Welcome to the Department of Nursing of Washington Adventist University.

Our nursing program has a rich 111-year history that includes our being the first nursing school established in the state of Maryland. The Washington Missionary College was incorporated in 1904, founded to train young men and women for efficient living and Christian Service. In the early years our nursing school was named the Washington Sanitarium Training School for Missionary Nurses. We still provide opportunities for our nursing students to serve abroad and our University offers four short-term mission trips to foreign countries each year.

If you are planning to apply to our nursing program, you have selected one of the best professions for future employment growth and career satisfaction. According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, employment of registered nurses is projected to grow 19% from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average (11%) growth of other occupations. Growth will occur primarily because of technological advancements and an increased emphasis on preventative care. Also, the large, aging baby-boomer population will demand more healthcare services as they live longer and enjoy more active lives. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) estimates a nursing shortage of one million nurses by 2020.

Our nursing program at WAU has the good fortune to have the Adventist HealthCare Washington Adventist Hospital located right on our college campus where our students receive foundational clinical training. Students also rotate to other Adventist HealthCare facilities, including Shady Grove Medical Center, Physical Health and Rehabilitation, and Behavioral Health and Wellness Services. For pediatric training, students have the opportunity to perform clinical rotations at the Children’s National Medical Center. Nursing students attend senior year clinical training at Medstar Washington Hospital Center where they learn to care for acutely ill and critical patients. The internationally renowned Medstar Trauma (Medical Shock/Trauma Acute Resuscitation) at Washington Hospital Center is the regional referral center for critical multiple trauma.
We will work with you towards the goal of completing your nursing degree within our supportive, spiritual, Christian learning community. We have a new, comprehensive curriculum and many success strategies in place that will help you progress successfully through our program, pass your RN state board exam, and reach your dream of becoming a registered nurse. The faculty, staff, and I look forward to working with you as we complete this journey together.

If you have any questions about entry into our nursing program, please feel free to contact the Admissions and Progressions Coordinator, Quiana Oates at (301) 891-0118 or qoates@wau.edu.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nancie Crespi, PhD, RN
Director of Nursing Program
Edyth T. James Department of Nursing
Washington Adventist University
7600 Flower Avenue.
Takoma Park, MD 20912