



Frequently Asked Questions – Concurrent MSN Program

1. How many courses can I take concurrently?

As part of the concurrent enrollment program, you may begin your MSN studies while completing your BSN at Yavapai College. Most students will take two concurrent MSN courses during the RN to BSN program that align with their chosen focus area—either Nurse Administrator or Nurse Educator.

2. Can I only join the ACE MSN program at the beginning of the RN to BSN program at Yavapai College?

While we encourage students to start the concurrent ACE MSN program early in the RN to BSN program, you join the MSN program in January, July, October, or November.

3. How many credits transfer into the MSN program?

After your BSN degree is conferred and official transcripts are submitted, ACE will transfer **9 credits** from your concurrent coursework into the **MSN Administrator track** or **6 credits** into the **MSN Educator track**.

4. What is the course structure and duration?

Most MSN courses are 5 weeks in length. Students typically take one course at a time, followed by a one-week break before beginning the next course. The final course, which includes the practicum component, spans 10 weeks to accommodate the required 200 hours of practicum experience.

During each 5-week course, students can expect:

- Weekly assigned readings and video lectures
- Participation in class discussions (initial posts and responses to peers and faculty)
- Weekly assignments
- Occasional quizzes or exams, depending on the course.

5. Is the ACE program fully online?

Yes, the MSN program with ACE is 100% online. There are no live sessions required. Students are responsible for submitting all assignments by the specified deadlines.

6. How many courses remain after earning my BSN, and how long will it take to complete the program?

Once your BSN is conferred and transcripts are submitted, you will typically have:

- 16 credits remaining for the MSN Administrator track (estimated completion: 8–9 months), or
- 19 credits remaining for the MSN Educator track (estimated completion: 10–12 months, depending on your pace).

If you completed additional MSN courses during your RN to BSN program, your time to completion may be reduced.

7. What should I know about the MSN practicum requirement?

The MSN program includes a 200-hour practicum component, applicable to both focus areas. You may select your own mentor, who must:

- Hold a master’s degree.
- Be a licensed RN.
- Have at least two years of experience in a role aligned with your focus area.

8. If I plan to pursue a Nurse Practitioner (NP) program in the future, which focus area should I choose?

We recommend the Nurse Educator track for students considering a future NP program. This track includes Advanced Health Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Advanced Pharmacology—courses commonly required for admission to an NP program. However, we strongly advise reviewing the specific prerequisites of your intended NP program for confirmation.

9. What is the cost of the program?

Through our partnership with Yavapai College, students receive a 3% tuition grant. Each course costs \$1,105.80, which includes tuition, fees, and books. Various payment options are available to support students financially.

Additionally, the American College of Education maintains partnerships with numerous hospitals and healthcare organizations across Arizona and throughout the United States.

Depending on your employer, you may be eligible for a tuition reduction greater than 3%. To determine your eligibility, please provide your current employer’s name, or one of our counselors can assist you in verifying this information.

To request more information please contact Brian Kraus at brian.kraus@ace.edu or 480-336-9331.

