

# NURSING

## What can I do with this degree?

### AREAS

### EMPLOYERS

### STRATEGIES

#### STAFF NURSING

Medical/Surgical Specialties  
Pediatrics  
Operating Room  
Emergency Room  
Critical Care Units  
Labor and Delivery  
Newborn Units  
Research, Transplant, and Detoxification Units

Hospitals, medical centers, physicians' offices, medical groups, educational institutions, home care services  
Extended care facilities such as nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, and hospices  
Psychiatric units  
Public health services: local, state, and federal  
Government institutions, armed services  
Church-related mission services  
International healthcare agencies  
Business and industry

Gain experience through externship/internship programs.  
Work or volunteer in healthcare/medical settings during summers and breaks.  
Take electives in areas such as wellness, holistic health, medical ethics, and death and dying.  
Develop good organizational skills and the ability to handle stress.  
Plan on graduate education for positions such as clinical specialist or nurse administrator.

#### COMMUNITY AGENCIES

Home HealthCare  
Public/Community Health  
Rural Nursing  
Occupational/Industrial Health

Public and private schools and camps  
Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)  
Daycare centers, mental health centers  
Business and industry: health services centers  
State and local health departments  
Home healthcare agencies  
Hospital outpatient departments  
Senior centers  
Nurse-run clinics  
Social service agencies

Develop knowledge and skills in management, decision-making, mediation, teaching, counseling, speaking, and writing.  
Gain experience in the ability to handle emergencies, work independently, and be flexible.  
Develop expertise in first aid procedures.  
Expand knowledge of health issues related to age, cultures, religions, ethics, and government policies.  
Consider graduate preparation to be a nurse practitioner.

#### LONG-TERM CARE AGENCIES

Chronic Health Conditions

Nursing homes, retirement centers, residential daycare centers  
Rehabilitation centers  
Hospice organizations

Plan on graduate study as a nurse practitioner or nurse specialist for advancement.  
Develop patience, ability to work with both patients and families for long periods, and good listening skills.  
Take additional courses in holistic health, death and dying, and medical ethics.

**AREAS**

**EMPLOYERS**

**STRATEGIES**

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Practitioner  
Clinician  
Anesthetist  
Midwife  
Private Duty

Physicians, clinics, hospitals, long-term care facilities, public health agencies  
Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)  
Business and industry: health services centers  
Colleges and universities  
Prisons  
Self-employment: independent/joint practice

Plan on acquiring experience, advanced education, and certification.  
Must like to work autonomously, make independent decisions, be self-directed, and detail oriented.  
Master bilingual skills to increase marketability.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Health agencies including Public Health Service, Indian Health Service, Veterans Administration, Civil Service, Peace Corps/VISTA  
Armed services  
International health agencies  
Prisons

Must identify interest in medical and hospital services, research, or public health.  
Plan on graduate study in teaching, research, or administration for advancement.  
Become familiar with other cultures, languages, health systems and beliefs.  
Be prepared for combat nursing in armed services.

EDUCATION

Teaching  
Counseling  
Educational Administration

Teaching hospitals  
Colleges and universities  
International healthcare organizations  
Wellness centers  
Public schools  
Community education programs

Develop patience, sensitivity to the needs of young adults as well as patients, and the ability to accept responsibility for the actions of others.  
Take courses in the principles and practices of teaching.  
Need advanced degrees to teach at the college and university level.  
Develop skills in sales, marketing, and public speaking.

NURSING RESEARCH

Large hospitals, medical centers  
Colleges and universities  
Centers for nursing research  
National Institute for Nursing

Gain experience with research through supervised independent study or course projects.  
Develop curiosity, analytical thinking, attention to detail, persistence, and good speaking and writing skills.  
Plan on obtaining a Ph.D.

**AREAS**

**EMPLOYERS**

**STRATEGIES**

INTERNATIONAL FIELDS

International Health

Embassies, military bases, national or international government agencies  
Private voluntary organizations  
Colleges and universities  
Business and industry  
Church-related mission services  
World Health Organization

Consider advanced education as a clinician or nurse practitioner to be more valuable.

Inquire about the need for additional preparation in religious studies or similar courses.

OTHER AREAS:

Marketing/Sales  
Product Manager  
Entrepreneur  
Quality Assurance  
Editor/Writer  
Communications Specialist  
Healthcare Administration  
Patient Advocate/Representative

Hospitals/HMO's  
Business and industry: pharmaceutical, medical equipment, computers, insurance  
Medical/health publications  
Universities  
Healthcare advertising agencies  
Professional associations

Plan on obtaining a minor in business or communications.  
Develop strong computer skills.  
Gain financial management experience.

Take classes in Social Sciences and Social Work.