



MASTER OF  
**Science**  
**in Nursing**



Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA



## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Embark on a transformative journey at Saint Mary's, a renowned institution with a legacy of excellence in nursing education, through the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Direct Entry Program. **Designed for women and men with a bachelor's degree outside of nursing**, this two-year on-campus program offers a unique opportunity to transition to a rewarding nursing career while simultaneously pursuing a graduate degree.

The nursing profession is at a critical point in history. Technology and evidence-based practice continue to evolve at increasing speeds and hospitals not only need nurses...

*They need leaders.*



# Outstanding Faculty & Real-World Curriculum

At Saint Mary's, you will learn from faculty members who understand the current, complex nursing field. They are devoted to furthering their fields, practicing what they teach and bringing you the very latest in evidence-based practice and technological advances.

This practical knowledge is why Saint Mary's College is the **first in the state of Indiana to offer a direct entry master's program** for students with a baccalaureate in any field of study other than nursing. Considerable attention is paid to your ability to think critically and communicate effectively, imperative skills in today's job market.



“Exceptional faculty, students, and facilities make this innovative graduate program an ideal entry to the field of nursing.”

COLLEEN M. HOOVER, PH.D.  
ASSOCIATE PROVOST AND DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

## VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS AND BEST-IN-CLASS TRAINING LABS

Partnering with Beacon Health System and Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, we ensure you will gain critical exposure to authentic clinical settings. Through our direct entry MSN curriculum, you will receive experiential learning in several different clinical areas, such as perinatal, mental health, community health nursing, and pediatric nursing. During your MSN program, you'll complete three semesters of clinicals within medical-surgical units and a final capstone experience, in which you'll be paired with a staff nurse on their patient assignment.

You will also benefit from the Center for Integrated Healthcare Education, our high-tech teaching and training facility. Located in the heart of campus, the Center is home to ultra-realistic clinical exam rooms, simulation labs, advanced observation rooms, spacious classrooms, and high-fidelity medical mannequins that can talk, show emotion, and indicate pain.

SMC's Nursing Science program ranked by Nursing Schools Almanac, 2024

#57  
IN THE US

#4  
IN INDIANA

# Take Courses That Matter

Our MSN curriculum is designed for the modern healthcare landscape. In addition to traditional nursing education, our direct entry MSN program features unique seminar courses that connect you with healthcare leaders in hospital and community settings. As a Saint Mary's nursing student, you'll explore the issues, policies, and trends impacting healthcare and work in interdisciplinary teams to improve patient care.

## CURRENT TRENDS IN HEALTHCARE

Stay ahead in a dynamic healthcare landscape by exploring the latest trends and advancements.

## HEALTH SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Develop leadership skills for navigating complex healthcare environments.

## ADVANCED PHARMACOLOGY

Enhance your knowledge of pharmacology for safe and effective patient care.

## MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

Master the art of providing compassionate care to patients facing mental health challenges.

## PUBLIC & COMMUNITY HEALTH

Examine the promotion of health and prevention of illness across populations.

## NURSING CARE OF THE CHILD

Gain confidence in pediatric nursing, ensuring comprehensive care for children and their families.

## HEALTHCARE POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Grasp the intricacies of healthcare policy, empowering you to drive positive change.

## PERINATAL NURSING

Learn to provide safe and nurturing care to expectant mothers and newborns.

## TRANSITION TO PROFESSIONAL NURSING

Refine your clinical skills and smoothly transition into the role of a nursing professional.

## ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Perfect your assessment techniques for comprehensive patient evaluations.

# Become top of your field and an agent of change

At Saint Mary's, you'll join a tight-knit, caring community that is committed to helping each other and making a difference in the world. Throughout your Master of Science in Nursing program, you'll learn from industry experts and receive the support you need to succeed in the classroom and beyond.

In addition to providing exceptional patient care, you will also develop as a strong, forward-thinking leader. Saint Mary's College can help you develop the tools, skills, and knowledge you need to get there. With this advanced degree, you will learn to lead systemic change that improves health outcomes.

Saint Mary's provides you with the tools and confidence needed to be at the top of your field and to become an agent of change.



“The two-year MSN nursing program is perfect for the person with an undergraduate degree who wants to pursue a career in nursing.”

PATRICIA A. KERESZTES, PHD, RN

# Career Outcomes

Graduates of the Saint Mary's College direct entry MSN program can expect to join one of the most stable occupations in the healthcare industry. Across the country, **RNs with an MSN degree can earn an average of \$23,000 more than individuals with BSNs.**

*Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2023*

**AVERAGE REGISTERED NURSE SALARY, BY SPECIALITY.**

**\$84,000**

Family Health

**\$80,000**

Acute Care/Critical Care/  
Trauma

**\$75,500**

Cardiology

**\$78,000**

Neonatal/Oncology

**\$75,000**

Geriatric/Gerontology

**\$70,000**

Obstetrics/Pediatrics/  
Medical-Surgical



# Application Requirements

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

An earned Baccalaureate degree in any field outside of nursing from an accredited college or university

## OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions

## CUMULATIVE GPA

The most competitive candidates will have maintained at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in undergraduate coursework and a 3.0 GPA in prerequisite science courses

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Three letters of reference. One letter from a former faculty member is preferred.

## REQUIRED PREREQUISITES, taken in the past seven years

- Anatomy/Physiology 1&2 (taken in-person, with labs)
- Chemistry
- Microbiology (taken in-person, with lab)
- Statistics
- Introductory psychology or sociology course
- Lifespan course (*recommended*)

## RESUME

Provide your resume or curriculum vitae

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

Explain your interest in transitioning to the field of Nursing

## Credits required to graduate: 66

By entering a graduate program, you are investing in your future. We understand navigating the financial aid process for a graduate degree can be overwhelming.

To make sure you reach your goals, we will help you identify various funding sources, analyze repayment options, and provide you with tools to establish a budget, estimate costs, and plan for your future.

Tuition for the fall 2025 entering class is \$1,095 per credit hour and the total price of the program is approximately \$72,000. For a breakdown of all associated costs and more financial aid information, [saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies](https://saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies).

*Information and statistics portrayed in this publication are current as of print date.*

\$0

The amount your tuition will increase from term to term as long as you remain enrolled in the program.



# Want to learn more about a direct entry Master of Science in Nursing program?

## CONNECT WITH US

You can chat with us via email, video chat, or phone call.

We are here to help you.

### PHONE

(574) 284-5098

### TEXT

(574) 485-0088

### ADDRESS

Saint Mary's College  
Office of Graduate Admission  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

### EMAIL

[graduateadmission@saintmarys.edu](mailto:graduateadmission@saintmarys.edu)

### WEBSITE

[saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies](http://saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies)



### DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

[saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies/nursing/msn-to-rn](http://saintmarys.edu/graduate-studies/nursing/msn-to-rn)

The Saint Mary's MSN program is ideal for those looking to pivot to a career in nursing and make a meaningful impact.

**\$5,000**

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALL  
ADMITTED FULL-TIME  
STUDENTS FOR  
FALL 2025



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