

Aspects of a Prospectus

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NURSING is the provision of continuous, individualized service to the patient, to bring him back to the self-directed activity towards his own health. It is the provision of highest quality of care in which physical, psychological, spiritual and social needs of the patient are met. But, in a wider sense of the term Nursing is care provided to the individual, families and the community at large from womb to tomb keeping them towards positive health.

Nurse is a graduate of an approved certificate or baccalaureate programme in Nursing.

Nursing started with a motherly instinct in taking care of the sick at home. In India, Nursing was considered in the past as a socially low and undignified vocation and had a certain degree of stigma attached to it. It was not considered suitable for young women. Traditional Indian considered it unclean work because it involved personal care of both sexes.

Today health care delivery system has become very comprehensive with advancement in medicine and other human sciences. Nurse is the vital member of the health team whose services are indisputable and unquestionable. She is no more only a hand-maiden of the physician but she is now his associate on the complex multi-disciplinary health team and has an independent role of making Nursing diagnosis and providing Nursing Treatment. The "Trained Nurse" of yesterday is giving way to the 'Professional Nurse' of today.

A nurse today functions in a complex situation and performs demanding tasks. Her job is not limited to the care of sick, she has equally important responsibilities in prevention of disease, promotion and preservation of health. Her services are not confined to hospital alone, but also in clinics, industries, Schools and Public Health agencies of all fields. She operates on a high level of intellect, competence and responsibility. Nurse functions as a self-directing individual with a body of knowledge that is uniquely nurses' own. In many instances life and death of a patient depends on the Nurse. She is the first one before the doctor to recognize the improvement or deterioration in the patient's condition and act promptly.

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Today, there are two main wings of Nursing, i.e., Nursing Education and Nursing Services. Each is again subdivided into two main branches, i.e., Hospital Nursing Education and Community Nursing Education, Hospital Nursing Services and Community Nursing Services. Basic education is being given to the prospective candidates to prepare them to work either in the Hospital or Community Nursing Services. Eligibility and duration of these courses is as follows:

A person who wishes to join Nursing as a career must be above the age of 16 to have personal and emotional maturity needed to be a Nurse. Nursing differs from other professions in its humanitarian aspects. She must have interest in people and motivation to serve the needs of others. She must have genuine interest in understanding human behaviour, warmth of manner. Sincerity and ability to empathize are basic qualities required of a Nurse. A well poised Nurse has friendly manner. She has to be honest, charitable, resourceful, cooperative, take responsibility with initiative.

Minimum essential skills required of a Nurse are observation, communication, interviewing and supportive and technical skills. A nurse must have knowledge and skill at a level of higher learning. A student taking admission to Nursing will need some intellectual qualities that are needed for admission to any college.

She must have abilities to make interpretations, make judgements and take decisions. Nursing calls for a measure of self-discipline not only of emotions but of other aspects of behaviour and action.

The Word N-U-R-S-I-N-G itself signifies the qualities, abilities and activities required of a Nurse:

N: Need: A desire to care for ill, helpless and dependent.

U: UNLIMITED SCOPE: A good nurse must have activities and interests apart from nursing which mould her into a matured woman capable of understanding multifaceted world of her patients and communities.

R: REWARDS OF NURSING: Which a nurse gets by giving care to her patients.

S: SACRED OBLIGATIONS: A nurse must accept.
I: INSIGHT a nurse must develop.

N: NEVER ENDING CHALLENGE: For there is no place in Nursing where you can reach the top. It is a dynamic profession.

G: GOAL OF CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT: Never satisfied with her knowledge and understanding of Nursing, always wanting to learn new knowledge.

Nurses are assuming new roles as clinical specialists, researchers, sociologists, and psychologists, etc. Nurses will be more intellectual, scientific and learned to meet people's need of health more effectively. Future of Nursing looks

to be promising in terms of living, working conditions, salary, educational advancements and promotional avenues.

Nurses must all the time remember that they belong to a noble profession and by all means under all circumstances must keep up the dignity and honour of the noble profession by following professional standards and professional ethics in a dignified manner.

Hospital Nursing Education

Eligibility and Duration of Courses

Basic Education	Eligibility	Duration
1. Diploma in General Nursing.	Matriculation.	3 years.
2. -Diploma in Midwifery.	Registered Nurse.	6 months.
3. -B.Sc. Nursing (Honours Degree).	Pre-Medical	3 years, 6 months' Internship.
Post-Basic Education		
1. Post-Basic B.Sc. Nursing (Degree).	R.N.R.M. (Registered Nurse) Registered Midwife 3 yrs. experience as Staff Nurse.	2 years.
2. M.Sc. (Nursing). One of the specialities in Hospital Nursing, Psychiatric, Maternity, Medical, Surgical, etc.	B.Sc. Ng.	2 years.
3. Doctorate in Nursing.	M.Sc. Nursing.	3 years.
Community Nursing Education		
Basic:		
1. Multipurpose Health Worker's Course (F).	Matriculation.	1½ years.
2. Lady Health Visitor Course.	Matriculation.	2 years
Post-Basic:		
1. Public Health Nursing.	R.N.R.M.	10 months.
2. Promotional Health Assistant (F).	A.N.M. M.P.H.W.	6 months
3. Post Basic B.Sc. (M.C.H.)	R.N.R.M. 3 years experience as staff nurse.	2 years
4. M.Sc. Nursing Public Health Nursing.	B.Sc. Ng.	2 years
5. Doctorate in Public Health Nursing.	M.Sc. Public Health.	3 years