

Report

Fall 2006 Survey of Maine Nursing Education Programs

Prepared by Marianne W. Rodgers, Interim Dean
College of Nursing and Health Professions
University of Southern Maine

mrodgers@usm.maine.edu

207 – 780 – 4808

February 2007

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 Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK)
Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC)	University of New England (UNE)
Saint Joseph's College of Maine (SJC)	University of Southern Maine (USM)

Types of Nursing Programs

Type of Program (enrollment caps, when applicable, in parenthesis)	#
LPN: CMCC	1
LPN to ADN: CMCC (5), EMCC, KVCC, NMCC (5), SMCC, UMA	6
Associate Degree: CMCC (40), CMMC (64), EMCC (32), KVCC (40), NMCC (48), SMCC (88), UMA (68) ¹ , UNE (75)	8
Baccalaureate Degree: HC, UM (75), UMFK, SJC (60), USM ² ,	5
Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree ³ : UMFK, USM (40)	2
RN to BSN: HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, UNE (25), USM	6
Master's Degree: HC, SJC, UM, USM	4
Accelerated Master's Degree ⁴ : HC, USM (24)	2
Post Master's Certificate: USM	1
Other:	

¹UMA listed different enrollment caps for their associate degree program with 56 at Augusta each year and 24 at a distant site every other year. The above cap of 68 is the average of the two year cap.

² USM has open enrollment for qualified freshmen, but caps transfers at 70.

³ Accelerated baccalaureate programs restrict admission to applicants with a baccalaureate degree in another field.

⁴ Accelerated master's degree programs restrict admission to applicants with baccalaureate degrees in a field other than nursing.

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

- EMCC current cap of 32 is an increase of 8 students from last year's cap of 24.
- KVCC is in the 2nd year of a Department of Labor grant that enabled them to move from a cap of 32 to a cap of 40.
- SMCC will be admitting 16 students in January 2007 at York Community College as a new satellite site.
- UM targets a total enrollment in the BS program of 72 students in each year freshmen through senior. This includes freshmen and transfer students. Without additional resources this total may need to be lowered to 50 students/per class level.
- UMA will be admitting an additional 16 students in January 2007 for a new site at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Waldo County Hospital will fund at site at Waldo County Hospital starting September 2007.
- USM will offer admission to up to 32 Accelerated BS students for fall 2007 at their Lewiston/Auburn campus.

- **In response to new programs being planned or programs being phased out:**
 - EMCC is phasing out the LPN program
 - HC is phasing out the RN/MSN, RN/BSN, and Acute Care NP MS programs.
 - SJC is investigating an on campus 5th year MSN to open during 2007.
 - UMA is planning to open an RN/BS program in 2007
 - USM will open the pilot Clinical Nurse Leader MS program to general graduate admission. A Doctorate of Nursing Practice Program is now in the program planning stage with a target opening of fall 2008.

Fall 2002, there were 128 full-time faculty members teaching in Maine's 13 Nursing Programs. Fall 2006, there are 158 full-time nursing faculty members teaching in these 13 programs. This represents an increase of 30 full-time faculty members or an increase of 23%. During that same time period, fall 2002 to fall 2006 students enrolled in Maine's Associate Degree and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Programs went from 1983 to 2370 in fall 2006. This is an increase of 387 students or an increase of 20%. (See Table 5.)

Enrollments in RN/BS and master's programs have not followed the same pattern. (See Table 6) In fall 2003 RN/BS enrollments were at 656 students including the distance education program enrollments at SJC and UMFK. In fall 2006, the RN/BS enrollments were 378 which is a decrease of 278 students or 42%. Master's degree program enrollments have been more stable. Fall 2005 had the highest enrollment with 500 students including the distance education program at SJC. This program enrolls over ½ of the reported MS students in Maine, with an enrollment of 271 students or 61% for fall 2006 out of a total MS student enrollment of 444.

The vast majority of nursing faculty members teaching in Maine's nursing programs are female and white. There are 7 full-time male faculty members out of 158 which is 4.4%. There are only 3 minority faculty members or just fewer than 2%. Both associate degree and baccalaureate and higher degree program faculties continue to have an increasing number of faculty members who are 51 years of age or older.

Table 1.
Faculty Profile by Gender and Race

Program	Total #	female	male	White	Asian	Native American	Hispanic
CMCC	7	7		7			
CMMC	16	15	1	15	1		
EMCC	6	6		6			
HC	11	10	1	16			
KVCC	7	7		7			
NMCC	11	10	1	11			
SJC	12	12		12			
SMCC	11	11		11			
UM	17	16	1	16			1
UMA	10	10		10			

UMFK	6	5	1	5		1	
UNE	16	15	1	16			
USM	28	27	1	28			
Total	158	151	7	155	1	1	1

Table 2.
Maine's Associate Degree Nursing Programs faculty Profile

Associate Degree Programs (8 Programs)					Baccalaureate Degree Programs (5 Programs)			
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2003	2004	2005	2006
Full-time nursing faculty	77	73	78	84	62	73	76	74
Full-Time faculty's Highest Degree								
Doctorate in Nursing	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	3 (4%)	1 (1.5%)	19(31%)	21(29%)	20(26%)	25(34%)
Doctorate in other field	4 (5%)	2 (3%)	5 (6%)	5 (6%)	10(16%)	9 (12%)	12(16%)	7 (9%)
MSN	68(88%)	63(86%)	66(85%)	70(83%)	32(52%)	39(53%)	39(51%)	39(53%)
MS other field	2 (3%)	1 (1%)	3 (4%)	1(1.5%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
BSN	1 (1%)	5 (7%)	1 (1%)	7 (8%)	0	3 (4%)	3 (4%)	2 (3%)

Table 3.
Age Distribution of Nursing Faculty Members Teaching in Associate Degree Programs

Associate Degree Programs (8 Programs)				
Year	2003	2004	2005	2006
30 years or younger	0	0	1 (1%)	0
31 - 40	6 (8%)	4 (5%)	3 (1%)	6 (7%)
41 - 50	33 (43%)	31 (42%)	29 (37%)	26 (31%)
51 - 60	27 (35%)	29 (40%)	28 (36%)	38 (45%)
61 - 65	19 (13%)	9 (12%)	13 (17%)	9 (11%)
over 65	1 (1%)	0	4 (4%)	5 (6%)

Table 4.
Age Distribution of Nursing Faculty Members Teaching in Baccalaureate Degree and Master's Degree Nursing Programs

Baccalaureate Degree Programs (5 Programs)				
	2003	2004	2005	2006
30 years or younger	0	0	1 (7%)	
31 - 40	4 (6%)	6 (8%)	5 (7%)	5 (7%)
41 - 50	14 (23%)	21 (29%)	22 (29%)	16 (22%)
51 - 60	37 (60%)	36 (49%)	36 (47%)	38 (51%)
61 - 65	7 (11%)	7 (10%)	9 (12%)	13 (17%)
Over 65	0	3 (4%)	3 (4%)	2 (3%)

Faculty vacancies in Nursing Programs: Seven vacancies were reported for the 13 programs; however, several programs noted that with current enrollments they needed more full-time faculty members but had no vacancies based on funding.

Part-time Faculty Members: There are 87 part-time faculty members teaching in Maine's Nursing Programs. Of these, the majority 74 or 84% teach clinical courses and 13 or 16% teach didactic courses. Programs report from having no part-time faculty members to a high of 25 part-time faculty members.

Table 5.
Student Enrollment and Graduation Numbers

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Percent change From previous year
Enrollments						
Associate Degree	668	773	789	806	837	3.8%
Baccalaureate Degree	1100	1210	1513	1480	1533	3.5%
Totals	1768	1983	2302	2286	2370	3.7%
Graduates						
Associate Degree	239	251	324	337	323¹	-4.1 %
Baccalaureate Degree	153	162	246	273	283	3.6%
Totals	392	413	570	610	606	-0.006%

Table 6.
Enrollments in RN/BS and Master's Degree Programs

	2003	2004	2005	2006	Percent change from previous year
RN/BS	656¹	707	479	378	-21%
Masters Degree	486²	500	406	444	8%
Graduations					
RN/BS	71	93	84	81	-3.5%
Masters Degree	40	56	72	64	-11%

¹ Includes enrollments in distance education programs at SJC and UMFK that are offered to out of state as well as Maine students

² Includes distance education program at SJC offered to out of state as well as Maine students

Programs were asked if they increased their enrollments in fall 2006 over fall 2005 and if they intended to increase their enrollments for fall 2007 over fall 2006. The following table (See Table 7.) gives the responses to these 2 questions. CMCC was the only program planning to admit more students for fall 2007. They will raise their cap to admit 40 students. They currently admit 20 Associate Degree students and up to 15 LPN students. CMMC, KVCC, UNE, and UM were the only programs that did not admit more students for fall 2006 than for fall 2005. UM stated it raised its cap by 20 students in fall 2005 in anticipation of state level funding that became available fall 2006.

Table 7.
Planned Increases in numbers of Students Accepted for Fall 2006 and Fall 2007

Program	Accepted more students for fall 2006 than fall 2005		Planning to accept more students fall 2007 than fall 2006	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
CMCC	8 students		Increase to 40 students	
CMMC		No		No
EMCC	8 students			No
HC		No		No
KVCC		No		No
NMCC	8 students			No
SJC	40 students			No
SMCC	20 students			No
UM		No		No

UMA	16 students		No
UMFK	8 students		No
UNE		No	No
USM	38 students		No

The Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System Nursing Programs received \$700,000.00 from the Maine State Legislature with \$350,000 going to the Community Colleges and \$350,000.00 to the University of Maine System. The purpose of these grants were to increase nursing student enrollments by funding additional nursing faculty lines needed to accommodate additional students.

Programs were also asked about the cost of programs: number of required credits, cost/credit, and any additional fees. The responses to these questions are displayed in Table 8.

Table 8.
Program Length and Cost

Associate Degree Programs				
Program	Number of credits to degree	Cost/credit	Additional costs in fees	
			Yes	No
CMCC	70	\$ 78	yes	
CMMC	69	\$156	yes	
EMCC	66	\$ 78	yes	
KVCC	69	\$74	yes	
NMCC	70	\$74		
SMCC	69	\$ 78	yes	
UMA	69	\$157	yes	
UNE	68	\$675	yes	
Baccalaureate Degree Programs				
HC	126	\$384	yes	
SJC	129	\$325	yes	
UM	123	\$199	yes	
UMFK	128	\$155	yes	
USM	125	\$180	yes	
Master's Degree Programs				
HC	43 - 46	\$384	yes	
SJC	42	\$325	yes	
UM	36 - 45	\$296	yes	
USM	48 - 54	\$270	yes	

