

Georgia Nursing Workforce Center



Georgia Nursing Education Program Offerings, 2024

The Georgia Nursing Workforce Center is housed at the

 EMORY | NELL HODGSON WOODRUFF SCHOOL OF NURSING

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2024 April

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- Acknowledgments
 - List of Abbreviations
 - Georgia Nursing Education Program Offerings, 2024
 - Overview of Nursing Education
 - Data Sources
 - Nursing Education Minimum Dataset (National Forum, 2020 December)
 - Nursing Program Types, Defined (National Forum, 2020 December)
 - Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia, 2024
 - Table 1. Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by School, 2024
 - Figure 1. Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024
 - Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia, 2024
 - Table 2. Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by School, 2024
 - Figure 2. Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024
 - Figure 2a. Master's Degree (Post-Licensure) Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024
 - Figure 2b. Post-Master's/Graduate Certificate Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024
 - Figure 2c. Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Specialty Track, 2024
 - Discussion
 - Recommendations
 - References
 - Appendix 1. Institutional Characteristics of Georgia Schools Offering Nursing Education Programs, 2024
 - Appendix 2. Websites for Georgia Schools Offering Nursing Education Programs, 2024
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Acknowledgments

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
ADN ^a	Associate Degree in Nursing
ASN ^a	Associate of Science in Nursing
ABSN	Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing
AGACNP	Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
AGPCNP	Adult Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
AMSN	Accelerated Master of Science in Nursing
BSN	Bachelor of Science In Nursing
CNL	Clinical Nurse Leader
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
DNP	Doctor of Nursing Practice
DNP+EdD	Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Education ^b
DNP+MBA	Doctor of Nursing Practice and Master of Business Administration ^b
DNP-NEP	Doctor of Nursing Practice-Nurse Executive Program
EdD	Doctor of Education ^c
ELMSN	Entry-Level Master of Science in Nursing
EMT	Emergency Medical Technition
FNP	Family Nurse Practitioner
FPMHNP	Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
HCP-RN/BSN Bridge	Healthcare Professional to Registered Nurse/Bachelor of Science in Nursing Bridge ^d
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
MN	Master of Nursing ^e
MSN	Master of Science in Nursing
MSN+MBA	Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Business Administration ^b
MSN-Direct Entry	Master of Science in Nursing-Direct Entry ^e
MSN+MPH	Master of Science in Nursing and Master of Public Health ^b
NI	Nursing Informatics
NNP	Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
PN	Practical Nursing
PNP-AC	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner-Acute Care
PNP-PC	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner-Primary Care

PhD	Doctor of Philosophy ^c
PMHNP	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
RN	Registered Nurse
WHGRNP	Women's Health/Gender-Related Nurse Practitioner
WHNP	Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Note: ^aAssociate Degree in Nursing [ADN] and Associate of Science in Nursing [ASN] are interchangeable titles for the same program type. ^bDual degree. ^cin Nursing. ^dAccelerated pathway for those with active EMT, LPN, CNA license/certification; specific eligibility requirements vary by school and noted in the report, where applicable. ^ePre-licensure entry to nursing practice (RN) from a non-nursing background.

Georgia Nursing Education Program Offerings, 2024

This report lists all legitimate¹ nursing education program offerings in the state of Georgia by school. A comprehensive list of all nursing educational degree, certificate, and diploma program options that are offered across the state, including the various tracks available and pathways for completion has not—to our knowledge, been previously published for the state of Georgia. To strengthen and ensure workforce sustainability for nursing in Georgia, it is necessary to understand what educational programs and pathways into and in nursing are and are not currently available across the state.

Overview of Nursing Education

There are many different educational program options and pathways that one may choose from for preparation into nursing (pre-licensure) and to advance or specialize in nursing (post-licensure). In the most general sense, nursing education programs are typically categorized as either pre-licensure or post-licensure:

Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs

Pre-licensure nursing programs prepare students for entry to practical nursing (LPN/LVN) and registered nursing (RN) practice, and graduates are eligible to sit for the national licensure exam (NCLEX-PN and NCLEX-RN, respectively). Pre-licensure nursing programs have direct regulatory oversight by the Georgia Board of Nursing (state professional licensing board) with specific criteria required for schools of nursing to meet for eligibility to earn and maintain approval status by the board of nursing. Such criteria include, for example, at or greater than 80% first-time pass rate on the national licensing exam (NCLEX) of graduates, faculty to hold certain qualifications, curricular specifications for content inclusion and strategies for teaching and learning, among others.

Post-Licensure Nursing Programs

Post-licensure nursing programs prepare nurses in advanced or specialized clinical and non-clinical roles, including nurses seeking advanced preparation as a research nurse (PhD), entry to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN)—which may be accomplished at the master's (MSN), post-master's, or doctoral (DNP) level depending on the APRN role, and nurses seeking degree completion with a RN-BSN, RN-MSN, or RN-DNP bridge program, to name a few.

Data Sources

This narrowly focused report is based on the most recent information available on nursing education programs offered in the state of Georgia that are publicly available online from the respective school websites (search dated 2023 November—2024 April). Only pre-licensure schools with full, conditional, or developmental approval by the Georgia Board of Nursing and post-licensure schools with current national accreditation by a recognized nursing education accreditation body (i.e., CCNE, ACEN, NLN-CNEA, ACME, COA) were included in the report. Included are program-level degree, certificate, and diploma program options offered by school along with additional information, where applicable, about the specific tracks one may pursue with each program option, as well as the various pathways for completing the programs as noted on the school's respective website (e.g., accelerated, bridge, direct-entry).

Following review by the GNWC Advisory Board, this report was sent to the Georgia Association of Nursing Deans and Directors (GANDD) for review by their members to offer feedback on the report prior to publication.

Nursing Education Minimum Dataset (National Forum, 2020 December)

The National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers *nursing education program data collection tool* is a publicly available instrument to support the *useful* collection of nursing education program data. Instructions for collecting the Nursing Education Minimum Dataset are provided as, “[u]sing the same definitions and variables presented in this document will increase consistency and promote comparability of data” (p. 1): (1) “Jurisdiction/state level data should be collected on an annual basis from every nursing program/institution; and, (2) Data should be collected separately on each type of nursing program offered:

Pre-Licensure Programs

- Practical/vocational nurse (PN/VN)
- Diploma registered nurse (RN)
- Associate Degree, Generic
- Associate Degree, Bridge
- Baccalaureate Degree Program, Generic
- Baccalaureate Degree Program, 2nd Degree
- Master's Program

Post-Licensure Programs

- Post-licensure LPN to BSN²
- Post-licensure RN to BSN
- Master's in Nursing – APRN Tracks
- Master's in Nursing – Non-APRN Tracks
- PhD Program
- DNP Program
- Other Doctoral Programs³

(National Forum, 2020 December, p. 1)

Nursing Program Types, Defined (National Forum, 2020 December)

Program Type	Definition
ADN/ASN Program, Generic	A program of instruction that requires at least two years of full- time equivalent college academic work generally within a junior or community college, the completion of which results in an associate degree with a major in nursing and eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN. This may also be called a “traditional” curriculum sequence. ^a
ADN/ASN Program, Bridge	A pre-licensure RN associate degree program with a curriculum sequence for students having some formal training in nursing or a related field. Bridge programs typically accelerate the degree completion for students who are licensed as an LPN or paramedic, for example. Completion results in an associate degree with a major in nursing and eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN.
Diploma Program	A program of instruction that requires two to three years of full-time equivalent coursework, usually within a hospital-based structural unit, the completion of which results in a diploma or certificate of completion and eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN. ^a
DNP Program	A program of instruction that prepares graduates for the highest level of nursing practice beyond the initial preparation in the discipline. The doctor of nursing practice degree is the terminal practice degree. ^a
Pre-licensure BSN Program, Second Degree	A program of instruction to prepare registered nurses that admits students with baccalaureate degrees in other disciplines and no previous nursing education and, at completion, awards a baccalaureate degree in nursing and eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN. The curriculum is designed to be completed in less time than the generic (entry-level) baccalaureate program usually through a combination of “bridge”/transition courses. ^a
Pre-licensure MSN Program (Entry MSN)	A program of instruction that admits students with baccalaureate degrees in other disciplines and no previous nursing education. The program prepares graduates for entry into the profession, eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN, and upon completion awards a master's degree (e.g., MSN, MS, MA, etc.) in nursing. ^a
Do not include licensed students in these counts. ^{a,b}	
Post-licensure BSN Program (RN-BSN Program)	A program for students who are already licensed as RNs but whose highest nursing degree is a diploma or associate's degree.
Do not include unlicensed students in these counts. ^b	
Pre-licensure BSN Program, Generic	A program of instruction to prepare registered nurses that admits students with no previous nursing education, the completion of which results in a baccalaureate degree (e.g., BA, BS, BSN, etc.) with a major in nursing and eligibility to apply for licensure as an RN. The program requires at least four years but not more than five years of full-time equivalent college academic work within in a senior college or university. ^a

PhD Program	A post-licensure doctoral program that culminates in the Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing.
Other doctoral program	Please combine information for any post-licensure doctoral programs conferring degrees other than the PhD or the DNP.
PN/VN Program	A program of instruction that requires at least one year of full-time equivalent coursework generally within a high school, vocational/technical school or community/junior college setting, the completion of which results in a diploma or certificate of completion and eligibility to apply for licensure as an LPN/VN.
	Please combine all curriculum options or tracks for your pre-licensure LPN program. For example, if your state collects separate data on advanced placement CNA-to-LPN program tracks, please combine it with data on generic or traditional LPN program tracks. ^{a,b}
MSN Program – APRN Track	A post-licensure master’s program with emphasis on advanced clinical practice, including Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Anesthetist, Nurse Midwifery, and Clinical Nurse Specialist tracks.
	If your state collects separate data on different clinical tracks, please combine them. ^{a,b}
MSN Program – Non-APRN Track	A post-licensure master’s program with non-clinical emphasis, such as Nurse Educator and Management/Leadership tracks.
	If your state collects separate data on different non-clinical tracks, please combine them. ^b

Note: The definitions included in this glossary were copied verbatim from the national nursing workforce minimum datasets: Nursing education program data collection tool glossary (National Forum, 2020 December, pp. 7-9). ^a“Source: Interagency Collaborative on Nursing Statistics (ICONS) – some items adapted to facilitate proper data collection: <http://www.iconsdata.org/educationrelated.htm>” (National Forum, 2020 December, p. 9). ^bAdditional data guidance is included per the National Forum.

Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia, 2024

Table 1. Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by School, 2024

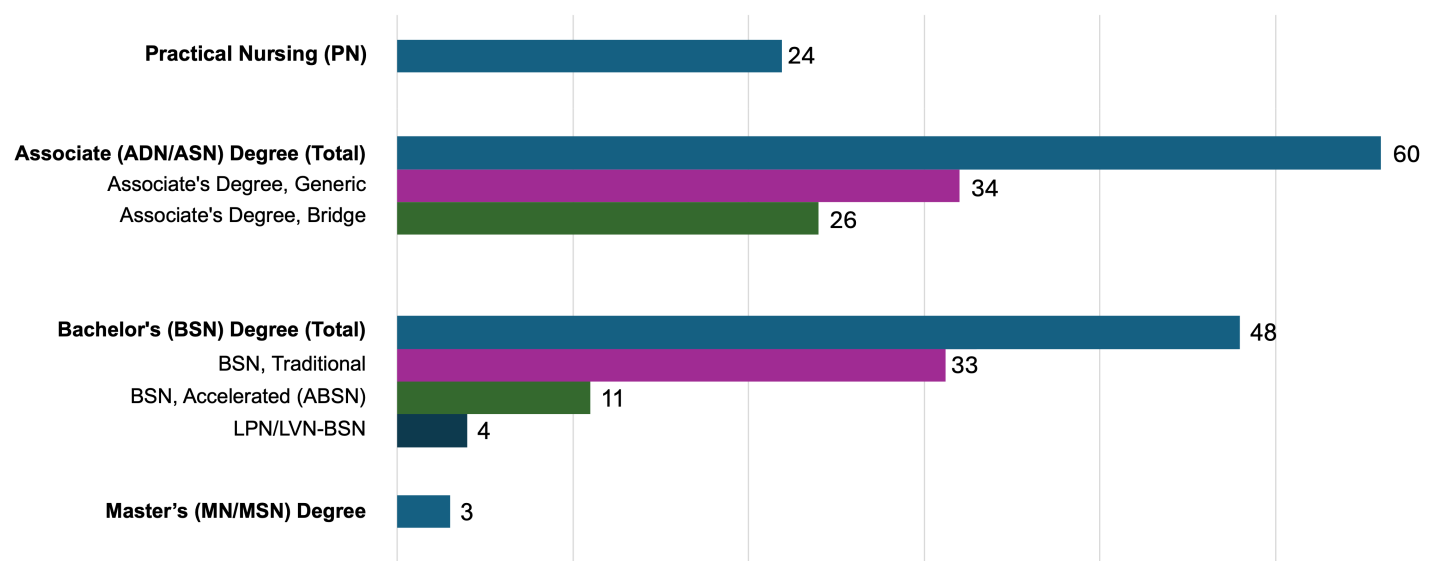
School	Practical ^a	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College		ASN, ASN Bridge ^b		
Albany State University		ASN ^d , HCP-RN Bridge ^c	BSN, ABSN	
Albany Technical College ^m	PN	ASN		
Andrew College		ADN		
Athens Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, Bridge ASN ^c		
Atlanta Technical College ^m		ASN, RN Bridge ^l		
Augusta Technical College ^m	PN	ADN, LPN-RN Transition to Professional Nursing Program		
Augusta University			BSN, ABSN	MSN-CNLS ^{e,g}
Berry College			BSN	
Brenau University			BSN, ABSN	ELMSN ^{e,h}
Brewton Parker College			BSN	
Cambridge College of Healthcare and Technology		ASN, LPN-ASN Bridge		
Chamberlain University			BSN	
Central Georgia Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN-ASN Bridge		
Chattahoochee Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN-RN Bridge		
Clayton State University			BSN ⁱ	
Coastal Pines Technical College ^m	PN	ASN		
College of Coastal Georgia		ASN	BSN	
Columbus State University			BSN	
Columbus Technical College ^m	PN	ADN, LPN-ADN Bridge		
Dalton State College	PN	ASN, LPN/Paramedic Pathway to ASN ^c		
Dignity Nursing School	PN			
Emory University			BSN, Distance-ABSN	MN ^{e,f}
Fort Valley State University			BSN	
Georgia College and State University			BSN	
Georgia Gwinnett College			BSN	

Georgia Highlands College		ASN, LPN/Paramedic Bridge ASN ^c	
Georgia Northwestern Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN-ADN Transition Program	
Georgia Piedmont Technical College ^m	PN	ASN ^l	
Georgia Southern University			LPN/LVN-BSN, BSN, ABSN
Georgia Southwestern State University		ASN	LPN-BSN, BSN, ABSN
Georgia State University		ASN	LPN-BSN, BSN
Gordon State College		ASN, LPN-RN	BSN
Gwinnett Technical College ^m		ADN, LPN Bridge ADN, Paramedic Bridge ADN, Surgical Technologist Bridge ADN	
Herzing University-Atlanta Campus			BSN
Kennesaw State University			BSN, ABSN
LaGrange College			BSN
Lanier Technical College ^m	PN	ASN	
Mentee College	PN		
Mercer University			BSN, ABSN
Middle Georgia State University		ASN	BSN
North Georgia Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN-ASN Bridge	
Oconee Fall Line Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, ADN Bridge ^c	
Ogeechee Technical College ^m	PN	ASN	
Piedmont University			BSN
Reinhardt University			BSN
Savannah Technical College ^m	PN	ASN ^j	
Shorter University			BSN
South College (Atlanta Campus)	PN	LPN-ASN, ASN	LPN-BSN Bridge, BSN, ABSN
South Georgia State College		ASN, LPN-RN Bridge	
South Georgia Technical College ^m	PN	LPN-Bridge ^k	
South University (Savannah Campus)			BSN
Southern Crescent Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN/Paramedic-RN Bridge ^c	
Southern Regional Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, LPN-RN Bridge	
Southeastern Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, ASN Bridge ^c	

Toccoa Falls College		BSN
Truett McConnell University		BSN
University of North Georgia		BSN, ABSN
University of West Georgia		BSN
Valdosta State University		BSN, ABSN
Wesleyan College		BSN
West Georgia Technical College ^m	PN	ADN, LPN-ADN
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College ^m	PN	ASN, ASN Bridge ^c

Note: ^aCompletion of a practical nursing program awards either a diploma or certificate of completion. “Practical” is used here as the column header so to not confuse these practical nursing programs with “Diploma Programs” which are typically hospital based in structure and graduates are eligible to apply for licensure as an RN; there are no “Diploma Programs” in Georgia. ^bAccelerated program for LPNs, EMTs, and respiratory therapists. ^cAccelerated program for applicants with an active paramedic (EMT-P) or LPN license. ^dThree tracks offered: Traditional, Evening, and Hybrid; Program delivery differs but length is the same for all 3 tracks. ^eAccelerated graduate pre-licensure nursing program for applicants with non-nursing bachelor’s degrees that prepares students for entry to practice as a registered nurse. ^fEmory University has 3 MN pathways: MN, InEmory MN, and MN-MSN. ^gGraduates are eligible to sit for both the NCLEX-RN licensure examination and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) certification examination. ^hAlso offers a ‘Pre-FNP’ track that includes an additional 9 credit hours in the program of study for coursework in advanced health assessment, pharmacology, and pathophysiology. ⁱAlso offers a dual degree option BSN+Health Care Management. ^jThe first cohort for this program will begin 2025 January. ^kThis program is in developmental process with a start date to be announced. ^lNew program so not yet listed or advertised on the respective school website as of 2024 April 15. ^mThis school is part of the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG).

Figure 1. Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024



Note: This figure shows the total number of pre-licensure nursing programs offered in Georgia as of 2024-April by degree or diploma/certificate and pathway (as relevant).

Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia, 2024

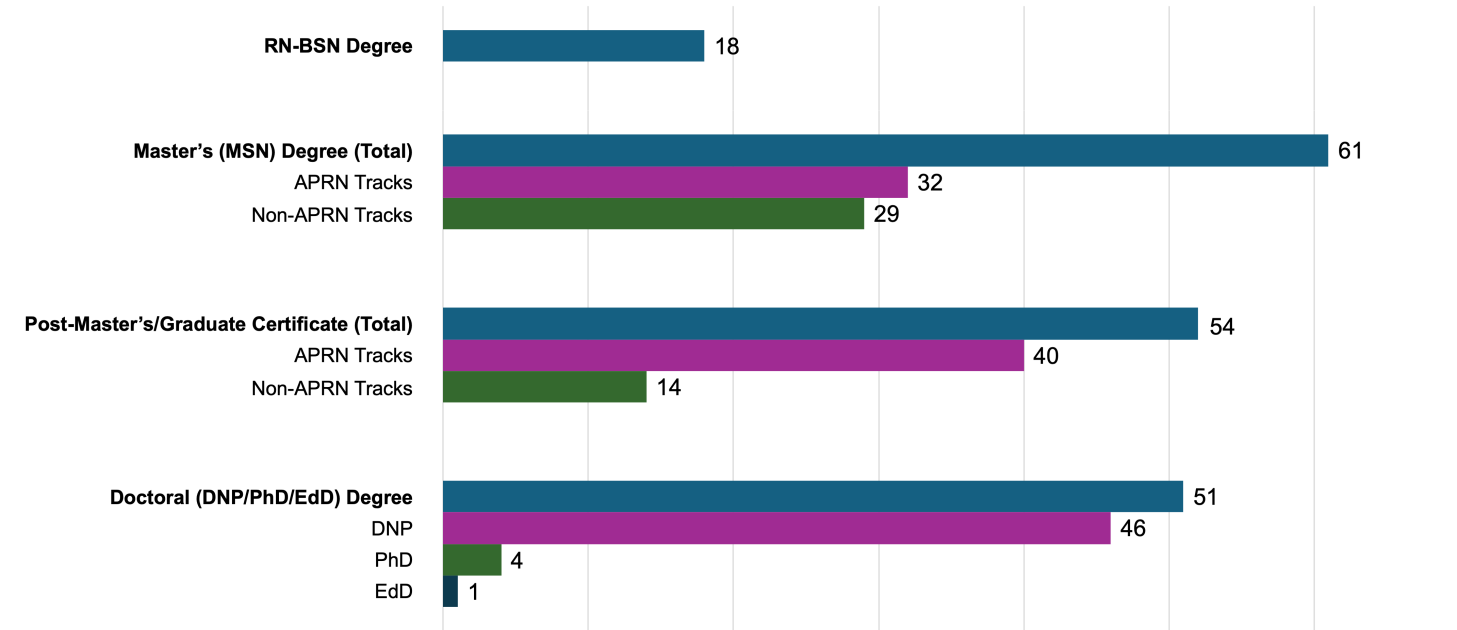
Table 2. Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by School, 2024

School	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree (MSN)	Post-Master's/Graduate Certificate	Doctoral Degree (DNP, PhD, EdD)
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	RN-BSN			
Albany State University	RN-BSN	FNP, Nurse Educator, NI	FNP, Nurse Educator, NI	
Augusta University			FNP, AGACNP, PNP-PC, PMHNP	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c ; Post-BSN DNP: FNP, AGACNP, PNP-PC, PMHNP, Nurse Anesthesia, DNP-NEP; PhD
Brenau University		FNP	AGACNP, FNP	DNP: Leadership and Management or Advanced Practice ^a
Clayton State University	RN-BSN	FNP	FNP	
College of Coastal Georgia	RN-BSN			
Columbus State University	RN-BSN	Nursing Leadership, NI, Nurse Educator; FNP	NI	
Dalton State College	RN-BSN			
Emory University ^b		MSN+MPH, MSN+MA in Bioethics, AGACNP, AGPCNP, FNP/ENP, FNP, PNP-AC, PNP-PC, NNP, PMHNP, WHGRNP, Nurse-Midwifery ^f	AGACNP, AGPCNP, FNP/ENP, FNP, PNP-AC, PNP-PC, NNP, PMHNP, WHGRNP, Nurse-Midwifery ^f	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c ; Post-BSN/MN DNP: AGACNP, AGPCNP, FNP/ENP, FNP, PNP-AC, PNP-PC, PMHNP, WHGRNP, Nurse Anesthesia; PhD
Georgia College & State University		WHNP, Nurse-Midwifery, PMHNP, FNP, Nurse Educator	WHNP, Nurse-Midwifery, PMHNP, FNP, Nurse Educator	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c ; Post-BSN DNP: PMHNP, FNP, WHNP
Georgia Highlands College	RN-BSN			
Georgia Southern University	RN-BSN	Chronic Care Management, Nursing Education	AGPCNP, AGACNP, PMHNP, FNP	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c ; Post-BSN DNP: AGPCNP, AGACNP, FNP, PMHNP
Georgia Southwestern State University	RN-BSN	Leadership, FNP, Nurse Educator, NI	FNP, NI, Nurse Educator	
Georgia State University	RN-BSN	RN-MSN; PNP-PC, AGPCNP, PMHNP, FNP	PNP-PC, AGPCNP, AGACNP, PMHNP, FNP	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c ; Post-BSN DNP: AGPCNP, FNP, PNP-PC, PMHNP; PhD
Gordon State College	RN-BSN			

Kennesaw State University		FNP, Leadership in Nursing ⁹ ; Nurse Educator, Nurse Administration	Nurse Educator	
LaGrange College	RN-BSN			
Mercer University	RN-BSN	AGPCNP, AGACNP, FNP	AGPCNP, AGACNP, FNP, PMHNP	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c , Post-MSN DNP with AGACNP; Post-BSN DNP: AGPCNP, AGACNP, FNP; PhD
Middle Georgia State University	RN-BSN	AGACNP	AGACNP	
Reinhardt University		Nursing Education		
South Georgia State College	RN-BSN			
South University (Savannah Campus and Online) ^{d,e}	RN-BSN	NI, Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator, AGPCNP	NI, Nurse Educator	DNP: Post-MSN DNP ^c
Thomas University	RN-BSN	RN-MSN, RN-MSN/MBA, MSN/MBA, Nursing Administration, Nursing Education	Nursing Administration, Nursing Education	
University of North Georgia ^h		FNP, Nursing Education	FNP, Nursing Education	DNP: Nursing Education, Nurse Executive Leader
University of West Georgia	RN-BSN	Health Systems Leadership: CNL, Leader/Manager; Nurse Educator	Health Systems Leadership, Nursing Education	EdD in Nursing Education
Valdosta State University		FPMHNP, FNP	FPMHNP, FNP	DNP: Post-MSN DNP: Leadership, Education, or FPMHNP, Post-MSN DNP/MBA; Post-BSN DNP: FNP

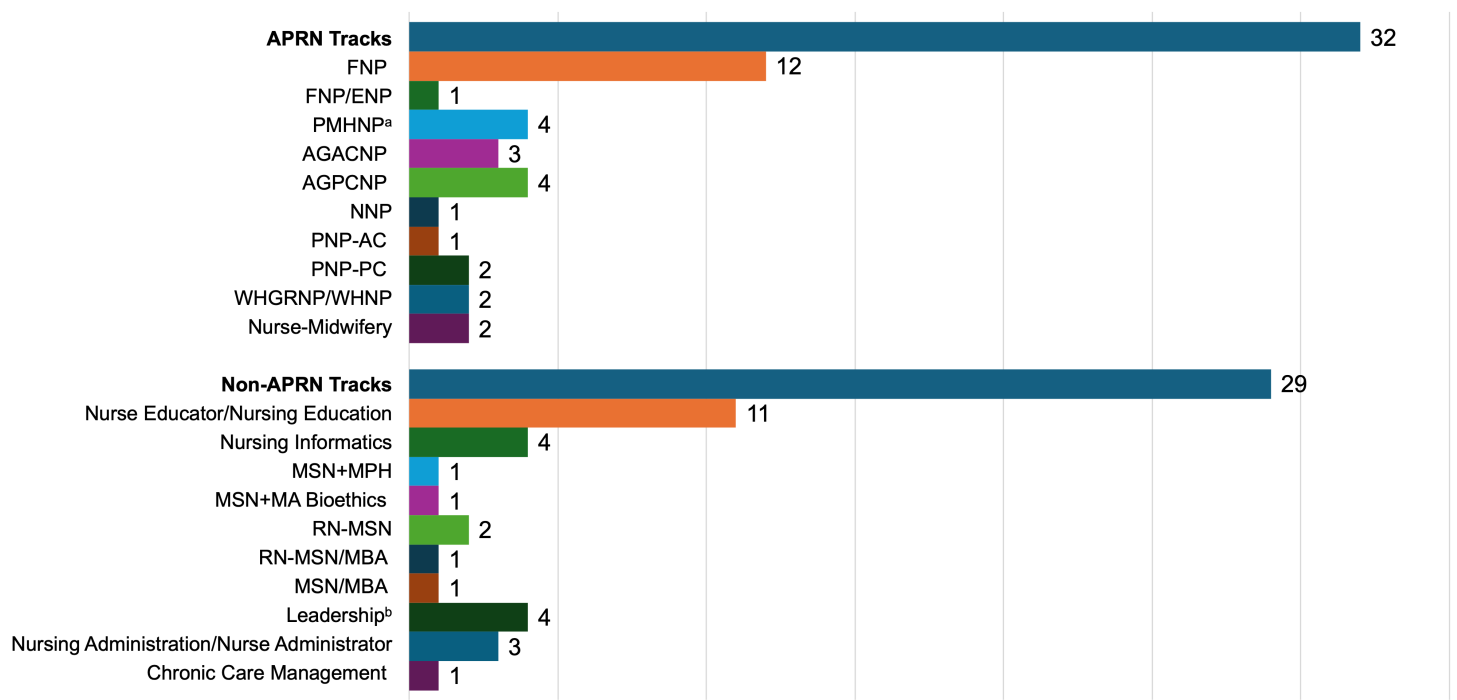
Note: ^aDoes not describe which advanced practice nursing specialties are offered. ^bOffers a direct-entry pathway from MN-MSN for primary care NP specialty tracks. ^cPost-MSN DNP, Students not seeking additional preparation as an APRN. ^dHeadquartered in Georgia so all online program options are captured for the state; ^eAll 4 Master's-level programs listed are offered as a RN-MSN and traditional MSN program. ^fNot accepting applications for the 2024 admissions cycle. ^g'Leadership in Nursing MSN' noted as the degree with two tracks offered: 'Nursing Education Leadership in a Digital World' track, and, 'Nursing Administration and Transformational Leadership' track. ^hAlso offers a Post-BSN Nurse Executive Leader Certificate Program.

Figure 2. Post-Licensure Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024



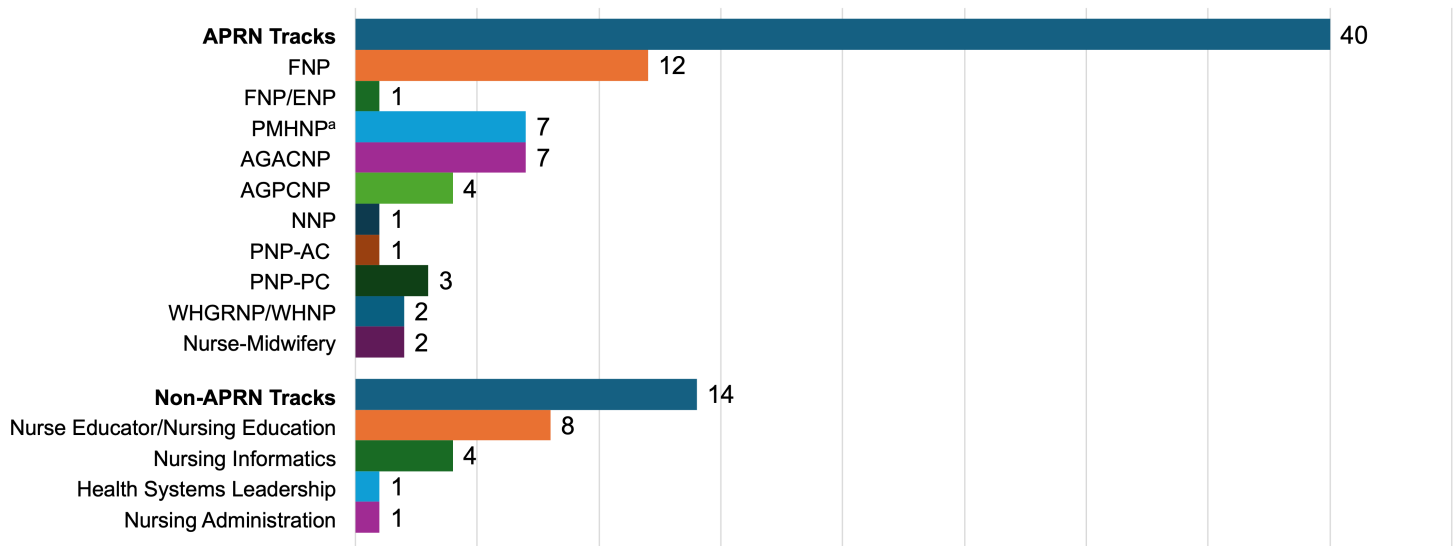
Note: This figure shows the total number of post-licensure nursing programs offered in Georgia as of 2024-April by degree/certificate.

Figure 2a. Master's Degree (Post-Licensure) Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024



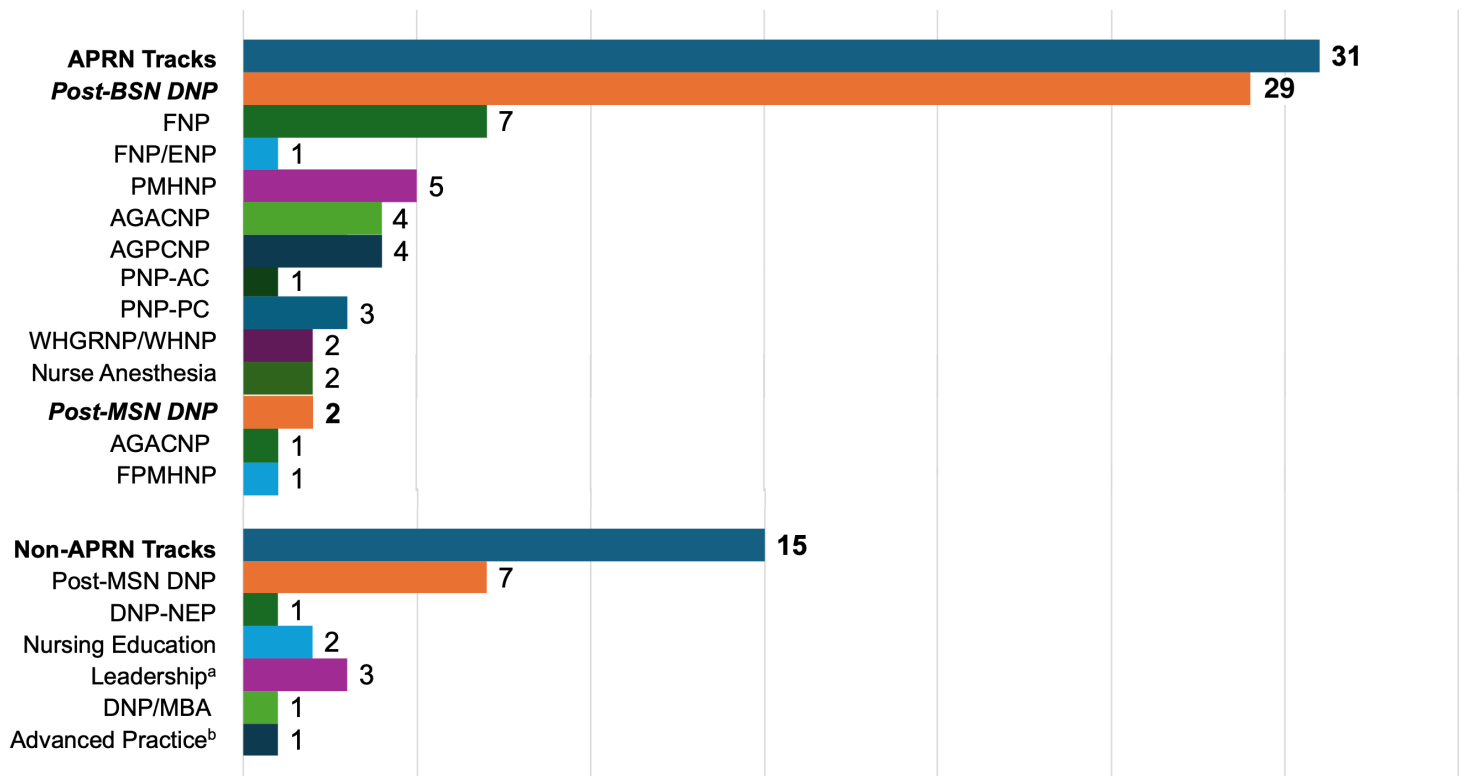
Note: This figure shows the total number of post-licensure master's degree programs offered in Georgia as of 2024-April by degree and specialty track. ^aIncludes PMHNP (n=3) and FPMHNP (n=1). ^bIncludes Nursing Leadership (n=1), Leadership (n=1), CNL (n=1), and Leader/Manager (n=1).

Figure 2b. Post-Master's/Graduate Certificate Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Type, 2024



Note: This figure shows the total number of post-master's/graduate certificate programs offered in Georgia as of 2024-April by specialty track. ^aIncludes PMHNP (n=6) and FPMHNP (n=1).

Figure 2c. Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree Nursing Programs Offered in Georgia by Specialty Track, 2024



Note: This figure shows the total number of post-licensure Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree nursing programs offered in Georgia as of 2024-April by specialty track. ^aIncludes Leadership and Management (n=1), Nurse Executive Leader (n=1), and Post-MSN DNP Leadership (n=1). ^bAdvanced Practice, Not otherwise specified so not included in "APRN Track" in this figure.

Discussion

This report lists all nursing education program offerings in the state of Georgia by school. A comprehensive list of all nursing education program options that are offered across the state, including the various tracks available and pathways for completion has not—to our knowledge, been previously published for the state of Georgia. To strengthen and ensure workforce sustainability for nursing in Georgia, it is necessary to understand what educational programs and pathways into and in nursing are and are not currently available across the state.

Data collection and oversight of nursing educational programs are performed by a variety of bodies for reasons of: (1) state regulation by professional licensing boards (Georgia Board of Nursing regulates pre-licensure practical and registered nursing programs), (2) national accreditation (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE], Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing [ACEN], National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation [NLN CNEA], Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education [ACME], and Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs [COA]), (3) regional accreditation (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges [SACSCOC], National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements [NC-SARA], and (4) other professional association related membership or accolades (e.g., AACN, NLN Center for Excellence designations, Organization for Associate Degree Nursing [OADN]).

There is not a single body that collects, publishes, or maintains a comprehensive repository of data on all nursing education programs in the state. This matters for a few important reasons:

1. Disparate lists with data on some programs challenges future and practicing nurses in learning about their options to become a nurse, advance and find their fit in nursing, and the educational pathways that align with their interests and circumstances.
2. Siloed data collection and reporting along with restricted or costly data sharing limits the ability of policymakers and schools of nursing to have good dialogue and make good decisions about gaps and how to address them and also limits the ability of nursing schools to benchmark their programs against other programs in the state. It is hard to know what you need if you do not know what is available; to strengthen and ensure workforce sustainability for nursing in Georgia, it is necessary to understand what is and is not currently available for educational pathways into and in nursing.
3. Lack of uniform data items and differing definitions of variables across survey instruments limits the comparability of data reported.

Limitations

This report is tightly focused for the specific purpose of making visible all of the nursing education programs offered in Georgia with only the minimally necessary granularity to accomplish this goal in a manner that is useful for quick review to an array of anticipated readers, to include anyone interested in becoming a nurse, specializing or advancing in nursing, policymakers, educators, and the public at large. Naturally, there is much potentially useful information excluded from this report: To learn more about any of the listed schools or program options, links to the respective school websites are included in Appendix 2.

Recommendations

1. **Harmonize the collection of nursing education data.** Nursing deans and directors complete an array of surveys annually for regulatory and professional affiliation purposes. There is not a single repository of nursing education data. Moreover, different survey instruments define variables differently, for example, the time frame for reporting enrollment and graduation data. Beyond being burdensome to schools of nursing, this disparate and siloed collection of nursing education data severely limits the actual usefulness of the data.

Efforts are underway to establish a robust infrastructure for consistent, timely, long-term collection and sharing of nursing education program data in the state of Georgia per the Nursing Education Minimum Data Set (National Forum, 2020 December). Intentional and inclusive collaboration with the deans and directors of Georgia nursing schools, the Georgia Board of Nursing, and other relevant state organizations is critically important for accomplishing such a data infrastructure, as is careful attention data stewardship and governance.

2. **Create a searchable dashboard of nursing education programs in the state of Georgia.** A dashboard will offer practical utility for future nurses seeking to begin or advance their education in nursing. Similar initiatives to make available a searchable, comprehensive platform for all nursing education programs in the state have also been accomplished by other state nursing workforce centers (See Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce, Inc., n.d.; Illinois Nursing Workforce Center, n.d.). Such a project is also a natural opportunity for collaboration with relevant state organizations with existing work and expertise in workforce data visualization.

As with any data dashboard, a nursing education program searchable dashboard tool will only be as useful as it is correct and current. Ensuring timely updates on relevant programmatic changes is supported by the above (first) recommendation to harmonize the collection of nursing education data; more specifically, the ongoing efforts to establish a robust nursing education data infrastructure for Georgia.

3. **Explore factors that impact a prospective student's eligibility for admission into a nursing education program, success in the program, and ultimate securing of a nursing license in the state they want or plan to practice.** The educational and experiential background required or preferred for entrance to and success in the various nursing educational programs into and in nursing were not included in this report but merit mention for consideration with future work. Some schools offer stand-alone pre-nursing programs; It may be useful to review the value of such programs. Possible data sources for this may include exploring the perspectives of (1) teaching and clinical faculty on what is or would be helpful for preparing students for nursing school during their pre-nursing educational program; (2) admissions directors, pre-nursing or pre-health advisers, and high school guidance counselors; and (3) program exit surveys and alumni surveys - both following completion of a pre-nursing/health program of study as well as following their pre-licensure and post-licensure nursing programs. Also meriting mention here is that some states have special educational requirements for nursing licensure (LPN/LVN, RN, APRN) which may impact students considering employment in a different state than their nursing education program.

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Appendix 1. Institutional Characteristics of Georgia Schools Offering Nursing Education Programs, 2024

Institution	School Designation	Profit Type
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Albany State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Albany Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Andrew College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Athens Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Atlanta Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Augusta Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Augusta University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Berry College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Brenau University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Brewton Parker College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Cambridge College of Healthcare and Technology	Private	For-profit
Chamberlain University	Private	For-profit
Central Georgia Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Chattahoochee Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Clayton State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Coastal Pines Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
College of Coastal Georgia	Public	Not-For-Profit
Columbus State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Columbus Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Dalton State College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Dignity Nursing School	Private	Not-For-Profit
Emory University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Fort Valley State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia College and State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Gwinnett College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Highlands College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Northwestern Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Southern University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia Southwestern State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Georgia State University	Public	Not-For-Profit

Gordon State College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Gwinnett Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Herzing University-Atlanta Campus	Private	Not-For-Profit
Kennesaw State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
LaGrange College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Lanier Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Mentee College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Mercer University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Middle Georgia State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
North Georgia Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Ogeechee Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Piedmont University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Reinhardt University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Savannah Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Shorter University	Private	Not-For-Profit
South College	Private	For-Profit
South Georgia State College	Public	Not-For-Profit
South Georgia Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
South University	Private	For-Profit
Southern Crescent Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Southern Regional Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Southeastern Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Thomas University	Private	Not-For-Profit
Toccoa Falls College	Private	Not-For-Profit
Truett McConnell University	Private	Not-For-Profit
University of North Georgia	Public	Not-For-Profit
University of West Georgia	Public	Not-For-Profit
Valdosta State University	Public	Not-For-Profit
Wesleyan College	Private	Not-For-Profit
West Georgia Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	Public	Not-For-Profit

Appendix 2. Websites for Georgia Schools Offering Nursing Education Programs, 2024

Institution	Website
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	https://www.abac.edu/school/school-of-nursing-and-health-sciences/
Albany State University	https://www.asurams.edu/academic-affairs/dchealthprof/nursing/index.php
Albany Technical College	https://www.albanytech.edu/college-catalog/current/programs/nursing
Andrew College	https://www.andrewcollege.edu/nursing/
Athens Technical College	https://www.athenstech.edu/programs/nursing/
Atlanta Technical College	https://atlantatech.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024/college-catalog/programs-of-study/nursing-and-related-programs/associate-of-science-degree-in-nursing/
Augusta Technical College	https://augustatech.smartcatalogiq.com/2023/semester-catalog/programs-of-study/credit-program-schools/school-of-health-sciences/associate-degree-nursing/
Augusta University	https://www.augusta.edu/nursing/
Berry College	https://www.berry.edu/academics/majors/nursing/#/
Brenau University	https://www.brenau.edu/academics/health-sciences/nursing/
Brewton Parker College	https://www.bpc.edu/academics-degrees/divisions/nursing/
Cambridge College of Healthcare and Technology	https://www.cambridgehealth.edu/nursing/
Chamberlain University	https://www.chamberlain.edu/
Central Georgia Technical College	https://www.centralgatech.edu/programs-of-study/health-sciences/nursing
Chattahoochee Technical College	https://www.chattahoocheetech.edu/school-of-nursing/
Clayton State University	https://www.clayton.edu/health/nursing/index
Coastal Pines Technical College	https://coastalpines.edu/programs-allied-health-associate-of-science-nursing
College of Coastal Georgia	https://www.ccgga.edu/academics/nursing/
Columbus State University	https://www.columbusstate.edu/nursing/
Columbus Technical College	https://columbustech.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024/2023-2024-catalog-and-student-handbook/division-of-health-sciences-and-nursing/nursing-rn-associate-degree-nursing-nu23/
Dalton State College	https://www.daltonstate.edu/academics/department-of-nursing.cms
Dignity Nursing School	https://www.dignitynursingschool.org/nursing-school-in-dallas-georgia
Emory University	https://www.nursing.emory.edu/
Fort Valley State University	https://www.fvsu.edu/academics/nursing-program
Georgia College and State University	https://www.gcsu.edu/health/nursing
Georgia Gwinnett College	https://www.ggc.edu/academics/school-of-health-sciences/nursing
Georgia Highlands College	https://sites.highlands.edu/nursing/

Georgia Northwestern Technical College	https://www.gntc.edu/academics/departments-websites/associate-degree-nursing/
Georgia Piedmont Technical College	https://www.gptc.edu/programs/practical-nursing/
Georgia Southern University	https://chp.georgiasouthern.edu/nursing/
Georgia Southwestern State University	https://www.gsw.edu/college-of-nursing-and-health-sciences/school-of-nursing/
Georgia State University	https://lewis.gsu.edu/nursing/
Gordon State College	https://www.gordonstate.edu/academics/school-nursing-health-sciences/departments-of-nursing/index.html
Gwinnett Technical College	https://gwinnetttech.edu/registerednursingadn/
Herzing University-Atlanta Campus	https://go.herzing.edu/atlanta-campus/nursing-atl/bsn-atl
Kennesaw State University	https://wellstarcollege.kennesaw.edu/nursing/index.php
LaGrange College	https://www.lagrange.edu/academics/undergraduate/majors/nursing/index.html
Lanier Technical College	https://www.laniertech.edu/programs/healthcare/associate-of-science-in-nursing/
Mentee College	https://menteecollege.com/
Mercer University	https://nursing.mercer.edu/
Middle Georgia State University	https://www.mga.edu/health-natural-sciences/nursing/index.php
North Georgia Technical College	https://northgatech.edu/academic-programs/health-sciences/registered-nursing/
Oconee Fall Line Technical College	https://oftc.edu/departments/nursing/
Ogeechee Technical College	https://www.ogeecheetech.edu/academics/nursing
Piedmont University	https://www.piedmont.edu/program/nursing/
Reinhardt University	https://www.reinhardt.edu/schools-programs/cauble-school-of-nursing-health-sciences/masters-of-science-in-nursing/
Savannah Technical College	https://www.savannahtech.edu/academics/practical-nursing/
Shorter University	https://www.shorter.edu/nursing/
South College	https://www.south.edu/programs/school-of-nursing/
South Georgia State College	https://www.sgsc.edu/academics/school-nursing
South Georgia Technical College	https://www.southgatech.edu/programs/practical-nursing/
South University	https://www.southuniversity.edu
Southern Crescent Technical College	https://sctech.smartcatalogiq.com/current/catalog/allied-health-programs/ng73-nursing-associate-of-science-in-nursing-degree/
Southern Regional Technical College	https://southernregional.edu/college-catalog/current/programs/associate-of-science-in-nursing--generic-

Southeastern Technical College	https://catalog.southeasterntech.edu/college-catalog/current/colleges/healthcare-nursing/nursing
Thomas University	https://www.thomasu.edu/majors/bachelor-degrees/rn-bsn/
Toccoa Falls College	https://tfc.edu/degree/nursing/
Truett McConnell University	https://truett.edu/academics/schools/nursing/
University of North Georgia	https://ung.edu/nursing/
University of West Georgia	https://www.westga.edu/academics/nursing/index.php
Valdosta State University	https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/nursing-and-health-sciences/
Wesleyan College	https://www.wesleyancollege.edu/admission/nursing/admission-nursing.cfm
West Georgia Technical College	https://www.westgatech.edu/program-explorer/nursing/
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	https://www.wiregrass.edu/course-catalog/current/programs/nursing-degree

Endnotes

1. For the purpose of this report, a legitimate nursing program is one that is a pre-licensure practical or registered nursing program that is recognized by the Georgia Board of Nursing with some level of approval (e.g., developmental, conditional, full), or a post-licensure nursing program recognized by a national accrediting body (i.e., Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE], Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing [ACEN], National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation [NLN CNEA], Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education [ACME], and Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs [COA])↵
2. LPN-to-BSN programs are categorized as pre-licensure in this report: While LPN-to-BSN programs are indeed post-licensure practical nursing, the programs prepare students for entry to practice as a registered nurse (RN); graduates of LPN to BSN programs are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN.↵
3. The opportunity for intentional use of color as an added visual language is leveraged with the Georgia Nursing Workforce Center logo. Recognizing the power of color to influence and connect in a purposeful way, Pantone has selected a color of the year for over 60 years to capture the state of the world for the upcoming year. For this 2024 Georgia nursing education program offerings report, the Pantone 2022 Color of the Year, in “[d]isplaying a carefree confidence and a daring curiosity that animates our creative spirit, inquisitive and intriguing PANTONE 17-3938 Very Peri helps us to embrace this altered landscape of possibilities, opening us up to a new vision as we rewrite our lives. Rekindling gratitude for some of the qualities that blue represents complemented by a new perspective that resonates today, PANTONE 17-3938 Very Peri places the future ahead in a new light” (Pantone, 2022, para. 1). This color and its meaning inspires learning and celebrates and embraces the many diverse paths one may take into and in nursing, recognizing each journey as one’s own.↵