

Educational Preparation for Nursing

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 - Registered Nurse (PH, MYL, UAE)
 - Licensed Teacher (PH)
 - Certificate in Teaching,
 - Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN, PH)



The Educational Route

- ❖ Different options available to reach goal
- ❖ Presents more opportunities for prospective students to reach career goal
- ❖ Is viewed by some as one of nursing's strengths
- ❖ Is confusing for healthcare consumers and employers
- ❖ Involves more than just nurses, as an individual can work up through the programs to achieve their ultimate goal



The Nursing Assistant

- ❖ Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
 - Minimum of 75 hours of theory and practice and pass state examination; required to work in nursing homes
- ❖ A.K.A.: nursing assistant, unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP), client care assistant
- ❖ Functions under direction of RN or LPN/LVN
- ❖ Home health aide
- ❖ Advance specialty training available for certain skills
- ❖ Training occurs in many settings
- ❖ Often first step in career ladder



Practical Nurse Education

- ❖ Licensed practical/vocational nurse (LPN/LVN) education varies among states
- ❖ Typically takes 1 year to complete
- ❖ Stress clinical experience with basic therapeutic knowledge and introductory content from biologic and behavioral sciences
- ❖ Stackable credentials allowed in some states
- ❖ Graduates take NCLEX-PN exam
- ❖ Receive direction from RN or licensed physician
- ❖ Nursing shortage has resulted in LPN/LVNs filling RN positions in certain areas



Programs That Prepare Graduates for RN Licensure #1

❖ Diploma programs

- Originally hospital-based; today most are affiliated with a college or university due to requirements; vary from 27 to 36 months

❖ Associate degree (ADN) programs

- 2-year program; 40% of credits are general education; clinical experience corresponds with classroom lectures
- Challenges: Selective Admission Process
- Various misunderstandings about AD education: entry into practice



Programs That Prepare Graduates for RN Licensure #2

❖ Baccalaureate programs (RN-BSN)

- 4-year college or university program offering basic or generic program
- Eligible to take NCLEX-RN exam
- Some programs designed for advancement from LPN
- Learn basic nursing skills, health promotion and disease prevention, supervisory and leadership roles



Master's Prelicensure Programs

- ❖ Offers generic master's degree in nursing.
- ❖ Students with baccalaureate degree in another discipline can earn master degree after 2-year program in nursing.
- ❖ Some nursing leaders feel master's degree should be minimum preparation for professional nursing.
- ❖ Provides path of career change when have baccalaureate degree in another field of study.



Question #1

- ❖ Is the following statement true or false?
- ❖ Two major avenues to preparation for licensure as a registered nurse exist in the United States: the college-based baccalaureate degree and the associate degree usually offered in community colleges.



Answer to Question #1

❖ False

❖ Rationale: Three major avenues to preparation for licensure as a registered nurse exist in the United States: the diploma and associate degree (usually offered in community colleges) and the college-based baccalaureate degree.



Nontraditional Prelicensure Programs

❖ Accelerated Programs

- Prepare students at both baccalaureate and master's level
- Builds on previous learning experience
- Fast paced program

❖ External Degree Programs

- Uses assessment approach, designed for those with some experience in nursing
- Student must demonstrate specific skills have been learned
- Limitations to use



Similarities Among Traditional Entry-Level Prelicensure Programs #1

❖ Academic similarities

- All must meet criteria by state board of nursing.
- Graduates must be prepared to pass NCLEX exam.

❖ Administrative similarities

- Adequate financial support
- Appropriate learning experiences
- Proper preparation for current practices
- Recruitment and retention of qualified faculty



Similarities Among Traditional Entry-Level Prelicensure Programs #2

❖ Similarities Relating to Students

- Recruitment and selection of students
- Increased legal concerns regarding choice of student
- Various challenges due to diversity of student body



Nursing Education at the Graduate Level #1

❖ Master's Preparation

- Various routes available to complete
- Recommended for leadership positions in nursing, clinical specialization, teach nursing
- Clinical nurse leader (CNL)



Nursing Education at the Graduate Level #2

❖ Doctoral Studies

- Doctor of Nursing Science (DNS)
- Doctor of Science in Nursing (DSN)
- Doctor of Nursing Education (DEd)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)
- Doctor of Education (EdD)
- Doctor of Public Health (DPH)
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Advanced Practice Nurse (APN)



Other Forms of Nursing Education

- ❖ Changing role of nurse has created need for more education
- ❖ Push to make nursing more professional and prepare nurses to complete research
- ❖ Increased need for leadership
- ❖ Distance Education
 - Achieving advance learning more accessible
 - Moderate technology
 - Mentor or preceptor relationships
 - Requires commitment of all parties involved to accomplish



Question #2

- ❖ Is the following statement true or false?
- ❖ Master's and doctoral programs that prepare nurses for leadership positions in the profession continue to grow, with more emphasis on the master's degree for advanced practice.



Answer to Question #2

❖ True

❖ Rationale: Master's and doctoral programs that prepare nurses for leadership positions in the profession continue to grow, with more emphasis on the master's degree for advanced practice. The actual degree awarded at the end of doctoral studies varies. A variety of new educational approaches to higher degrees in nursing has evolved.



Other Postlicensure Educational Opportunities #1

- ❖ Residencies and structured orientation for the new graduate
 - Graduates need time to adapt to new career.
 - Internships and residencies allow new graduates to transition from student to nurse.
 - Many facilities now offer orientation time to assist new graduate to gain necessary skills, often rotating to various units.
 - Major disadvantage: costs of operating.



Other Postlicensure Educational Opportunities #2

❖ Continuing Education

- Planned learning experience beyond basic nursing educational program
- Many options available
- Continuing education unit (CEU)
- Mandatory continuing education affects licensure
- Voluntary continuing education
- State board of nursing has information on specific requirements to maintain licensure



Other Postlicensure Educational Opportunities #3

❖ Advanced Practice Preparation

- APN umbrella term for nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse–midwives (CNM), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA)
- Specialty areas: pediatrics, gerontology, family health, genetics, women’s healthcare
- Most programs require bachelor’s degree in some field and current RN license to enter and receive master’s degree on completion
- ANCC currently requires master’s degree for initial nurse practitioner certification
- Push for all MSN nurse practitioner programs to become DNP programs



Factors That Bring About Changes in Nursing Education #1

❖ The Brown Report

- Encouraged move from apprenticeship toward planned program of education
- NLNE recommended control of education move from hospitals to educational institutions

❖ Development of a National Examination Standard

- All states now require same examination
- Interstate endorsement of licenses



Factors That Bring About Changes in Nursing Education #2

- ❖ National Accreditation of Nursing Programs
 - Set standards for all schools
 - Enhanced quality of education
- ❖ Changes in Nursing Service
 - Move from home to hospitals
 - Clients in more serious or critical conditions
 - Nurses assumed responsibilities of others
 - Spending more time managing personnel, delegating responsibilities, and carrying out other administrative duties



Factors That Bring About Changes in Nursing Education #3

- ❖ The Report of the Surgeon General's Consultant Group
 - Identified lack of adequate nurses, lack of adequate financial resources for nursing education
 - The Nurse Training Act of 1964
- ❖ The American Nurses Association Position Paper
 - Created various issues
 - Many have been unwilling to compromise or make changes based on recommendations
 - Main problems: titling, scope of practice, grandfathering, interstate endorsement
 - Still pushes for all nurses to be educated at baccalaureate level



Forces for Change in Nursing Education #1

- ❖ Incorporating Computer Technology in Nursing Education
 - PowerPoint presentations, response “clickers”
 - Distance learning opportunities
 - Testing, licensing examinations
 - Use of mannequins



Forces for Change in Nursing Education #2

- ❖ Increasing Community-Based Practice Experiences
 - Still being developed
 - Clients are being discharged from hospitals earlier and may still need quality nursing care in a community environment
- ❖ Increasing Emphasis on Research
 - Various nursing theorists, providing various categories
 - Nursing theories usually classified according to the structure or approach around which they were developed



Forces for Change in Nursing Education #3

- ❖ Education That supports Evidence-Based Practice
 - Variety of definitions and interpretations
 - Generally refers to integration of the best evidence available into expert nursing care
 - Requires access to latest research, expert opinion, and understandings of cultural and personal values as basis for planning and delivering nursing care



Question #3

- ❖ Is the following statement true or false?
- ❖ No change has affected nursing education as greatly as has the computer age.



Answer to Question #3

❖ True

❖ Rationale: No change has affected nursing education as greatly as has the computer age. Entire programs can be completed online. Computer technology has changed the structure of the typical nursing classroom, and instructors prepare graduates who will be able to function in a healthcare environment that makes heavy use of computerized services.

