

NURSING IN IRELAND FIELD TRIP¹

FEBRUARY 24 – MARCH 5, 2023 (READING BREAK)

Complement your classroom learning through first-hand exposure to nursing in Ireland. This optional one-week field trip during reading break will enable Practical Nursing (PN) students to interact with nursing students and instructors at the [Technological University of the Shannon Midlands Midwest](#) (TUS) in Athlone, Ireland, observe nursing practice in a variety of settings, and explore similarities and differences in the geriatric and end of life care in Canada and Ireland. Like Canada, Ireland has an aging population.² This field trip offers the opportunity to learn more about how the Irish health system is responding and the role of nurses in this response.

Where & When?

- [Athlone](#), [Mullingar](#) and [Dublin](#), Ireland from February 24 to March 5, 2023 (inclusive of travel)
- Participants will have face-to-face interaction with students from the Technological University of the Shannon Midlands Midwest (TUS), visit classrooms and lab facilities, and visit and observe at a hospital and other health care facilities. In addition, students will have a full day and night to explore Dublin.

Who is eligible?

- College of the Rockies students enrolled in the Practical Nursing program during the 2022-2023 academic year:
 - a. Who are in good standing in the PN program and with no issues related to their progression in the program,
 - b. For whom there are no issues related to student conduct that would give the College concern about possible disruptions to the learning environment during the field trip,
 - c. Who are able to demonstrate that they:
 - have what it takes to succeed in a group environment,
 - are both curious and sensitive to cultural differences, and
 - are committed to representing the participating colleges and their partners in a responsible manner and acting in a professional and respectful manner during the exchange.
 - d. Who are Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents and 19 years of age or older as of the date of travel, and,

¹ Information as of July 8, 2022.

² [Ageing Ireland: Living longer and cleaner brings its own problems](#)

- e. For whom there are no impediments with legal or regulatory requirements related to travel to and entry into Ireland.
- Students accepted to participate in a learning abroad activity are expected to continuously comply with the College’s criteria for eligibility until the date of departure to one’s international destination. Those who fail to do so will have their participation terminated.

What will it cost and what will it include?

- The cost to participate in this exchange has been dramatically reduced thanks to support provided by Global Skills Opportunity.
- Global Skills Opportunity seeks to increase the number of Canadian students studying and working internationally, including by widening access and equity in participation by low-income students, students with disabilities, and Indigenous students. Given this focus of the Global Skills Opportunity program, the co-payment required from participating students is as follows:

Low-income students, students with disabilities, and / or Indigenous students		Other students	
Estimated total average cost per student	\$5,200	Estimated total average cost per student	\$5,200
Costs covered by Global Skills Opportunity	-\$3750	Costs covered by Global Skills Opportunity	-\$3,000
Costs covered by the Colleges	-\$700	Costs covered by the Colleges	-700
Co-payment required	\$750	Co-payment required	\$1,500

- The cost includes airfare from Cranbrook to Ireland return, ground transportation, eight nights shared accommodation, travel medical insurance, farewell dinner and operational costs.

What does this cost exclude?

- Participating students are responsible for meals, souvenirs, extracurricular outings, and other personal expenses. Budget approximately \$500 to \$650 for these costs.

Beyond the subsidy provided by Global Skills Opportunity, what other financial support is available?

- Participating students who will incur childcare / caregiver costs in order to travel to Ireland may apply to College of the Rockies receive up to \$250 towards their costs.

Application procedure and deadlines:

Early bird deadline: June 30, 2022 (For students who will be in the second year of the PN program in 2022-23)	Final deadline: October 15, 2022 (For remaining places, if any, for both 1 st and 2 nd year PN students)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit an application form to Tracey Brenton, International Projects Officer, College of the Rockies (tbrenton@cotr.bc.ca).• By June 30, arrange with Tracey Brenton to submit a non-refundable \$500 deposit³• By June 30, have an instructor who is familiar with you / your abilities submit a reference form to Tracey Brenton.• Applicants will be interviewed by the field trip instructor and / or the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If by June 30, 2022 all 12 spots have not been taken up by eligible students who will be in the second year of the PN program in 2022-23, the application process will be open to all students registered in the PN program.

Selection process:

- Your application form, instructor reference and interview will be considered by the College in confirming your eligibility with a view to selecting twelve (12) Practical Nursing students.
- The College will select the first six (6) eligible Global Skills Opportunity “target group” students who submit an application form and are determined eligible by the College, and who, by June 30, have made a \$500 payment and have had an instructor submit a reference form.
- The College will provide the remaining six (6) spots on a first-come, first-served basis to any other eligible students (i.e., “target group” students or other students) who similarly submit an application form and are determined eligible by the College, and who, by June 30, have made a \$500 payment and have had an instructor submit a reference form..

What happens after I’m selected?

- You will be asked to sign a letter of agreement in which you will commit to all aspects of the program, conduct yourself in a responsible and professional manner, and comply with the College of the Rockies’ risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad.
- Final non-refundable payment is due by October 31, 2022.
- You will be enrolled in College of the Rockies’ Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course, which will provide College of the Rockies recognition of enhanced global awareness and intercultural competencies resulting from participation in this exchange.

³ Applicants who are not selected will have their deposits refunded. **Deposits for applicants who are selected are non-refundable.** College of the Rockies reserves the right to cancel the program due to insufficient enrollment or other factors beyond its control. In case of program cancellation, College of the Rockies will refund deposits.

- You will be expected to participate in activities and complete assignments related to the Global Engagement course. This will include participating in four 1.5 hour sessions that will be scheduled between October 2022 and February 2023. Assignments will focus on researching practical considerations and cultural aspects related to travel to Ireland, identifying, assessing and developing strategies to manage risk associated with travel, and developing strategies to communicate in culturally diverse contexts and manage culture shock
- You will be asked to sign a waiver, the College of the Rockies risk management plan and emergency protocols for travel abroad, and the College's protocols for responsible communications while traveling abroad. In addition, as part of College of the Rockies' risk management plan, you will be asked to register with the federal government's registry of Canadians abroad and provide confirmation that you have reviewed the federal government's advice for travel to Ireland.
- On Friday, February 24, 2023, all participating students along with the instructor(s) leading this activity will depart Cranbrook for Dublin, Ireland. (College of the Rockies will make travel arrangements for all participants.) If you have class scheduled for February 24, 2023, it is your responsibility to seek your instructor(s)' permission to be excused.
- You will return on Sunday, March 5, 2023. In addition to participating in various learning activities in Ireland, you will be asked to complete one reflective essay during your time abroad as part of the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course.
- By the end of the Winter Semester 2023, you will be asked to complete the final assignment related to the Global Engagement Certificate of Completion Course. This assignment is to engage in communications activity (e.g., deliver a 10-minute presentation to peers or another college or public audience, create a video or podcast, provide a blog post & photo for your college's website, etc.) that describes how your international experience impacted learning in your field of study and / or your career goals and / or your personal growth.

Will I get credit for participating in this exchange?

- The field trip experience may be used as the basis for individual course assignments subject to the agreement of your professional practice instructor.

Need more information?

- Meet with PN Instructor, Jeff Quinn, or the Manager, International Projects and Partnerships, Kerry Brinkert (studyabroad@cotr.bc.ca)