

# Nurse Educator

## Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Science, Nurse Educator (NE)

## Certificate

- Nurse Educator Post-Master's Certificate

## Nurse Educator at SIUE

The nurse educator program is provided in an online format with three face-to-face practicum experiences provided in a variety of settings. The 270 hours of practica are individualized according to the student's professional experience, interest and academic needs. Faculty teaching in the program offer diverse experiences, provide exciting teaching strategies and act as role models for the students in the program. After finishing the program and two years of teaching experience, graduates are eligible to take the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educator exam.

Out-of-state students applying for this program are strongly encouraged to discuss clinical requirements with the assistant dean of graduate programs. Clinical arrangements are not able to be made in all states. Please note that international students are ineligible to receive a student visa for this program.

## Career Opportunities

There is an ever-increasing need for nursing faculty as the average age of experienced faculty is rising and current instructors are reaching retirement age. Many qualified undergraduate and graduate applicants to nursing schools are denied entrance into schools of nursing because of the faculty shortage. Baccalaureate-prepared nurses who obtain a nurse educator master's degree are actively sought throughout the St. Louis metropolitan region as well as nationally.

## Admission Requirements

- Graduate School application and \$40 fee
- Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts
- International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent

## Post-Licensure Admission Decisions are Based on the Following:

- Professional experience, goals statement, and three reference forms (one of which should be from your current manager and two others preferably from nurses holding a graduate degree in nursing or a related field).
- Bachelor of Science in nursing from a CCNE or NLNAC accredited program. (Graduates from non-NLNAC or CCNE accredited programs will be considered under certain circumstances. Please contact the School of Nursing for more information.)
  - Students in the RN to BS in nursing completion program may apply to the graduate program when they have less than 32 hours remaining in their BS in nursing studies and following completion of NURS 335R, but prior to taking NURS 472R. Continuation of enrollment in the graduate program is contingent on successful completion of SIUE's Bachelor of Science in nursing.
- Current unencumbered RN licenses in the state where you plan to complete your practicum experience. Due to the required clinical assignments, nurse anesthesia students must possess unencumbered Illinois and Missouri RN licenses.
  - Please note that if you live anywhere in or around the St. Louis metro area, we strongly encourage you to hold an active Illinois and Missouri license.
- Minimum undergraduate (graduate for post-master's applicants) nursing GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
  - Direct entry master's students must maintain a nursing GPA of 3.0 throughout their BS in nursing coursework. Grades earned in graduate coursework are subject to graduate program requirements.
- Preferred minimum undergraduate (graduate for post-master's applicants) science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Preferred minimum overall undergraduate (graduate for post-master's applicants) GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Evidence of completion of an undergraduate statistics course with a grade of C or better.
- Completion of a minimum of 1,872 hours of professional nursing practice experience prior to enrollment in the first specialization clinical course.
- Successful completion of a drug screen and a criminal background check, as specified by the School of Nursing, to be performed after initial acceptance to the program.



## Program Administrators and Faculty

**Laura Bernaix, PhD, RN**  
Dean

1995, Saint Louis University

**Roberta Harrison, PhD, RN**

Assistant Dean for Academic Programs  
2007, University of Missouri-St. Louis

**Andrew Griffin, PhD, CRNA, APRN**

Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs  
2010, University of Hawaii

**Ann Popkess, PhD, RN**

Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs  
2009, Indiana University

**Amelia Perez, PhD, RN**

Chair, Family Health & Community Health  
Nursing  
2011, Saint Louis University

**Rebecca Luebbert, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**

Chair, Primary Care and  
Health Systems  
2010, Saint Louis University

**Kay Gaehele, PhD, RN**

Coordinator, Nurse Educator Program  
2004, Saint Louis University

## Pre-Licensure Admission Decisions are Based on the Following:

- Admission to SIUE's undergraduate nursing program.
  - Students who qualify and are accepted into SIUE's Accelerated Bachelor of Science (ABS) in nursing option may apply for direct entry into our master's program. Application to the graduate school should be made simultaneously with the ABS application.
  - Students who are in SIUE's traditional nursing program may apply for direct entry into our master's program. Application to the graduate school should be made when less than 32 hours remain in the BS in nursing studies and at least one semester prior to taking NURS 472.
- Self-reflection statement and two references.
  - References submitted by ABS students for the ABS program will also count for the graduate program. For traditional nursing students, references from SIUE nursing faculty are required.
- Upon graduation from the traditional or ABS option, students must successfully pass the NCLEX-RN and obtain an unencumbered RN license in the state where they plan to complete their graduate practicum experience.
  - Please note that if you live anywhere in or around the St. Louis metro area, we strongly encourage you to hold an active Illinois and Missouri license.
- Students must have a minimum undergraduate nursing GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
  - ABS students must meet the GPA admission requirements of the ABS program.
  - Direct entry master's students must maintain a nursing GPA of at least 3.0 throughout their BS in nursing coursework. Grades earned in graduate coursework are subject to graduate program requirements.
- Preferred minimum undergraduate science GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Preferred minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Evidence of completion of an undergraduate statistics course with a grade of C or better.
- Completion of a minimum of 1,872 hours of professional nursing practice experience as a registered nurse prior to enrollment in the first specialization clinical course. A SIUE SON employment validation form completed by your nursing manager will be required. Please contact the graduate advisor to discuss when your first specialization clinical course will occur. If the student does not obtain the required year of experience, the School of Nursing reserves the right to drop the student or delay their progression until the requirement is met.
- Successful completion of a drug screen and a criminal background check, as specified by the School of Nursing, to be performed after initial acceptance to the program.

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at [graduateadmissions@siue.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@siue.edu).

Applicants may follow up with the graduate nursing advisor to check on the status of the application.

## Accelerated Combined Degrees

Current SIUE nursing students (traditional undergraduate, post-baccalaureate accelerated BS, and accelerated RN to BS) may apply for the accelerated option to earn graduate-level credit for courses taken during their undergraduate program.

## Application Deadline

The priority application deadline is February 1 for summer applicants, June 1 for fall applicants, and November 1 for spring applicants.

This information is concurrent with the 2020-2021 Academic Catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.

## Graduation Requirements

### Master's Terminal Project (Master's and Post-Master's Students)

Master's students in the School of Nursing demonstrate synthesis of their coursework, practicum experiences, and attainment of the master's student outcomes by creating a rigorous, scholarly, evidence-based project that incorporates a broad review of the literature from nursing and related fields, and present the project orally to students and faculty, during the final synthesis course for the program.

### Program of Study

The program for the Master of Science in nursing consists of 33 semester hours for nurse educator.

#### Year 1 (Fall Semester)

- (3) NURS 500 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing
- (3) PAPA 561 Biostatistics/Epidemiology **6 - Total Credits**

#### Year 1 (Spring Semester)

- (3) NURS 604 Evaluating Evidence for Improving Practice & Healthcare Outcomes
- (3) NURS 606 Leadership and Health Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice **6 - Total Credits**

#### Year 1 (Summer Semester)

- (3) NURS 580 Teaching and Learning Theory, Development and Socialization in Nursing Education **3 - Total Credits**

#### Year 2 (Fall Semester)

- (3) NURS 581 Curriculum Theory, Design & Program Evaluation in Nursing Education
- (3) NURS 516 Advanced Pharmacology **6 - Total Credits**

#### Year 2 (Spring Semester)

- (3) NURS 518 Advanced Pathophysiology for Nurse Educators
- (3) NURS 582 Instructional Design, Assessment & Evaluation for Nursing Education (2 hours didactic, 1 hour practicum) **6 - Total Credits**

#### Year 2 (Summer Semester)

- (3) NURS 586 Advanced Specialty Nursing Practice for Nurse Educators: Seminar (2 hours didactic, 1 hour practicum) **3 - Total Credits**

#### Year 3 (Fall Semester)

- (3) NURS 585 Nurse Educator Role Synthesis (2 hours didactic, 1 hour practicum) Completion of Terminal Project **3 - Total Credits**

## Total Hours 33

### Retention

Scholarship appropriate for students in a School of Nursing graduate program is demonstrated through satisfactory completion of coursework, defined as obtaining a course grade of "A" or "B." The following retention policy applies specifically to all graduate nursing courses with the NURS prefix for degrees conferred by the School of Nursing:

1. Students who obtain a course grade of "D" or "F" in a graduate nursing specialization are withdrawn from the graduate program without the option of repeating the course.
2. Students may only earn one course grade of "C" and stay enrolled in graduate nursing programs. If a second course grade of "C" is earned, students will no longer be allowed to progress in the graduate nursing program, regardless of the cumulative GPA. Repeating a course in which there is originally a grade of "C" does not eliminate the original course grade of "C" from being applied toward this exclusion policy.
3. Per the SIUE Graduate School policy, all students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to graduate.

### Contact Information

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