Nursing

A.A.S. Degree Program – Catalog Year 2017-2018

Ocean County College's nursing program is a planned, two-year curriculum of classroom study and clinical experience that prepares graduates for employment in the hospital and various health care settings. Successful completion of the program leads to the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree and eligibility to take the licensure examination for Registered Nurses in New Jersey.

For more information on this selective admissions program, please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions. Students intending to seek admission to the Nursing Program should also file a "Letter of Intent" in the Registration and Records Office.

Transfer and Career Information

The Associate in Applied Science in Nursing is intended to prepare students for immediate entry into the workplace. Graduates take the NCLEX licensure examination and, upon passing that exam, are licensed as Registered Nurses (RN). Many four-year institutions, including Kean Ocean, offer BSN completion degrees to students who have earned the AAS in Nursing. Students planning to transfer to a four-year institution in NJ can explore the "Transfer Programs" feature on NJ Transfer www.njtransfer.org.

Curriculum

Students must complete the following courses with a minimum grade of "C". See the attached Frequently Asked Questions for information regarding admission to the Nursing Program.

ENGL 151	English I	3 cr.
ENGL 152	English II	3 cr.
PSYC 172	General Psychology	3 cr.
CHEM 180 or	Introductory Chemistry	4 cr.
CHEM 181	General Chemistry I	
BIOL 130	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4 cr.
BIOL 131	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4 cr.
MATH	One Math (except MATH 151) from the list of Approved General Education Courses (MATH 156 recommended)	3 cr.
HUMANITIES	One Humanities from the list of Approved General Education Humanities Courses	3 cr.

Program Specific Courses

NURS 175	Nursing I	9 cr.
NURS 176	Nursing II	9 cr.
NURS 174	Nutrition	3 cr.
BIOL 232*	Microbiology	4 cr.
NURS 273	Nursing III	9 cr.
NURS 274	Nursing IV	10 cr.
NURS 275	Contemporary Nursing	2 cr.
	TOTAL CREDITS 73	

Courses satisfying General Education Requirements must be selected from the list of Approved General Education Courses

* BIOL 232 can be completed prior to entering the Nursing Program

OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE
TRADITIONAL NURSING PROGRAM
FAQ's

1.   How long does it take to get into the Nursing Program?
        That will depend on how long it takes you to complete the requirements and how many other students have completed the requirements before you. You can expect to wait one to three semesters after you get a "Date of Completion" (DOC) before your date gets to the top of the list.

2.   What do I need to do to apply for the Traditional Nursing Program?
        You must complete an *Application for Admission* to OCC. You must also complete a *Letter of Intent* for Nursing. You must have an official copy of your high school transcripts sent to OCC, along with official transcripts from all other colleges you have attended. (Students interested in the On-Site On-Line Nursing Program should call the School of Nursing at 732-255-0400 ext. 486 for the additional Supplemental Application for that program)

3.   What is a "Letter of Intent"?
        A *"Letter of Intent"* is a form you can get in the Registration & Records Office that tells us you are still interested in the Traditional (Not the On-Site On-Line) Nursing Program. You need to fill out a *"Letter of Intent"* every Fall and Spring semester until you are accepted or are no longer interested in Nursing.

4.   What is a "Date of Completion"?
        A student establishes their "Date of Completion" when they have finished all the requirements to enter the Nursing Program.

5.   Am I on the waiting list?
        There is **no** "List".   Each semester, every student who has submitted a "Letter of Intent" is evaluated. The students who have completed all the requirements are arranged in order by their "Date of Completion". Acceptance letters are sent to the students with the earliest dates. Some students only fill out a "Letter of Intent" for Spring and some only for Fall. Some students check both. Each semester is a different "List."

6.   Can my "Date of Completion" change?
        Yes, if your grade point average drops below 2.7 after you have completed the requirements, you will lose your "DOC" until you bring your GPA up to a 2.7 again. You will also lose your DOC if you are offered a seat in the nursing program and decline it. Your new DOC will be effective when you fill out a new "Letter of Intent" form for a future semester.

7.   Does living in Ocean County, give me preference over an out of county resident?
        Yes, Ocean County Residents are accepted first before out of county residents to the Traditional Nursing Program. With each "Letter of Intent" you will need to give us a copy of your Driver's License so that you are given in-county preference. Nursing students must also be either a US citizen or have a valid Resident Alien (Green) Card. We will need a copy of the Green Card as well as your Driver's License as proof in order to issue a Date of Completion. The State Board of Nursing will not issue a license to anyone who is not a Citizen or Resident Alien. Work or Student Visas are not acceptable.

8.   What is the TEAS test?
The TEAS test is a nursing entrance test that is required for acceptance into the OCC Nursing Program. It can be scheduled through the OCC Testing Center (732) 255-0400 ext. 2240. The test is 3 ½ hours in length and covers English, Math and Science. There is a fee for the test.

9.   When can I take the TEAS test?   Students are directed to schedule the TEAS test when they feel ready to take it. It is recommended that students take the TEAS test when they are finished with their general education requirements. It must be taken at the OCC Testing Center. A study guide can be purchased in the college bookstore. Students must pass the TEAS test in order to receive a "Date of Completion."
- ☑ If a student fails the TEAS test on their 1st attempt, they are required to enroll in (and complete the) TEAS Prep course [CEHS 332] prior to taking the test a 2nd time.
- ☑ If a student fails the TEAS test on their 2nd attempt, they are required to wait 6 weeks before taking it the 3rd time.
- ☑ If a student fails the TEAS test on their 3rd attempt they are required to wait 2 years before they can test again.

10.   Do I need to take Microbiology to get into the program?
Microbiology (BIOL 232) is not a prerequisite to enter the Nursing Program, but you do need to take it in order to complete the program.

11   Can I take Nutrition while waiting to be admitted to Nursing?
No. Nutrition (NURS 174) is only taken as a co-requisite with Nursing II.

12.   Why do I need a background check?
Anyone who works in a hospital is required to have a clean background check. Pre-Nursing Applicants who are in their final semester of completing the Nursing prerequisites need to institute a criminal background check with Adam Safeguard.
Go to: www.adamsafeguard.com Click Our Services, click Student Background Program, click "order student background", enter "occ" for school code.
You will not receive a "Date of Completion" without a clean background check.

13.   I finished all my requirements, but still didn't get an acceptance letter. What do I do now?
This can happen because so many people are interested in the Nursing Program. You can take Microbiology, if not yet completed. You can also take OCC classes recommended toward the Kean@Ocean BSN program. Kean University is located in the Gateway Building.

14.   I got accepted into the program, but I changed my mind. What do I do?
Please, let us know **in writing** ASAP. Each semester we have at least 200 people who are hoping for that seat.

Updated: 2-13-17