



# How To Become A Nurse Practitioner Without A Nursing Degree

Do you want to work as an advanced practice nurse, such as a nurse practitioner? For those with lofty aspirations and a desire to provide patients with more independent care, these disciplines offer fantastic job options.

Your aim may be to achieve this, but you may not have a nursing degree. You may have majored in a subject unrelated to nursing, such as history or accountancy. Do not be worried; these things shouldn't deter you from pursuing NP status.

With a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing, you can pursue a career as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN). But first, let's examine who a nurse practitioner is before we get into the specifics.

## What Is an NP?

A registered nurse with a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) is referred to as a nurse practitioner (NP). Hospitals, outpatient care facilities, urgent care facilities, community clinics, and primary care facilities are the typical workplaces for NPs.

NPs can choose to treat patients or concentrate more on administrative and research-based tasks, depending on their state of practice, specialization, and interests.

NPs are equipped to do the following:

- ordering, carrying out and analyzing diagnostic procedures such as lab tests and x-rays
- identifying and treating both acute and long-term illnesses, including diabetes, infections, and wounds.
- recommending drugs and other therapies.
- managing the total care of the patient.
- counseling for patients
- educating patients about healthy living, disease prevention, and good lifestyle choices.

The education requirements for nurse practitioners are significantly more stringent than those for registered nurses since they have duties that are similar to those of doctors. A Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master of Science in Nursing, and the required nurse practitioner certification are requirements for becoming an NP.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that in order to meet demand, the number of nurse practitioner positions will need to grow by 263,400 over the five-year period between 2019 and 2029.

Additionally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that the median pay for APRNs in the United States is \$111,680 for a nurse practitioner (CNP).

So the question is, how can someone who lacks a nursing degree become a nursing practitioner and earn this money? — Hahaha, you can Become A Nurse Practitioner Without A Nursing Degree in 7 simple steps

## Use Your Bachelor's Degree from a Non-Nursing Program to Become an RN

Enrolling in an ABSN program is the first step on your route to becoming a nurse practitioner with a non-nursing bachelor's degree. These best accelerated BSN programs are offered by the majority of recognized universities in the USA.

Although becoming an NP may seem far off in the future, you might be surprised at how quickly you can complete your RN degree and make the switch to an advanced practice degree.

These accelerated programs give you the ability to build on your prior education so you can get your bachelor's degree in nursing in as little as 12–16 months or so, as opposed to the four years required by a conventional BSN program.

## Pass the NCLEX-RN Exam

Prior to being able to legally practice as a registered nurse after receiving a BSN, candidates must pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN®).

This challenging exam contains multiple-choice questions that evaluate your capacity for critical thought and clinical judgment.

After receiving your BSN, you should sign up for the NCLEX while you still retain most of your education.

Plan to dedicate a month or two to test preparation after nursing school graduation. You'll then be prepared to obtain your nursing license and start working after passing the NCLEX.

## Obtain a State Nursing License

You must obtain your state's nursing board's approval after passing the NCLEX. Check the website of your state's department of health for more details as each state has slightly different standards for nurses.

You can begin working as a professional nurse after being accepted by your state and receiving your nursing license.

## Acquire Experience working as a Nurse

Even though you hope to obtain a higher-level nursing degree, it's crucial to pause along the route and gain some experience as a registered nurse. Being a skilled nurse is ensured by gaining significant experience in a hospital or clinic. Additionally, candidates pursuing master's and doctoral degrees in nursing must have experience working as professional nurses.

You should consider what kind of practitioner you want to be once you've gained experience in the nursing field and are prepared to work toward your goal of becoming an APRN. Advanced degree choices for nurses include the following:

- Certified Nurse Practitioner
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS)

## Sign up for a DNP, MSN, or Ph.D. program.

Enrolling in a nursing master's program is the next step toward becoming a nurse practitioner.

You'll need to assess your goals and choose which specialties may appeal to you because, as a BSN-trained nurse, you can apply to MSN, DNP, or Ph.D. programs in a range of clinical and non-clinical areas of concentration.

It can be confusing to decide whether to pursue a master's or a doctorate in these disciplines. Taking these programs has become even easier with the growth in online education. You can check this complete guide about [Online MSN, DNP, and Ph.D. programs](#) in nursing to help you make a better decision

## Get Certified by Passing the CNP, CRNA, or CNM Exam

You'll have to pass a national certification exam for your field of practice after receiving your graduate degree. Whether you choose to become an NP, CRNA, or CNM will affect how you take this exam.

## Obtain APRN Licensure

All that's left to do is obtain a license in your state when all the hard work is over. This licensing procedure is comparable to getting your initial state license after receiving your BSN. Consult the exact rules for your state once again. Through your state's department of health, you can access information from the board of nursing in your state.

Depending on the state, different licenses are required. You may need to possess an APRN license in some states. You'll obtain an "upgraded" registered nurse license in others. In either case, you'll have to pass a certification test with both written and practical sections.

With these steps, I hope the question "how to become a nurse practitioner without a nursing degree" has been answered and you can start your journey.

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