

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE  
FORM C  
Form Number: C1649**

Fields marked with \* are required

**Name of Initiator:** Jacqueline Mary Wuellner    **Email:** [jwuell1@unm.edu](mailto:jwuell1@unm.edu)    **Phone Number:** 505 272-2612  
**Date:** 07-01-2015

Associated Forms exist?  Initiator's Title   
Faculty Contact     Administrative Contact   
Department     Admin Email   
**Branch**    Admin Phone

**Proposed effective term**

Semester  Year

**Course Information**

Select Appropriate Program   
Name of New or Existing Program   
Select Category  Degree Type   
Select Action

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog. If there is a change, upload current and proposed requirements.

See current catalog for format within the respective college (upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C Exact Title and REQ final.docx](#)

**Does this change affect other departmental program/branch campuses? If yes, indicate below.**

Reason(s) for Request (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

Upload a document that includes justification for the program, impact on long-range planning, detailed budget analysis and faculty workload implications. (upload a doc/pdf file)

[Form C Justification of new curriculum for RN.docx](#)

**Are you proposing a new undergraduate degree or new undergraduate certificate? If yes, upload the following documents.**

Upload a two-page Executive Summary authorized by Associate Provost. (upload a doc/pdf file)

Upload memo from Associate Provost authorizing go-ahead to full proposal. (upload a doc/pdf file)

## Justification of new curriculum for RN-BSN Program

Over the past 10 years since the last RN-BSN program curriculum revision, healthcare has undergone tremendous changes. Nursing roles and responsibilities, scope and standards of practice have all changed to reflect the needs of society. Nationally, 66% of all nursing graduates earn Associate Degrees in Nursing (ADNs), as opposed to BSNs. However, in New Mexico current data indicate that 85% of the recent nursing graduates were ADN-prepared (New Mexico Board of Nursing, 2012). The Future of Nursing report (Institute of Medicine, 2011) called for a more highly educated nursing force. The report recommended that 80% of the nursing workforce hold bachelor's degrees by 2020 to meet the nation's demand for health care. This newly revised curriculum will better prepare our RN-BSN graduates to assess, plan, implement and evaluate nursing interventions for changing communities and health care systems, and to advocate for policy change on a local and state-wide level.

The RN-BSN program is part of the Undergraduate Nursing Program at the College of Nursing, designed specifically for RNs with previously earned associate's degree wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree in nursing. As this curriculum revision will replace the current RB-BSN program, no new faculty will be required. No increase in faculty workload or budgetary needs is anticipated. The CON has dedicated faculty with years of teaching experience who will teach in this exclusively on-line program, and the CON has its own IT department so no additional resources are needed for on-line support.

## RN to B.S.N. Degree Completion Option for Registered Nurse (RN) Students

The RN to B.S.N. degree completion option is available primarily through online courses, with the exception of a final synthesis course. Individual arrangements are made for synthesis hours. See College of Nursing for advisement details.

All registered nurses seeking entrance into the College of Nursing must meet requirements for admission to the University and to the College of Nursing. Also needed are: a valid RN license (which must be kept current throughout enrollment) and at least 26 credit hours of college course work applicable to the B.S.N. degree.

A requirement of the College of Nursing is that all students complete ENGL 120 Composition III prior to enrolling in any upper-division nursing courses. The Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II may be taken for up to 34 hours upper-division nursing course work credit.

College credit earned in associate degree nursing programs or in hospital-based diploma schools of nursing is transferable to the University, provided the original program was offered in a regionally accredited institution and the nursing program was accredited by the National League for Nursing. Such credit may be applied toward meeting the graduation requirements for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. See Transfer of Credit.

A Plan of Studies (POS) for each student is determined at the time of enrollment into the RN-B.S.N. program. Students are expected to follow the POS throughout the program and should work with an academic advisor for any changes. Each RN student must demonstrate achievement of the outcomes expected of all College of Nursing baccalaureate students. All upper-division nursing courses, with the exception of NURS301 and 302, are 3 credit hours and are offered in seven-week blocks. Students are expected to take two courses consecutively (7 weeks each, back-to-back) every term.

Each registered nurse student is counseled individually to help clarify career goals and to plan an educational program that is of greatest benefit in meeting those goals.

Prospective registered nurse students are urged to contact the College of Nursing Student Advisement Office prior to registration. The College of Nursing supports career mobility for nurses.

Current RN-BSN POS			Proposed RN-BSN POS		
	UNM Core Curriculum Areas and Required Courses (37 credit hours)	Credit Hours		UNM Core Curriculum Areas and Required Courses (37 credit hours)	Credit Hours
ENGL 110	Accelerated Composition (or ENG 112: Composition II; or ENG 113: Enhanced Composition-4cr. hrs)	3		Unchanged	3
ENGL 120	Composition III	3		Unchanged	3
	Writing course	3		Unchanged	3
STAT 145	Introduction to Statistics	3		Unchanged	3
	Physical/Natural Sciences	7		Unchanged	7
	Social/Behavioral Sciences	6		Unchanged	6
	Humanities	6		Unchanged	6
	Foreign Language	3		Unchanged	3
	Fine Arts	3		Unchanged	3
	Lower-Division Electives	21		Lower-Division Electives	21
NURS 239	Pathophysiology I	3		Unchanged	3
NURS 240	Pathophysiology II	3		Unchanged	3
	Upper-Division credits from A.C.E. II exam	34		A.C.E II Not required, however may satisfy the required Upper-Division credits	34
	<b>Upper-Division Nursing Required Courses: *</b>			<b>Upper-Division Nursing Required Courses: *</b>	
NURS 340	Advancement of Professional Nursing	3	NURS 301	Professional Communication for Nurses	1
NURS 332	Evidence-Based Practice	3	NURS 302	Advancement of Professional Nursing	2
NURS 431L	Community Assessment	3	NURS 404	Research and Evidence-based Practice	3
NURS 441	Evidence-Based Application of Health Assessment Skills	4	NURS 405	Genetic Literacy Across the Lifespan	3

NURS 442	Nursing Leadership in Health Policy and Health Care Systems	3		NURS 406	Nursing in the Community	3
NURS 447L	Family and Community Health Practicum	4		NURS 407	Care of Vulnerable Populations	3
NURS 448	Application of Health and Illness Concepts	4		NURS 408	Nursing Leadership and Management	3
	Upper-Division Elective in Nursing (when available; otherwise unrestricted)	3		NURS 409	Health Policy, Economics and Systems	3
				NURS 410	Foundations of Leading Change and Advancing Health	3
	Upper-Division Elective (unrestricted)	3			Upper-Division Electives (unrestricted)	6
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>