why you belong here

Chatham University’s Pathways to Nursing BSN program prepares world-ready nurses to develop the skills necessary in today’s health care system. Chatham’s flexible, fast-paced program offered in collaboration with the UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing allows you to have the undergraduate experience of living on campus and participating in campus activities while starting your nursing career on the fast track.

You may also integrate a business minor that can serve as a foundation for the MBA Healthcare Management program. Likewise, you may choose to integrate a psychology minor to enhance your career prospects. You will be in a position to begin your career as a licensed nurse after three years and complete Chatham’s BSN degree with online courses in year four. Your nursing program advisor will be there to guide and support you every step of the way.

what you can expect

For your first two terms, you will take a combination of general education, science, and pre-licensure nursing courses at Chatham. Through our partnership with the UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing, you will engage in a state-of-the-art human simulation lab at one of the few problem-based learning (PBL) nursing programs in the United States, where you will earn your nursing diploma and be eligible to take the NCLEX (National Council for Licensing Examination) to obtain a license as a registered nurse (RN).

Upon passing the NCLEX-RN after year three, you will enter into the University’s Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education accredited RN-to-BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) program for your final year and begin working as a professional nurse as early as your senior year, while taking courses online to complete your BSN degree.

Earn your nursing diploma through our partner, UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing

Obtain registered nursing licensure as early as your junior year

Work as a professional nurse while completing your senior year online
what you will learn

The Pathways program allows you to take full advantage of Chatham University’s excellent science curriculum while providing you with a selection of minors and courses that are certain to enhance your career prospects. Your nursing curriculum will also incorporate themes that are central to the University’s mission, such as bridging cross-cultural divides, sustainability, gender and identity, and professional roles.

where it will take you

You will begin your career better prepared having benefited from the unique partnership between Chatham University and UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing – a National League of Nursing Center of Excellence in Nursing Education that boasts an NCLEX-RN licensure pass-rate that is consistently at or above the national average.

After passing the NCLEX-RN examination, you could be eligible to work as an RN at Pittsburgh-area medical facilities, such as UPMC Shadyside, or any other health care institution of your choice. You might also choose to enhance your nursing education with Chatham University’s online Master of Science in Nursing or Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees or Chatham’s online MBA in Healthcare Management.

what you need

To apply for the Pathways to Nursing program, you must submit minimum SAT scores of 480 in math and 480 in verbal OR achieve a 50th percentile in the four subject areas of the Psychological Services Bureau Inc. (PSB) Registered Nursing Exam. For additional admission requirements, please visit www.chatham.edu/pre-bsn.

learn more

Browse course descriptions, view entrance requirements, and explore our problem-based learning approach at chatham.edu/pre-bsn.

“The Pathways to Nursing program is an ideal opportunity for students to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to become an excellent nurse in any aspect of nursing while growing as a lifelong learner and global citizen. Students benefit from the partnership between Shadyside School of Nursing and Chatham University to earn a college degree in a traditional college setting while learning to be a nurse in a designated Center for Excellence.”

— Julie Slade, DNP, RN, assistant professor of nursing

trending now

• Chatham University’s Pathways to Nursing is one of very few RN-to-BSN nursing programs in the country to provide its students with a new 13-inch MacBook Pro as part of the curriculum (cost is included in each student’s technology fee per term).

• The UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing, Chatham University’s partner in the Pathways to Nursing program, has been preparing high-caliber nurses since 1884. Originally founded as the Pittsburgh Training School for Nurses, it has prepared more than 4,000 men and women for rewarding nursing careers since graduating its first class in 1887.