Registered Nurse – Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing is a postgraduate program that prepares Registered Nurses to provide comprehensive care to critically ill newborns and their families in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Research and theoretical perspectives provide the foundation of study for family-centred care.

**DELIVERY MODES**

This full-time, one semester program (15 weeks) is offered in two delivery modes in order to meet the learning styles and needs of adult students.

- **Full-time – on campus (15 weeks): Offered in September and January.** Students attend classes at the Daphne Cockwell Centre for Health Sciences located at the Waterfront Campus two three days per week. Lectures, case studies, simulation labs and expert guest speakers comprise the theoretical component.

- **Full-time – online (15 weeks): Offered in September and January.** This option is available to nurses with current experience in a Level II or III NICU, who prefer a more flexible learning environment. Live, interactive classes are offered twice a week for online discussion and facilitation of learning.

Regardless of delivery mode, all students use:

- a theory manual
- a textbook

Faculty are available to support students in a variety of ways:

- in-class
- online and through email
- via telephone
- tutorial support

To support the learning outcomes of this course, clinical courses take place in Level II and III neonatal intensive care units.

**PROGRAM STANDARDS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. Obtain history and perform a physical assessment of a pregnant woman and to identify problem areas.
2. Apply risk criteria and determine risk status.
3. Acquire knowledge about methods of prepared child birth and be able to assist couples with the appropriate techniques.
4. Have the knowledge and skills to care for women in labour and those having Caesarean section deliveries.
5. Institute appropriate emergency treatment of pregnancy complications and newborn asphyxia.
6. Conduct a physical and behavioural assessment of the newborn and identify problem areas.
7. Have the knowledge and skills to care for full-term and pre-term infants.
8. Have the knowledge and skills to care for women with pregnancy complications.
9. Have the knowledge and skills to care for the critically ill neonate whose condition has stabilized.
10. Have the knowledge and skills to care for the critically ill neonate whose condition is unstable due to multisystem problems.
11. Have the knowledge and skills to utilize the equipment and procedures of various life support systems.
12. Understand the impact of high risk pregnancy on the psychological experience of the pregnant woman and her family.
13. Provide sensitive support care to families who experience pregnancy loss or altered outcome.
14. Know and use community resources for follow-up care of the infant and the family.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS4048</td>
<td>Perinatal Nursing - Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS4049</td>
<td>Perinatal Nursing - Clinical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS4050</td>
<td>Neonatal Intensive Care - Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS4051</td>
<td>Neonatal Intensive Care - Clinical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**YOUR CAREER**

Graduates of this program are qualified to work in Level II and Level III neonatal intensive care units.

**FUTURE STUDY OPTIONS**

See georgebrown.ca/transferguide.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- **RN**, Certificate of Competence, College of Nurses of Ontario without practice restrictions
- BCLS (Heart and Stroke Foundation), HCP Level
- Interview - All applicants are interviewed by telephone or in person
- Resumé
- NRP (Neonatal Resuscitation Program) certificate is required

This program is open to domestic applicants only.

**COURSE EXEMPTIONS**

College or university credits may qualify you for course exemptions. Please visit georgebrown.ca/transferguide for more information.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

**PRE-PLACEMENT HEALTH FORM**

- Upon confirmation of acceptance into this program, students must meet all the mandatory pre-placement health requirements for the program. It may take up to four months to complete all the requirements.
- All costs, service fees and fines associated with the overall health requirements are the responsibility of the student.
- For further details and to download the mandatory pre-placement health form, go to the Pre-placement website at georgebrown.ca/preplacement
- Students must submit proof of a satisfactory medical examination before entering field placement. Students who are unable to provide a clear medical examination result to the college will not be able to start their field placement and therefore will be unable to complete the program.

**POLICE VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK**

- In compliance with the requirements of our placement partners, all students in this program are required to have a police vulnerable sector check completed, and this check must be renewed annually before entering into field or clinical placement.
- The police vulnerable sector check process typically takes two to three months, but under some circumstances can take four to eight months. This is required to protect the clientele of our placement partner agencies, who are considered "vulnerable persons" under the law.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that the police vulnerable sector check covers appropriateness for "individuals being employed and/or volunteering who will be working with vulnerable person(s)."
- Students are required to keep the original copy of their police vulnerable sector check.
- Students who are unable to provide a "clear" police vulnerable sector check may not be able to start their field or clinical placement and therefore may be unable to complete the program. Students who are not eligible to attend their practice placement due to a "not clear" status will jeopardize their progress in the program.
- Failure to meet the requirements for field placement will prevent students from completing the program and/or securing employment.
- The fees for the police record check vary and must be paid by the student. For more information, please visit the Pre-placement website at georgebrown.ca/preplacement

**HOW DO I APPLY TO THE PROGRAM**

Please note: Due to the limited number of clinical placements available, this program has a limited number of seats open to applicants lacking specific clinical experience. Please contact Heather Urquhart at 416-415-5000, ext. 2351 or email hurquhar@georgebrown.ca for more details before applying.
"As a Registered Nurse already working in a level II NICU, I was itching to do more, experience more, and learn more. To help me achieve my goal I decided to choose the Perinatal Intensive Course at George Brown College. It was the best decision I ever made. Right from the start, I knew that taking this course would make me a better nurse and overall a better person – professional and personally.

The program was a short 15-week program divided into in-class lectures, hands-on clinical days, high fidelity simulation labs and lectures from specialty staff from SickKids. The program catered to and incorporated all types of learning. We got a chance to learn from the NICU clinicians. There were days when each subspecialty would come in to give a lecture – whether it was the dietician, surgical NP, genetic counsellor, bioethicists, RTs, etc. The program was delivered in various forms such as online lectures, workbooks, textbook readings, case studies, clinical skills learning package, simulation labs, journals references, group discussions, etc.

Heather (program professor and co-ordinator) is absolutely phenomenal. She is very knowledgeable about the program and helped me with every step up until the start date. Jennifer also teaches this course in collaboration with Heather. Jennifer made teaching so simple and easy to understand! Our clinical instructor, Sasha, was exceptional. I was able to complete my tasks in the NICU feeling safe, and supported throughout.

This program is unique in the way that it is built. It is well organized and structured. There is a flow in the way the material is taught. I particularly liked the connection that could be made while learning the theory and being able to apply it simultaneously in the practice setting. I would highly recommend this program for anyone new to the NICU world or even to those who have a few years under their belt. The time, money, and effort endured while doing this program will not disappoint. It helped me connect the dots in all the things I was seeing, and knowing why it was happening and what my role is as a NICU nurse. I have seen and felt an increase in my confidence and nursing skills. I am able to use my critical thinking skills and judgement gained from this course in all levels of the NICU.

To all the people I met during this program, thank you for allowing me to achieve my dreams of working in the Sickkids NICU – I appreciate it! I learned a tremendous amount of information that I will cherish for the rest of my nursing career as a neonatal nurse."

Fiona Cabral, RN, BScN (Graduate 2018, Registered Nurse – Perinatal Intensive Care Nursing)

CONTACT US

Due to the limited number of clinical placements available, this program has a restricted number of seats open to applicants lacking specific clinical experience.