# **Parallel Planning** PATHWAYS IN NURSING

### You want to become a nurse.

You can obtain a:

## Associate of Science Degree in Nursing

These programs are offered at community colleges and provide an efficient, economical pathway to becoming an RN. Graduates are prepared with the clinical competence & technical proficiency needed to practice in multiple settings. However, today's employers often prefer the bachelor's prepared RN, & many require the degree to secure long term employment.

#### Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

OR

These programs prepare graduates to practice across all health care settings & assume the widest variety of RN roles. These programs combine the clinical and technical skills of nursing with coursework in the physical & social sciences, research, public & community health, management & the humanities. A Bachelor's Degree in Nursing is the preferred qualification.

### Entry Level Masters Degree in Nursing

These programs offer the quickest route to the RN licensure for students who already hold a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing field of study. These programs are rigorous and time intensive. Most require between 18-24 months of full-time study to complete. This may not include pre-requisite coursework.

#### Pass the NCLEX-RN Exam

(National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses)

After passing the NCLEX-RN Exam, Associate Degree RNs may complete their Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing by enrolling in a RN Completion Program. MNSU offers this flexible 100% online program in only 30 additional credits. Enrolled students usually work part-time or full-time as RN professionals.

#### Start working as an RN!

## Program Details Every Student Should Learn

OR

- Visit the state board of nursing website for a list of professional programs.
- Determine program accreditation by either CCNE or ACEN.
- Study the application criteria to the nursing program.
- Review pre-requisite courses. Determine what is complete & remaining. Confirm.
- Learn what GPA is used for application and admission to the nursing program.
- Examine application process: exam, essay, interview, references, experiential hours?
- Check for application deadlines and total length of program.
- Learn how many students apply vs. how many are accepted each admission cycle.
- Understand what information is used to determine selective admission.
- Discover the admitted student profile-average GPA, points, test scores etc...
- Determine how you can become one of the selected applicants.

