



Nursing Programs Licensed Data Set—2016 Database Overview

INTRODUCTION:

Peterson's Nursing Programs Database is the product of a collaborative effort between Peterson's and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). Within this data set you will find specific information about each school's nursing unit, including unit name and Web site address; enrollment and faculty figures; graduate and undergraduate expense information; degrees and programs offered; application dates and fees; entrance and degree requirements; advanced placement, full-time/part-time, and nursing tracks/entrance and online options; health and nursing-related library resources; student activities and resources; and level-specific information contact persons. Also available is information on the colleges and universities offering these nursing programs, including institution names, addresses, phone, and fax numbers, as well as other general institution information.

This Overview is designed to give you a broad sense of the database. A Data Dictionary, comprised of detailed descriptions of the tables and fields in the database, is available in a separate document.

UNIVERSE:

The Nursing Programs Database for 2016 includes 948 schools, colleges, and departments of nursing offering baccalaureate and graduate programs in nursing that are affiliated with accredited colleges and universities in the United States, U.S. territories, and Canada. Specifically, the nursing programs must be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). Canadian nursing schools must be members of the Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing (CAUSN). The institutions that sponsor the nursing programs must either have full accreditation or candidate-for-accreditation (preaccreditation) status granted by an institutional or specialized accrediting body that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Canadian institutions must be chartered and authorized to grant degrees by a provincial government, affiliated with a chartered institution, or accredited by a recognized U.S. accrediting body.

TIME FRAME:

The database is updated annually, in conjunction with the release of updated guides and electronic products. Annual licensed data sets are stored in consistent structures from year to year, beginning with the 2002 set.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA VERIFICATION:

Each winter, *Peterson's Nursing Schools Online Survey* is made available to the appropriate personnel at all institutions meeting the criteria defined above (see "Universe"). For schools that have previously been included, prior year figures are available for review. Officials from the schools submit responses by confirming that pre-existing information is correct or providing new or updated information. For institutions that do not initially respond, considerable effort is undertaken in follow-up to obtain information.

It should be noted, however, that colleges can and often do change policies as they see fit, so data in the database can be most effectively viewed as a snapshot of the universe at a particular time.

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE:

As noted above, the Nursing Programs Database includes accredited institutions in the United States and U.S. territories (906) and Canada (42).

DATABASE VERSATILITY AND EXTENT OF USE:

Peterson's Nursing Programs Database is the source of information published in Peterson's *Nursing Programs 2017*.