



## Registered Nursing Programs at SMU

Samuel Merritt University has multiple degree programs leading to the Registered Nurse (RN) licensure including: the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) program, and the pre-licensure portion of the Entry-Level Master of Science in Nursing (ELMSN) program. SMU's programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Graduates of Samuel Merritt University's BSN and ABSN programs, and students who have completed the pre-licensure component of the ELMSN program, are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) exam in all US states, territories, and commonwealths including the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, with the exceptions noted below. However, RN licenses are granted by the licensing authority in individual states and certain licensing boards may require a curriculum comparison specific to that state. Prior to enrollment, prospective students must review the information below. It is strongly recommended that prospective students review the required curriculum governed by their local state board of nursing education before enrolling in our program.

The California Board of Registered Nursing is the licensing authority for California and requires an exam on the laws and regulations for practice of nursing in California. Samuel Merritt University will assist applicants and students as they determine licensure requirements in other states. Please contact Dr. Carmen Ward-Sullivan (Associate Dean, Academic Programs, College of Nursing) by email at [csullivan@samuelmerritt.edu](mailto:csullivan@samuelmerritt.edu), and/or the [Office of Admissions](#). Contact information and licensure requirements for the licensing authorities in other jurisdictions can also be found on the [National Council of State Boards of Nursing \(NCSBN\) website](#).

States/Territories/Commonwealths for which SMU's BSN, ABSN, and ELMSN programs MEET the educational requirements for licensure or certification:

- All US states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS LISTED BELOW

States/Territories/Commonwealths for which SMU's BSN, ABSN, and ELMSN programs DO NOT MEET the educational requirements for licensure or certification:

- Federated States of Micronesia, Kansas, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands