

Mercer County Community College
Division of Math, Science, and Health Professions
Nursing Program

Admission to the Professional Phase
of the Nursing Education Program

Purpose: To provide students with a clear outline of the requirements for admission to the Nursing Education program. All students may enroll in general education coursework. Only students who have been accepted to the professional phase of the Nursing Education program may enroll in nursing coursework.

Procedure:

1. The following are the requirements that must be met in order for students to be eligible to apply to the Professional Phase of the Nursing Education program:
 - a. Students must have Health Science-Nursing declared as their major.
 - b. Students must attend a Nursing Information Session given by the Nursing Education Department.
 - c. Students must have completed all academic foundations courses and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.
 - d. Students must have completed the first four courses of the curriculum: English Composition (ENG101), Elementary Statistics (MAT125), Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO103), and Introduction to Psychology (PSY101). The GPA of these four courses must be collectively 2.5 or higher. If students have completed the first four courses of the curriculum at an educational institution other than MCCC, the student must have submitted official transcripts to the MCCC student records office. The transcript must be evaluated and the course(s) accepted for transfer to be considered for admission to professional phase of the nursing education program.
 - e. Students must complete a Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) exam. The exam must be taken in person at the MCCC campus. Test scores for on-line or alternate in person locations are not accepted. TEAS scores are good for two years. Students must have completed the TEAS exam with an academic preparedness level of proficient or higher.
 - f. Students must have completed the second semester pre-requisite coursework
 - i. English Composition II – ENG102
 - ii. Developmental Psychology – PSY207
 - iii. General and Physiological Chemistry – CHE107
 - iv. Anatomy and Physiology II – BIO104
 - g. Students enrolled in the second semester pre-requisite coursework during the application period are eligible for consideration. All second semester coursework must be registered and successfully completed prior to the start of the nursing education
 - h. Students must achieve a grade of C+ or higher in all biology courses taken after Spring 2015.
 - i. All math and science classes must have been completed within the past ten years.
2. Students are permitted to transfer coursework from other institutions to fulfill the general education requirements. The student is responsible to ensure official copies of their transcripts are sent to the MCCC Student Records office and credits are evaluated. Unofficial transcript evaluations are not accepted.

3. The application form and submission instructions are posted on the Nursing Education program website (www.mccc.edu/nursing). Failure to follow the instructions as directed may result in a rejected application.
4. There are two application periods per academic year.
 - a. Applicants who wish to begin the professional phase coursework in the fall on the day schedule should submit their application March 15 through April 15th.
 - b. Applicants who wish to begin the professional phase coursework in the spring on the evening/weekend schedule should submit their application September 1st through October 1st.
 - c. Applications are not accepted outside the application period.
5. MCCC's Nursing Education Program uses a rubric for admission consideration to the Nursing Education Program to ensure fairness and objectivity in the acceptance process. Point values will be assigned to students based on: GPA of first semester courses (transfer or MCCC) and TEAS exam score. Interviews are not conducted and letters of recommendation are not accepted.
6. We offer two additional pathways for student admission: the Weaver Scholars program, where students are prioritized by date of matriculation at MCCC and Kean Scholars program for students enrolled in the Equal Opportunity Fund program at MCCC. Both pathways require the same eligibility requirement as traditional acceptance. Students may indicate on their application that they would like to be considered for admission through the additional pathways.
7. International students who are studying at MCCC on an F-1 visa are not eligible to participate in the nursing education program.
8. Students with immigration status other than U.S. citizen are eligible to apply and enroll in the professional phase of the nursing education program. The New Jersey Board of Nursing may require additional documentation prior to issuing a professional nursing license.
9. Out of county and out of state students are permitted to apply and enroll in the professional phase of the nursing education program. Students will be held to the same standards for time, attendance, and clinical placements as in-county students.
10. The application process is unique for each year and does not "carry over" to another year. Students who are not accepted into the program and wish to apply in the future need to submit a new application.
11. Once an applicant is selected for admission to the professional phase of the Nursing Education Program, there will be additional health and other requirements that must be completed prior to beginning the Nursing Education Program.
12. Students will be required to attend two mandatory meetings after being accepted into the Nursing Education Program. The meeting dates and locations will be announced after acceptance is confirmed. Failure to attend the meeting may result in removal from the professional phase of the Nursing Education program.

13. All students applying for the professional phase of the Nursing Education program will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance, in writing, 4 to 6 weeks following the end of the petition period. A letter will be mailed to the home address submitted on the application.

Effective Date: September 1, 2021

Last Reviewed Date: March 2024

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth A. Mizerek', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Elizabeth A. Mizerek, PhD, RN, FN-CSA, CNE, CEN, CPEN, FAEN
Director of Nursing Education