

# **REPORT**

## ***FALL 2002 SURVEY OF MAINE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS***

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Maine's 13 nursing programs include:

- Central Maine Community College (CMCC)
- Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC)
- Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC)
- Husson College (HC)
- Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC)
- Northern Maine Community College (NMCC)
- Saint Joseph's College of Maine (SJC)
- Southern Maine Community College (SMCC)
- University of Maine (UM)
- University of Maine at Augusta (UMA)
- University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK)
- University of New England (UNE)
- University of Southern Maine (USM)

### TYPES OF NURSING PROGRAMS

**Table 1. Maine's Nursing Programs: Types of Programs Offered and Student Enrollment Caps**

Type of Program	#	# without Enrollment Cap	# with Enrollment Cap	Range of Enrollment Caps
<b>LPN:</b> CMCC, KVCC, NMCC	3	-	-	0-16
<b>LPN to ADN:</b> CMCC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, SMCC, UMA	6	-	-	0-8
<b>Associate Degree:</b> CMCC, CMMC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, SMCC, UMA, UNE <sup>1</sup>	8	0	8	20-80
<b>Baccalaureate Degree:</b> HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, USM	5	5	0	-
<b>Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree<sup>2</sup>:</b> UM, USM	2	1	1	32 (USM)
<b>RN to BSN:</b> HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, UNE, USM	6	4	1	25 (UNE)
<b>MSN:</b> HC, SJC, UM, USM	4	4	0	-
<b>Masters Entry Persons with Degree in Another Field:</b> USM	1	0	1	24
<b>Post-Master's Certificate:</b> HC, USM	2	0	2	
<b>Other:</b> USM RN to MS and Master's for Certified APRNs; UNE offers Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia <sup>3</sup>				

Programs with student enrollment caps were asked about plans for admitting more students during the coming year. Responses included: (1) KVCC 16 LPN's for 2003-2004 only, 40 ADNs and (2) NMCC we received funds from MTCS (Betterment Fund) to have a one time/one section addition at

<sup>1</sup> UNE offers daytime and evening options.

<sup>2</sup> Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree programs are for persons with a Baccalaureate Degree in another field.

<sup>3</sup> Data on UNE's Nurse Anesthesia program not available for this report.

a distant site. This allowed us to admit 48 generic students for 2002 (vs. 40). Programs were also asked about plans for admitting fewer students during coming year, 1 program responded: CMCC With current faculty resources we can admit 32 students 1 year and 24 the following year. One program responded about a one time only nursing program - KVCC admitted LPNs for Fall 2003 with the support of Coastal Enterprises, Inc. UM opened an ongoing Accelerated Baccalaureate for Second Degree Students in Fall 2002. Finally, two programs responded to the question about programs being phased out: (1) EMCC beginning discussion about potentially closing the LPN option and (2) UNE generic BSN closure May 2003.

### FACULTY INFORMATION

In fall 2001 the State's 13 nursing programs employed 128.6 full-time<sup>4</sup> nursing faculty (range 5 to 24 FTEs) and in fall 2002 they employed 128 full-time nursing faculty (range 4 to 24 FTEs). The majority of nursing faculty are female and Caucasian (127 in 2001; 125 in 2002). In 2001 and 2002 5 programs had males on their faculty ranging from 1 to 2.

For further analysis, the 13 programs were broken down into those that currently admit students to an associate's degree program as the terminal degree for preparation as an RN (8 programs) and those that offer a generic baccalaureate degree program as the terminal degree for preparation as an RN (5 programs). Table 2 provides an overview of full-time faculty members' highest degree and rank. Current and projected vacancies for full-time faculty are also provided. Table 3 provides a breakdown of full-time faculty by age.

**Table 2. Maine's Nursing Programs: Full-Time Faculty Profile and Vacancies**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)		Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
Full-time nursing faculty	6 to 15, total 65.6 <sup>5</sup>	6 to 15, total 69	5 to 24, total 63	4 to 24, 59
<i>Full-time Faculty Highest Degree</i>				
Doctorally prepared in nursing	3 (5%)	3 (4%)	19 (31%)	18 (31%)
Doctorally prepared in other field	3 (5%)	2 (3%)	14 (22%)	9 (15%)
Master's prepared in nursing	56.6 (86%)	60 (87%)	29 (46%)	32 (54%)
Master's prepared in other field <sup>6</sup>	2 (3%)	3 (4%)	-	-
Bachelor's prepared in nursing <sup>4</sup>	1 (1.5%)	1 (1.4%)	1 (1.6%)	-
<i>Full-time Faculty Rank<sup>7</sup></i>				
Professor	1 (1.5%)	2 (4%)	4 (6%)	2 (3%)
Associate Professor	7 (11%)	5 (11%)	30 (48%)	29 (49%)
Assistant Professor	15 (23%)	17 (36%)	19 (30%)	17 (29%)
Lecturer/Instructor	8 (12%)	0	10 (16%)	11 (19%)
Other	34.6 (53%)	23 (49%)	-	-

<sup>4</sup> Includes any full-time faculty member that had any teaching responsibilities within the nursing program(s), even if the person had administrative responsibilities.

<sup>5</sup> Within the Maine Community College System, faculty who are three-fifths time receive full benefits and are considered full time.

<sup>6</sup> Requires exemption from Maine State Board of Nursing.

<sup>7</sup> The Community College System does not use "rank" with faculty; all are classified as "other".

**Table 2. Maine's Nursing Programs: Full-Time Faculty Profile and Vacancies**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)		Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)	
<i>Full-time Faculty Vacancies</i>				
Current vacancies <sup>8</sup>	2 programs, 2.5 FTEs	2 programs, 1.5 FTE	3 programs, 3 FTEs	3 programs, 9 FTEs
Projected vacancies next year	1 program, 1 FTE	4 programs, 1 to 2.5 FTEs	1 program, 1 FTE	1 program, 1 FTE

**Table 3. Maine's Nursing Faculty: Age Distribution**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)		Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
30 years of age or younger	0	0	2 (3%)	0
31 to 40 years of age	5.6 (9%)	2 (4%)	7 (11%)	3 (5%)
41 to 50 years of age	28 (43%)	30 (55%)	18 (29%)	20 (35%)
51 to 60 years of age	24 (37%)	16 (29%)	29 (46%)	32 (56%)
61 to 65 years of age	7 (11%)	6 (11%)	7 (11%)	2 (4%)
66 years of age or older	1 (1.5%)	1 (2%)	0	0

Programs with current full-time faculty vacancies were asked how long the position(s) has been vacant, what types of difficulties the program has experienced in filling the position, and the qualifications for the position. In 2001 three programs with full-time faculty vacancies expressed concern about the overall lack of applicants for the vacant positions. In 2002 the following programs responded:

- CMMC position has been open for one year. Have had only 5 applicants. Offered position but applicant turned down due to salary. MSN is the qualification.
- HC RN-BSN, pediatrics, and medical-surgical, 3 positions as of August 2002
- NMCC We do have difficulty in procuring adjunct faculty (for clinical supervision) with MSN preparation. We can get some assistant from BSN prepared nurses.
- SMCC planned position for January 2003, position first advertised in October 2002, so far we have received 2 resumes.
- UM faculty member in pediatrics, tenure-track, resigned mid-summer. Search initiated late November. No applicants thus far. Advertising for doctorally prepared nurse at either assistant or associate professor rank.
- UNE faculty salaries below market, pediatrics.
- USM new positions, advertising this fall.

Nursing programs were also asked about their use of part-time nursing faculty<sup>9</sup> and difficulties they have experienced in hiring part-time faculty. In 2001 seven of the associate's degree programs and 2 of the generic baccalaureate degree programs indicated that they had difficulty hiring part-time faculty. Reasons cited for the difficulty included: (a) having trouble finding qualified people with the Master's in Nursing credential and (b) lower than market salaries for a master's-prepared nurse. In 2002, 8 programs reported problems with recruiting part time faculty.

<sup>8</sup> Included in this FTE is any full-time faculty positions that was temporarily being filled with someone who had been hired on a temporary/short term basis until the "permanent" full-time person is hired.

<sup>9</sup> Part-time faculty included anyone who received enumeration from the nursing program.

- CMMC many applicants wanted to just lecture. Many nurse practitioners wanted a position until they got a nurse practitioner position.
- HC recruiting faculty for graduate program.
- KVCC cannot recruit MSNs for clinical adjunct.
- NMCC difficult to find MSN nurses – most know in the area are full-time nurse practitioners. Most BSN RNs are currently employed full-time.
- SMCC cannot find sufficient number of qualified individuals willing to work for low wages, even more difficult to find qualified individuals with MSN degrees.
- UM not difficult but a hassle, very time consuming.
- UMA we have advertised 4 times without response. We currently are working with the clinical facility to provide assistance for the clinical group without an instructor.
- USM little response to advertisements for part-time faculty to teaching clinical course.

The Associate Degree programs employed 24 part-time faculty in 2001 and 28 in 2002. The Generic Baccalaureate Degree programs employed 58 part-time faculty in 2001 and 45 in 2002. Additional information on part-time faculty is provided in Table 4.

**Table 4. Maine’s Nursing Programs: Part-time Faculty Teaching Assignment**

	Associate Degree 2002	Baccalaureate Degree 2002
Didactic Courses	0	21
Clinicals	26	19
Both	2	7

### **APPLICATIONS, ENROLLMENTS, ADMISSIONS, AND GRADUATIONS**

Trend data on nursing enrollments and graduations in Maine’s 13 nursing programs is report in Table 6. Enrollments and graduations from RN to BSN and graduate programs in Maine are provided in Table 7 for 2002.

Six Associate Degree programs reporting wait listing applications in 2002 – CMCC, EMCC, KVCC, SMCC, UMA, and UNE. Reasons for wait listing included: (1) KVCC lack of qualified (both experience and educational) adjunct clinical faculty and (2) UMA our program has a wait list of 150 students at this time, when a student meets pre-reqs, they are added to the list and each spring we admit to the fall by the date the student was put on the list, the list is growing quickly. None of the Generic Baccalaureate Degree programs utilized waiting lists in 2002.

### **PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS AND COST**

Maine’s nursing programs were asked to provide information on the total number of credits required for degree completion, the cost per credit hour, whether the nursing courses had nursing fees in addition to the credit hour cost, and if a student completed all course work for the degree at the institution as a full-time student how many semesters it would take (see Table 8).

**Table 6. Maine's Nursing Programs: Trend Date on Enrollments and Graduates**

	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Percent Change 1998-1999 to 2001-2002
Enrollments <sup>10</sup>					
Associate's Degree	473	492	537	668	29.2%
Baccalaureate Degree	812	861	805	1,100 <sup>11</sup>	26.2%
Total	1,285	1,353	1,342	1,768	27.3%
Graduates					
Associate's Degree	264	221	241	239	-9.5%
Baccalaureate Degree	210	204	184	153	-27.4%
Total	474	425	425	392	-17.3%

**Table 7. Maine's Nursing Programs: 2002 Enrollments and Graduates from RN to BSN and Graduate Programs**

Program	Enrollments	Graduates
RN to BSN	821 <sup>12</sup>	82
Master's Degree in Nursing	453 <sup>13</sup>	44
Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field	45	9

**Table 8. Maine's Nursing Programs: Credit Hours and Cost**

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>14</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>15</sup>	Time to Degree Completion – Full-time Student
<i>LPN Programs</i>				
CMCC	35	\$68	Yes - \$100/semester lab fee; \$56/semester testing fee	2 semesters + 2 credit summer class
EMCC	34	\$68	Yes – \$21.42	Not Provided
NMCC	35	\$68	Yes – 1 <sup>st</sup> year fees, fall semester \$651, spring semester \$301	2 semesters + 3 week (2 credit) summer practicum
KVCC	38	\$68	Yes - \$100-200 per semester	2 semesters + 1 summer course of 2 credits

<sup>10</sup> Enrollment numbers in generic baccalaureate degree programs reflect students enrolled as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, in contrast to associate's degree numbers, which reflect 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.

<sup>11</sup> Includes 28 Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field students.

<sup>12</sup> Includes distance programs offered by UMFK and SJC.

<sup>13</sup> Includes distance program offered by SJC.

<sup>14</sup> For state-support programs, in-state tuition rate is provided.

<sup>15</sup> Fees specific to nursing vs. university wide fees.

**Table 8. Maine’s Nursing Programs: Credit Hours and Cost**

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>14</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>15</sup>	Time to Degree Completion – Full-time Student
<b><i>LPN to RN Programs</i></b>				
CMCC	68	\$68	Yes - \$100/semester lab fee; \$56/semester testing fee	3 semesters with advanced standing for PN course
EMCC	61	\$68	Yes - \$21.42	2 semesters + 1 course of 1 credit
KVCC	71	\$68	Yes - \$50-200 per semester	2 semesters + 1 course of 2 credits
NMCC	35	\$68	Yes – Fall semester \$651, Spring semester \$301	2 semesters
SMCC	33-52	\$68	Yes - \$23/credit for nursing courses	2-3 semesters
UMA	54	\$114	Yes - \$150/semester	Variable
<b><i>AD Programs</i></b>				
CMCC	67	\$68	Yes - \$100/semester lab fee; \$56/semester testing fee	4 semesters
CMMC	69	\$113	Yes - \$300 lab fee/semester	4 semesters
EMCC	66	\$68	Yes - \$21.42	4 semesters
KVCC	69	\$68	Yes - \$200 per semester	4 semesters
NMCC	67	\$68	Yes – Fall semester \$651, Spring semester \$301	4 semesters
SMCC	66	\$68	Yes - \$23/credit for nursing courses	4 semesters
UMA	69	\$114	Yes - \$150/semester	4 semesters
UNE	60	\$625	Yes - \$50 lab fee	4 semesters
<b><i>Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing</i></b>				
HC	124	\$338	No	8 semesters
SJC	129	9-11 credits \$500, 1-8 credits \$275, 12+ credits \$8,075/semester	Yes – nursing major fee \$200/year	8 semesters
UM	126	\$146	No	8 semesters
UMFK	120	\$114	Yes - \$9.50/credit, \$30 additional fee for nursing course with a lab	8 semesters
USM	127	\$134	Yes - \$15-35/nursing course	8 semesters
<b><i>Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i></b>				
UM	62	\$146	Not Provided	Not Provided
USM	57	\$134	Yes - \$15-35/nursing course	15 months

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Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>14</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>15</sup>	Time to Degree Completion – Full-time Student
<b><i>RN to BSN</i></b>				
HC	124	\$338	No	4 semesters
SJC	129	\$205	No	Course enrollment in non-synchronous
UM	123	\$146	No	4 semesters
UMFK	120	\$114	Yes - \$30 additional fee for nursing course with a lab	4 semesters
UNE	120	\$625	Yes - \$50 lab fee	4 semesters
USM	127	\$134	Yes - \$15-35/nursing course	4 semesters
<b><i>MSN</i></b>				
HC	43	\$338	No	4 semesters and 2 summer courses
SJC	40-42	\$245	No	Course enrollment in non-synchronous
UM	36-45	\$210	No	Not provided
USM	41-59	\$200	\$30/credit for nursing clinical courses	4 semesters
<b><i>Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i></b>				
USM	81-108	\$134 first 40-49 credits, \$200 for last 40-59 credits	Yes - \$15-35 nursing undergraduate courses, \$30/credit graduate nursing clinical courses	7 semesters
<b><i>Post-masters Certificate</i></b>				
HC	12-33	\$338/credit	No	2-3 semesters
USM	27-39	\$200/credit	Yes - \$30/credit nursing clinical courses	3 semesters

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