TO: Students Applying for Admission to the RN to BSN Program at SWOSU

FROM: Dr. Marcy Tanner, EdD, RN, CNE, and Mrs. Rachel Davis, MSN, RN

RN-BSN Program Coordinators Subject: Applying to the RN to BSN Program

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for interest in the Southwestern Oklahoma State University RN-to-BSN program. According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the Baccalaureate nursing degree (BSN) allows for a more diverse practice and many hospitals and health care organizations hire those with a BSN preferentially. By completing your BSN degree, you are investing in your future earning potential and professional opportunities.

Our professional curriculum is offered in a fully online format and is accredited through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC). The program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and prepares graduates to continue their education at the master’s level. Courses include online discussions and lectures, academic writing, and practicum projects. All RN to BSN professional courses are fully online.

Applicants may begin the program in spring, summer, or fall, and your application must be completed by the semester application deadline in order to be considered for admission. Acceptance is competitive and applicants are admitted on the basis of meeting application requirements and available space in the program. Students may apply during their last semester of their Associate’s Degree nursing program, provided that they obtain licensure as a registered nurse within the first semester of the program.

After your completed application has been reviewed, you will be notified of acceptance, denial, or conditional acceptance to the program. The faculty and staff will gladly assist you in the process of application and throughout your program.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marcy Tanner, EdD, RN, CNE
RN to BSN Program Coordinator
SWOSU School of Nursing and Allied Health (580) 774-3178
marcy.tanner@swosu.edu

Mrs. Rachel Davis, MSN, RN
RN to BSN Program Coordinator
SWOSU School of Nursing and Allied Health (580) 774-6089
rachel.davis@swosu.edu

In order to apply to the program please complete the following steps. Applicant must have a retention GPA of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale. Applicants must hold unencumbered current RN licensure in Oklahoma or another approved state OR provide date of graduation and date of
licensure exam when applying. If licensure is not obtained within the first semester, the student is awarded an “incomplete” in their course work and can’t continue in the program until successfully licensed as a registered nurse.

To complete your application, please:

1. Apply to the RN to BSN program online by going to www.swosu.edu/rn-bsn. Without this application, we do not know that you would like to attend our program! Application is free. You will receive an email confirming your application to the program within two business days. Please note that the RN-BSN program is unable to accept applicants with a GPA <2.5, those who are international students, and those who graduated from programs not accredited through ACEN or CCNE. Prior the application, please ensure that the school from which you received you associate’s degree in nursing is accredited with at least one of these agencies. Please note: this is not the same as being accredited with your state’s Board of Nursing. Visit the ACEN website at http://www.acenursing.net/accreditedprograms/directorysearch.htm. The CCNE website is http://www.ccne.desertrose.net/reports/accprog.asp. Additionally, we accept students from the following states: AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, NJ, NY, OK, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VI, VT, WI. Students who are not residents of these states are not eligible to apply.

2. Apply to SWOSU online by going to www.swosu.edu and choosing the green “apply now” button. Please note, this is a separate application from the RN-BSN program application. As a part of your application, you should send two copies of all official, sealed transcripts to:

   SWOSU Registrar
   100 Campus Drive Weatherford, OK 73096

   Please include a request to forward one set of transcripts to the School of Nursing. Please confirm receipt of transcripts by calling 580-774-3009. If your transcripts are under any prior last names, be sure to check under that name. If you have not yet received acceptance to SWOSU and have applied, the reason is likely due to missing transcripts. When the application is completed and transcripts have been received, you will receive an email accepting you to SWOSU. Please note, this does not imply admission to the program.

3. Obtain a degree check after you have ensured your transcripts were received by completing this online form.

   http://www.swosu.edu/administration/registrar/degree-check.aspx Please note the semester for which you are applying, and be sure to indicate that it is for the online RN-BSN program. Note: degree checks can take up to 8 weeks, so please do not delay in requesting your degree check. You may check the status at any time by calling 580-774-3029. When you receive your degree check, you
will use it to guide your enrollment throughout the RN-BSN program, so please be sure to keep it! You will receive an admission decision after your degree check is completed.

4. Unlicensed applicants only: Provide a notification to your advisor when you have taken and passed NCLEX (must achieve licensure by the end of your first semester) and be sure that you send your final transcripts with your ADN degree posted to SWOSU Admissions and the School of Nursing as soon as possible or this will delay enrolling for future semesters.

Students are admitted on a space available basis. Applications will be discarded six months after the application process was started if the student has not enrolled by that time; this will require students to begin the application process again. Upcoming admissions deadlines can be found on our website at www.swosu.rn-bsn

By applying to the RN to BSN program, applicants agree that if accepted to the program they will:

- Check SWOSU email and learning management system announcements four times weekly
- Actively participate in their courses online
- Take initiative to learn to use the online learning management system
- Complete an online orientation
- Abide by the SWOSU, School of Nursing, and RN to BSN handbooks

If you have questions regarding the requirements for admission to the RN to BSN Program at SWOSU, please contact the School of Nursing at 580-774-3261 or nursing@swosu.edu

When all your admissions requirements are complete, you will receive an email to your SWOSU email account regarding the application decision.

Thank you for choosing Southwestern Oklahoma State University!

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does it take to complete the program?

The average amount of time is 5 to 6 8-week sessions. Beginning in spring 2015, all courses will be offered in 8-week sessions, with 5 total sessions per calendar year (2 sessions each in the spring and fall semesters, one session in the summer semester). The program is designed to be flexible for the working student, and students may opt for
either part-time or full-time status, depending on their needs. The student has up to 5 years to complete the program once accepted. Students complete in as little as 12 months.

Is the program completely online?

Yes, the professional nursing courses are delivered completely online in our learning management system. Students may opt to take any needed pre-professional or general education courses online from SWOSU if offered by the University, to test out of some general education courses via CLEP exam, or take the courses locally (after ensuring they will transfer). All exams are taken online and proctored using a webcam purchased by the student and monitoring software. Students are able to attend graduation, but are not required to do so.

Are there any clinical components to the program?

The program has practicum assignments, which may be completed by the student on their own time. There are four courses that include Practicum Projects i.e. Teaching/Learning or Change Projects; they include Theory and Practice, Contemporary Nursing Leadership, Community Nursing Across the Healthcare Continuum, and Wellness Through Health Promotion.

Do you admit only once per year?

No, a student can apply Fall, Spring, or Summer semester. All of the courses are offered every week in length. The Fall and Spring semesters are comprised of two sessions, both 8-weeks in length, and Summer is one 8-week session. Students may also apply prior to obtaining their RN license, although they must provide proof of licensure by the end of their first semester in order to continue taking courses in the program. If the NCLEX is not passed, students are given a grade of “incomplete” until the exam is successfully completed.

Do you admit out of state students?

Students who reside outside of Oklahoma should review the information in the application steps to see if we can accept students from their state.

Is the program “self-paced”?

No, the program follows the same academic calendar as the campus. Online students have the same holidays and breaks as the campus. Courses are taught by semesters, with two 8-week sessions offered in fall and spring, and one 8-week session offered in fall. Students must take Bridging Nursing Paradigms their first semester, and Issues and Concepts in their last semester. It is suggested that students take courses in numerical order. All nursing courses are 3 credit-hour courses.

Is your program accredited?
The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc., 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia, 30326, Phone: 404-975-5000; is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing; and is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs of the National League for Nursing.

Am I required to come to campus?

Online students are not required to come to campus at any time. However, University resources are available to students and they are welcome to utilize those resources. Students may opt to attend graduation or visit the School of Nursing. If you would like to visit the School of Nursing, please call 580-774-3261 to schedule an appointment.

SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING
ESTIMATED EXPENSES: RN-BSN PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENT COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF EXPENSE</th>
<th>ESTIMATED COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees ($280/credit hour in-state) based on 30 hours*</td>
<td>$8,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Pin (optional)</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$8,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Tuition may be more costly related to addition co-requisite courses to satisfy RN to BSN requirements. This depends on courses students have yet to complete outside of nursing. Please note that this information reflects tuition prices as of 12/17/14. Tuition prices are subject to change.