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Canadian**



Nursing school programs:

Strategies to address
5 key challenges.

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Introduction

In the rapidly evolving field of nursing education, ensuring that future nurses receive the highest quality learning experience is more crucial than ever. Nursing schools frequently face a range of administrative challenges that can obstruct the growth and success of their students.

In this guide, we explore 5 major challenges faced in nursing education and demonstrate how a web-based platform can address them. Additionally, we highlight key features that nursing schools can consider to create an effective learning environment by overcoming these obstacles.

Ready to explore how technology can transform nursing education and empower the next generation of nurses?

Nursing education in Canada



137
nursing schools



+310K
registered nurses



+12K
learners graduated from
nursing programs each year

Sources:

<https://www.casn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2020-2021-CASN-Student-Faculty-Survey-Report.pdf>

<https://www.cna-aiic.ca/en/nursing/regulated-nursing-in-canada/nursing-statistics>

<https://www.casn.ca/2023/11/registered-nurses-education-in-canada-statistics-2021-2022/#:~:text=12%20439%20students%20graduated%20from,4%2C833%20who%20graduated%20in%202000>

Challenge 1:

Streamlining the admission and registration process.

Nursing programs in Canada are highly competitive due to a growing demand, with over 16,000 admissions to entry-to-practice programs in Canada in 2022, marking a 25% increase since 2008.* This entails managing a significant volume of interviews, communication, and data, including payments and documentation. Streamlining this experience for both administrators and applicants while maintaining impartiality in candidate selection is no small task.



Overcome by:

Online registration and payment, combined with flags and alerts.

Online portals streamline admission and registration by allowing applicants to complete preregistration, registration, and payment themselves. Automation within the portal calculates admission criteria and manages interview scheduling. Applicants to nursing programs are instantly informed of updates and deadlines, and offers of acceptance are communicated directly through the portal, which enhances the experience and saves time for everyone.

Key features to look for:

- Online preregistration, registration, and payment.
- Overview of applicant's education and academic background.
- Filters to view applicants based on various criteria.
- Applicant status, schedules, and flags for missing information.
- Bulk emails and alerts to applicants.

Challenge 2:

Building a nursing curriculum that aligns with CBE.

While competency-based education (CBE) holds great promise in preparing nursing students for effective practice, its successful implementation relies significantly on the technologies employed. With assessment methods transitioning away from the traditional time-based model of education, the curriculum now revolves around entrustable professional activities (EPAs). This shift entails not only a change in mindset but also processes, as managing EPAs and CBE curriculum for nurses requires significant communication, data, and time.



Overcome by:

EPA mapping and CBE dashboards.

A robust platform is essential to successfully implement CBE. Each step of the curriculum must take EPAs into account, encompassing rotations and dynamic CBE assessment forms. Visual maps and dashboards are key, as they make it easier to visualize the relationship between different components and identify areas for improvement. This holistic overview of learner performance facilitates Competency Committee Meetings and ensures that decisions align with accreditation standards and EPA milestones.

Key features to look for:

- CBE dashboard with a consolidated view of learner progress, EPAs, achievements, and requirements.
- Visual curriculum maps that illustrate the structure and progression of the curriculum.
- Easy trigger of CBE assessments on mobile devices.
- Rotation data used for assessments and EPA mapping.
- Intelligent versioning that provides effortless updates for stage curriculum, and preserving data integrity across versions.

Challenge 3:

Coordinating nursing program schedules.

Clinical rotations are at the core of healthcare education, given they provide hands-on training and experience. However, coordinating schedules can quickly become complex when nursing students work under the supervision of mentors. Without a centralized view of everyone's schedules, coordinating courses and clinical activities is time-consuming. Decisions can even impact the quality of care.



Overcome by:

A centralized scheduling hub with intuitive templates.

To streamline coordination and enhance the educational experience for all stakeholders, administrators must have access to the right planning tool. Creating rotation templates and making bulk edits for scheduling and assignments should be easy, and provide a holistic view to ensure the smooth management of courses and clinical schedules.

Key features to look for:

- Scheduling with drag-and-drop rotation templates.
- Bulk edits for rotation and assignments.
- Event manager for clinical rounds, attachments and more.
- Easy-to-use rotation assessment mapping.
- Catalog of rotations at the institutional level.
- On-demand, rotation-specific EPA assessment mapping.

Challenge 4:

Giving timely and engaging feedback to nursing students.

The more practical the skills being assessed, the more relevant it becomes for nursing students to receive early feedback so that adjustments can be made if necessary. However, if the evaluator is not well-equipped to effectively communicate the assessments, learners may receive feedback too late in the learning process. Furthermore, preceptors or mentors may have demanding schedules, so creating engaging assessments that accommodate their availability can be challenging.



Overcome by:

Real-time assessments.

Utilizing a notification system and a user-friendly interface can encourage mentors to administer assessments as learners progress. For instance, a web-based technology allows assessments and recommendations to be completed any time, from any device, and anywhere. Learners can then access assessments instantly, gaining immediate progress insights. This allows supervisors to identify areas where learners could use additional support and adjust their teaching strategies accordingly, such as tailoring content, modifying practical exercises, or selecting specific case studies to better address their needs.

Key features to look for:

- Form editor that allows efficient creation with reusable templates and diverse answer sets.
- Dynamic form branching that tailors assessments to user responses.
- Mobile interface for real-time clinical observations.
- Instant notifications for performance flags.

Challenge 5:

Maintaining data accuracy on the complete nursing journey.

When educational data is stored in multiple systems or formats, maintaining consistency and accuracy across different platforms becomes challenging. Inaccurate data may lead to misallocation of resources, as nursing programs may invest in areas that do not align with learners' actual needs or performance levels. Furthermore, educators may struggle to identify learners at risk of failing, ultimately compromising the quality of education provided.



Overcome by:

Dashboards and real-time reports that can analyze multidimensional.

A comprehensive dashboard and real-time reporting system can revolutionize educational data management by providing a multidimensional analysis of key metrics such as learner performance, program resource allocation, and risk indicators. Supervisors and administrators can identify trends, track learner progress, and pinpoint at-risk learners instantly, enabling data-driven decisions that enhance nursing program outcomes.

Key features to look for:

- Real-time reports that spotlight views of key information such as learner summary, stage reports, EPA summary and EPA milestone.
- Consolidated view of learner progress, achievements, and requirements.
- Advanced filtering and reporting with saved filter selections.
- Multidimensional information analysis.



Unlock the potential of your nursing program.

Streamlining the admission and registration process.	Building a nursing curriculum that aligns with CBE.	Coordinating nursing program schedules.	Giving timely and engaging feedback to nursing students.	Maintaining data accuracy on the complete nursing journey.
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LEARNERS


SUPERVISORS


ADMINISTRATORS

Simplified application process, reduced stress and clear overview of statuses.	Clear understanding of competency expectations, personalized feedback, and enhanced learning outcomes.	Clear rotation overview that enhances preparedness, reduces stress and optimizes hands-on training.	Immediate feedback and clear insights into areas for improvement that fosters skill improvement and engagement.	Visual progress tracking of completed rotations and assessments that promote accountability and motivation.
Centralized data and clear registration requirements ensure that learners are provided with the right information.	Enhanced visibility of learner progress and comprehensive data insights that enable targeted interventions.	Enhanced communication with learners and easier management of schedules, assignments, and rotations.	Support in identifying and addressing learner needs efficiently with real-time assessment tools.	Holistic view of learners' progress and early identification of potential issues to provide timely interventions.
Increased efficiency throughout the admission cycle and possibility to make data-driven decisions.	Improved alignment with accreditation standards and performance tracking that supports strategic planning.	Enhanced coordination that supports consistent educational experience across programs and quality of care.	Streamlined feedback processes for improved learner outcome and program reputation.	Insights into program effectiveness and enhanced data accuracy to support decision making and resource allocation.

Empower learners, support supervisors, and streamline administration for your nursing program.

From streamlining admission and registration processes to maintaining data accuracy throughout the learner journey, LGI Education empowers nursing schools to operate more efficiently, reduce administrative burdens, and deliver a superior educational experience.



Dashboards and reporting

Maintain data accuracy with dashboards, charts, and graphs for research purposes and enhanced insight.



Scheduling

Facilitate management of training by building your academic and clinical schedules with a drag-and-drop interface.



Curriculum mapping

Build a curriculum that aligns with Competency-Based Education.



Let's talk about how we can address your challenges.

Schedule your demo today

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