Nursing

A.A.S. Degree Program – Catalog Year 2020-2021

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.

Kean-Ocean BSN:

Kean-Ocean requires additional general courses for transfer into the BSN completion program. It is in a student's best interest to complete the requirements for a date of completion prior to taking these general education requirements for Kean.

- COMM 154 Public Speaking 3-credits
- Humanities General Education course 3-credits
- History General Education course 3-credits
- PHIL 191 Intro to Philosophy 3-credits**
- SOCI 181 Intro to Sociology 3-credits**
- SOCI 282 Sociology of the Family 3-credits**

**Please refer to the Kean-Ocean BSN guide for information on graduation with honors.

Kean-Ocean Suggested Curriculum the BSN

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 CHEM 181	Introductory Chemistry / General Chemistry I	4 cr.
BIOL 130	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4 cr.
BIOL 131	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4 cr.
MATH 156	***Intro to Statistics***	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

Board of Trustees Approval Date: May 29, 2007
Board of Trustees Approval Date: December 1, 2008
Board of Trustees Approval Date: January 25, 2010
Board of Trustees Approval Date: December 6, 2010
Board of Trustees Approval Date: January 24, 2011
Board of Trustees Approval Date: November 4, 2013

Ocean County College
Traditional Nursing Program
FAQ's

1. **What do I need to do to apply for the Traditional Nursing Program?**
   Complete an Online Application for Admission to OCC. You must also complete a Letter of Intent for Nursing. Have your official high school transcripts sent to OCC, along with Official college transcripts from any colleges you may have attended. (Students interested in the OnSite/OnLine Nursing program should call the School of Nursing at 732-255-0400 ext. 486 for the additional Supplemental Application for that program.)

2. **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 OnSite/OnLine) Nursing Program. You need to fill out a "Letter of Intent" for every Fall and Spring Semester until you are accepted or are no longer interested in the Nursing Program.

3. **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 between 1 & 3 semesters after you get a "Date of Completion" before your date gets to the top of the list.

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. It is the date you finish your final requirement.

5. **Am I on the waiting list?**
   There is **NO** single "list". Each semester, every student who has submitted a Letter of Intent in 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. A new list is generated each semester based on who filled out a "Letter of Intent".

6. **Can my "Date of Completion" change?**
   Yes, if your grade point average drips below 2.7 after you have completed the requirements, y o u will lose your "DOC". When you bring your GPA up to at least a 2.7 again, you will get a new "DOC". Also, if you are offered a seat in the nursing program and you decline it, your new "Date of Completion" will be when you fill out a new Letter of Intent for a future semester.

7. **What is the TEAS test?**
   The TEAS test is a nursing entrance test that is required for acceptance into the OCC Nursing Program. It has to be scheduled through the OCC Testing Center [(732) 255-0401]. The test is 3 ½ hours in length and covers English, Math and Science. There is a fee for the test.

8. **When can I take the TEAS test?**
Students should schedule the TEAS test when they feel ready to take it. It is recommended to take it when you have completed your General Education required courses. It must be taken at the OCC Testing Center. 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 takin it a 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.

9. **Why do I need a Criminal Background Check?**
Anyone who works in a hospital is required to have a clean criminal background check. Nursing applicants who are in their final semester of completing the Nursing pre-requisites need to institute a criminal background check with Castle Branch.
Go to: https://mycb.castlebranch.com Package code: **OY49**
You will not receive a "Date of Completion without a clean background check.

10. **Do I need to take Microbiology to get into the program?**
Microbiology is not a pre-requisite to enter the program but must be completed before Nursing IV in order to graduate.

11. **Can I take Nutrition before I start the program?**
No. Nutrition (NURS 174) is only taken as a co-requisite with Nursing II.

12. **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. We require a copy of your Driver's License with each Letter of Intent to verify that you live in Ocean County. 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 with every "Letter of Intent". Work or Student Visas are not acceptable.

13. **I finished all my pre-requisites 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 you haven't yet. Kean University offers a BSN program through Kean-Ocean and you can take the classes that they recommend toward your Bachelor Degree. A Kean advisor is available in the Kean office located in the Gateway Building (101) if you have any questions.

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 a least 200 people who are hoping for that seat.

Dear Prospective Nursing Student:

Thank you for your interest in the Ocean County College Nursing Program. Our Nursing Program is a selective program with specific entrance requirements that must be met before a student can begin the program. Applicants must submit all transcripts, including high school and each college attended (please do not assume we already have your transcripts from a period of prior enrollment at OCC). Applicants who have met all entrance requirements will be assigned a "date of completion." Students are accepted into the Nursing Program on a first come first serve basis, based on this date. **Priority is given to in-county residents.**

All pre-nursing students must fill out a Letter of Intent for the Nursing Program every semester. This letter can be obtained from the Registration and Records Office. Your degree program will be listed as either AA.LA or AS.GE.SCI. However, you should follow the nursing prerequisites outlined in this letter and NOT the AA.LA./AS.GE.SCI curriculum.

Graduation from the Nursing Program requires completion of all Nursing General Education courses (listed on back), all Nursing courses, and Microbiology. We encourage you to meet with the Academic Advising Office to discuss admissions requirements and course selection.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING STUDENTS
Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. High school graduate or GED. Official transcript must be provided.
2. Complete either A, B, or C.

   A. Minimum scores on the ACT or SAT examinations as follows:

   - ACT examinations – Composite 24 or higher
   - SAT minimum of 1100 combined Critical Reading (or Evidence Based Reading and Writing) and Math

   NOTE: Students entering the program under this requirement can take their Nursing General Education requirements concurrently with the Nursing Program, though it is strongly recommended you complete as many as possible in advance of starting the program.

   OR

   B. A Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited college or university and successful completion of Anatomy & Physiology l & ll with a grade of "C" or better.
   NOTE: Students entering the program under this requirement can take any other required Nursing General Education requirements concurrently with the Nursing Program. Be certain to find out which courses you received in transfer from your Bachelor's Degree toward the Nursing General Education requirements so you are clear what you still need to complete.

OR

C. Completion of all (8) Nursing General Education requirements with a minimum "C" or higher in each course and a cumulative college GPA of 2.7 or higher. All previous colleges are considered in this grade point average calculation.

3. Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) passed as determined by the college. Students can schedule this test when they feel ready to take it. The test can be scheduled by calling the Testing Center at 732-255-0401. Further information on this test, including a review course and rules about retaking the test in the event you do not pass it, can be found at **http://www.ocean.edu/academics/programs_of_study/Nursing/TEASInformation_000.htm**

Nursing General Education Requirement
(Minimum grade of C required)
ENGL 151 AND 152 (English I and II)
PSYC 172 (General Psychology)
MATH 156 or a higher level Math
One GenEd Humanities course from approved list*
CHEM 180 or 181
BIOL 130 and 131 (Anatomy & Physiology I and II)**

*See Advising or check our web site (**www.ocean.edu**) for the official approved list of GenEd courses.

**If you have already taken Anatomy & Physiology I and II, but did so more than 5 years ago, it is highly recommended you repeat these courses in order that your science knowledge is sufficient to pass the TEAS test and handle the rigors of science-intensive Nursing courses. Repeating these courses will not hold up your date of completion, as we will still use the date you met the requirements the first time.

4. Our clinical facilities require students to have a criminal background check before they are allowed access to their facilities. Additionally, graduates of our Nursing Program will be required to undergo an even more extensive background check. **Background Check Completed and Passed.** {All Nursing Applicants who are in their final semester of completing the Nursing Prerequisites need to institute a criminal background check with CastleBranch.} Go to: https://mycb.castlebranch.com/ In the upper right-hand corner, under Place Order, enter the Package code: **OY49** You will not receive a "Date of completion without a completely clean background check.

All students must take the College Placement Test before registering for courses, unless exempt by qualifying scores (SAT, ACT, PSAT or PARCC.) Students requiring developmental courses must complete these requirements first.

Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) are advised to contact the Nursing Department for information about the Nursing Career Mobility Program. Students interested in our On-Site On-Line Nursing Program can find information at www.ocean.edu
If you require additional information, please feel free to contact the Office of Registration and Records.

Updated 7/16/18