

## How do I apply for selection into the VANAP program?

Sophomore students interested in applying to the VANAP program must be in good academic standing with the college. To be considered for the cohort program, students should submit their GPA and a one-page narrative about why they are interested in becoming a member of the VANAP program cohort. Twenty students per year will be admitted to the cohort program.

All application materials should be sent to:

**Sandi Van Den Heuvel, M.S.N., R.N.**

VANAP Director

Marquette School of Nursing

sandra.vandenheuvel@marquette.edu

Students will receive notification of acceptance into the cohort by February 1. Accepted students will begin their VANAP cohort experience during the fall of junior year.

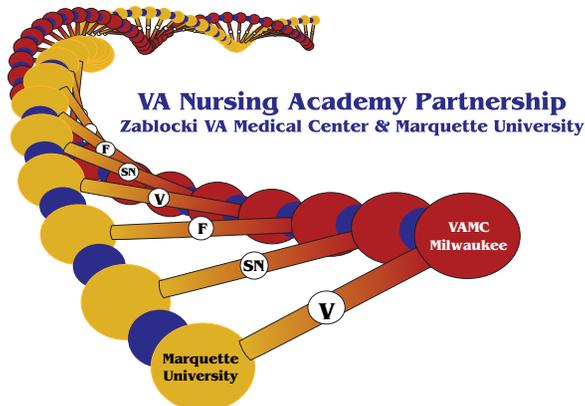


Marquette University College of Nursing  
and Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center

## VA Nursing Academic Partnership Program



**College of Nursing**  
Marquette University  
Clark Hall  
530 N. 16th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233  
414.288.3800  
[marquette.edu/nursing](http://marquette.edu/nursing)



VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



## What is VANAP?

In 2013, the Department of Veterans Affairs chose the Marquette University College of Nursing and Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center as one of six sites nationally to participate in the five-year VA Nursing Academic Partnership Program. The \$5 million VANAP program incorporates veteran-centric care into the College of Nursing's pre-licensure curriculum to prepare all Marquette nursing students to promote health, healing and social justice for veterans and their families with compassionate, culturally based and spiritually reflective clinical practice.

*“The VANAP program broadened my understanding of veterans and their unique needs, and my clinicals at the VA were the ultimate educational experience.”*

— Clara Kiesel  
College of Nursing, Class of 2016

## Why VANAP?

VA health care systems across the United States are facing a nursing shortage, which will intensify because of an increase in nursing retirements, an aging veteran population and the continued expansion of the veteran-eligible population from ongoing global military engagements. Marquette's College of Nursing's veteran-centric cohort program will help fill expected future vacancies with B.S.N.-prepared nurses who are able to provide quality veteran-centric care and who require less training and onboarding because of their clinical experiences in VA settings.

## What are the expectations of a VANAP student?

It is expected that successful applicants commit to the VANAP program for the duration of their nursing education and comply with the vision, mission and values of the Marquette College of Nursing and VA Medical Center and facilities. VANAP students will complete all adult-oriented clinicals at Milwaukee's VA.

## How is VANAP different?

The VANAP program provides unique learning experiences such as:

- Exceptional clinical experiences with exposure to acute care, ICU, ED, primary care and long-term care settings
- Unique learning opportunities in specialized areas such as spinal cord injury and mental health
- Guided one-on-one instruction on dedicated education units (DEUs) by clinical content experts, experienced faculty and VA nursing preceptors
- Immersion in veteran-centric topics with a focus on the unique health care needs of veterans

## Program recognition and opportunities:

- VANAP scholar designation upon graduation
- Cultural immersion experience at the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago
- Priority consideration for VA-specific positions as available, including the VALOR and PBNR programs
- Streamlined recruitment and placement process; in general, higher placement on the initial salary scale than non-VA clinical trainees