

What is Nursing Central?

Nursing Central is a package of five electronic books that you can access on a mobile device or on a computer, including:

1. Davis's Drug Guide
2. Taber's Medical Dictionary
3. Diseases and Disorders
4. Davis's Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests
5. Nurse's Pocket Guide

Nursing Central is sold through a company called Unbound Medicine.

Who is required to use it?

Starting in May 2012, all students in the basic and accelerated BSN programs will be required to use a mobile device equipped with Nursing Central.

All students in other nursing programs, including the RN to BSN and graduate programs, will have the option of using Nursing Central.

Why are we required to use it?

Mobile devices (e.g. iPod Touch, smart phones, some e-readers such as the Kindle Fire) and the software that accompanies them provide nursing students with access to information that will enhance their ability to provide safe, quality care in any clinical setting.

Will I have to purchase a mobile device to use Nursing Central?

If you already own a mobile device that is compatible with Nursing Central, you will not have to purchase a new mobile device. You may simply download Nursing Central to your existing compatible device.

Nursing Central is compatible with mobile devices that run the following operating systems:

1. Android (including the Kindle Fire)
2. BlackBerry
3. iOS (iPod Touch, iPhone, iPad)
4. Palm OS
5. Windows Mobile
6. Windows Phone

More information about device compatibility can be found at <http://www.unboundmedicine.com/support>.

If you do not already own a mobile device that is compatible with Nursing Central, you will need to purchase one. The College recommends the iPod Touch because it is compatible with Nursing Central and does not require the added expense of a phone and data plan. As of March 7, 2012, the cost of an 8 GB iPod Touch is approximately \$199.

How much does Nursing Central cost?

Four of the five books included in the Nursing Central package will replace textbooks you would previously have purchased in hard copy. You can see the cost comparison below.

Previously Purchased Hard Copy Titles/Cost	
<i>Title</i>	<i>Cost*</i>
Karch, A. M. (2012). 2012 Lippincott's nursing drug guide (9th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams Wilkins.	\$42.95
Steadman, J. K. (Ed.). (2017). Steadman's medical dictionary (7th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.	\$41.95
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Fischbach, F. T. & Dunning, M. B. (2009). A manual of laboratory and diagnostic tests (8th ed.). Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.	\$54.95
Sparks Ralph, S. & Taylor, C. M. (2011). Nursing diagnosis reference manual (8th ed.) Philadelphia: Wolter Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.	\$51.95
Total (for previously purchased hard copy titles)	\$191.80

Comparable Titles Included in Nursing Central/Cost	
<i>Title</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Davis's Drug Guide	-
Taber's Medical Dictionary	-
Diseases & Disorders	-
Davis's Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests	-
Nurse's Pocket Guide	-
Total (for titles included in Nursing Central)	\$171.00

*Cost based on 8/2011 package

The \$171 cost of Nursing Central also includes the following features:

1. MEDLINE Journals – citations and abstracts
2. Grasp – flash card study system

In addition to being approximately \$20.80 less than what you would pay to purchase these books in hard copy, the \$171 cost of Nursing Central is approximately \$28.90 less than what you would pay if you purchased this same package directly from Unbound Medicine without being part of The University of Akron.

Furthermore, you will receive, at no additional cost, any updates to these books (regularly priced at \$99 per year) throughout your career as a student at The University of Akron.

How will we make the purchase?

Basic BSN sophomores incoming Fall 2012 will be charged a course fee of \$171 to pay for their copy of Nursing Central. This course fee will be attached to 8200:217.

Accelerated BSN students incoming May 2012 will be provided with a discount code that they will use to purchase Nursing Central online at the cost of \$171. The reason we are not charging this year’s incoming class of accelerated BSN students by course fee is that it is too late in the year to add a course fee. The May 2013 incoming class of accelerated BSN students will be charged by a course fee attached to 8200:217.

A benefit of the site license agreement that The University of Akron has with Unbound Medicine is that anyone affiliated with The University of Akron College of Nursing will have access to Nursing Central, including juniors, seniors, and all other students and faculty in any other program, including the RN to BSN and graduate programs. This means that juniors and seniors will be required to use Nursing Central but will not have to pay for Nursing Central. Incoming accelerated and basic sophomores are paying for Nursing Central because they would have been required to purchase these books anyway, and they have not yet purchased them in the hard copy format as juniors and seniors already have.

So what will my total cost be?

Use the table below to estimate your total cost.

I am a...	...with a compatible device.	...without a compatible device.
Accelerated as of May 2012	\$171 (cost of Nursing Central)	Approximately \$370 (cost of iPod Touch + Nursing Central)
Sophomore as of Fall 2012	\$171 (cost of Nursing Central)	Approximately \$370 (cost of iPod Touch + Nursing Central)
Junior as of Fall 2012	\$0	Approximately \$199 (cost of iPod Touch)
Senior as of Fall 2012	\$0	Approximately \$199 (cost of iPod Touch)

Will all my instructors require me to use a mobile device?

All faculty teaching in the basic and accelerated BSN programs will require you to use a mobile device.

Exceptions will be made for clinical sites that do not permit the use of mobile devices on the unit.

What happens to me if I don't have a mobile device?

You will receive a verbal warning the first time you do not bring a mobile device with you to clinical.

The second time you do not bring a mobile device with you to clinical, you will be sent home from clinical for the day and will not receive credit for that day. Refer to the [Prenursing & Nursing Student Handbook](#) for the makeup policy for clinicals.

Can I keep Nursing Central after I graduate?

Yes, you will continue to have access to Nursing Central after you graduate. However, you will no longer be eligible to receive the updated versions for free (the versions you graduate with are the versions you get to keep unless you choose to pay for the updates on your own).

Can I use Nursing Central on a computer?

Yes, you can access your Nursing Central content on a computer. This is useful if you plan to read for an extended period of time. When you are in clinical or otherwise unable to access a computer, you will have access on your mobile device.

Can I use Nursing Central on an iPad?

Yes, Nursing Central is compatible with iPad. However, you may find that the iPad is too large to conveniently carry with you to clinical.

Can I use Nursing Central on an e-reader?

Currently, the Kindle Fire is the only e-reader compatible with Nursing Central.

Can I transfer Nursing Central if I buy a new mobile device?

Yes, you can transfer Nursing Central from one device to another. See <http://www.unboundmedicine.com/support> for more information.

Will training be provided?

Yes, training will be provided by Unbound Medicine for students and faculty.

Training videos and other support materials are also available online at <http://www.unboundmedicine.com/support>.

Will technical support be available?

Yes, technical support will be provided by Unbound Medicine. Phone support is available by calling 610.627.9090, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST and by submitting a support request online at <http://www.unboundmedicine.com/support> with response time stated as within one business day.