



SCHOOL OF NURSING

# *NURSING DEGREE PROGRAMS*

**PURDUE** GLOBAL  
UNIVERSITY®



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# *TABLE OF CONTENTS*

<b>Letter From the Dean</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>The School of Nursing</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>World-Class Education Online</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Graduate Academic Programs</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Doctor of Nursing Practice.....	4
Master of Science in Nursing.....	5
Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Business Administration Dual Degree Option.....	7
Postgraduate Certificate Programs.....	8
<b>Undergraduate Academic Programs</b> .....	<b>9</b>
Bachelor of Science in Nursing—RN-to-BSN.....	9
Associate of Science in Nursing.....	9
<b>Student Experience</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Uncompromising Support</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Faculty Highlights</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>Credit for Prior Learning</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Paying for School</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Military Overview</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>About Purdue Global</b> .....	<b>15</b>



## LETTER FROM THE DEAN

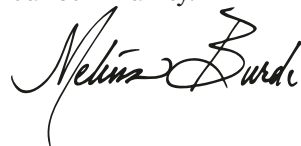
Thank you for inquiring about Purdue University Global's nursing programs. By taking the next step in your education, you are advancing both your own knowledge and the nursing profession. As the dean of Purdue Global's School of Nursing, I lead faculty who are committed to educating nurses to deliver health care that is evidence-based, safe, and sensitive to the culture of the patient, family, and community at large. Further, to reach this goal, it is imperative that our graduates operate within a framework of respect for social justice, diversity, and the social determinants of health. Through our teaching we strive to instill this complex knowledge base, while never losing sight of the core values of care and compassion that have always been at the heart of nursing.

Our graduates are building careers in nursing positions where they are expected to blend the latest advances in nursing science and other disciplines with outstanding leadership and interprofessional collaborative care. They are tasked not only with caring for an aging population with higher demands for health care, but with developing solutions to better manage care, costs, access, and patient health

literacy across populations. In today's health care environment, nursing professionals are challenged as never before, but we are also in a better position to make a difference, from the bedside to the boardroom.

Faculty support is vital to our ability to empower nursing students to thrive in this dynamic environment. We believe in lifelong education as a best practice for teaching excellence and encourage it among all our nursing faculty, as well as faculty scholarship and research and participation in program governance. Together, these critical components foster a learning environment designed to produce nurse leaders for today and the future.

I invite you to explore the different nursing education pathways available at Purdue Global and find the program that's right for you. I look forward to welcoming you to our community.



Melissa Burdi, DNP, MS, RN, LSSGB  
Dean and Vice President  
Purdue University Global School of Nursing



### DR. MELISSA BURDI

DNP, MS, RN, LSSGB

DNP, Chamberlain University

MSN, University of Illinois  
at Chicago

BSN, Rush University

### MEET THE DEAN

Dr. Melissa Burdi is the dean and vice president of the Purdue Global School of Nursing. She began her career at Purdue Global as the associate dean of online nursing programs. Before joining Purdue Global, Dr. Burdi was the national director of academic operations at Chamberlain University where she provided leadership to university-wide operational and academic quality-related initiatives.

Burdi has also provided senior-level leadership in the academic arena leading both DNP and RN-BSN programs in the patient care setting across numerous health care systems. She has served in leadership roles and specialized in areas such as professional development and cardiac care, driving patient safety and accreditation initiatives.

She is a member of the National League for Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Most recently, she was appointed as a nursing fellow with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). She serves as a peer reviewer for a professional nursing journal.

Burdi's area of expertise is in leadership development, nursing mentorship, and process improvement. She holds a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification, as well as certificates in nursing leadership and administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago and Leading Innovative Change from UC Berkeley Executive Education.

# *THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT PURDUE GLOBAL*

Health care is undergoing unprecedented changes, with today's nurses expected to take on greater responsibilities and stronger leadership roles in an era of health reform.

We know the demand for advanced education is more critical than ever—including the standards set forth by the Institute of Medicine in its Future of Nursing report.<sup>1</sup> The challenges for nurses are certainly greater, but the rewards could be, too.

## **OUR GOAL**

At Purdue Global's School of Nursing, our goal is to prepare you to make a difference in the lives of your patients, their families, the community, and society as a whole. We are here to help you develop your talents and your opportunities.

We believe the power of education fuels your motivation to remain at the forefront of the nursing profession, so we offer a continuous path of learning based on your career objectives.<sup>2</sup>

Our programs are designed to allow you to balance your personal and professional life. Whether you aspire to teach, become a nurse executive, incorporate the latest information technology trends in nursing, or provide advanced practice patient care, your career in nursing could be a rewarding personal journey fueled by the power of education.



# WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION ONLINE

## FACULTY WITH REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Our faculty has decades of nursing experience and brings real-world knowledge to the classroom. Many hold doctorates or advanced nursing certifications; 98% of all faculty members possess at least a master's degree.<sup>3</sup>

## ONLINE LEARNING THAT'S COMPREHENSIVE AND INTERACTIVE

Our master's-level programs include clinical experiences, while our bachelor's degree program includes clinical experiences and encourages career planning through the creation of a professional development plan under the guidance of nursing faculty

# GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

## DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is designed to prepare nursing leaders to practice at the highest levels of professional nursing and accommodates students pursuing careers in executive leadership and advanced practice nursing roles.

Purdue Global is deeply committed to supporting our students and recognizes that nurses are exceptionally busy with competing demands. Our DNP program is delivered online and students complete a practice experience within their communities. The practice experience enables students to invest time in activities that inform their unique and individualized DNP scholarly project and prepare them for the role of DNP. One thousand (1,000) postbaccalaureate practice hours are required for DNP degree completion.

Not all programs are offered at all locations.

Our DNP program is based on the *Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice* recommended by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.<sup>4</sup> It is designed to prepare nurses to analyze data and scientific research to improve nursing practice; provide organizational and system leadership to continuously improve the quality of health care and foster interprofessional collaboration; and evaluate ethical, legal, and social factors in shaping and developing health policies.

At this time, the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is available only in select states. Contact an Admissions Advisor or visit our website for details.

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING—DNP PATH

Purdue Global's Master of Science in Nursing—DNP Path allows students with a bachelor's degree in nursing to earn their Master of Science in Nursing and progress to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Students can choose from six pathways: adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner; executive leader; nurse educator; adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner; psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner; or family nurse practitioner, primary care. Speak to an Admissions Advisor for more details.



## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Science in Nursing program is designed to build on previous nursing education and clinical experience, prepare students to pursue advanced practice in a variety of health care settings, and lay a foundation for doctoral education.<sup>5</sup>

The program of study includes completion of the core curriculum, specialized pathway courses, and an evidence-based project proposal. Students can select from six pathways focused on specific advanced practice roles: adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner; adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner; psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner; executive leader; family nurse practitioner, primary care; and nurse educator. Graduates may be eligible to sit for certification exams in their area of practice.<sup>6</sup>

The Master of Science in Nursing is currently not available in Tennessee. Our specialized pathways are not available in all states. Contact an Admissions Advisor or visit our website for details.

### SPECIALIZED PATHWAYS

#### Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Population Focus Area

- Gain the specialized knowledge and hands-on experience to provide direct care for acutely and critically ill patients, which includes accessing, diagnosing, monitoring, treating, and coordinating care.
- Students will complete an acute care skills lab using Oculus virtual reality headset technology.
- Students must also complete 520 hours of clinical experiences in which theoretical knowledge is applied to members of the target population under the supervision of a qualified preceptor and faculty.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification exam offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification exam offered by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN).

#### Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Population Focus Areas

- Address how to best provide primary care as a member of an interprofessional team and improve the availability of evidence-based, culturally relevant health care in diverse communities.
- Develop the skills to evaluate and improve the health and wellness of individuals, families, and their communities including:
  - Diagnosing, treating, and managing acute and chronic health conditions
  - Delivering primary and preventive care
  - Participating in the development of appropriate policy and evidence-based practice
- The family nurse practitioner, primary care population focus area includes pediatric care courses and clinical rotations.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner or Family Nurse Practitioner certifications or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners' (AANP) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner or Family Nurse Practitioner certifications.

#### Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Population Focus Area

- Expand your knowledge of comprehensive psychiatric mental health care through the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and management of psychiatric mental health disorders, medical organic brain disorders, substance abuse problems, and complex cooccurring disease processes and disorders across the lifespan.
- Graduates may expect to practice in acute care and primary care settings in hospitals, community mental health centers, home health care, partial hospital care, residential settings, prisons, or private practices as well as in collaborative practices with other specialties. Psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners function within the interprofessional acute care or primary care team providing direct care management including diagnosis, treatment planning, conducting therapy, prescribing psychotropic medications, and providing emergency psychiatric services.





## SCHEDULE AND START DATES

We've found that traditional fall and spring start dates don't exactly meet the needs of our student population. For your convenience, start dates occur throughout the year.

Note: some graduate population focus areas and concentrations are not available every term.

***“Purdue University Global’s faculty helped me realize my full potential. The entire team has been very helpful from beginning to end. I’m proud to have attended Purdue Global, earning my BSN, MSN, and DNP. Attending was the best decision that I made to help advance in my career.”***

***Renita Irving***

Purdue Global DNP Graduate

This testimonial was obtained by Purdue University Global. The views and opinions expressed are those of the individual; student experiences may vary.

- You will complete a clinical practice experience designed to provide the opportunity for application of theoretical knowledge while working with a designated, qualified preceptor.
- If eligible, graduates may sit for the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification. This certification is for populations across the lifespan.

## Nurse Educator Concentration

- Courses focus on preparing nurses to teach in schools of nursing and deliver continuing education, staff development, clinical education, and patient and community education programs.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the National League for Nursing’s Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) examination and the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s (ANCC) Nursing Professional Development board certification examination.

## Executive Leader Concentration

- Prepare to pursue managerial positions and leadership roles in hospitals, community health, long-term care facilities, and other health care systems.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the ANCC’s Nurse Executive or Nurse Executive, Advanced certification examinations (depending on the level of leadership within their organization) or the American Organization for Nursing Leadership’s Certified in Executive Nursing Practice (CENP) examination.

Graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing with a nurse practitioner population focus area or of a nurse practitioner certificate program who pass the relevant certification exam may be academically eligible for licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse in any state in which the program is available for enrollment. Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please refer to [Licensure.PurdueGlobal.edu](http://Licensure.PurdueGlobal.edu) for additional information on licensure, state authorizations, and program availability. The University cannot guarantee students will be eligible to sit for or pass exams.

**Please note that most states require nurses to be nationally certified and to have completed an accredited graduate nursing program in order to obtain licensure as an advanced practice registered nurse.** Each national certification provider and state Board of Nursing will have eligibility requirements in addition to these educational requirements, such as passing a criminal background check. Students are responsible for determining whether they are eligible for state Board of Nursing approval and certification as an advanced practice registered nurse in their state. Students can obtain additional information from their state’s Board of Nursing, the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN), and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).



## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING AND MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DUAL DEGREE OPTION

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Combine the advanced nursing skills of a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with the business expertise of an MBA—and graduate with both degrees together. Purdue Global's online MSN and MBA Dual Degree Option qualifies you to compete for leadership roles in health care, or any industry that requires advanced business solutions to complex health care issues.<sup>2</sup>

As a student, you'll take both MSN and MBA courses, allowing you to earn your MSN and MBA degrees in less time than it takes to earn each degree by itself. Complete both degrees in just 88 credits. Earned separately, that would take 120 credits. Because master's degrees share a core curriculum, credits you earn for these courses apply toward both your MSN and your MBA at Purdue Global.

Classes offer online flexibility; however, the program requires you to complete an MSN clinical to build hands-on experience. As a working RN, you may be able to meet this requirement at your current place of employment. Purdue Global will work with you to find local clinical experiences.



### LOOKING FOR A FASTER, MORE AFFORDABLE WAY TO EARN YOUR NURSING CREDENTIAL? DISCOVER EXCELTRACK™.

Our ExcelTrack™ programs give self-motivated students like you more control over your learning style and your schedule.

Available for the RN-to-BSN, the Master of Science in Nursing, the Executive Leader Postgraduate Certificate, and the Nurse Educator Postgraduate Certificate, this competency-based option offers you a more flexible way to earn the same Purdue Global credential sooner and for less money.<sup>7</sup>

With ExcelTrack™, you have the freedom to speed up or slow down your learning. Move quickly past the topics you know and focus only on skills you need to learn.

Note: For the MSN nurse practitioner pathways, only core courses are available in ExcelTrack™.

## POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Certificate programs are currently not available in Tennessee.

### Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate

- Nurses with a master's degree in nursing can further their knowledge of medical, surgical, and critical care management of acutely ill adult patient populations.
- Students will complete an acute care skills lab using Oculus virtual reality headset technology.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification exam or the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses' (AACN) Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification exam.

### Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Postgraduate Certificates

- The certificates are designed for nurses with a master's degree in nursing who are interested in becoming a family or adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner.
- Courses address how to promote and provide primary care as a member of an interprofessional team and how to improve the availability of evidence-based, culturally relevant health care in diverse communities.
- An emphasis is placed on skill development to evaluate the health and wellness of individuals, families, and their communities.
- Graduates gain skills in diagnosing, treating, and managing acute and chronic health conditions, delivering preventive care, and participating in the development of appropriate policy and evidence-based practice.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner or Family Nurse Practitioner certifications or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners' (AANP) Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner or Family Nurse Practitioner certifications.

At this time, the nurse practitioner certificate programs are available only in select states. Contact an Admissions Advisor or visit our website for details.

### Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate

- Expand your knowledge of comprehensive psychiatric mental health care through the assessment, diagnosis,

treatment, and management of psychiatric mental health disorders, medical organic brain disorders, substance abuse problems, and complex cooccurring disease processes and disorders across the lifespan.

- Graduates may expect to practice in acute care and primary care settings in hospitals, community mental health centers, home health care, partial hospital care, residential settings, prisons, or private practices as well as in collaborative practices with other specialties. Psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners function within the interprofessional acute care or primary care team providing direct care management including diagnosis, treatment planning, conducting therapy, prescribing psychotropic medications, and providing emergency psychiatric services.
- You will complete a clinical practice experience designed to provide the opportunity for application of theoretical knowledge while working with a designated, qualified preceptor.
- If eligible, upon completion of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate, you may sit for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certification. This certification is for population across the lifespan.

### Executive Leader Postgraduate Certificate

- Nurses with a master's degree in nursing can complete a certificate program consisting of six courses focused on nursing administration.
- The program is designed to prepare nurses to pursue managerial positions and leadership roles in hospitals, community health, long-term care facilities, and other health care systems.
- Graduates may be eligible to sit for the ANCC's Nurse Executive or Nurse Executive, Advanced certification examinations (depending on the level of leadership within their organization) or the American Organization for Nursing Leadership's Certified in Executive Nursing Practice (CENP) examination.

### Nurse Educator Postgraduate Certificate

- Nurses with a master's degree in nursing can complete a certificate consisting of six courses focused on nursing education.
- The program is designed to prepare nurses to pursue teaching positions in schools of nursing and continuing education, staff development, clinical education, and patient and community education programs.
- Graduates may be prepared to sit for the National League for Nursing's Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) examination and the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Nursing Professional Development board certification examination.

# UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING—RN-TO-BSN

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing—RN-to-BSN program is designed to provide registered nurses with the education to enhance their skills, better meet the complex demands of health care, and pursue employment in numerous nursing and management specialties. Additionally, the program is designed as a foundation from which students can pursue graduate nursing studies.<sup>6</sup>

A Bachelor of Science in Nursing is considered essential for registered nurses seeking broader professional responsibilities and career opportunities. The program includes creation of a comprehensive development plan that includes career planning.

The program features:

- A strong focus on professional leadership with courses in management, research, emerging trends in health care therapies, health assessment, and community nursing
- An emphasis on health promotion, community health, health care information, professional ethics, diversity, and health care management
- A dedicated faculty of practicing professionals who have attained high levels of achievement in their respective fields

Students in this program attend courses and seminars online. Clinical practice experiences can be done at a location of your choice. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing is currently not available in Tennessee.

## Accelerated Master of Science in Nursing Option

Those students interested in continuing on to pursue Purdue Global's Master of Science in Nursing may complete up to three graduate-level nursing courses in place of open electives. All graduate courses completed in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing—RN-to-BSN program are designed to satisfy course requirements in the University's Master of Science in Nursing program.

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Our associate's degree in nursing is designed to help students develop the knowledge and professional nursing clinical skills necessary to optimize patient care, communicate with patients and caregivers, and participate as a member of a health care team in the nursing profession. This degree offers a dynamic curriculum within a flexible online classroom environment, while lab and simulation experiences are conducted face-to-face in the Cedar Rapids area and Des Moines, Iowa, Augusta, Maine, and Lincoln, Nebraska. Graduates who successfully complete the program and pass the NCLEX-RN® exam are eligible to enter Purdue Global's online RN-to-BSN program.

## TWO-STEP BSN PATHWAY

Purdue Global offers a seamless pathway to help students transition from the associate's degree in nursing to our online RN-to-BSN, as they begin working as RNs. The associate's curriculum includes a bachelor's-level course, so students can get a head start on their BSN credits. Students can choose from the traditional or ExcelTrack™ online RN-to-BSN programs. Associate's degree graduates are also eligible for an alumni tuition reduction on the traditional RN-to-BSN.<sup>8</sup>

Upon successful completion of the program of study, students may be academically prepared to apply to take the national licensure examination for registered nurses (NCLEX-RN®). This program is approved by the Board of Nursing and meets the educational requirements to obtain licensure in the states of Iowa, Nebraska, and Maine. Graduates of this program should not expect to obtain initial licensure in other states. Refer to Licensure and State Authorization for additional information on licensure and state authorizations. NCLEX is a registered trademark of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

## TRY OUR CLASSES BEFORE YOU OWE ANY TUITION

### WE STAND BEHIND OUR ACADEMIC QUALITY

Purdue Global wants you to make an educated decision about your education. As a new undergraduate student, the Purdue Global Commitment gives you a chance to experience real classes before deciding if you will stay and pursue your studies. If you withdraw during the introductory period, you will have no financial obligation.<sup>9</sup>



# STUDENT EXPERIENCE



## CLINICAL AND PRACTICE EXPERIENCES

Work environments outside of school can provide enriching training opportunities to support your academic and career goals. The clinical and practice experiences within our graduate programs can help you apply the knowledge you have gained in the classroom to a real-world setting in your local community.

## COMMUNITY

### OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

Purdue Global's Office of Student Life offers programs and services aimed at helping students engage in their program of study outside the classroom and providing both personal and professional growth opportunities. Organizations offer students many opportunities to connect with their peers and faculty outside of the classroom. Some advantages include:

- Networking with peers and industry professionals in your field
- Leadership opportunities and development
- Recognition of your academic achievements
- Personal growth opportunities through wellness programs
- Engagement in your program of study outside the classroom

### SIGMA THETA TAU

School of Nursing students have an opportunity to participate in Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, an organization committed to making a difference in health worldwide. The organization is overseen by an elected team of Purdue Global student leaders and volunteer faculty advisors who arrange events and distribute communications that encourage engagement throughout the Purdue Global community.

# UNCOMPROMISING SUPPORT

Purdue Global students receive personal academic support from day one to graduation. From a highly engaged faculty to technical support, you have access to the assistance to help you achieve your academic goals.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Student support staff provide the following types of individualized support:

- Access to resources and academic tools
- Degree planning
- Answers to questions about your program
- Motivation to stay on track to graduation
- Course selection and registration
- Helping you handle issues before they become problems

## TUTORING SERVICES AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTERS

Purdue Global offers rich academic support through a suite of tutoring services. Our Writing Center, Math Center, Technology Center, Science Center, and Business Center provide subject-specific assistance. Depending on the center, services include:

- Live tutoring for one-on-one support from faculty and professional tutors
- Subject support including an essay review service
- Workshops covering a wide range of topics
- Podcasts, self-paced tutorials, and additional resources

## CENTER FOR CAREER ADVANCEMENT

Career Specialists emphasize the practical, tangible steps you can take for results in the real world. The Center for Career Advancement offers:

- Career planning to ensure a personalized approach to pursuing your career goals
- Résumé and cover letter reviews, mock interview assistance, and networking advice
- 24/7 availability of the Center for Career Advancement portal on Purdue Global Campus, which includes job postings and career services tools

- On-demand access to relevant information on résumé writing, interviewing, networking, and more
- A mentoring program to help connect you with alumni in your field

## STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

The Student Accessibility Services is responsible for the coordination of services for students with accessibility needs. Students seeking reasonable and appropriate accommodations may request, through student support staff, to be placed in contact with the Student Accessibility Services. Students may also directly contact the Student Accessibility Services.

### ADVISORY BOARD

The School of Nursing Advisory Board is a diverse panel of successful nurse leaders and professionals who advise the school on matters associated with industry trends, curriculum development, and education initiatives, including development opportunities for students, and support community-building efforts within the School of Nursing.

#### Board Members

**MaryAnne Alexander**, CEO, Infusion Nurses Society (INS)

**Cathy Catrambone**, Associate Professor, Rush University College of Nursing

**Antonio V. Moore**, Founding CEO, More Than Just A Village Academy, Inc. (MTJAVA) and National Public Speaker

**Toni Scott**, Founder, Yogatones

**Sharon M. Weinstein**, CEO, SMW Group LLC and President/Founder, SharonMWeinstein and Global Education Development Institute

**Margaret A. Fitzgerald**, Founder and Principal Speaker, Fitzgerald Health Education Associates (FHEA)

## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to academic credentials, Purdue Global's School of Nursing faculty members have significant professional experience in their fields. They bring you knowledge gained through the powerful combination of higher learning and hard-won nursing experience.

All nursing faculty members are registered nurses, and many hold doctorates or advanced nursing certifications; all faculty members possess at least a master's degree.

Full-time faculty members include scholarship and research as part of their annual development plan, which helps ensure their expertise stays up-to-date for the classroom and for you.



**SUSAN KIEFFER, DBA**  
*Department Chair*

Susan Kieffer oversees the operations and faculty of the RN-to-BSN program and has recently facilitated the revision, modularization, and conversion of 13 courses into the

University's competency-based education program. She became a registered nurse after graduating from Mohave Community College in Arizona, where she also began her academic career. As an RN, Kieffer has worked in medical-surgical nursing, pediatrics, critical care, and home health. Originally from northwestern Arizona, she has traveled the world as a missionary and ethnographic researcher. Her dissertation study focused on the use of the nursing process to address the economic lives of the Roma of Transylvania, Romania, an area where she and her family spent 3 years as missionaries.

**Education:** DBA, Northcentral University; MSN/Ed, University of Phoenix



**TRACY TOWNE, PhD**  
*University Faculty*

Tracy Towne has been a health care professional for over two decades and has a variety of experiences in the field of nursing and nursing education. At Purdue Global, she teaches

undergraduate courses in the RN-to-BSN program and has overseen the development of the specialty courses in case management and faith community nursing. She is also responsible for the program's capstone course. Towne has worked in urology, orthopedics, oncology, renal, geriatrics, long-term care, home health, private duty nursing, and public health nursing. She has been an instructor at the associate's, bachelor's, and graduate degree level in a variety of courses.

**Education:** PhD, Mercer University Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; MSN, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing; BSN, Edgewood College

**Research Interests:** Management of long-term chronic disease related to Type 2 diabetes



**LAURA WOOD, MS**  
*University Faculty*

Laura Wood teaches various graduate nursing courses, with a special emphasis on nursing education and leadership. She is a subject-matter expert for the nurse educator track

and currently chairs multiple committees in service to the University, profession, and public and works as a nurse consultant. Prior to joining Purdue Global, Wood held roles as a wellness coordinator, court advocate, and pediatric nurse.

**Education:** MSN, Kaplan University (now Purdue University Global); BSN, Kaplan University (now Purdue University Global); AAS, Prairie State College; ASN, Prairie State College

**Publications:** *Using a Telephone Call to Increase Social Presence in Online Classes*

**Certifications:** Certified Nurse Care Manager (American Board of Managed Care Nursing)





**MEGAN BIVENS, DNP**  
*University Faculty*

Megan Bivens is a full-time faculty member for the RN-to-Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. In this role, she oversees curriculum development as a course lead, including

modularized curriculum and competency-based programs, and also participates in faculty governance. Prior to joining Purdue Global, Bivens was a faculty member for LPN, RN, and RN-to-BSN programs and also served as coordinator for a high-fidelity simulation center in a face-to-face associate's in nursing (ADN) program. She has worked in various areas of clinical nursing practice including labor and delivery, postpartum, operating room, medical-surgical (gynecology), and sick baby care.

**Education:** MSN, Florida State University

**Honors and Achievements:** Spirit of Kaplan Outstanding Online Faculty Leader Award (Kaplan University), Spirit of Excellence Award, additional teaching awards including outstanding course lead and classroom innovation

**Research Interests:** Emotions of online learners and computer-based simulation, predictors of success for ADN students



**AMY DALY, PhD**  
*University Faculty*

Amy Daly has worked in nursing education for over 26 years, teaching in associate's, baccalaureate, and master's degree nursing programs. At Purdue Global, she serves as the program lead

for the Doctor of Nursing Practice. In this role, she assists in providing leadership in designated areas, focusing on academic operations that support timely student matriculation to program completion. She also serves as the nursing representative to the University's Faculty Senate, and is chair of the School of Nursing Assessment and Evaluation Committee. Daly is the faculty liaison to the School of Nursing Leadership Council. In practice, she has worked in nursing administration, staff development, risk management, telephone triage, and community education. She has served on the board of directors of the American Red Cross in Mississippi and a state nursing organization. Currently, Daly serves as an onsite evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

**Education:** PhD, William Carey University; MSN, Louisiana State University; BSN, William Carey College

## *CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING*

The knowledge and skills you already have could help you save time and money on your degree. Purdue Global offers several pathways to help you earn credit for your prior learning:<sup>10</sup>

- Transfer of eligible credits earned at an accredited institution
- College credit opportunities for work and life experiences
- Competency assessments to earn course credit
- Credit for eligible professional certifications
- **PME2Degree™** program that awards college credit for military training

To apply for credit, you must first submit official transcripts, course descriptions, and supporting documentation to the Office of the Registrar. Visit [Catalog.PurdueGlobal.edu](http://Catalog.PurdueGlobal.edu) for the Prior Learning Assessment policy.

Note: Unless by specific arrangement, graduate students are not eligible for experiential credit or credit by examination.

## *PAYING FOR SCHOOL*

### **EXPLORE YOUR FINANCIAL OPTIONS BEFORE YOU MAKE ANY DECISIONS**

#### **FINANCIAL AID**

Our Financial Aid Office works with you from enrollment to graduation to ensure you understand your financial options and to help you plan the most efficient use of financial resources. We will help you craft a personalized financial plan that meets your particular needs.

Prior to enrolling at Purdue Global, you are encouraged to explore all available financial options, including employer tuition benefits, military tuition assistance, and tuition reductions.

Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Financial aid awards vary depending on individual student eligibility and need.

#### **LOANS (SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)**

- Subsidized Federal Direct Loan (Undergraduate Only)
- Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan
- Federal PLUS Loan and Graduate Federal PLUS Loans
- Alternative Loans

#### **OTHER AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**

- Promise Jobs
- Veterans Administration Benefits
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)

# MILITARY OVERVIEW

## SUPPORTING MILITARY MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR SPOUSES

If you or your spouse served in the U.S. Armed Forces, Purdue Global provides support to help you reach your educational and career goals—whether military or civilian.

- Reduced tuition for servicemembers, including National Guard and Reserve, spouses, and veterans
- College credit for DANTES/CLEP exams and eligible military occupations or training
- Specially trained staff within our Military Student Support Center who understand military culture, procedures, and complex military educational benefits
- Compliance with Executive Order 13607, establishing principles of excellence for educational institutions serving servicemembers, veterans, their spouses, and other family members
- Special deployment policies if you must drop a course or take a leave of absence due to a deployment or change of orders



The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

## ABOUT PURDUE GLOBAL

Building on Purdue's mission to provide greater access to affordable, world-class education, Purdue University Global delivers a fully personalized online experience that's tailored to working adults. By opening the doors to adults who need flexibility to fit learning into their busy lives, we make it possible to earn a degree from a school within the respected Purdue University system—completely online.<sup>11</sup>

Purdue Global offers more than 175 online programs at the associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels, with courses taught by highly respected faculty members who are experts in their fields. Our dedicated faculty and support teams are here every step of the way to help you achieve your goals, providing one-on-one mentoring, educational advising, and comprehensive career services to graduation and beyond.

## ACCREDITATION AND APPROVALS

Purdue Global is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). The HLC (HLCommission.org) is an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Purdue Global is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant, alien students.



The baccalaureate degree in nursing, master's degree in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, and the postgraduate APRN certificate programs at Purdue Global are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education ([www.CCNEAccreditation.org](http://www.CCNEAccreditation.org)).





If you have questions about admissions requirements or financial aid, or need help determining which program is right for you, contact an Advisor.

**Call 844-PURDUE-G or visit [PurdueGlobal.edu/Nursing](https://PurdueGlobal.edu/Nursing).**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ**

For comprehensive consumer information, visit [Info.PurdueGlobal.edu](https://Info.PurdueGlobal.edu).

- 1 Institute of Medicine, "Assessing Progress on the IOM Report The Future of Nursing," December 2015.
- 2 Purdue Global does not guarantee employment placement or career advancement. Actual outcomes vary by geographic area, previous work experience and opportunities for employment.
- 3 Statistics include all Purdue Global faculty members and are not school- or program-specific calculations. Source: Purdue Global Office of Reporting and Analysis, July 2020. 2019-2020 academic year.
- 4 American Association of Colleges of Nursing, The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, October 2006, [www.aacn.nche.edu/publications/position/DNPEssentials.pdf](https://www.aacn.nche.edu/publications/position/DNPEssentials.pdf).  
The DNP was not designed for initial certification and licensure for advanced practice registered nurse roles. Purdue Global makes no representations or warranties as to whether the degree or any individual courses meet the requirements for any specific state for licensure or certification. Refer to the University Catalog for additional information.
- 5 The University cannot guarantee that students will be granted admission to any future programs.
- 6 Students are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. The University cannot guarantee students will be eligible to sit for or pass exams. In some cases, work experience, additional coursework beyond the Purdue Global program, fieldwork, and/or background checks may be necessary to be eligible to take or to successfully pass the exams.
- 7 ExcelTrack™ is designed to advance your progress based on existing knowledge; however, degree pace and time and cost savings will vary by individual. Students must enroll in a minimum number credits per term to remain eligible for financial aid. Refer to the Financial Information section of the University Catalog for additional information.
- 8 Additional terms and conditions apply. May not be combined with other Purdue Global tuition reductions or ExcelTrack™ pricing. Must be a first-time enrollee in the Purdue Global Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Speak with an Advisor for additional information.
- 9 Classes count toward a degree if satisfactorily completed. No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period (3 weeks for new qualifying undergraduate students), which begins day one of the first term. Students who choose to continue their studies at Purdue Global will need to meet specific requirements. Graduate programs not included. Additional terms may apply to international and non-U.S. citizen students. For further information, see the University Catalog.
- 10 Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See the University Catalog for the Prior Learning Assessment policy.
- 11 Some Purdue Global programs are not 100% online; some programs require you to gain hands-on experience in a real-world work environment. Contact an Admissions Advisor for additional information.

**PURDUE**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
**GLOBAL**