First summer - 2 general ed courses	= 8 credits
First fall – 2 NURS courses	= 8 credits
First spring – 3 NURS courses	= 9 credits

Second summer - 2 general ed courses	= 8 credits
Second fall – 3 NURS courses	= 10 credits
Second spring – 3 NURS courses	= 11 credits

(NURS courses completed)

Third summer – 2 general studies or ASD courses	= 8 credits
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(Degree Completed)