

# NURSING, REGISTERED

ASSOCIATE DEGREE &amp; CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

2023-2024 CATALOG



## DESCRIPTION

The Registered Nursing (RN) Program is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). The purpose of the RN program is to prepare students for entry level registered nursing positions in a variety of healthcare settings. Registered nurses provide and coordinate patient care, educate patients and the public about various health conditions, and provide advice and emotional support to patients and their family members. Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the National Registered Nursing Licensure examination (NCLEX). A hands-on patient-care clinical practicum is part of the education.

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

**An Associate Degree**, depending on the focus of study, is designed to prepare students for transfer into upper division course work in a bachelor's degree program, or, to prepare students to enter the workforce in

a particular vocational field. To qualify for an Associate's Degree, a student must: (1) complete each intraspecific course required for the degree with at least a "C" grade or better, (2) complete all Cuesta College general education, graduation and residency requirements, and (3) achieve an overall grade point average of 2.0 for all courses attempted (major, general education, elective).

**A Certificate Program** is designed for students who desire specific training to meet an immediate occupational or personal goal, or for promotion or lateral transfer within their existing field of employment. To qualify for a Certificate of Achievement or a Certificate of Specialization, a student must 1) complete all courses required for the Certificate with an overall grade point average of 2.0.

## DEGREES, CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

- Associate in Science (A.S.)
- Certificate of Achievement (C.A.)

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Clinics and Industry Nurse
- Community Health Nurse
- Critical Care Nurse
- Emergency Room Nurse
- Extended Care Nurse
- Home Health Nurse
- Hospital Nurse
- Medical Nurse
- Mental Health Nurse
- Obstetrics Nurse
- Oncology Nurse
- Operating Room Nurse
- Pediatrics Nurse
- Physician's Office Nurse
- Registered Nurse (B.S.N.)
- Rehabilitation Nurse
- Surgical Nurse
- Traveling Nurse
- Vocational Nurse

## CONTACT

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## REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission into the Registered Nursing (RN) program is by application only.

These Registered Nurse preparation options are available:

1. Registered Nursing, Associate in Science Degree earned by completing all required prerequisite coursework, all nursing program coursework, all Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) content coursework and college associate degree requirements.
2. Registered Nursing, Associate in Science Degree earned by advanced placement Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) to RN pathway. LVNs enter into the 2nd semester of the RN program through an application process.
3. Registered Nursing, Associate in Science Degree earned by challenge/advanced placement for military personnel and experience pathway. Individuals who have documented military education and experience in health care occupations, within two years of desired entry into the nursing program, may be eligible for advanced placement into the nursing program. Interested candidates should request an appointment with the Director of Nursing to discuss eligibility requirements for the RN program.
4. Registered Nursing, 30-unit, non-degree option, Certificate of Achievement earned by LVNs entering into the 3rd semester of RN program and completing the 3rd and 4th semester. The RN license received may have practice and advance education limitations. Admission is limited to a space available basis. Prior consultation with the Director of Nursing is required in order to review the limitations.

Comprehensive information about required preparation for the ADN program is available on the Cuesta College Nursing website, at <https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/scimath/nah/index.html>. Students are also strongly encouraged to attend an RN Information Session (dates posted on website) and to visit an Academic Counselor for detailed program information.

## TRANSFER PREPARATION

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree may differ from those needed to prepare to transfer. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should schedule an appointment with a Cuesta College counselor to develop a student education plan (SEP) before beginning their program.

## TRANSFER RESOURCES:

CSU and UC Articulation Agreements and Majors Search Engine:

[www.ASSIST.org](http://www.ASSIST.org)

CSU System Information:

[www2.calstate.edu](http://www2.calstate.edu)

## FINANCIAL AID

Paying for the cost of a college education requires a partnership among parents, students and the college. As the cost of higher education continues to rise we want you to know that Cuesta College offers a full array of financial aid programs—grants, work study, scholarships, federal loan programs, and fee waivers. These programs are available to both full-and part-time students who are seeking a degree or certificate. For those who qualify, financial aid is available to help with tuition, fees, books and supplies, food, housing, transportation, and childcare. Please log onto our website for additional information:

[www.cuesta.edu/student/student-services/financial-aid](http://www.cuesta.edu/student/student-services/financial-aid)

Academic prerequisite coursework to be completed prior to application for RN program entry

BIO 204 . . . . . Microbiology . . . . .	5
BIO 205 . . . . . Human Anatomy . . . . .	4
BIO 206 . . . . . General Human Physiology . . . . .	5
ENGL 201A . . . English Composition . . . . .	4

AND

Additional BRN coursework required prior to RN program entry

PSYC 201 . . . . . Introductory Psychology . . . . .	3
SOC 201A . . . . . Introduction To Sociology . . . . .	3
or ANTH 203 . . . Cultural Anthropology . . . . .	(3)
COMM 201 . . . . . Public Address . . . . .	3
or COMM 210 . . . Small Group Communication . . . . .	(3)

Additional Associate Degree General Education requirements to earn a Registered Nursing Associate Degree are listed on the Cuesta College website at <https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/GeneralEducationPatterns.html>.

\* The Cuesta College Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN) is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). The purpose of the nursing program is to prepare students for entry level registered nursing positions in a variety of health care settings in California. Graduates of this two-year program are eligible to take the National Council for Licensure Examination (NCLEX), and upon successful completion, become licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the State of California.

Comprehensive information about required preparation and prerequisites for the RN program is available on the Cuesta College Nursing website, at <https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/divisions/nah/index.html>. Students are also strongly encouraged to attend a Pre-Nursing information Workshop (dates posted on website) and to visit an Academic Counselor for detailed program information.

**ADN to BSN Collaborative Pathway with CSU-MB**

Currently enrolled ADN students are eligible to register for the CSUMB – Cuesta Collaborative program and complete BSN requirements 12 months after completion of their ADN degree.

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS**

The NRAD courses listed below are open only to students who have been admitted to the Registered Nursing program through the application process. All courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.

**Nursing, Registered\***— Associate in Science

This degree is earned by completing all required prerequisite coursework, all nursing program coursework, and all college associate degree requirements.

**Required Courses (41.5 Credits)**

NRAD 201A . . . Nurse Caring Concepts . . . . .	2
NRAD 201B . . . Nurse Caring Practicum I . . . . .	5
NRAD 201D . . . Decision Making Data I . . . . .	2
NRAD 202A . . . Nurse Caring Family Concepts . . . . .	3
NRAD 202B . . . Nurse Caring Practicum II . . . . .	7
NRAD 202D . . . Decision Making Data II . . . . .	2
NRAD 203A . . . Nurse Caring Concepts III . . . . .	2
NRAD 203B . . . Nurse Caring Practicum III . . . . .	5
NRAD 203D . . . Nurse Caring For Medical-Surgical Clients . . . . .	2
NRAD 204A . . . Nurse Caring Concepts For Clients Psychiatrically At Risk . . . . .	2
NRAD 204B . . . Nurse Caring For People At Risk Practicum . . . . .	5
NRAD 204D . . . Nurse Caring For People At Risk Concepts . . . . .	2
NRAD 120A . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice First Semester . . . . .	0.5
NRAD 120B . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice Second Semester . . . . .	0.5
NRAD 120C . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice Third Semester . . . . .	0.5
NRAD 120D . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice Fourth Semester . . . . .	1
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .	<b>41.5</b>

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)

**Pre-Nursing, Registered\***— Associate in Science

This degree is earned by completing all required prerequisite coursework, all nursing program coursework, and all college associate degree requirements.

**Required Courses (23 credits)**

BIO 204 . . . . . Microbiology . . . . .	5
BIO 205 . . . . . Human Anatomy . . . . .	4
BIO 206 . . . . . General Human Physiology . . . . .	5
COMM 201 . . . Public Address . . . . .	3
or COMM 210. Small Group Communication . . . . .	(3)
or COMM 230 * .Interpersonal Communication . . . . .	(3)
PSYC 201 . . . . . Introductory Psychology . . . . .	3
SOC 201A . . . . . Introduction To Sociology . . . . .	3
or ANTH 203. . . Cultural Anthropology . . . . .	(3)

**Plus two courses, 6-9 credits from the following, from at least two different subject areas:**

CHEM 200 . . . . . Introductory Chemistry . . . . .	4
or CHEM 201A General College Chemistry I . . . . .	(5)
or CHEM 211 . . Introductory Organic/Biochemistry . . . . .	(4)
ENGL 201B . . . Composition: Introduction To Literature/Critical Thinking . . . . .	4
or ENGL 201C. English Composition: Critical Thinking . . . . .	(4)
ASHS 212. . . . . Human Development: Life Span . . . . .	3
HEED 203 . . . . . Women’s Health Issues . . . . .	3
or HEED 208 . . Multicultural Health . . . . .	(3)
MATH 236 . . . . . Introduction To Applied Statistics . . . . .	3
or MATH 247 . . Introduction To Statistics . . . . .	(4)
NAST 148 ** . . . Nursing Assistant . . . . .	3
AND	
NAST 148L** . . Nursing Assistant Lab . . . . .	2
NRAD 222 . . . . . Medical Terminology . . . . .	3
NUTR 210 . . . . . Nutrition . . . . .	3
or NUTR 211 . . Introduction To Nutrition For Health Professionals . . .	(3)
or NUTR 218 . . Maternal And Child Nutrition . . . . .	(3)
or NUTR 222 . . Cultural Aspects Of Food . . . . .	(3)

**Total Credits: . . . . . 29 - 32**

AND

Additional Associate Degree General Education requirements to earn a Pre-Nursing, Registered Associate Degree are listed on the Cuesta College website at <https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/GeneralEducationPatterns.html>.

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)

†† Students who are planning to transfer into a CSU BSN program should take COMM 201 or COMM 210. COMM. 230 does not meet the CSU “oral communication” admission requirement.

\*\*NAST 148 and NAST 148L count as one course so a third course must be taken if choosing this combination.

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

The NRAD courses listed below are open only to students who have been admitted to the Registered Nursing program through the application process. All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

**Nursing, Registered (30-Unit Option) — Certificate Of Achievement**

This certificate is earned by completing all required prerequisite coursework and all nursing program coursework.

**Required Courses (29 Credits)**

NRAD 203A . . . Nurse Caring Concepts III . . . . .	2
NRAD 203B . . . Nurse Caring Practicum III . . . . .	5
NRAD 203D . . . Nurse Caring For Medical-Surgical Patients . . . . .	2
NRAD 103H . . . Third Semester Nursing Readiness . . . . .	0.5
NRAD 204A . . . Nurse Caring Concepts For Clients Psychiatrically At Risk . . . . .	2
NRAD 204B . . . Nurse Caring For People At Risk Practicum . . . . .	5
NRAD 204D . . . Nurse Caring For People At Risk Concepts . . . . .	2
NRAD 120C . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice Third Semester . . . . .	0.5
BIO 204 . . . . . Microbiology . . . . .	5
BIO 212 . . . . . Human Biology . . . . .	3
BIO 212L . . . . . Human Biology Lab . . . . .	1
NRAD 120D . . . Supplementary Nursing Skills Practice Fourth Semester . . . . .	1
<b>Total Credits:</b> . . . . .	<b>29</b>

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†These students will be identified by the Director of Nursing as having met the BRN requirements under the LVN 30-unit option.



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