

# Dalhousie School of Nursing Certificate Options for BScN Program



## ABOUT THE NURSING CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

In spring 2018 the SoN received approval from Senate related to the offering of Nursing Certificates as an option to undergraduate students in the modified BScN program. Currently, there are four approved Nursing Certificates:

- Oncology
- Public Health
- Mental Health and Addictions Nursing
- Perinatal and Paediatric
- Acute/Critical Care Nursing

There are other Nursing Certificate options currently in development. Not all nursing certificates will be offered every semester. Each certificate has two, three-credit hour online theory courses and a six-credit hour clinical practicum course (Nursing 4715 for all certificates). The theoretical courses aim to expand the students' knowledge, skills and abilities in relation to specific areas of nursing. The SoN currently graduates a generalist nurse, and this will not be altered with the introduction of nursing certificate options.

The certificate will enable students to explore an area of nursing more in-depth than the generalist level and is responsive to service sector demands in various targeted areas of nursing practice. This option is to address current resource gaps in specialty practice areas as a direct result of impending retirements as well as changes in complexity of patient/family health care needs.

## ELIGIBILITY

The certificates are an option for undergraduate students once they complete Semester 5 of the BScN program. A student is only able to declare one nursing certificate.

Having a certificate is not a requirement to graduate. The graduation requirement is that all students have 6 credit hours of nursing electives, but students do not have to complete a specific nursing certificate.

If students have any questions related to this Certificate Option, please email [son@dal.ca](mailto:son@dal.ca) or call 902.494.2535.



FACULTY OF HEALTH  
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