



## LPN to BScN Program at StFX

Program options:

- 3 year on campus
- 4 year online

1. When is the application deadline?
  - a. The application deadline for both program options is February 28, 2021. Students must have registered and completed CASPer on or before this date as well.
2. How do I apply?
  - a. You can apply by going to <https://www.stfx.ca/admissions/apply> and following the steps to apply.
3. I have my LPN diploma from a school other than NSCC, can I apply?
  - a. At this time, the LPN to BScN program is only available to students who have graduated from the Nova Scotia Community College from 2008 to present. If you have your LPN from another institution, please go to <https://www.stfx.ca/admissions/requirements> for information on how to apply as a transfer student to the four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.
4. What documents are required other than my application?
  - a. We require your official NSCC transcript and CASPer test scores (takecasper.com), copy of your current LPN license and confirmation of 1800 hours worked as an LPN.
5. When will I find out if I am accepted? How do I find out?
  - a. Offers for both the on campus and online options will be sent in March. You will be notified by email either way of the decision on your application.
6. When would I start courses?
  - a. Courses begin in April. The first year for both options (April 2021 to end of April 2022) will be made up of the five pathway courses:
    - i. English
    - ii. Statistics
    - iii. Microbiology
    - iv. NURS 297 (nursing pathway course)
    - v. NURS 265 (nursing pathway course)

7. What is the difference between the two programs?
- The two main differences are the method of delivery and duration of the program:
    - Students accepted to the 3 year full-time on campus option will take the 5 pathway courses online for one year (April 2021 to end of April 2022) and then in May 2022 will begin studies on campus **full time**.
    - Students accepted to the 4 year part-time online option will take the 5 pathway courses online for one year (April 2021 to end of April 2022) and then in May 2022 will begin studies online **part-time**.
    - Please note that regardless of the program option you are in, the clinical requirements must be completed when scheduled, and **cannot** be worked around your current work schedule. An example of a clinical schedule could be 12h shifts on Mon/Tues over the course of 8-12 weeks. Clinicals include a SIM Lab experience on-campus at StFX in the School of Nursing. See below for more information on clinicals.*
8. If I am accepted into one program option, but would prefer the other, can I switch?
- Acceptance to both programs is competitive. Students are encouraged to make their final decision on program options prior to the application deadline. If accepted to a program option, and a change is requested, availability to switch is not guaranteed and must be requested in writing to the Admissions Office.
9. How many courses do I take per semester in the online, part time option?
- Students are limited to a maximum of two courses per semester.
10. How much does it cost? When are payments due?
- Fees for students in the program, can be found on the StFX Finance website by visiting <http://www2.mystfx.ca/financial-services/undergraduate-fees>
- Fees for the 5 pathway courses fall under the Per Credit Fee Schedule.  
Fees for the remaining LPN-BScN courses fall under the Per Credit Nursing Fee Schedule.
11. Can I apply for a student loan?
- Yes, you can apply for full time funding if enrolled in the 3 year on campus option or you can apply for part time funding if enrolled in the 4-year online option through the Nova Scotia Student Assistance program. It is not a guarantee that you as an individual will qualify for funding.
12. Will I be pre-registered in all my courses?
- Yes, you will be pre-registered in all your courses.
13. Are there any on campus components within the 4-year part-time online option?
- Yes, students will normally be required to come to campus for learning experiences in the skills lab and Simulation Centre. See more info below.
14. Is there a clinical component?
- Yes, there is a clinical component to both the online and on campus options.  
You will likely be required to travel to clinical placements as it is not a guarantee that your clinical placement will be in or near your hometown.  
There are group clinical placements (NURS 309, NURS 334), and preceptored clinical placements (NURS 409, NURS 440).
    - Group clinical placements work in groups of 7-8 with a designated Nurse Educator.

- ii. A Preceptored clinical is a placement where students work 1:1 with a designated RN (Preceptor).
- iii. NURS 440 is the final consolidation of your clinical placements. There is a requirement of 400 working hours to complete this clinical placement. Therefore, you may require a leave of absence from your employer as you will work the schedule of your preceptor for approximate 2-3 months to complete the LPN-BScN Program's final clinical placement/course.

*\*\*Note: Nurse Educators and Preceptors are trained and employed by StFX for this role. You cannot appoint your own, nor can you request an individual clinical rotation in place of a group clinical.*

b. SIM Lab requirements

- i. There is an on-campus SIM Lab requirement. This will require to you be in Antigonish over approximately 4 days. The purpose of the SIM lab is to practice hands-on assessments and skills in a controlled setting. Dates will be communicated to you in advance of the SIM lab.

c. Additional training

- i. Some students may need training in the Patient Chart System (Meditech) and/or IV Insertion training prior to their clinicals. These can take place on campus. Efforts will be made to coordinate that training with SIM Lab dates, however some students may need this prior to Clinical/SIM lab start dates, which may require an on-campus visit.

15. Can I specifically request a clinical location?

- a. In short, no, although you can submit a request for consideration. Submission of a request will not guarantee your preferred location, but the program office will try to accommodate as best they can. Generally, it is easier to accommodate your final clinical consolidation (N440), however, this is never a guarantee.

16. How are clinical placements decided?

- a. There are a few variables concerning placements.
  - i. Nurse Educators: There are a limited number of nurse educators across the province who work in the various departments in the NHSA hospitals. These educators work with groups of 7-8 students for their clinical group placements.
  - ii. Placement Coordination:
    - 1. The Placement Coordinator uses HSPNet, a database program for arranging student clinical placements for StFX. HSPNet facilitates the placements of all students for all nursing schools across all Canadian Provinces (except for New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island). Placement coordinators at each institution, work to confirm placements for their respective groups of students. As you can appreciate, this can be challenging, particularly when schools are vying for similar hospital wards (i.e., surgical, medical, obstetrical, etc.) during similar times of year.
    - 2. The Health Authority/hospitals/wards also indicate to HSPNet if they can accommodate students, how many students, and if they have the staff to support students. This can change without warning given the complexities within hospital administration and while maintaining safe staff to patient care levels. Some hospital wards cannot accommodate certain clinical groups due to size (i.e., less patients/staff to students), thus limiting further clinical availability.
- b. When do clinical placements get decided?
  - i. While your Program Coordinator can provide you with a general timeline for your clinicals, the exact dates (including shift time) and locations may not be confirmed until a few weeks or even sooner before your anticipated start date. This is due to the noted challenge of coordinating and securing nurse educators, preceptors and placements that are required for your particular clinical. Please know that we are aware that many students have competing family and professional responsibilities, and we do work to secure placements as soon as we can.

Unfortunately, there are variables outside of StFX's control that impede our receipt of information for all clinical placements.

- c. What if I get placed in a hospital outside my home community?
  - i. You are responsible for incurring the cost of travel and potential short-term accommodations for your clinical placement. If you are scheduled to complete your placement in the Antigonish/New Glasgow area during the spring term (May-July), we have been able to secure a special rate to stay on campus. Please contact Trudy Delorey ([tdelorey@sfx.ca](mailto:tdelorey@sfx.ca)) for more information.

17. What is the course map for each program?

Please see the following charts for a map of each program option. Clinical components are in green text.

### 3 year on campus LPN to BScN

#### Spring 2021 start date

Dates	Jan to April	May to Aug	Sept to Dec
May 2021 to Dec 2021		BIOL 115, STATS 101, ENGL 111, NURS 297, 298 (15 credits online)	
Jan 2022 to Dec 2022	Continue working on Pathway courses (BIOL 115, STATS 101, ENGL 111, NURS 297, NURS 298)	<b>SEMESTER 4</b> NURS 231 NURS 233 NURS 234* (12 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 5</b> NURS 306 NURS 308 NURS 309* (12 credits)
Jan 2023 to Dec 2023	<b>SEMESTER 6</b> NURS 332 NURS 333 NURS 334* Elective (15 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 7</b> NURS 406 NURS 408 NURS 409* Elective (15 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 8</b> NURS 440* (15credits) <b>GRADUATION Dec 2022</b>

\* Clinical

### 4 year online LPN to BScN

#### Spring 2021 start date

Dates	May to July	August	Sept to Dec	Jan to April
May 2021 to April 2022	BIOL 115, STATS 101, ENGL 111, NURS 297, 298 (15 credits)			
May 2022 to April 2023	<b>Semester 4</b> NURS 233 (6 credits)	No classes	<b>SEMESTER 5</b> NURS 231 NURS 234* (6 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 6</b> NURS 308 (6 credits)

May 2023 to April 2024	<b>Semester 7</b> NURS 306 NURS 309* (6 credits)	No classes	<b>SEMESTER 8</b> NURS 332 ELECTIVE (6 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 9</b> NURS 333 NURS 334* (9 credits)
May 2024 to April 2025	<b>SEMESTER 10</b> NURS 406 ELECTIVE (6 credits)	No classes	<b>SEMESTER 11</b> NURS 408 NURS 409* (9 credits)	<b>SEMESTER 12</b> NURS 440* (15 credits)

\* Clinical