



BSc (Hons) Nursing Programme

Open University in Scotland

Information and Entry Requirements

October 2027 entry

The BSc (Honours) Nursing degree (Code: R39) is a practice-based qualification in association with partnering employers. Applicants **must** be working in healthcare practice in a healthcare role or equivalent and have access to registered nurses who have been prepared as supervisors and/or assessors meeting the NMC (Nursing and Midwifery Council) (2018) Standards for student supervision and assessment.

This programme is funded by the Scottish Funding Council therefore students and/or workplaces do not need to provide any funding. In addition, whilst the student is on placement, their own workplace will receive backfill funding.

Please note that we cannot accept students onto the programme in Scotland who are self-funding, or their funding is supplied by a private employer.

Students study in one of four fields of nursing:

- Adult Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing
- Learning Disabilities
- Children and Young People

The Open University currently offers the Pre-registration Nursing Programme in Scotland in partnership with the Scottish Government and all NHS (Scotland) Boards.

Degree programme information

This is a 45-month (3 years 9 months) BSc (Hons) Degree programme, delivered in 3 Parts.

Each part lasts between 13 and 17 months and comprises of two modules providing a balance of theory and practice where you will develop knowledge and skills required to become a registered nurse.

You continue to receive your wage as a healthcare support worker for the duration of your programme, and you are guaranteed to keep this substantive post at the end of the programme if you do not secure a registered nurse post. Please note that undertaking this programme does not guarantee that you will be offered a post as a Band 5 registered nurse by your employer.

Practice placements will be organised by the Open University, and more information can be provided by the Employer Link or Staff Tutor for your geographical Board Area.

Please note that in Scotland, there is currently one intake per year in October.

Please go to the [website](#) for more information on the Degree Programme, including the modules you will study. Please click on OU nursing degree programme on the page.

If you have any questions, please contact the Staff Tutor for the geographical area you are employed in:

NHS Highland, NHS Highland (Argyll & Bute), NHS Western Isles	Tamsin Smith Tamsin.smith@open.ac.uk
NHS Grampian, NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland and NHS Tayside	Dawn Davidson Dawn.davidson@open.ac.uk
NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley, NHS Lanarkshire	Karen Allan Karen.allan@open.ac.uk
NHS Lothian, NHS Borders	Lyndsey Blake Lyndsey.blake@open.ac.uk
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Mark Molesworth Mark.molesworth@open.ac.uk
NHS24 and NHS Golden Jubilee	Margaret Crowley Margaret.crowley@open.ac.uk
NHS Ayrshire and Arran, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, NHS State Hospital	Fiona Ewart Fiona.ewart@open.ac.uk

Applicants must meet all the following criteria to be eligible to apply to the programme:

1. Have a minimum of 10 years full time education or the equivalent (See Appendix 1)
2. Have evidence of being awarded an accredited qualification at SCQF Level 5 or above in Numeracy (Maths) at the time of application (See Appendix 2)*
3. Have evidence of being awarded an accredited qualification at SCQF Level 5 or above in Communication (English) at the time of application (See Appendix 2)*
4. A permanent contract as a healthcare support worker (or equivalent role), and able to undertake a minimum of 26 hours per week on placement **
5. Your line manager and the budget holder's support to undertake the programme.
6. Immigration status in the UK. If you do not hold British or Irish nationality, you must have no restrictions upon your immigration status to be eligible to study on this programme. This means that if you do not hold British or Irish nationality, you would need to hold EU Settlement / Pre-Settlement status, Indefinite Leave to Remain, or similar status. If your immigration approval contains the comment 'No public funds', this means you cannot apply to this programme at this time. Please be aware that while the Open University is a licensed UKVI sponsor, students on this programme are not sponsored under the student route. In addition, Skilled Worker visas are sponsored employment routes which typically include restrictions on access to public funds. Any breach of immigration conditions may have adverse consequences for the visa holder.

*The Open University Senate has the power to change entry requirements at any time, but these changes will be publicised as soon as implemented

** Students in NHS Highland (North) and NHS Western Isles will need to work 36 hours per week on placement

Application

If you are interested in applying to our programme for October 2027 entry, please go to our [Enquirer's form](#) and complete this. Applications open in Spring 2027 and if you have submitted this form, you will automatically be sent an application pack with further information about the application process.

Appendix 1 General Education

Applicants need to have a minimum of 10 years full time education or the equivalent – this 10 years' requirement includes primary schooling.

If you attended school or higher education **outside of** the UK and Ireland, you **must** obtain an ENIC Statement of Comparability before you apply to evidence numeracy and literacy and to evidence schooling. You can obtain this from [Statement of Comparability \(enic.org.uk\)](http://Statement of Comparability (enic.org.uk)). Please note there is a fee for this, and we would strongly encourage you to do this as soon as possible in case you need to undertake one of the courses suggested in the previous page.

If you have previously commenced nursing studies with another university within the last 7 years, we will require an academic reference from them which includes a summary of whether there were any issues of professionalism identified during your studies. We suggest that you request this from that University as soon as possible as this can take some time to obtain.

Appendix 2 Numeracy and Literacy Qualifications

Applicants must have been awarded Core Skills Numeracy and Communication at SCQF level 5 or above and **be able to provide the evidence that they have achieved this or are undertaking an appropriate course of study to achieve this at the time of application. Please note that applicants must be able to provide evidence of having attained a pass by the end of the first week of August and any places offered to applicants awaiting this result are dependent on the applicant passing. If they do not achieve this, their offer will be withdrawn.**

Please note this evidence of achieved qualifications **must** be a copy (scan or photo) of your qualification certificate, we cannot accept screenshots of your SQA page as evidence.

- Numeracy may be achieved by completing either a Maths or Numeracy course or element of a course which meets this standard. If you don't currently have the required level of Numeracy, suggested courses are available at: *
 - [Numeracy @ SCQF Level 5 | Dumfries & Galloway College \(dumgal.ac.uk\)](http://Numeracy @ SCQF Level 5 | Dumfries & Galloway College (dumgal.ac.uk)) **or**
 - [Core Skills: Numeracy SCQF Level 5 \(fife.ac.uk\)](http://Core Skills: Numeracy SCQF Level 5 (fife.ac.uk)) or contact college directly T: 03442480115 E: info@fife.ac.uk
- Communication may be achieved by completing either an English course or English, Literacy or a Communication element of a course which meets this standard. If you don't currently have the required level of Communication, suggested courses are available at: *
 - [Communication \(NC\) @ SCQF Level 6 | Dumfries & Galloway College \(dumgal.ac.uk\)](http://Communication (NC) @ SCQF Level 6 | Dumfries & Galloway College (dumgal.ac.uk)) **or**
 - [Literature 1 @ SCQF Level 6 | Dumfries & Galloway College \(dumgal.ac.uk\)](http://Literature 1 @ SCQF Level 6 | Dumfries & Galloway College (dumgal.ac.uk)) **or**

Please note that courses **must** be accredited to meet this requirement. They must clearly state what the qualification is in e.g., Maths, English, Numeracy, Communication

Examples of these are (but not limited to):

- A module or element of a course which meets SCQF level 5 (this evidence will be shown on the Core Skills section of your SQA profile, see Appendix 1 on how to view this)
- National 5 (A-C)
- Standard Grade credit grade (1 or 2)
- O Grade (Scotland) 1 or 2
- O Level A-C
- Intermediate 2
- Higher
- GCSE grades A*-C, or 9-4
- A Level A, B,C
- Functional skills Level 2
- NVQ Level 2
- (Ireland) Level 4 Certificate
- (Ireland) Leaving Certificate (Level 5)

Determining your level of Literacy and Numeracy qualifications (Scotland school/college leavers)

If you have undertaken school qualification in Scotland or any other study such as national certificate, HNC or HND courses you may have undertaken units that have demonstrated that you have achieved numeracy and/or literacy at SCQF Level 5.

If you have your paper certificates you should have one certificate as below which will show your achieved level of numeracy and literacy.

Core Skills Profile

If you studied other qualifications accredited by the SQA after 1999, you should have a **"Core Skills Profile"** (contact SQA if unsure)

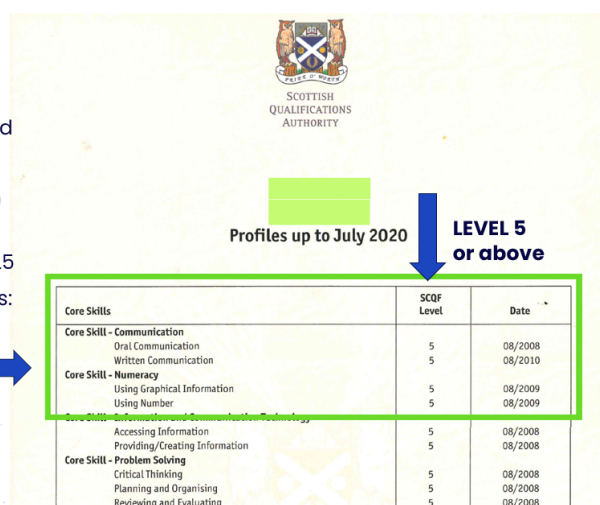
You must have **both components** at SCQF L5 or above for **each** of the following Core Skills:

1. Core Skill – Communication

- Oral Communication
- Written Communication

2. Core skill – Numeracy

- Using graphical information
- Using number



Core Skills	SCQF Level	Date
Core Skill – Communication		
Oral Communication	5	08/2008
Written Communication	5	08/2010
Core Skill – Numeracy		
Using Graphical Information	5	08/2009
Using Number	5	08/2009
Core Skill – Information and Communication Technology		
Accessing Information	5	08/2008
Providing/Creating Information	5	08/2008
Core Skill – Problem Solving		
Critical Thinking	5	08/2008
Planning and Organising	5	08/2008
Reviewing and Evaluating	5	08/2008

If you achieved your qualifications after 1995 you can check this by using MYSQA website

which you can access at [Home \(mysqa.org.uk\)](http://Home(mysqa.org.uk)).

MySQA

Home | Terms and Conditions | Contact Us | FAQ

Get results ready

MySQA is your direct link with SQA. It lets you view your qualification information, check the personal details we hold for you and if you're sitting exams you can get your results sent by email and text message.

Step 1 - Sign Up

You will need your SCN (Scottish Candidate Number) to do this. It's available from your centre if you don't already know it.

[Sign up](#)
[Learn more](#)

Step 2 - Activate

You will need:

- The activation code we sent you
- Your SCN

[Activate account](#)
[Forgot activation code?](#)

Step 3 - Login

Username
Password

[Forgot Username?](#) [Forgot Password?](#) [Login](#)

MyCertificate

We will send your certificate by post. Please check that we hold the correct details for you.

MyNews

Replacement certificates
To order a replacement certificate, please visit this link:
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/esbqa>

"MySQA" Account

Checklist:

- ✓ Show course / unit code
- ✓ Show SCQF
- ✓ Show dates

- ✓ Click the **+** sign to show all units studied

Please note this is not accepted as evidence of achievement. It lets you check the subjects and levels achieved.



My results

MyHome | **MyResults** | MyProfile

This page shows courses and units that you are currently doing, results we have received for courses and units and all SQA qualifications that you have been certificated for from 1995 onwards.

[Print Results](#)

☒ Show course/unit code ☒ Show SCQF ☒ Show Dates

COURSE NAME	LEVEL	AWARD
Certificated July 2023		
	Diploma	P
Units		
Certificated July 2022		
Acting and Performance	Certificate	P
Units		
Certificated August 2021		
	New Advanced Higher	B
	New Higher	A
	New Higher	C
	National 5	B

"MySQA" Account

Certificated February 2017		
Units		
Core Skills		
Communication:Oral Communication		Higher
Communication:Written Communication		Higher
Information and Communication Technology:Accessing Information		Intermediate 2
Information and Communication Technology:Providing/Creating Information		Intermediate 2
Numeracy:Using Graphical Information		Intermediate 2
Numeracy:Using Number		Intermediate 2
Problem Solving:Critical Thinking		Higher
Problem Solving:Planning and Organising		Higher
Problem Solving:Reviewing and Evaluating		Higher
Working with Others:Reviewing Co-operative Contribution		Intermediate 1
Working with Others:Working Co-operatively with Others		Intermediate 1

Communication:

- Both must be at SCQF L5 or above

Numeracy:

- Both must be at SCQF L5 or above

SCQF Level 5 is Intermediate 2. If you have both aspects of Numeracy and Literacy at Intermediate 2 or Higher you have achieved the level required to apply for the programme.

Approved SQA Qualifications

For Literacy

Courses (SQA Codes)	Course Title	SCQF Level	Literacy
X 812 75	Care (with project)	5	✓
G8K1 46	Early Education and Childcare	6	✓
G8K3 46	Health and Social Care	6	✓
G9YN 46	Working with Communities	6	✓
C812 76 / X812 76	Care	6	✓
C814 76	Childcare and Development	6	✓
GL09 46	Health & Social Care: Skills for Practice	6	✓
GK2V 46	Health and Social Care: Promoting Reablement	6	✓
GL3W 46	Social Services and Healthcare	6	✓
GL79 46	Social Services, Children and Young People	6	✓
GL7W 15	HNC Care & Administrative Practice	7	✓
GK9T 15	HNC Childhood Practice	7	✓
GK9T 15	HNC Childhood Practice inc. unit: "DF53 34 Facilitate Playwork opportunities"	7	✓
GR4N 15	HNC Healthcare Practice	7	✓
GK89 15	HNC Social Services	7	✓
GH5W 23	HNC Social Services (Children and Young People)	7	✓
GP0H 15	HNC Occupational Therapy Support	7	✓

Code unknown	HND Care and Administrative Practice	8	✓
GN0R 16	HND Childhood Practice	8	✓
GL41 23	SVQ 3 Healthcare Support(Clinical)	7	✓
GH60 23	SVQ3 Social Services & Healthcare	7	✓
G7LV 23	SVQ3 Health and Social Care (Children and Young People)	7	✓
Skills Development Scotland	<u>Modern Apprenticeships in Management with SVQ3</u>	7	✓
GH7548	PDA Dental Nursing: Delivering Oral Health Interventions	8	✓
GJ9V 24	SVQ 4 Care Services Leadership and Management	10	✓

The Open University module K102: Introducing health and social care can be used to evidence Literacy.

For Numeracy

Courses (SQA Codes)	Course Title	SCQF Level	Literacy	Numeracy
GL7W 15	HNC Care & Administrative Practice	7	✓	✓
GK9T 15	HNC Childhood Practice inc. unit: "DF53 34 Facilitate Playwork opportunities"	7	✓	✓
GR4N 15	HNC Healthcare Practice	7	✓	✓

Other Further and Higher Education Study

- **HNC and HND qualifications will evidence Literacy.**
- **Degree level study may evidence Literacy, but applicants will need to provide a full transcript obtained from the University where they studied before application to have this reviewed by the University.**

