

REPORT

FALL 2005 SURVEY OF MAINE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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January 2006

MAINE'S 13 NURSING PROGRAMS

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

TYPES OF NURSING PROGRAMS

Type of Program (enrollment caps, when applicable, in parenthesis)	#
LPN: CMCC, EMCC, NMCC	3
LPN to ADN: CMCC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, SMCC, UMA	6
Associate Degree: CMCC (32), CMMC (64), EMCC (24), KVCC (40), NMCC (40/16 ¹ first year, 32 second year), SMCC (64/year – 32/semester), UMA (56 and 80 on distant year), UNE (74)	8
Baccalaureate Degree: HC, SJC (60), UM (75 first year students), UMFK, USM (40 internal and external transfers)	5
Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree: ² UMFK, USM (40)	2
RN to BSN: HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, UNE (25), USM	6
Master's Degree: HC, SJC, UM, UNE (13), USM	5
Masters Entry Persons with Degree Another Field: STJ, USM(24)	2
Post-Master's Certificate: HC, UM, USM	3
Other: USM RN to MS and Master's for Certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.	

Programs with student enrollment caps were asked about plans for admitting more students during the coming year. Responses included:

- KVCC Received a Department of Labor grant for an additional 8 students for two academic years.
- NMCC 16 additional students admitted every two years at the WCCC site, next admission for WCCC is Fall 2007.
- UM We are capping at a higher level than the number for which the program was funded from 60 to 100. We admitted 75 first year students in 2005-2006 to the Baccalaureate degree program. Transfer students are accepted if cohort has space. First year students' attribution rate varies from 20 to 30%. Additional students are admitted to meet the 100 target per year (50 per semester).
- UNE Dependent on clinical sites, we would like to add 1-2 more students to Master's Degree in Nurse Anesthesia.

Programs with student enrollment caps were asked about plans for admitting fewer students during the coming year and there was:

- UM For the past 2 years, 120-140 students were admitted to the Baccalaureate degree program if they met admission criteria. This has created an unrealistic increase given clinical resources in this geographic area. We will have to cap at 50 and accept no additional students unless we receive additional resources.

In response to new programs that are being planned:

- SJC Investigating an on-campus 5th year MSN for 2007
- UM Clinical Nurse Leader tracker in MSN program, Fall 2006; Clinical Doctorate Program in MSN.
- USM Doctorate of Nursing Practice, Fall 2007; Clinical Nurse Leader, Spring 2006.

¹ NMCC 16 reflects the number of students admitted every two years at the WCCC site. The next admission year for the WCCC site will be Fall 2007.

² Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree programs are for persons with a Baccalaureate Degree in another field.

In response to what programs, if any, have been closed since Fall 2004:

- KVCC PN program.
- NMCC PN exit option was suspended May 2005.

In relation to programs that are being phased out:

- EMCC LPN exit, will depend on proposal approval by Community College System, Fall 2007.

FACULTY INFORMATION

In Fall 2002 the State's 13 nursing programs employed 128 full-time³ nursing faculty (range 4 to 24 FTEs) and in Fall 2005 they employed 30 additional full-time nursing faculty (154, range 5 to 30 FTEs). Of the full time faculty in 2005, 19 had full-time and 11 had part-time administrative responsibilities. In 2005, the majority of nursing faculty were female (144) and Caucasian (152). In 2005, 6 programs had males on their faculty ranging from 1 to 3.

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 a registered nurse (RN) (8 programs⁴) and those that offer a generic baccalaureate degree program as the terminal degree for preparation as a RN (5 programs⁵). 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 Vacancies⁶

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
Full-time nursing faculty	6-20, total 77 ⁷	6-16, total 73	6 to 17, total 78 ⁷	3 to 26, total 62	5 to 29, total 73	5 to 30, total 76
<i>Full-Time Faculty Highest Degree</i>						
Doctorally prepared in nursing	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	3 (4%)	19 (31%)	21 (29%)	20 (26%)
Doctorally prepared in other field	4 (5%)	2 (3%)	5 (6%)	10 (16%)	9 (12%)	12 (16%)
Master's prepared in nursing	68 (88%)	63 (86%)	66 (85%)	32 (52%)	39 (53%)	39 (51%)
Master's prepared in other field ⁸	2 (3%)	1 (1%)	3 (4%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	2 (3%)
Bachelor's prepared in nursing ⁸	1 (1%)	5 (7%)	1 (1%)	-	3 (4%)	3 (4%)

Table continues next page

³ Includes any full-time faculty member that had any teaching responsibilities within the nursing program(s), even if the person had administrative responsibilities.

⁴ Associate Degree programs: CMCC, CMMC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, UMA, and UNE.

⁵ Baccalaureate Degree programs: HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, and USM.

⁶ Due to rounding error, percentages may not equal 100%.

⁷ Data reported on UNE's nurse anesthesia master's program is included in this year.

⁸ Requires exemption from Maine State Board of Nursing.

Table 2. Maine's Nursing Programs: Full-Time Faculty Profile and Vacancies⁶

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
<i>Full-time Faculty Rank⁹</i>						
Professor	5 (6%)	5 (7%)	6 (8%)	2 (3%)	4 (5%)	6 (8%)
Associate Professor	9 (12%)	7 (10%)	9 (12%)	31 (50%)	36 (49%)	28 (37%)
Assistant Professor	30 (39%)	18 (25%)	21 (27%)	17 (28%)	14 (19%)	21 (28%)
Lecturer/Instructor/ Other	33 (43%)	43 (59%)	42 (54%)	12 (19%)	19 (26%)	21 (28%)
<i>Full-time Faculty Vacancies</i>						
Current vacancies ¹⁰	1 program, 1 FTE	3 programs, 3 FTE	3 programs, 3 FTE	2 programs, 4 FTEs	1 program, 1 FTE	2 programs, 2 FTE
Projected vacancies next year	2 programs, 5 FTEs	3 programs, 4 FTE	4 programs, 9 FTEs	4 programs, 4 FTE	4 programs, 9 FTE	4 programs, 6 FTE

Table 3. Maine's Nursing Faculty: Age Distribution¹¹

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
30 years of age or younger	0	0	1 (1%)	0	0	1 (1%)
31 to 40 years of age	6 (8%)	4 (5%)	3 (4%)	4 (6%)	6 (8%)	5 (7%)
41 to 50 years of age	33 (43%)	31 (42%)	29 (37%)	14 (23%)	21 (29%)	22 (29%)
51 to 60 years of age	27 (35%)	29 (40%)	28 (36%)	37 (60%)	36 (49%)	36 (47%)
61 to 65 years of age	10 (13%)	9 (12%)	13 (17%)	7 (11%)	7 (10%)	9 (12%)
66 years of age or older	1 (1%)	0	4 (4%)	0	3 (4%)	3 (4%)

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 2005 the following programs responded:

- EMMC 1 FTE Vacant since August 2005. Applicants prepared to be nurse practitioners are not able to provide adequate supervision in the highly acute clinical/hospital environment, MS required in nursing, medical surgical.
- KVCC 1 FTE The position has been vacant since Fall 2005. The qualifications for the position is a Master's Degree in Nursing. The position has not been filled for budgetary reasons.
- UNE 1 FTE Director of Nursing – doctoral degree required, national search conducted academic year 2004-2005. Candidate selected, offer made and contract signed. Day's before start date, candidate withdrew.
- USM 1 FTE New search for doctorally prepared pediatric or obstetrical/women's health position.

Nursing programs were also asked about their use of part-time nursing faculty¹² and difficulties they have experienced in hiring part-time faculty. Programs responded as follows:

- KVCC Adjunct faculty are compensated with hourly wages and no benefits. Most Master's prepared nurses want full-time employment with benefits.

⁹ Some Community Colleges do not use "rank" with faculty; classified as "other".

¹⁰ Included in this FTE is any full-time faculty position 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.

¹¹ Due to rounding error, percentages may not equal 100%.

¹² Part-time faculty included anyone who received enumeration from the nursing program.

- NMCC Difficult to attract part-time (adjunct) faculty with a MSN credential. Currently NMCC has 1 adjunct with MSN, 1 BSN with Master’s credential in process. 1 FTE faculty with BSN seeking MSN program for enrollment. Currently NMCC has no FTE vacancies.
- UM University pay scale too low.
- UMA Salary and qualifications.
- USM Finding qualified applications.

Information on part-time faculty is provided in Table 4.

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

	Associate’s Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
Didactic Courses	0	0	2	17	12	9
Clinicals	32	30	34	40	53	62
Both	7	6	5	24	7	12
Total Part-time Faculty	39	36	41	81	72	83

APPLICATIONS, OFFERS OF ADMISSION, ENROLLMENTS AND GRADUATIONS

Programs were asked to provide the number of applications that their institutions received in 2004-2005, as well as the number of students the institution offered admission to and, if applicable, the number of qualified applicants who were placed on a waiting list for future matriculation. It is important to note that individuals may have applied to more than one nursing program.

- LPN program: 1 application, 0 offer of admission, 0 wait listed.
- LPN to ADN and Associate Degree program: 1,956 applications, 406 offers of admission, and 297 wait listed.
- Baccalaureate Degree program and Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing for Persons with Baccalaureate in Another Field: 1,142 applications, 684 offers of admission, and 307 wait listed.

Programs who reported wait listing applications included the following:

- CMCC Wait listed students accepted when individuals who were offered admission declined. Wait list not carried into next academic year (wait listed 15 for Associate Degree program).
- EMCC No available space in program – lack of funding for faculty and resources to support additional students (wait listed 3 for Associate Degree program).
- KVCC Students are accepted only if clinical slots are available. The program has 48 clinical slots (wait listed 20 for Associate Degree program).
- SMCC When students are accepted to the nursing program they are given a date that is their latest date to start. For example, a student may receive a letter that states: “Congratulations, you are accepted to the SMCC nursing program. Your latest date to start is spring 2007. Your number on the class list for spring 2007 is “10”. If a student accepted for fall 2006 withdraws for some reason, the first person on the class list for spring 2007 is called to see if s/he would like to start the program earlier. Thus the class for spring 2007 in essence becomes the wait list for the previous semester (wait listed 64 for the Associate Degree program).
- UM Because of the cap of 75 students per semester.
- UMA Students are wait listed if they meet prerequisites, all admissions to program comes from waitlist; wait listed 2+ years out (wait listed 136 for Associate Degree program).
- UNE Reached maximum seats (wait listed 59 for Associate Degree program); We always have an “alternate list” we pull from if students are unable to matriculate (wait listed 3 for Masters degree program).

Programs were asked whether they turned away qualified applications for Fall 2005, responses included:

- CMCC Unable to expand to meet demand.
- CMMC More qualified applicants than capacity.
- EMMC No available space in program – lack of funding for faculty and resources to support additional students.
- KVCC No clinical slots.
- SMCC Qualified applicants are not turned away, but they may not be able to start the nursing program in the time frame they wanted to. For that reason they may choose to go elsewhere.
- UNE Master’s program – we only had so many clinical sites, which was the rate-limiting step.
- USM Baccalaureate degree program – transfer students on space available basis. Accelerated Baccalaureate degree is capped.

Trend data on nursing enrollments and graduations in Maine’s 13 nursing programs is reported in Table 6. Enrollments and graduations from RN to BSN and graduate programs in Maine are provided in Table 7 for 2003, 2004, and 2005.

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

	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	Percent Change Previous Year
Enrollments ¹³					
Associate’s Degree	668	773	789	806	2%
Baccalaureate Degree	1,100	1,210	1,513	1,480	-2%
Total	1,768	1,983	2,302	2,286	-1%
Graduates					
Associate’s Degree	239	251	324	337	4%
Baccalaureate Degree	153	162	246	273	11%
Total	392	413	570	610	7%

Of the 2,286 students enrolled in 2004-2005, 397 (17 %) were enrolled in the Community College System, 1,214 (53%) were enrolled in the University of Maine System, and 675 (30%) were enrolled in a private institution. Of the 610 graduates in 2004-2005, 173 (28%) graduated from the Community College System, 278 (46%) from the University of Maine System, and 159 (26%) from private institutions.

Table 7. Maine’s Nursing Programs: 2003, 2004, and 2005 Enrollments and Graduates from RN to BSN and Graduate Programs

Program	Enrollments			Graduates		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
RN to BSN ¹⁴	656	707	479	71	93	84
Master’s Degree in Nursing ¹⁵	486 ¹⁶	500	406 ¹⁵	40 ¹⁴	56	72
Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field	48	51	75	8	12	17
Post-master’s Certificate	20	10	4	8	12	7

¹³ Enrollment numbers in generic Baccalaureate Degree programs reflect students enrolled as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, in contrast to Associate Degree numbers, which reflect 1st year and 2nd year students.

¹⁴ Includes distance programs offered by SJC and UMFK.

¹⁵ Includes distance program offered by SJC.

¹⁶ Includes UN Nurse Anesthesia program.

In relation to LPNs, 2 programs reported graduating a total of 16 LPN students and no students were enrolled in Fall 2005.

Programs were also asked about plans to admit additional students in response to the nursing shortage in 2006-2007:

- HC 20 additional Masters Degree in Nursing students and 2 additional Post-master Certificate students.
- KVCC 8 additional Associate Degree in Nursing students.
- UMA N0, we have 18 students on list for 2nd semester and 4 slots, considering adding a clinical group (8). We have 12 on list for 4th semester and no slots. Considering an extra clinical group.
- UMFK. Not unless we can fill the faculty positions.

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

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours ¹⁷	Nursing Fees ¹⁸	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
<i>LPN Programs</i>				
CMCC	35	\$75	\$60/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	3 semesters
EMCC	34	\$95.42	\$21.42	2 semesters
<i>LPN to ADN Programs</i>				
CMCC	68	\$75	\$60/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	3 semesters
EMCC	69.5	\$95.42	\$21.42	2 semesters
KVCC	71	\$74	\$350 per semester	4 semesters
NMCC	38	\$74	\$189 to \$224 per semester. The new fee instruction is \$7.00/credit hour for courses with no labs and \$14 per credit hour for courses with a lab component. The total fees for the four semesters in nursing is \$833 if all required courses are taken at NMCC.	2+ semesters, it is common for returning LPNs to take an additional 1-2 semesters to upgrade the sciences – A&P, Micro)
SMCC	70	\$70	\$23/credit for nursing courses; malpractice insurance	4 semesters
UMA	69	\$143	\$150/nursing course	4 semesters
<i>AD Programs</i>				
CMCC	67	\$75	\$60/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	4 semesters
CMMC	69	\$138	-	4 semesters
EMCC	66	\$95.42	\$21.42	4 semesters

¹⁷ For state-support programs, in-state tuition rate is provided.

¹⁸ 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 ¹⁷	Nursing Fees ¹⁸	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
KVCC	69	\$74	\$350 per semester	4 semesters
NMCC	70	\$74	\$189 to \$224 per semester	4 semesters ¹⁹
SMCC	69	\$70	\$23/credit for nursing courses; malpractice insurance	5
UMA	21 nursing credits, other credits depend on previous courses, general education	\$143	\$150/nursing course	2 semesters
UNE	68	\$775	\$1.62 to \$1.76	4 semesters
<i>Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing</i>				
HC	126	\$371	\$12	8 semesters
SJC	129	\$9475 full-time (12-19 credits); 9-11 \$590/cr; 1-8 credits \$325/cr	\$200 fee/year	8 semesters
UM	123	\$184	\$25 per lab/clinical credit	8 semesters
UMFK	129	\$143	\$30/lab fee for nursing courses with a lab; HESI fees	8 semesters
USM	120-123	\$166	\$15-\$50/credit	8 semesters
<i>Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i>				
UMFK	63	\$143	\$30/lab fee for nursing courses with a lab; HESI fees	5 semesters
USM	65	\$166	\$15-\$50/credit	4 semesters (15 months)
<i>RN to BS</i>				
HC	76-124	\$371	\$12-\$20	4 – 8 semesters
SJC	129	\$230	No	Not provided
UM	121	\$184	No	Not provided
UMFK	129	\$143	\$30/lab fee for nursing course with a lab	4
UNE	60	\$775	No	4
USM	120-123	\$166	\$15-\$50/credit	4

¹⁹ NMCC A number of graduates are choosing to complete general education courses prior to application for nursing program thus taking 6 semesters in which to complete the AD program requirements.

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

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours ¹⁷	Nursing Fees ¹⁸	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
<i>Master's Degree in Nursing</i>				
HC	43-46	\$371	\$6	6-9
SJC	42	\$280	No	Open enrollment
UM	36-45	\$233.20	\$25/credit clinical	3-4
UNE Nurse Anesthesia	50	\$650	Lab fee \$50-100/course x 4 courses	8 (27 months)
USM	48-54	\$248	\$36.60/credit	4
<i>Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i>				
SJC	42	\$280	Undergraduate portfolio fee \$400 for prerequisite to MSN program	Not provided
USM	47 under-grad and 48-54 grad	\$166 under-grad and \$248 grad	\$15-50/selected nursing undergraduate courses; \$36.60 for graduate	11 semesters
<i>Post-masters Certificate</i>				
HC	12-34	\$371	\$15-\$23	4 semesters
UM	18	\$233.20	\$25/clinical credit	2 semesters
USM	3-27	\$248	\$15-\$50	2 semesters

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