

FAST FACTS



The University of Arizona
Health Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
College of Nursing



MISSION

We innovate nursing and interdisciplinary education, practice, research, and service to develop leaders, address health care challenges, and promote health, equity and inclusiveness.

- The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program ranks No. 1 in Arizona, No. 13 among public universities, and No. 19 nationally, according to U.S. News and World Report's 2025 Best College Ranking. It also boasts a 92% first-time NCLEX pass rate.
- The Master of Science, Entry to the Profession of Nursing program ranks No. 1 in Arizona, No. 19 among public universities, and No. 30 nationally, according to U.S. News and World Report Rankings 2023-2024. It also boasts a 93% first-time NCLEX pass rate.
- The Doctor of Nursing Practice program ranks No. 1 in Arizona, No. 10 among public universities, and No. 19 nationally, according to U.S. News and World Report's Best Grad Schools Rankings 2023-2024.
- The college is ranked No. 19 overall and No. 13 among public universities in National Institutes of Health research funding, according to the 2023 Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research rankings.
- The college was the fourth nursing school established in the U.S. and the first in Arizona to become a Hispanic Serving Health Professions School (2015). Today, 47% of students identify as American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

HISTORY

- The School of Nursing started in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Arizona in 1957. The school's first home was a conference room in the Liberal Arts Building. There were 42 students in the first class.
- By 1963, there were 200 students in the program. The school developed agreements with 10 Tucson health care facilities, including hospitals, the county health department and the Tucson Visiting Nurses' Association, to form a core of labs for the program's rapidly expanding student population.
- In the early 1970s, College of Nursing faculty traveled to distant communities to teach nurses throughout the state. As a forerunner to other graduate programs, the college began offering a nurse-specialist degree in subspecialties such as pulmonary, oncology and primary care nursing.
- The College of Nursing organized a 1973 nursing research conference, which grew from a local gathering to an international symposium. It was one of the first such conferences in the U.S.
- A Master of Science degree with a nursing major won approval in 1967, the same year construction began on the new College of Nursing building.
- The college organized its PhD program in the mid-1970s, graduating 17 doctoral students during the first decade.

CONTINUED

Established: 1957

Campuses:

Tucson and Gilbert, AZ

Academic Programs:

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

- Conventional (BSN)
- Integrative Health (BSN-IH)

Master of Science in Nursing
- Entry to the Profession (MPEN)

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

- Seven specialty options

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)

Dual Degree Options

Graduate Certificates

Research Focus Areas:

Precision Science

Data and Systems Science

Health Determinants Science



Dean Hyochol Brian Ahn, PhD

College of Nursing Fast Facts

- During the 1980s, the college established the Nurse-Midwifery Education Program and an interdisciplinary rural-health nursing program. The latter placed graduate students in Cochise County towns—Willcox, Benson and Douglas—for 10-week fellowships including patient teaching, nursing care, blood-pressure screening and teen prenatal counseling.
- The Alumni Council was founded in 1982. The purposes of the Council included honoring remarkable faculty and students, holding a continuing-education conference, raising money for scholarships and sponsoring licensure exam review.
- The College of Nursing Advisory Board first met in 1987. Its mission was to represent the college's goals to the community, advise the college on key issues, seek long-term support and encourage relationships within Arizona. The same year, the College of Nursing ranked seventh in the influential ranking published annually by U.S. News and World Report. In a 1993 survey of nurse researchers and nursing college deans, the U of A College of Nursing ranked sixth among 491 nursing programs.

NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FUNDING PARTNERS

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- American Cancer Society
- Arizona Biomedical Research Commission
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- Marshall Foundation
- National Cancer Institute
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health
- National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering
- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
- National Institute of General Medical Sciences
- National Institute of Mental Health
- National Institute of Nursing Research
- National Institute on Drug Abuse
- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
- National Science Foundation
- Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- V-Foundation

The College of Nursing is part of the University of Arizona Health Sciences, one of the top-ranked academic medical centers in the southwestern United States. The U of A Health Sciences includes the College of Health Sciences, College of Medicine – Phoenix, College of Medicine – Tucson, College of Nursing, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, and R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy. In addition, 15 U of A Health Sciences centers and programs focus on cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, pain and addiction, and respiratory diseases; biomedical informatics, health technology innovation and simulation training; and precision health care and health disparities.

Student Enrollment:

Fall 2024

• Pre-nursing	817
• BSN	243
• BSN-IH	259
• MEPN	320
• DNP	473
• PhD	45
• Grad Cert	17

Faculty & Staff

• Faculty	277
• Staff	71

