

WHAT TO EXPECT: MARIAN UNIVERSITY ABSN PROGRAMS



***EVERYTHING** YOU NEED TO KNOW.*

MARIAN UNIVERSITY  
— Accelerated Nursing Programs — ®

# Welcome.

Thank you for downloading this guide and considering Marian University's second-degree ABSN program, designed for motivated career changers like you who want to fast-track their transition into nursing. Someone from our admissions team will be reaching out to you soon.



In the meantime, consider this guide your go-to source for everything you want to know about our program and why you're making a great choice in considering the Marian University ABSN program. In it we'll outline some of the key components of our program, including:

- What you can expect once you earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).
- How the Marian University ABSN admissions process works.
- How you can complete nursing prerequisites through Marian's Adult Programs (MAP).
- How our three-part, blended curriculum model works.
- How you benefit from our clinical partnerships and learning sites in Indianapolis, Nashville and Oklahoma City.



## A lifetime of opportunity and fulfillment.

A Bachelor of Science in Nursing is not the only path to a career in nursing, but it's the one that opens the most doors. A BSN goes far beyond the fundamental nursing skills taught in an associate degree program, delving deep into the profession in such areas as research, management, and community health. Here's what else you can expect once you earn a BSN:

### **Demand.**

By 2024, nursing as a profession is expected to grow to 3.2 million (up from 2.86 million in 2016), according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### **Choice and opportunity.**

A BSN sets a great foundation for further education for those who want to pursue advanced nursing roles. Whether you desire a leadership position or advanced nursing specialty job such as nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, or nurse educator, more doors open for you with a BSN.

### **Job security.**

To obtain Magnet status from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, hospitals must have baccalaureate-educated staff in all management and leadership roles. For non-management nursing roles, more and more hospitals have also moved toward hiring only RNs who have BSN credentials.



# Total immersion. Comprehensive learning.

The Marian University ABSN program leverages your non-nursing bachelor's degree so you can graduate in as few as 16 months. It's a rigorous program (some have compared it to holding a full-time job), but you'll graduate prepared to sit for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam and confident to enter the field a practice-ready nurse.



Our full-time, four-semester program comprises:

## Online nursing theory coursework

You'll use our e-Learning management system to:

- **Complete** assignments and quizzes.
- **Socialize** with peers in discussion forums.
- **Participate** in scheduled chat sessions with instructors.



## On-site nursing simulation and skills labs

Under the guidance of highly experienced clinical instructors, you'll:

- **Fine-tune** basic nursing skills, such as hand washing, bed changes, and nasogastric tube placements working with small groups of peers.
- **Apply** skills using medical manikins in mock high-risk trauma scenarios during nursing simulation labs.

## Clinical rotations

Led by experienced instructors at top healthcare facilities local to the ABSN program site in which you choose to enroll, you'll:

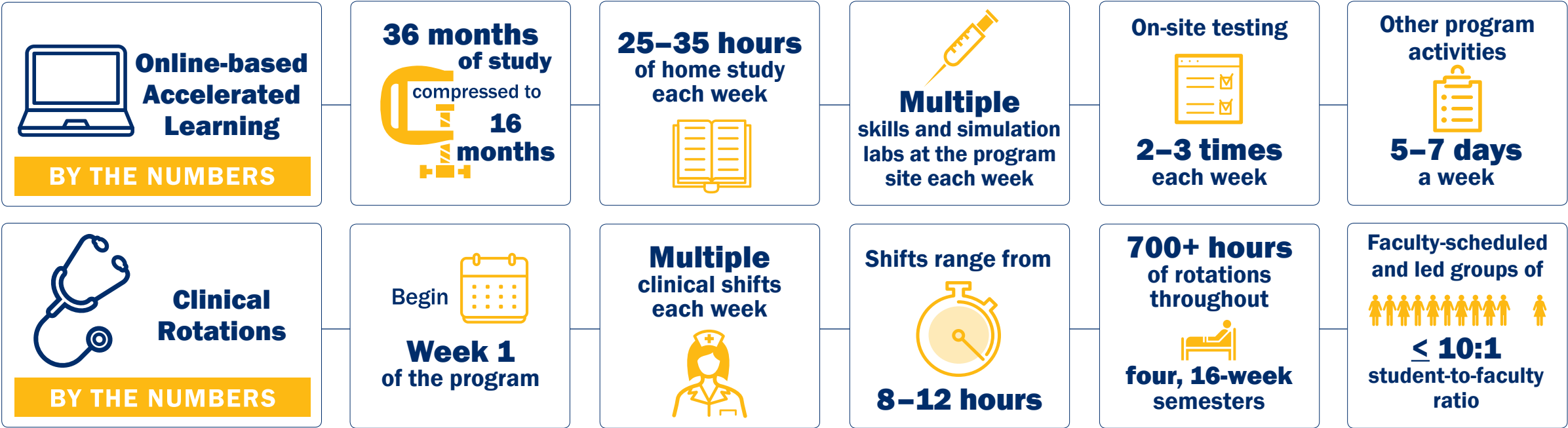
- **Provide** holistic patient care in a variety of real-world healthcare settings starting your first semester.
- **Gain** confidence interacting with patients.

# Fast forward to tomorrow.

As a Marian University ABSN student, you can expect to receive a top-notch nursing education on an accelerated timeline. That’s because we pack the same amount of material you’d learn in a traditional program into 16 months of rigorous nursing study.



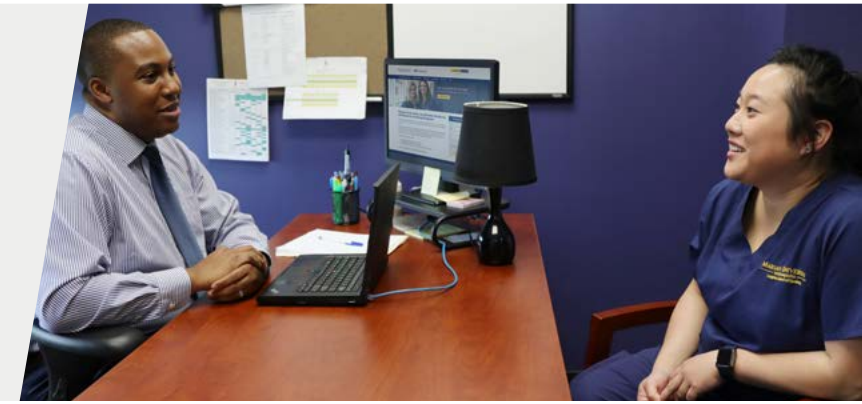
What does a 16-month ABSN program look like? While your individual schedule may vary, in general terms here’s what you can expect.





## We're with you all the way.

Because the Marian University ABSN program is a tight-knit community, we're well equipped to provide you the support resources and staff to help you succeed throughout your nursing school experience.



### Admissions advisors

Our admissions team can guide you through:

- Determining your eligibility for enrollment.
- Discussing your education goals.
- Creating an academic plan aimed at your program start date.
- Staying on track during the admissions and application processes.

### Success coaches

This team can help you develop success strategies, including:

- Study strategies.
- Learning preferences.
- Time management.
- Goal setting.
- Connecting you with academic and student support resources.

### Faculty and clinical instructors

Our program features online courses, all taught by Marian University's Leighton School of Nursing faculty. You may communicate with them via:

- Chat sessions through our e-Learning platform.
- Email and phone calls.

## A holistic approach and a higher calling.

Marian University is a Catholic institution. Our ABSN program frames its curriculum within the context of Franciscan values and welcomes students of all faiths.



Students will find a learning environment grounded in the Franciscan values: dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation, and responsible stewardship. However, regardless of their own religious backgrounds, nursing students can benefit from a faith-based curriculum as they'll learn valuable skills including:

### **Critical thinking.**

Studying theology prepares nursing students to explore abstract ideas from different perspectives, as well as communicate these ideas to others.

### **Compassionate care.**

We use the importance of faith to teach nursing students how to take a holistic approach to patient care, which focuses on treating mind, body, and spirit.

### **Broaden your horizons.**

The exploration of theology gives students the ability to better relate to those around them as they continue on their journeys of helping others through a career in nursing.



# Indianapolis: Full of heart and opportunity.

What makes Indianapolis such a great place to be a nurse? For starters, the Marian University ABSN program has had a learning site on the Northwest side of town since 2009. The city also boasts a dynamic healthcare sector, with many distinguished hospital systems based here. As a student in our ABSN program, you'll complete your clinical rotations through one of the largest: St. Vincent.



## St. Vincent Your pathway to a career

A member of Ascension Health, the largest Catholic healthcare system in the country, St. Vincent operates 19 health ministries, a major medical complex, and several joint ventures and clinical affiliates across Southern and Central Indiana. As an ABSN student, you can expect to gain unprecedented patient care experiences and networking opportunities while working in this hospital network with some of the best teams in the healthcare industry.

### Indianapolis | BY THE NUMBERS



**\$70,960**

Average annual wage for RNs  
*United States Bureau of Labor Statistics,  
May 2019*



**#7**

Cheapest Places to Live  
*U.S. News and World Report,  
2019*

**#3**

Best City for Jobs  
*Glassdoor, 2019*





## St. Vincent locations around the city.

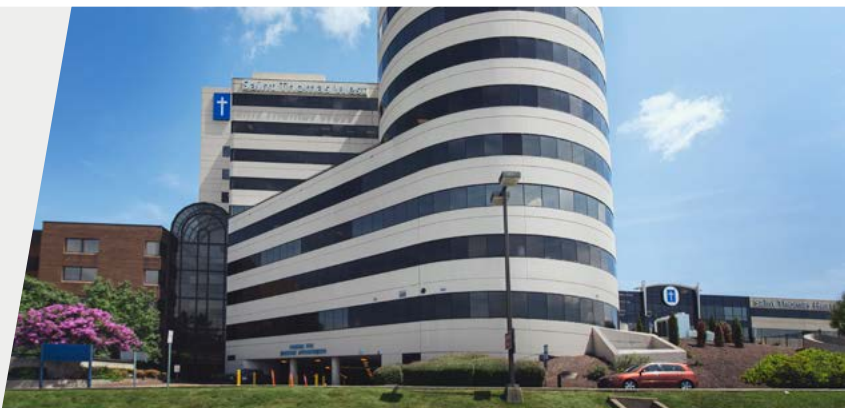


1. Peyton Manning Children's Hospital at St. Vincent
2. St. Vincent Indianapolis
3. St. Vincent Seton Specialty Long-Term Acute Care Hospital
4. St. Vincent Women's Hospital
5. St. Vincent Heart Center (Carmel)
6. St. Vincent Carmel
7. St. Vincent Neighborhood Hospital (Noblesville)
8. St. Vincent Fishers
9. St. Vincent Neighborhood Hospital (Castleton)
10. St. Vincent Neighborhood Hospital (Avon)

Note: St. Vincent locations further south or newly opened may not be represented.

# Nashville: A dynamic hub for healthcare.

In 2013, we expanded our ABSN program to Nashville, Tennessee. Music City is central to several top-tier hospital systems and more than 250 healthcare companies, easily making healthcare the region’s largest and fastest-growing industry. As a student in our ABSN program, you’ll complete your clinical rotations through Tennessee’s leading faith-based healthcare system: Saint Thomas Health.



## Saint Thomas Health Our partner in your success

Also a member of Ascension Health, Saint Thomas Medical Partners, a physician-led medical group in Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky, operates 99 locations. In addition to completing many of your clinical rotations at one of its nine facilities based in and around Nashville, our learning site is on the fifth floor of Saint Thomas West, allowing you to foster relationships with key clinical faculty at one of the best healthcare employers in the state.

### Nashville | BY THE NUMBERS



**\$65,060**

Average annual wage for RNs  
*United States Bureau of Labor Statistics,  
May 2019*



**#9**

Best Cities for  
Renters  
*SmartAsset, 2019*

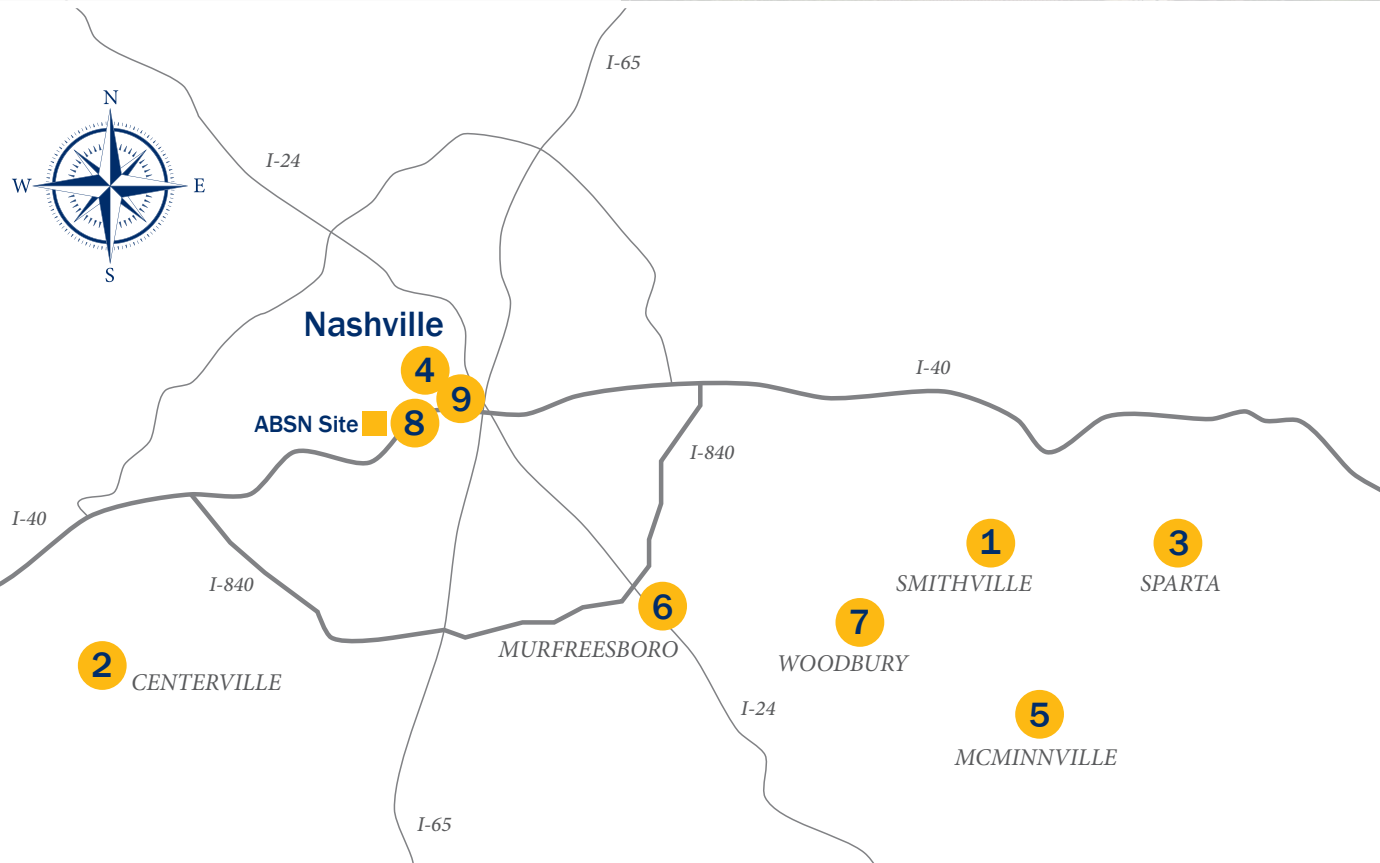


**#3**

Best Cities for Young  
Professionals  
*SmartAsset, 2019*



## Saint Thomas locations around the city.



1. Saint Thomas Dekalb Hospital
2. Saint Thomas Hickman Hospital
3. Saint Thomas Highlands Hospital
4. Saint Thomas Midtown Hospital
5. Saint Thomas River Park Hospital
6. Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital
7. Saint Thomas Stones River Hospital
8. Saint Thomas West Hospital
9. Saint Thomas Hospital for Specialty Surgery



# Oklahoma City: Where nursing job prospects abound.

Our ABSN program expansion into Oklahoma City in 2020 stems from our desire to help alleviate the Sooner State’s registered nurse shortage: The ratio of RNs per population in Oklahoma is 700 RNs per 100,000 people, well below the national average of 1,150 per 100,000.

*Source: Nursing Workforce Oklahoma report by the Governor’s Council for Workforce and Economic Development*



## OKC = A healthcare career launchpad

Oklahoma City’s healthcare sector is booming, with 60,000 workers employed across the city’s 20 general medical and surgical hospitals, four specialized hospitals, and two federal medical installations, according to the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber. As a Marian ABSN student here, you’ll have the chance to gain valuable real-world patient care experiences and network with some of the region’s top-tier medical professionals during your clinical rotations.

### Oklahoma City | BY THE NUMBERS



**\$66,510**

Average annual wage for RNs  
*United States Bureau of Labor Statistics,  
May 2019*



**#3**

Most Affordable Cities  
to Live and Work  
*BusinessStudent.com, 2019*



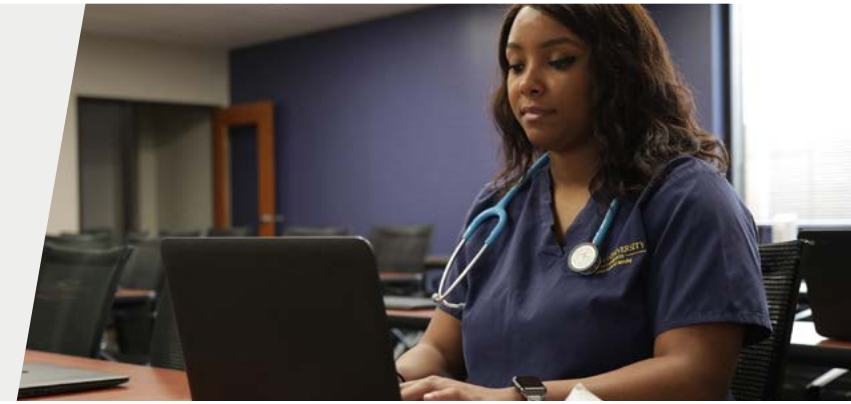
**#12**

Best City  
for Jobs  
*Glassdoor, 2019*



## Take the first step.

The first step in the Marian University ABSN program admissions process is an informal phone call with one of our dedicated admissions advisors. Don't stress too much — the purpose of this discussion is simply to confirm your program eligibility and make sure our program aligns with your goals.



For this conversation, it's helpful (but not required) to have prepared:

### **All your previous academic transcripts.**

Note: To qualify for the Marian University ABSN program, you must hold a non-nursing bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and a minimum cumulative 2.8 GPA or 3.0 for the last 60 credits completed.

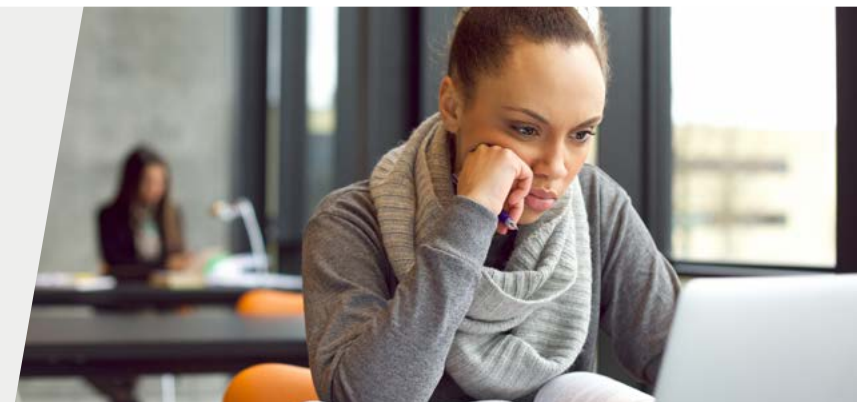
### **Answers to these questions:**

- What do you want to do with your nursing degree after you graduate?
- Where do you want to work?
- What role do you want to play in your future workplace?

**Updated FAFSA forms if you have questions about student loans.**

## How to jumpstart your education.

Do you need to complete prerequisite courses before enrolling, but don't want to take time off to do so? Marian University offers a flexible way for working adults to take nursing prerequisites online: Marian's Adult Programs (MAP).



What else makes MAP a great option for completing your nursing prerequisites? It offers:

- **Accredited prerequisite classes** taught entirely online by Marian's Adult Programs (MAP) full-time and adjunct faculty credentialed in their fields of study.
- **Five-week course options** available nine times a year.
- **Eight-week course options** available six times a year.
- **Engaging coursework:** video, audio, PowerPoint, readings, discussion boards, and interactive labs.
- **A held spot** in our nursing school (if you meet the necessary grade and GPA requirements as well as all other admissions requirements).

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**"You can listen to the lectures as many times as you want, so I would listen to them two and three times, which was very helpful for understanding. I felt like they were very manageable."**

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— Ruth Lamb, ABSN Class of December 2016



## Get off to the right start.

How do I register for my classes? Where do I go for my first day? We provide the answers to those questions — and many more — through these resources and introductory events.



### → 2–3 Weeks Before Registration Day



#### **ABSN Applicant Luncheon**

The Marian University ABSN program understands the importance of having a strong support network, which starts with your fellow nursing school classmates. You'll have the chance to meet them at this organized event.

**f The Marian ABSN Students Facebook group** is another great way to meet your future classmates before orientation. It's also a helpful resource for those looking to buy used supplies or find a roommate.

### → A Few Weeks Before Orientation



#### **Registration Day**

A half-day event held at the Marian University ABSN site. During the event, students will self-register for first-semester courses. Topics and activities include:

- **An IT information session.**
- **Information on financing** your nursing degree.
- **A Q&A** with the nursing education staff and the Director of Nursing Academic Services.
- **Photos** for Marian University student IDs.
- **Ordering books and uniforms** from bookstore representatives.

### → Your 1st Day as a Nursing Student!



#### **Orientation Day**

Here's when you'll meet your instructors and when admissions officially “hands you over” to the Leighton School of Nursing faculty and staff. Other important sessions include:

- **A presentation** on how to be a successful online learner by faculty, success coaches, and former students.
- **An introduction** to clinicals.
- **A welcome** and what to expect.
- **An orientation** to Kaplan test prep services.

## Stories that inspire.

Marian University ABSN alumni have told us that the nursing experiences they had as part of our program not only helped them land their first nursing jobs, but that their education gave them the confidence to thrive in their careers. Get to know two recent grads below and on the following page.



### ABSN Graduate in Nashville



**Vanessa Haslag**  
Obstetrics Nurse at Saint Thomas  
Midtown Hospital

Because Saint Thomas is such a large and respected hospital network, Vanessa had access to a wide range of diverse clinical scenarios and one unique to the Marian University ABSN program: her leadership clinical rotation.

As part of that experience, she had the chance to shadow a nursing leader within Saint Thomas and get a behind-the-scenes look at what goes on with the administrative end of a hospital.

“I attended meetings with managers and administrators and heard about things they were planning for the hospital,” she says. “It was a great experience being able to see what eventually, as I worked my way up through the hospital system, my job could be.”

## Stories that inspire.



### ABSN Graduate in Indianapolis



**Ashley Piercey**  
PICU Nurse at Peyton Manning  
Children's Hospital at St. Vincent

Ashley interviewed for her new graduate residency position at the PICU at Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in June 2016 and received an offer that July — a full month before her graduation date.

“Before I graduated from nursing school I already had a job waiting for me,” she says. “It was very quick, and I was very excited about that.”

After starting her position that September, she continued studying for the NCLEX. She finished the test in 75 questions.

She says she felt so prepared and confident to take the exam largely in part to the support she received from her instructors, but knows they're not far away if she ever needs reassurance. “As I become a more experienced nurse and I have questions and need some encouragement, I without a doubt know I can reach out to certain professors and clinical instructors,” she says.



## We'll be with you on your journey.

Hopefully this guide gave you a good idea of what to expect as a Marian University ABSN nursing student, but undoubtedly you are probably still wondering how the program will work specifically for you and your situation. The good news? One of our admissions advisors will be reaching out to you soon to discuss just that, so get your questions ready!



Here are some to get you started:

- Is the program accredited by the state board of nursing?
- What is the program's NCLEX pass rate?
- Are there current students I can speak with about the program?
- How much is the program — total cost and per credit hour?
- When can I start?



**[onlineabsn.marian.edu](https://onlineabsn.marian.edu)**

**Marian University / Indianapolis ABSN Site**

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Suite 400  
Indianapolis, IN 46268

**Marian University / Nashville ABSN Site**

4220 Harding Road  
S&E Building, Suite 500  
Nashville, TN 37205

**Marian University / Oklahoma City ABSN Site**

3817 Northwest Expressway  
Oklahoma City, OK 73112