



School of Nursing

RPN to BScN Blended Learning Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register in my course(s)?

All students should register through WebAdvisor before the first day of the course. For instructions on how to register please read the enclosed information sheet.

Do I have to be on campus to take a course?

Students participating in online courses can do so from the convenience of their homes or wherever they have internet access. In courses with final exams, students will be required to complete their exams at a location within a reasonable distance from the address maintained in WebAdvisor. Students registered in clinical placement courses will be required to complete their studies in a clinical setting.

Are distance learning courses equivalent to on campus courses?

All for-credit online and blended delivery courses are equivalent to courses taken on campus. Transcripts do not distinguish whether a course was taken on campus or through distance learning.

Do courses have to be started at a specific time in the year?

Courses are offered in one of three semesters or terms. These include the fall (September to December), winter (January to April), and summer (May to August). Students are strongly encouraged to register in their courses according to the study plan provided to ensure timely program completion. RPN to BScN students can complete the program in 5 years, but must complete their program within a maximum of 7 years.

What courses will I take in this program?

Please refer to the RPN to BScN Blended Learning study plan which outlines the courses that all students must complete, along with additional requirements. The academic calendar is a valuable tool to find more information about program requirements and courses – www.nipissingu.ca/calendar. Academic Advising can provide additional assistance in selecting courses and ensuring you are taking the correct courses to meet your degree requirements.

Will I get a Nipissing University email address?

Yes, as soon as you accept your offer of admission you will notice a new button in 'MyNipissing'. Please access this email as soon as possible. All official communication from Nipissing University will only use your Nipissing Email account, some of which relates to deadlines and is time sensitive. You will need to access your email often. Consider getting into the routine of checking it daily. You will need to use your Nipissing email for such things as: waiting lists, instructor communication, practicum details, and communication from the nursing department with important program information.

How do I access my course?

All online courses are delivered through our learning management system (Blackboard). Students can access Blackboard within MyNipissing using the same user credentials that have been provided. Blackboard can also be accessed directly at <http://learn.nipissingu.ca>. You will receive access to your course(s) 48 hours prior to the course start date. When you have been given access you will receive an email to your Nipissing email account.

What do I do if I experience technical difficulties with Blackboard?

While students are expected to have a basic understanding of web navigation, University Technology Services (UTS) is available to help students through technical difficulties. Should you require assistance, please contact us by email at techserv@nipissingu.ca or by phone at 705-474-3450 ext 4342.

School of Nursing

Where do I get my textbooks?

All printed materials (such as textbooks) must be purchased through the online campus shop or an independent retailer. Required textbook information can be found by going to www.nipissingu.bkstr.com

How much does a course cost?

Course fees can be found by going to www.nipissingu.ca/fees. Please note that all fees do not include course materials such as textbooks and are subject to change.

How and when do I pay for a course?

Payment is due upon registration and can be made through online banking, cash, cheque, bank draft, or money order payable to Nipissing University. As well students will be able to pay for tuition with VISA or MasterCard through WebAdvisor. Students who have obtained employer sponsorship should contact Student Financial Services by telephone at 705-474-3450 ext 4419, or by email at finance@nipissingu.ca.

How will I get my final examination details?

Most online education courses include a three hour final examination. Location details are based on the student home address maintained in WebAdvisor. Final examination details are provided to students through WebAdvisor approximately four weeks prior to the examination period. It is very important that your address in WebAdvisor is correct. Final course grades are accessible through WebAdvisor approximately four weeks after the examination period. Always take note of the exam period dates and make sure you will be available to write your exam during that time. Do not schedule any travel or vacation until you have been notified of your final exam date. Please refer to the Final Examination policy for details.

What if I already have a university degree?

If you have already completed a degree, you must contact Academic Advising to have a unique Second Degree program created for you. This Second Degree plan will reflect the courses you have completed in your first degree, as well as the requirements for your program. Your degree completion at Nipissing may vary greatly from the enclosed study plan, so it is important you contact an Academic Advisor as soon as you are admitted. To contact an Academic Advisor, please email advising@nipissingu.ca or call 705 474-3450 x. 4358.

What if I have another college diploma or additional transfer credits from university?

After you have accepted our offer of admission, please be sure to check your transfer credits under 'Summary of Grades' on WebAdvisor. Students who have other post-secondary education in addition to the RPN diploma may be exempt from some of the courses on the enclosed study plan. After reviewing your transfer credits and the study plan, please contact Academic Advising if you have any questions. To get in contact with an Academic Advisor, please email advising@nipissingu.ca or call 705 474-3450 x. 4358. If you have additional education that you did not disclose upon application it is VERY important that you contact us immediately and provide that official transcript.

How will I be able to interact with my instructor and fellow classmates?

Students are encouraged to interact with their instructors and classmates using the course discussion board, chat rooms, and instructor / student email addresses, telephone and 'live' sessions delivered within Blackboard.

Who can I contact for more information?

Please view the "Assistance with..." sheet for contact information for a list of other university departments and how they can help.