Nursing Prospectus

Online RN-BSN/MSN, DNP Degree Programs
BSN > BSN/MSN > MSN > DNP

Campus-Based Accelerated
2nd Degree BSN Program

Online Graduate Nursing
Certificate Programs

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing

2015-2016

Kimberly Rindt, MSN '14
Kelly Bloodgood, RN - BSN '14

Thomas Edison State University
The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Prospectus provides an overview of the programs offered by the School. The information contained in this Prospectus is current as of July 1, 2015. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information contained in this Prospectus, the University reserves the right to make changes without prior notice.
An early pioneer in distance education for nurses, the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University now has more than 30 years of experience in providing quality, flexible, distance education programs for RNs who desire an alternative to campus-based education. During these years, the School has grown in many directions and achieved many goals.

In addition to the growth of our programs, partnerships with major healthcare institutions have been developed to further assist in advancing the profession of nursing through education. A project to promote diversity in nursing was implemented with a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HSRA) and the School offers three graduate areas of study: Nurse Educator, Nursing Informatics and Nursing Administration as well as an Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.

As we move forward, we envision continued growth for the School, increased diversity and new partnerships — with a commitment to providing high-quality nursing education programs that meet the needs of RNs and the healthcare community, and the standards of the nursing profession. In celebration of our expansive history, we have highlighted some of the milestones that have provided our foundation for the future. We invite you to review these in the special two-page section on Pages 10-11 as you read this Prospectus.

I thank you for your interest. If you have questions about any of our programs, you may view the University website at www.tesu.edu/nursing, contact the University at (888) 442-8372 or email nursinginfo@tesc.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

FiloMela A. Marshall, EdD, RN, CNE
Dean, W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing
Established in 1972, Thomas Edison State University is one of New Jersey’s 11 senior public institutions of higher education and one of the oldest institutions in the country designed specifically for adults. The University offers associate, bachelor’s and master’s degrees in more than 100 areas of study as well as undergraduate, graduate and professional certificates.

The University has pioneered the use of the latest technology to develop flexible, high-quality educational programs for self-directed adults and is a national leader in the assessment of adult learning.

About the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing

The mission of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University is guided by the mission of the University, which is to “provide flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults.”

The School offers online RN-BSN/MSN degree programs, an online Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and graduate nursing certificate programs designed for experienced RNs. The programs are self-paced and flexible, with few course prerequisites and no time limit for completion. Students are, however, expected to earn a minimum of 3 credits per year at the University that apply to degree requirements to remain on active status in the program.

The School also offers an Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, which is a 12-month, 120-credit Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program designed for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor’s degree completed prior to acceptance and are interested in becoming registered nurses. The program prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

“My academic advisor made me feel as if I was her only student. I got personal attention, either face-to-face or on the phone as often as I desired. Having been a registered nurse for 25 years, I was hesitant to return to college. Thomas Edison made it convenient, with a program that fit my lifestyle.”

Patricia McDougall, RN, BSN ’12
Integrative Health and Wellness Educator and RN Coach

Promoting Diversity in Nursing Through Online Education

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State College

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University is a national leader in recruiting and preparing minority nurse educators in online teaching. The School has enabled nurse educators to gain proficiency in online pedagogy and expand online education programs at their local institutions. Through a grant, an online database of minority nurse educators was established to expand the recruitment of the nurse educators and is available to nursing schools throughout the nation.
Frequently Asked Questions

**Are the nursing programs accredited?**

Yes. W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing programs have accreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Nursing Education (ACEN) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), and are approved by the New Jersey Board of Nursing. Thomas Edison State University is regionally accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Please see inside front cover for details.

**Do I need to travel to the University?**

No. With the exception of the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program (see Page 9), nursing programs are offered via an online learning management platform format in 12-week terms on a quarterly basis. All advisement services can be completed over the telephone or online.

**How and when can I apply?**

With open and rolling admissions, RNs can apply any day of the year, 24 hours a day. To apply online, visit [www.tesu.edu/apply](http://www.tesu.edu/apply). For information on the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, see Page 9.

**What happens after I apply?**

If you are accepted, you will receive an acceptance letter by email with important information on how to register for courses, and a University ID card will be mailed to you. If you have not received your acceptance letter within two weeks of submitting your application, please contact the Office of Admissions at (888) 442-8372 or via email at nursinginfo@tesc.edu. It is important that you check your email account frequently for important information from the University.

**When can I speak to an advisor?**

Once you are accepted, your transcripts are evaluated to see what previously earned credits transfer. You will be contacted via email once completed. When your evaluation is complete, it is suggested that you make an advisement appointment. You may schedule a telephone or in-person appointment with an academic nursing advisor by using the Advisement Appointment Scheduling tool that you can find in your myEdison® portal.

**How long will it take to complete my degree?**

On average, RNs complete their BSN in about 24 months and the BSN/MSN in about 34 months. Students in our Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program complete their degree in 12 months.

**How often are nursing courses offered?**

Nursing courses are offered four times per year, January, April, July and October. Non-nursing courses are offered every month. View the registration dates for the current academic year on the University website. While all required BSN nursing courses are offered four times each year, some graduate specialty courses, Practicums and electives are offered every other term. For information on the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, see Page 9.

**Do you accept international students?**

Yes, international students can earn degrees and certificates from Thomas Edison State University. The University does not sponsor foreign national students for F-1 or J-1 visa status. Please see the University website regarding all policies on foreign students and acceptance of foreign credit at [www.tesu.edu/academics/catalog/International-Student-Policies.cfm](http://www.tesu.edu/academics/catalog/International-Student-Policies.cfm).

**How do I contact the School if my questions aren’t answered online?**

Email the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing directly at nursing@tesc.edu. Students can submit a HelpDesk ticket via myEdison®.
Overview
With open and rolling admissions, RNs can apply any day of the year; and with a self-paced schedule and no limit on time for degree completion, they can finish degree requirements at their own pace. With maximum credit for prior learning and many credit earning options, RNs can achieve their educational goals in a manner that saves both time and money. With highly interactive, asynchronous online group discussions, adult independent learners become part of a community of learners where experiences are shared and learning is enhanced.

The BSN degree will be awarded on certification of completion of degree requirements to students in both the RN-BSN program and the RN-BSN/MSN program. Three courses (9 credits of graduate study) are included in undergraduate degree requirements: Health Policy; Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues; and Advanced Health Assessment. These graduate credits, earned as part of the RN-BSN degree program, will be applied toward MSN degree requirements for students continuing on for that degree at Thomas Edison State University.

BSN Degree Program Requirements
The BSN degree requires a minimum of 120 credits; 60 in general education, 48 in nursing and 12 free electives.

General Education Requirements
The 60-credit requirement in general education provides the foundation for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Many of these credits are earned through transfer and prior learning assessment.

Professional Nursing Requirements
The 48-credit nursing requirement includes 20 credits of lower-division nursing and 28 credits of upper-division nursing.

Lower-Division Nursing
The 20-credit lower-division nursing requirement will be satisfied by transfer credit from an associate degree nursing program or by the award of credit for diploma nursing course work.

Upper-Division Nursing
The 28-credit upper-division nursing requirement may be completed entirely by online courses offered by the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing. In addition to being offered as an online course, NUR-428 Leadership and Management in Nursing is also offered as a Leadership Exam (open only to RNs with leadership experience).

Free Elective Requirements
Twelve credits of college-level course work and examinations that do not duplicate other credits may be transferred in, with a maximum of 8 credits from physical education activity courses.
## Credit Distribution Requirements
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INTELLECTUAL AND PRACTICAL SKILLS</strong></td>
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<td>Written Communication</td>
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<td>Oral Communication</td>
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<td>Information Literacy</td>
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<td><strong>CIVIC AND GLOBAL LEARNING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
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<td><strong>KNOWLEDGE OF HUMAN CULTURES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL WORLD</strong></td>
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<td><strong>AREA OF STUDY REQUIREMENTS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>LOWER DIVISION/CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING</strong></td>
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<td>NUR-340 Nursing Informatics</td>
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<td>NUR-342 Advancing Nursing Practice</td>
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<td>NUR-516 Advanced Health Assessment*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-418 Research in Nursing</td>
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<td>NUR-428 Leadership and Management in Nursing</td>
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<td>NUR-531 Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-529 Health Policy*</td>
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<td>NUR-443 Public Health Nursing</td>
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<td>NUR-445 Validating Nursing Competence*</td>
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<td><strong>ELECTIVES</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 120

**Degree Requirements:** Statistics (3 credits); Ethics (3 credits); A&P I,II (6 credits); Microbiology (3 credits)

*Graduate-level course

## Suggested Plan of Study for Upper-Division Nursing Courses for RN-BSN Program

**1 course per term**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course</th>
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<td>NUR-516*</td>
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<td>NUR-428</td>
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<td>NUR-531*</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>NUR-529*</td>
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<td>NUR-443**</td>
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27 months

**2 courses per term**

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<td>NUR-443**</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>NUR-445**</td>
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15 months

**3 courses per term**

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<td>NUR-418 or NUR-516*</td>
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<td>NUR-531*</td>
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<td>NUR-443**</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>NUR-445**</td>
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</table>

9 months

**4 courses per term**

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<td>NUR-418</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>NUR-516*</td>
</tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>NUR-428</td>
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<tr>
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<td>NUR-531*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>NUR-529*</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>NUR-443**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>NUR-445**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 months

*Graduate-level course

**These courses are taken at the end of the BSN program. Clearance from a nursing advisor is required to register for these courses.**
MSN Degree Program

Requirements

The MSN degree requires a minimum of 36 credits consisting of different combinations of courses: core, direct care core, electives, specialty and Practicum. Two years of nursing experience is recommended, and a BSN degree from an accredited program is required.

Nurse Educator

MSN IN NURSE EDUCATOR COURSES AND CREDIT ALLOCATION

The Nurse Educator program prepares graduates for teaching roles in healthcare and academic settings. A Nurse Educator certificate is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

Credits

CORE COURSES 12
NUR-531 Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues
NUR-529 Health Policy
NUR-530 Evidence-Based Nursing Practice
NUR-600 Nursing Leadership in a Global Community

DIRECT CARE CORE COURSES 9
NUR-516 Advanced Health Assessment
NUR-640 Advanced Pathophysiology
NUR-650 Advanced Pharmacology

SPECIALTY COURSES 9
NUR-630 Theoretical Foundations and Instructional Strategies in Nursing Education
NUR-700 Curriculum Theory and Development in Nursing Education
NUR-710 Testing, Assessment and Evaluation

PRACTICUM COURSES 6
NUR-740 Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum I*
NUR-750 Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum II*

TOTAL 36

*Note: Completion of 120 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Informatics

MSN IN NURSING INFORMATICS COURSES AND CREDIT ALLOCATION

The Nursing Informatics program prepares graduates to function as nursing informatics specialists. A Nursing Informatics certificate is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

Credits

CORE COURSES 12
NUR-531 Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues
NUR-529 Health Policy
NUR-530 Evidence-Based Nursing Practice
NUR-600 Nursing Leadership in a Global Community

ELECTIVE COURSES 9
Electives may be selected from nursing elective course offerings, direct care core courses and/or alternate specialty area courses.

For example, students may take three courses in nursing administration or nursing education to enhance their skill base and work toward a future certificate in another nursing specialty.

SPECIALTY COURSES 9
NUR-701 Nursing Informatics: Databases and Knowledge Management
NUR-631 Nursing Informatics: Systems Life Cycle
NUR-711 Nursing Informatics: Consumer Informatics and Communication Technologies

PRACTICUM COURSES 6
NUR-721 Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum I*
NUR-731 Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum II*

TOTAL 36

*Note: Completion of 120 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.
# Nursing Administration

## MSN in Nursing Administration Courses and Credit Allocation

The Nursing Administration program prepares graduates for the role of nurse administrator in healthcare settings. A Nursing Administration certificate is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

**Credits**

### Core Courses 12

- **NUR-531** Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues
- **NUR-529** Health Policy
- **NUR-530** Evidence-Based Nursing Practice
- **NUR-600** Nursing Leadership in a Global Community

### Elective Courses 9

Electives may be selected from nursing elective course offerings, direct care core courses and/or alternate specialty area courses.

For example, students may take three courses in nursing informatics or nursing education to enhance their skill base and work toward a future certificate in another nursing specialty.

### Specialty Courses 9

- **NUR-632** Nursing Administration: Standards and Structures
- **NUR-702** Nursing Administration: Executive Managerial Process
- **NUR-712** Nursing Administration: Resource Acquisition and Management

### Practicum Courses 6

- **NUR-722** Nursing Administration: Seminar and Role Practicum*
- **NUR-732** Nursing Administration: Seminar and Process Practicum*

### Total 36

*Note: Completion of 150 on-ground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

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“Thomas Edison has given me the opportunity to continue to work full time, care for my three young children and disabled mother, support my military spouse, and pursue my professional and personal goals. I could not have done it any other way!”

Nicole Klein, RN-BC, BSN ’10, MSN ’11
Managing School Nurse / Child Find Nurse
Clover Park School District
Lakewood, Wash.
Overview
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is offered completely online with a specialty area in Systems-Level Leadership that can be completed in 18 months. The 36-credit program focuses on the improvement of evidence-based outcomes using theoretical knowledge and systems-level initiatives to advance nurses to the highest level of nursing practice. The program prepares nurse leaders with competencies in advanced nursing practice, organizational leadership, economics and finance, healthcare policy and technology.

Program Highlights
- All courses are offered completely online and available 24/7
- 36-credit program completed in 18 months
- Up to 9 credits may be transferred toward the DNP
- No physical campus visits are required

Admissions Requirements
- MSN degree from a regionally accredited higher education institution and a nationally accredited school of nursing, (CCNE, CNEA, or ACEN)
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the MSN program
- Two (2) current professional letters of recommendation from a healthcare supervisor or professional colleague, or from a faculty member who has taught the applicant (dated and on organizational letterhead)
- Well-written statement of background and goals*
- Well-written scholarly essay*
- Relevant professional work experience recommended
- Current valid unencumbered registered nurse license in the United States

* candidates should visit www.tesu.edu/dnp to access instructions for the statement of background and goals and the scholarly essay.

www.tesu.edu/dnp
# Doctor of Nursing Practice

## CREDIT DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<th>Term</th>
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<td>NUR-800</td>
<td>DNP Role Development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NUR-805</td>
<td>Scholarly Inquiry: A Basis for Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>NUR-902</td>
<td>Scholarly Immersion I - Project Identification and Mentored Practicum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NUR-832</td>
<td>Organizational and Systems Leadership I</td>
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<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>NUR-810</td>
<td>Health, Healthcare Policy and Politics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NUR-842</td>
<td>Organizational and Systems Leadership II</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>NUR-820</td>
<td>Integrating and Evaluating Population Health in Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
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<td>NUR-815</td>
<td>Information Systems and Technology Impacting Healthcare Delivery</td>
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<td>V</td>
<td>NUR-912</td>
<td>Scholarly Immersion II - Project Management and Mentored Practicum</td>
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<td>NUR-825</td>
<td>Health Economics and Finance</td>
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<td>VI</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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</table>

**TOTAL** | 36
Graduate Nursing Certificate Programs

The graduate nursing certificate programs are designed for experienced RNs with a master’s degree in nursing who want to develop the knowledge and skills needed to practice in another area of nursing specialty. The certificate programs consist of specialty and Practicum courses, a maximum of 18 credits each, and are available in each area of specialty offered in the MSN degree program. The competencies identified, and the theory and Practicum courses, are the same for the certificate programs as for students completing the same area of specialty in the MSN degree program. A certificate in the selected area of specialty is awarded on program completion and submission of the Request for Graduate Nursing Certificate form, pending clearance by the University.

Nurse Educator
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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<th>Course</th>
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<td>NUR-700</td>
<td>Curriculum Theory and Development in Nursing Education</td>
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<td>NUR-710</td>
<td>Testing, Assessment and Evaluation</td>
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<td>NUR-740</td>
<td>Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum I*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-750</td>
<td>Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum II*</td>
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*Note: Completion of 120 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Informatics
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-531</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-631</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics: Systems Life Cycle</td>
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<td>NUR-701</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics: Databases and Knowledge Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR-711</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics: Consumer Informatics and Communication Technology</td>
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<td>NUR-721</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum I**</td>
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</table>

*If completed as part of degree requirements for the BSN or MSN at Thomas Edison State University, this course will not be required for certificate completion.

**Note: Completion of 120 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Administration
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR-632</td>
<td>Nursing Administration: Standards and Structures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR-702</td>
<td>Nursing Administration: Executive Managerial Process</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR-712</td>
<td>Nursing Administration: Resource Acquisition and Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR-722</td>
<td>Nursing Administration: Seminar and Role Practicum*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR-732</td>
<td>Nursing Administration: Seminar and Process Practicum*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.
Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program

Change Your Life in 12 Months

The Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program is a demanding, 12-month Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program designed for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor’s degree and who are interested in becoming registered nurses.

The 120-credit program prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Candidates are required to have earned all general education and nursing prerequisites prior to being accepted into the program. Due to the rigorous nature of this full-time program, outside employment is strongly discouraged.

Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Requirements

GENERAL EDUCATION AND NURSING PREREQUISITES 60

PROFESSIONAL NURSING REQUIREMENTS 60

TOTAL 120

Admissions Requirements

- A bachelor’s degree (non-nursing) from a regionally accredited college or university completed prior to acceptance.
- An earned cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the previous bachelor’s degree.
- All science prerequisites completed within five years prior to the date of acceptance.
- A grade of B or better on all prerequisite science and statistics.
- A grade of B or better in any prior nursing courses.
- Have completed all nursing prerequisites prior to acceptance.
- Criminal background check, drug screen, health and immunization verification, malpractice and health insurance, and CPR certification are required upon acceptance.

Program Highlights

- Classroom-based courses are offered at Thomas Edison State University in Trenton, N.J.
- All online courses are asynchronous, which means students log in to complete course work when it is convenient for them, but within the timetable of the course.
- Clinical nursing experiences are offered at Capital Health’s state-of-the-art, technologically advanced, Magnet-designated facilities.
- Free parking.
- State-of-the-art Simulation Laboratory.
- Class sizes are kept small for a personalized ideal experience for highly motivated independent learners.
- Program is offered in four 12-week terms – in October, January, April and July.

Application Guidelines - Next Steps:

- Submit a completed application with nonrefundable fee.*
- Include a current resume.
- Include a personal statement.
- Provide two signed letters of recommendation on letterhead (academic and professional).
- Attend an in-person interview, scheduled by invitation.
- Review FAQs on nursing website.
- Have all official college transcripts and college-level examination score reports sent to Thomas Edison State University, Office of Admissions-BSNA, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608.

*The application fee is waived for Thomas Edison State University alumni. For more information about the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, please visit www.tesu.edu/2degreeBSN or email nursing@tesc.edu.
Highlighting More Than 30 Years of Nursing Education Excellence

In its first 30 years, the nursing program at Thomas Edison State University grew to become the largest RN to BSN program in New Jersey. Today, the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing has more than 800 graduates and more than 3,000 enrolled students, making it one of the largest online programs of its kind in the country.

1983
- Thomas Edison State College establishes its RN-BSN program for registered nurses in New Jersey. By December 1984, more than 230 students are enrolled in the program.

1987
- Included among the first BSN graduates are Willy Wallendal and Carol Miller, the first RNs to complete the program.

1990
- The RN-BSN program receives its initial accreditation through The National League for Nursing.

2001
- Dr. Susan M. O’Brien is named associate dean. The RN-BSN program transitions to an online format.

2004
- The College establishes the School of Nursing. Dr. Susan M. O’Brien is named dean of the new school. Out-of-state recruitment begins.

2005
- Courses for the RN-BSN/MSN degree program and master’s Nurse Educator certificate program are developed.
- The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awards the University a $600,000 grant to develop a minority nurse educator project. In its first three years, the program recruits and trains nearly 60 minority nurse educators from around the country, establishing the School of Nursing as a national leader in the area of training minority nurse educators in online pedagogy. It was awarded again in 2008 for an additional three years.

2006
- Thomas Edison State College Honor Society of Nursing is established.

- The first annual Distinguished Lectureship on Diversity in Nursing is held at Thomas Edison State College.

- The RN-BSN/MSN and MSN degree programs are launched. In its first year, 59 students enroll in the MSN program.

- The RN-BSN/MSN and MSN degree programs are launched. In its first year, 59 students enroll in the MSN program.
2007

- The charter for Upsilon Rho chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society is approved.

2008

- The RN-BSN/MSN degree program received its initial accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

2009

- Online database of minority educators launched as part of Health Resources and Services Administration-funded effort.

2010

- MSN degree specialties in Nursing Administration and Nursing Informatics launched.

2011

- Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program launched.

2012

- Dr. Filomela A. Marshall named new dean, Dr. Susan M. O’Brien takes new position as associate provost, Academic Affairs.
- Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

2013

- Nursing Simulation Laboratory opens.

2014

- Construction begins in Trenton, N.J., on the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing’s Nurse Education Center.

2015

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing funding received to provide scholarships for Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program students.

2016

- School receives $650,000 grant from Helene Fuld Health Trust to create endowed scholarships for Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.
- 100 percent NCLEX-RN pass rate in Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.

2017

- Thomas Edison State College achieves University status.
Applicants to the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing RN-BSN/MSN degree program and the graduate nursing certificates must:

- have a current RN license valid in the United States;
- have proficiency in using a computer, browsing the Web and sending and receiving email, including attachments;
- have minimum system requirements to access an online course: For Windows users: Windows XP with service pack 3 installed or later versions such as Vista and Windows 7.0; For Mac users: Mac OSX v10.5 and later. Additional requirements that may apply to nursing courses are specified in the course descriptions listed in the University Catalog;
- have a webcam;
- submit a completed online Application, with nonrefundable fee to Thomas Edison State University, Office of Admissions, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608. Current U.S. RN licensure will be validated by the Office of Admissions. The Application may be found online at www.tesu.edu/nursing; and
- have all official diploma nursing school and college transcripts and college-level examination score reports sent to Thomas Edison State University, Office of the Registrar, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608.

Applicants to the MSN degree program must ALSO have:

- an official transcript sent from the institution where the BSN degree was awarded and applicants for the certificate programs must have an official transcript sent from the institution where the master’s degree in nursing was awarded to Thomas Edison State University, Office of Admissions, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608;
- a qualitative evaluation of the applicant’s undergraduate educational work from a regionally accredited college or university. An undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 is recommended to be successful in the program;
- a qualitative assessment of the applicant’s personal statements, essays and two letters of reference; and
- relevance of work experience and career objectives to the program objectives. Two years of work experience is recommended. A resume is required.

Generous Transfer Credit Policy

Thomas Edison State University only accepts transfer credits earned at other regionally accredited colleges and universities. Bachelor’s degree candidates may transfer an unlimited number of credits from a regionally accredited four-year institution. The maximum number of credits from a single American Council on Education (ACE) recommended source that may be applied to a degree program shall not exceed 90 credits for the bachelor’s degree and 45 credits for the associate degree. A student may transfer a maximum of 90 credits from foreign institutions toward a bachelor’s degree.

- Up to 60 credits, including 20 credits toward lower-division nursing requirements for BSN degree, may be awarded for diploma nursing course work on the basis of current RN license and official transcript.
- Up to 80 credits may be accepted from a community college for the BSN degree.
- There is no age restriction on acceptance of credit for general education or lower-division nursing requirements.
- Previously completed upper-division nursing courses must have grade equivalencies of C or better and be newer than 10 years at the time of application to the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing for acceptance toward program requirements.
- Previously completed graduate nursing courses must have grade equivalencies of B or better and be newer than seven years for acceptance toward the MSN degree program and certificate requirements.
- A maximum of 12 graduate credits will be accepted in transfer toward MSN degree program requirements.
A maximum of 6 graduate credits will be accepted in transfer toward the Nurse Educator certificate and Nursing Administration certificate programs and a maximum of 9 credits toward the Nursing Informatics certificate program.

No graduate entrance exams (GRE, GMAT, etc.) are required for acceptance into the MSN program.

### Academic Advisement

Accepted students will have access to academic advisement services as described in program materials provided on acceptance. Prospective students may seek additional information as needed through the Office of Admissions at (888) 442-8372 or via email to nursinginfo@tesc.edu.

### Credit Earning Methods

Multiple options are available for earning credits and completing program requirements. All RN-BSN/MSN nursing requirements are offered through the School as online courses, and all degree requirements may be met through the University by course, examination or prior learning assessment (PLA). Practicum credit may not be earned through PLA. Degree-seeking students who want to earn credits elsewhere or by methods other than online courses should consult an academic advisor prior to registering for the course or examination to ensure credit will meet degree requirements. All credit earning methods available through the University are listed in the University Catalog and are available on the University website at www.tesu.edu.

### Technical Support

Technical support is provided by the University and in each nursing course. Students should familiarize themselves with the computer requirements listed in the Admissions Requirements section of this publication and the University’s Catalog to ensure access to the courses and success in course completion.

### Financial Aid

Students may request information on financial aid available through the University by calling (888) 442-8372 or online at www.tesu.edu. All students on financial aid must familiarize themselves with the guidelines and rules for sequence of courses to maximize use of financial aid in the nursing programs.

### Library Services

All enrolled students have access to many resources provided through the New Jersey State Library and through Web links embedded in each nursing course. Library information is provided with enrollment materials.

### Additional Resources

All University and W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing publications are available on the University website at www.tesu.edu/publications.

“A-The Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program was intense, demanding and designed for motivated students only. However, it allowed me to earn the credentials I was seeking in a shorter period of time than conventional programs.”

Amanda Pinnelli, BSN ’12
Kennedy Memorial Hospital
Sewell, N.J.