

## »» TRANSPARENCY PACKET

# Department of Nursing

APRIL 2026

## »» Important Program Update

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff has submitted a proposal to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to implement a voluntary closure on new admissions to the pre-licensure BSN program, effective May 1, 2026.

This action applies only to future admissions. All currently enrolled students will continue and complete the program.

## »» What This Means for You

- You will continue your coursework and clinical placements without interruption.
- Your graduation timeline will not change if progression requirements are met.
- You will remain eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN.
- Financial aid and scholarships will continue.
- You are not required to transfer.

The University is fully committed to supporting your academic progress and professional success.

## »» Why This Action is Being Taken

Following a comprehensive review of program outcomes, including NCLEX performance, the University identified key areas for improvement to better support student success.

This decision is proactive and designed to strengthen outcomes and ensure long-term program quality.



## »» What Will Happen During This Period

During the 2026–2027 academic year, the Department will implement a comprehensive program enhancement strategy:

- Redesign the curriculum to align with Next Generation NCLEX standards
- Strengthen integration of clinical judgment across all courses
- Expand simulation in accordance with state guidelines
- Enhance faculty development in exam design and evaluation
- Implement structured remediation and student support systems
- Improve NCLEX readiness and post-graduation follow-up

The University intends to reopen admissions following completion of these improvements and approval from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

## »» Student-Specific Guidance

### SENIORS

(GRADUATING MAY 2026)

- Graduate on schedule
- Participate in NCLEX preparation and review
- Schedule NCLEX within 60 days of graduation
- Receive post-graduation support and coaching

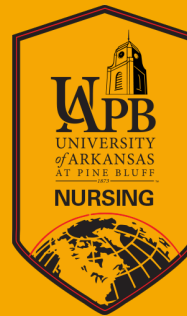
### JUNIORS

(PROJECTED MAY 2027 GRADUATE)

- Progress into senior year as planned
- Participate in enhanced advising and NCLEX preparation
- Complete NGN-aligned coursework and assessments

**Your graduation timeline is NOT affected.**

## »» Student-Specific Guidance



### Pre-Nursing/Pipeline Students

- No new admissions after May 1, 2026
- Advising available to explore alternative academic pathways
- Eligible to reapply when admissions reopen

## »» Program Continuity and Support

The following remain fully in place:

- All clinical placements and contracts
- Faculty instruction and advising support
- Required student-to-faculty ratios
- Full curriculum delivery

Additional support includes:

- Individual advising
- Structured remediation plans
- NCLEX preparation resources
- Academic and peer support services

## »» Program Status and Oversight

- The program remains under the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.
- Current approval status extends through May 2027.
- Required reporting to regulatory and accrediting bodies will continue.

## »» Important Clarifications

- This action applies only to the pre-licensure BSN program.
- The RN-to-BSN program remains fully operational.
- Students are not being dismissed.
- Clinical placements are not being reduced.
- Financial aid is not being revoked.



## »» Our Commitment

The University remains committed to transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement. Our priority is clear: to ensure that every student is fully prepared for licensure and professional success.

We want to assure you that this decision was made to protect students, strengthen outcomes, and ensure the long-term success of the program.

## »» Contact Information

Dr. Rhonda Coleman, DNP, APRN

Interim Chair, Department of Nursing

[colemanr@uapb.edu](mailto:colemanr@uapb.edu)

(870) 575-8217

Students are encouraged to schedule advising appointments for additional support.