

The Helene Fuld School of Nursing



Coppin State University

The School of Nursing focuses on community-based primary care, disease prevention, and training culturally sensitive nurses capable of delivering quality care to diverse, urban populations.



The Helene Fuld School of Nursing at Coppin State University

Recognized as one of the top nursing schools in the region, the Helene Fuld School of Nursing will prepare you for the rigors and rewards of professional nursing practice, and for careers in the dynamic field of health information management. A comprehensive nursing education center, the School offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate certificate programs, in addition to operating a community health clinic. The School's programs are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Undergraduate programs include the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) and the RN to BSN program, for registered nurses seeking a bachelor's degree. The School also offers a distinctive health information management program, which prepares students for a variety of careers at the intersection of healthcare and high technology, and leads to a Bachelor of Science in Allied Health. Advanced degrees offered by the School include the Master of Science in Nursing degree (MSN) and a post-master's degree certificate program in family nurse practitioner.

In keeping with Coppin's mission as a public, urban university committed to the well-being of the community, the Helene Fuld School of Nursing has trained about 80 percent of the baccalaureate-prepared African-American and minority nurses practicing in the state of Maryland.

Visit the Helene Fuld School of Nursing online: www.coppin.edu/nursing/.
Or contact their office by phone: (410) 951-3990.

What's Distinctive about the Coppin Program?

The Helene Fuld School of Nursing offers holistic, student-centered education for aspiring and professional nurses.

With its challenging curriculum, state-of-the-art facilities, and abundant academic support, it's an ideal environment for highly motivated, self-directed students seeking to make a difference.

- The student-faculty ratio in the School of Nursing is usually no higher than 30:1. In clinical courses, it is never higher than 8:1.
- Unlike many undergraduate nursing programs, the Coppin program is not prerequisite based. Students are accepted to the School based on past academic performance, but do not need to take any specific courses before entering the program.
- The School provides a variety of exceptional student-support services, including tutoring by graduates of the School and Nursing Student Enrichment program.

ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE?

Absolutely. Students in the School of Nursing are eligible for the scholarship, grant, work-study, and loan programs available to Coppin students. These include a variety of generous merit scholarships based on academic performance.

To find out more, contact the Office of Financial Aid directly:

On the Web: www.coppin.edu/financialaid/

Email: financialaid@coppin.edu

Phone: (410) 951-3636

Another potential resource is the *Maxie Collier Scholars Program*, designed to prepare promising undergraduates in the fields of nursing, natural sciences, psychology, and social work to serve emotionally disturbed children, adolescents, and their families in the Baltimore Metropolitan area. Funded by the Maryland Department of Mental Hygiene (DMH), this program seeks to educate and recruit qualified African-American professionals into careers in public mental health.

Learn more online: www.coppin.edu/maxiecollier/

HOW DO I GAIN ADMISSION TO THE UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM?

- You must first apply and be accepted to Coppin State University as a full-time, degree-seeking student before applying to the Helene Fuld School of Nursing.
- The School of Nursing admits new students only in the fall semester, primarily because the curriculum is highly structured and the pace of learning is rapid.
- Well-prepared incoming Coppin students can enter the nursing major if they meet three criteria: (1) have a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.5; (2) do not require any developmental course work; and (3) achieve a passing score on the Nursing Entrance Exam (NET).
- The School of Nursing will invite qualified applicants to take the NET. (Students currently enrolled in developmental courses at Coppin cannot take the NET.)

The School of Nursing welcomes undergraduate applicants from students in three categories: (1) applicants without previous college experience; (2) applicants who have current or prior enrollment at Coppin in a different major, or as "unknown"; and (3) applicants who have 25 or more acceptable transfer credits from another college.

Please contact the School of Nursing directly with any questions regarding your status.



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM (BSN)

Students entering the School of Nursing as freshmen can complete the BSN in four years of study, while those who enter later will probably require five years to complete the degree. To earn the BSN degree at Coppin you must complete a minimum of 126 credits, including 18 lower-division nursing credits, 53 upper-division nursing credits, and 55 general education and elective credits.

All students in the first year of the program take Academic Success in Nursing, which provides an introduction to the curriculum and offers strategies for academic achievement in this challenging major. Subsequent lower-division nursing courses include Introduction to the Nursing Process and Nursing Care to Promote Urban Family Health.

During the third and fourth years of the program, you'll be introduced to clinical practice and pursue increasingly specialized nursing course work, such as Medical-Surgical and Psychiatric Nursing and Urban Healthcare within the Community.

Graduates of the Helene Fuld School of Nursing consistently outperform graduates of other Maryland nursing programs. The pass rate for the Maryland Board of Nursing RN Licensure Examination is usually between 75 and 100 percent.

RN TO BSN

This baccalaureate-completion program meets the needs of working registered nurses from a wide range of educational and professional backgrounds. It consists of 63 credit hours, including 32 nursing credits and 31 general education credits. The curriculum and teaching strategies facilitate the professional development of highly motivated, self-directed adult learners.

While it is designed to be completed in two years of full-time study, some students will be able to earn the BSN in one year of intensive study. You advisor will explain how much time it should take you to complete the program based on your educational background and your advanced placement credit status.





**HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM –
BS IN HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

This innovative, interdisciplinary program prepares you for one of today’s fastest-growing professions. Health information management (HIM) professionals work at the crossroads of healthcare and technology – they are experts in managing patient medical records and administering complex computer systems. As an HIM professional, you will collect, maintain, and analyze the information doctors, nurses, and other healthcare providers require to deliver quality care.

The Coppin program leads to a Bachelor of Science in Health Information Sciences with a concentration in health information management. Graduates in this opportunity-rich field are employed in a wide range of professional settings: healthcare facilities such as hospitals, clinics, and doctors’ offices; government agencies that deal with healthcare data; insurance companies; pharmaceutical companies; consulting and law firms; and long-term care facilities. *In fact, health information management professionals are employed in every industry that utilizes patient data.*

High school students interested in this program should take as many math, science, and computer science courses as possible. The curriculum during the first two years of the Coppin program provides a strong foundation in anatomy, physiology, and other natural sciences. Upper-level courses familiarize you with business analysis, computer science, and legal issues surrounding HIM. As a junior and senior, you’ll take professional development courses and have opportunities to gain on-site experience in the HIM department of an acute-care facility.

Earning the BS degree in HIM qualifies you to take the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) certification exam. Annual starting salaries for health information management professionals with RHIA certification are in the \$30,000 – \$50,000 range. With five-plus years experience, RHIA-certified professionals can expect to earn \$75,000 or more.

HIM is an ideal program for transfer students, including former nursing majors who decide, for whatever reason, that nursing is not right for them. To facilitate the entry of transfer students interested in health information management, Coppin maintains articulation agreements with a number of area community colleges, including Baltimore City Community College; Howard Community College; Montgomery Community College; and Prince George’s Community College; and Community College of Baltimore.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Department of Labor, health information management professions are among the fastest growing in the nation, with job growth in that field projected to increase by nearly 50 percent in the next several years.

To Learn More about HIM Opportunities

- To learn more about the Health Information Management program at Coppin: www.coppin.edu/HIM/
- To learn more about careers in Health Information Management nationwide: www.ahima.org/careers

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM (MSN)

The MSN program provides the advanced skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in both clinical practice and nursing research. Like the BSN program, the MSN program at Coppin focuses on training culturally sensitive nurses with a commitment to serving diverse urban communities.

You’ll work closely with nationally acclaimed faculty members at the Helene Fuld School of Nursing, and learn how to work collaboratively with a multidisciplinary healthcare team providing comprehensive patient care. As a Coppin student, you’ll also have access to state-of-the-art clinical facilities and some of the best academic information technology in the region.

Students in the MSN program are eligible for a wide range of scholarship and grant opportunities, including Senatorial, Delegate, Professional, and State Nursing Scholarships to qualified Maryland residents. Contact the Graduate Department of Nursing for detailed information on scholarships, grants, and possible graduate assistantships available for full-time students.

POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Post-Masters Certificate Program is designed for nurses with the MSN degree who are seeking further certification in order to become family nurse practitioners.

The program consists of 31 credit hours and precepted clinical hours and will prepare you to provide comprehensive primary care to urban families, especially those in underserved areas. You’ll acquire in-depth knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention, growth and development, wellness care, assessment, and management of common illness.

Students completing the program are prepared to sit for certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

Graduates of the Coppin program work in a wide variety of professional settings in Baltimore and beyond.



Exceptional Resources

Students at every level in the Helene Fuld School of Nursing take advantage of exceptional academic and professional resources, all of which contribute to their academic and professional success.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

With a mission to provide quality care that is sensitive to the needs, demands, and values of the Coppin Heights community, the on-campus Community Health Center is an integral part of the School of Nursing and the University as a whole. Nurses and other healthcare providers in the Center offer culturally sensitive primary care and other services to members of the community regardless of their ability to pay. The Community Health Center also provides learning experiences for both graduate and undergraduate nursing students at Coppin.

CLINICAL INSTRUCTION

In addition to the Community Health Clinic located on the Coppin campus, students in the School of Nursing benefit from clinical agreements with a wide range of Baltimore-area medical centers and healthcare facilities. These include such well-known institutions as Bon Secours Hospital, Caton Manor, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and University of Maryland Medical Systems.

The Nursing Resource Center (NRC) is a state-of-the-art clinical preparatory facility where students in the School of Nursing practice in one-to-one patient care simulations before entering a healthcare facility. Students may use the NRC on an independent basis or with an instructor.

Nursing Student Enrichment Program (NSEP) provides academic support services designed to improve student performance and retention. Tutoring is offered through the joint efforts of the Nursing Resource Center, individual tutors, and the University Learning Skills Center.

Coppin State University

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