

Academic–Clinical Nursing Institute Feasibility Study

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Background & Problem

- Lebanon faces severe nursing workforce shortages
- Migration and economic instability worsen staffing gaps
- Hospitals require leadership, quality, and informatics competencies
- Limited structured specialty pathways currently exist

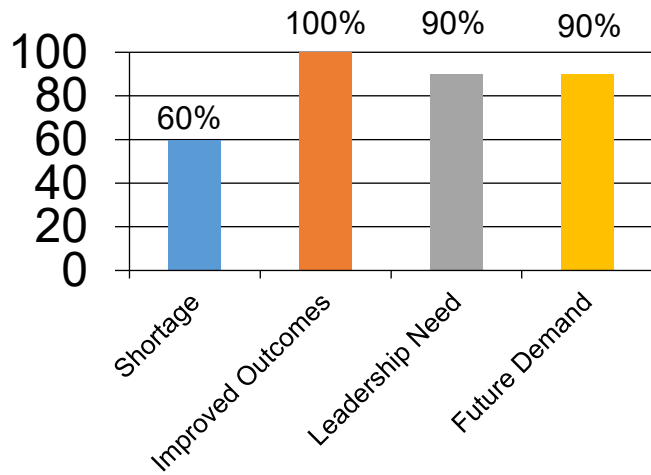
Project Objectives

- Develop 3 specialty nursing tracks
- Establish academic–clinical partnership model
- Pilot cohort of at least 20 nurses
- Achieve ≥85% completion and ≥80% competency

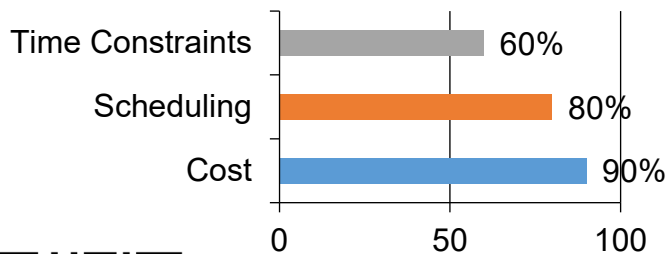
Innovation

- Hybrid modular learning
- Simulation-based education
- Digital health and AI integration
- International mentorship

Employer Survey Findings



Barriers to Continuing Education



Proposed Specialty Tracks

- Critical Care & Emergency Nursing
- Quality, Safety & Accreditation
- Nursing Informatics & Digital Health
- Leadership and crisis preparedness
- Evidence-based clinical practice

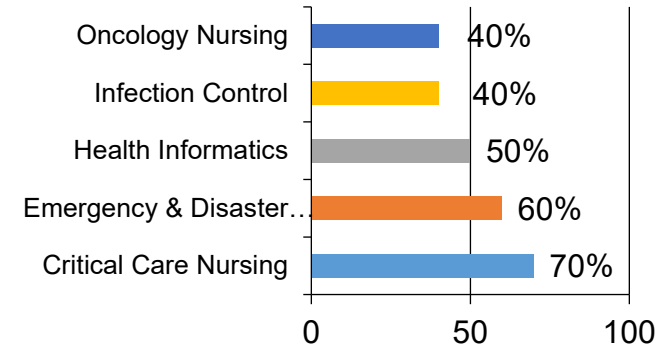
Implementation Timeline

- Month 1: Partnership formation
- Months 1–2: Curriculum development
- Months 2–3: Recruitment
- Month 4: Pilot launch
- Months 4–6: Evaluation

Feasibility analysis

Operational feasibility is supported by infrastructure, simulation labs, faculty expertise, and hospital partnerships. Financial mitigation includes hybrid learning, sponsorship opportunities, and scalable certificate pathways.

Top Specialty Priorities



Expected Outcomes

- Improved workforce retention
- Enhanced specialty competencies
- National center of excellence vision

Strategic Significance

- Supports WHO nursing workforce priorities
- Aligns with AACN academic-practice partnership framework
- Addresses Lebanese healthcare recovery needs
- Promotes simulation and digital health competencies
- Creates scalable continuing education pathways





Development of an Academic–Clinical Nursing Institute at LAU - Feasibility Study

Bahia Abdallah, PhD, MPH, RN

Biography

Dr. Bahia Abdallah is the Nursing Program Director and Assistant Dean at the Alice Ramez Chagougy School of Nursing, Lebanese American University. She holds a BSN, Health Education Diploma, and MPH from the American University of Beirut, and a PhD in Health Sciences and Nursing from the University of Dundee, UK. With over 30 years of experience in management, academia, and community nursing, she has been an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) since 2011 and serves on the Ministry of Public Health’s Technical Advisory Group for Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) policy. She has led national and international training programs in the MENA region, provided consultancy, and worked as a trainer and assessor for the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. For more than 16 years, she has delivered professional education for healthcare providers with the Ministry of Public Health, international NGOs, and the Order of Nurses (ONL).

As a founding faculty member at FHS-UOB, Dr. Abdallah co-developed the Master of Science in Nursing program, introduced Adult Care and Neonatal/Childcare tracks, and initiated the ACEN accreditation process. Her research focuses on inter-professional nursing education, maternal and child health, neonatology, and implementation science, with work spanning systematic reviews and mixed-methods studies. She is an active peer reviewer, presenter, and member of professional organizations including STTI, SIDIIEF, ONL, the National Certification Committee, SAID NGO, and Scientific Society of Arab Nursing Faculties (SSANF). Her leadership and contributions to nursing and health sciences have been recognized through numerous awards, including the AUB Best Nurse Award, the Distinguished Research Award and the Nursing Program Excellence Award from the SSANF.

Contact Information



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