

**Memorandum of Understanding Between
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing and
John Tyler Community College**

The Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing (VCU SON) and John Tyler Community College (JTCC) recognize the need to facilitate completion of the baccalaureate degree among graduates of associate degree programs. This agreement provides an accelerated and streamlined baccalaureate of sciences degree (BS) completion pathway at VCU SON for students enrolled in JTCC through a collaborative concurrent enrollment plan. The goals for this agreement are to 1) reduce time to complete BS degree, 2) increase number of BS graduates, and 3) increase the pool of BS-prepared nurses available for employment by area hospitals. Specifically, participants will be able to begin the RN-BS program while continuing to prepare for the NCLEX exam.

The overarching intent of this collaboration is for JTCC students to 1) receive early advisement regarding VCU SON BS program completion requirements; 2) complete required prerequisite course work at JTCC; 3) co-enroll in the VCU SON RN-BS program and complete 6 credits of RN-BS courses during the last year of enrollment at JTCC; and 4) continue RN-BS courses at the SON following graduation from JTCC in a dedicated cohort at VCU. VCU may appoint qualified faculty from JTCC to teach RN-BS program courses to JTCC students as adjunct VCU SON faculty under applicable VCU affiliate faculty policies.

Section I: Eligibility

To be guaranteed admission to the VCU SON under this collaboration, JTCC students must:

1. Complete a minimum of 41 credit hours of VCU SON RN-BS prerequisite and general education courses (see Table 1) prior to the beginning of the fall semester of the final year in the JTCC program.
2. Earn a minimum cumulative college-level grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale;
3. Earn a minimum grade of "B" in all the required JTCC nursing classes in their first year of nursing courses at JTCC;
4. Earn a minimum grade of "C" in the required prerequisite and general education courses noted above.
5. Apply to the VCU School of Nursing by the posted application deadline (see: <https://nursing.vcu.edu/admission/application-instructions/rn-to-bs/>).

Table 1. Prerequisite Courses for RN-BS Curriculum

| Prerequisite or general education | Number of credits | VCCS course | VCU equivalent |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|
| English Composition | 6 | ENG 111-112 | UNIV 111, 112, 200 |
| Anatomy & Physiology | 8 | BIO 141-142 | BIOL 205 + PHIS/Z 206 |
| Statistics | 3 | MTH 155 or MTH 245 | STAT 208 or STAT 210 |
| Introductory Psychology | 3 | PSY 200 | PSYC 101 |
| Developmental Psychology | 3 | PSY 230 | PSC 304 |
| General Sociology | 3 | SOC 200 | SOCY 101 |
| Laboratory Science | 8 | Select from BIO 101, BIO 102, CHM 101, CHM 111, PHY 101, PHY 201 | VCU equivalent |
| Microbiology | 4 | BIO 150 | BIOL/Z 209 |
| Nutrition | 3 | HLT 230 | BIOL 217 |
| Philosophy | 3 | Select from PHI | VCU equivalent |
| General education electives | 9 | Select from ENG, HIS, CST, POL, MUS, ART, PHI, REL, foreign language | VCU equivalent |
| Total | 53 | | |

VCU equivalents of VCCS courses can be found at: <https://transfer.vcu.edu/prospective/equivalency/>

Section II: Academic Terms of Co-Enrollment

- 1 Upon receipt by VCU of completed application materials demonstrating eligibility, JTCC students are guaranteed admission to VCU SON RN-BS program for the fall term of the student's last year of enrollment in JTCC's nursing program.
- 2 Students will be co-enrolled in JTCC and VCU SON for the fall and spring terms of the student's last year of enrollment in the JTCC nursing program. Students will complete the following VCU RN-BS courses:
 - o Fall term: NURS 301 Informatics (3 credits, online)
 - o Spring term: NURS 307 Foundations of Professional Nursing I (3 credits, online)
- 3 JTCC students will be charged VCU tuition and fees for these two courses.

Section III: Academic Terms of Continuing Enrollment

1. Students must earn a minimum grade of "B" in all the remaining JTCC nursing classes taken during their final year at JTCC.
2. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative college-level grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale at JTCC.
3. Any remaining prerequisite or general education courses required for the RN-BS program and taken at JTCC must be completed with a grade of "C" or better.

4. An earned grade less than a "C"/satisfactory may be repeated once. If the repeated course or another course is failed with a grade less than a "C"/satisfactory, the student may not proceed in the nursing major and is dismissed from the VCU School of Nursing.
5. Student must satisfy all JTCC continuous enrollment policies.
6. Upon completion of the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, students will be required to pass the NCLEX examination and obtain a VA nursing license not later than the beginning of the fall semester of their continuing enrollment at VCU. Failure to obtain a VA nursing licensure by the designated timeline will result in disenrollment from the program. Students will be eligible for readmission to the RN-BS program once the license has been obtained and verified by the dedicated RN to BS advisor for VCU SON.
7. If degree completion date at CC is delayed, interrupted or discontinued, the student may not be able to continue in the VCU RN-BS program and/or subject to readmit policies for the RN-BS nursing program.
8. The VCU RN-BS curriculum requires 32 credits in the nursing degree to be earned at VCU; thirty (30) of the last 45 credits must be earned at VCU.
9. All outstanding prerequisite coursework must be satisfied prior to enrolling in the NURS 488 course.

Table 2: Required RN-BS Courses and Sequence

| VCU Courses | Credits | Term offered to cohort |
|--|---------|------------------------|
| NURS 308 Foundation of Professional Nursing II | 3 | Summer 1 |
| NURS 309 Population Health | 3 | Summer 1 |
| NURS 403 Evidence-based Practice in Health Care | 3 | Fall 1 |
| NURS 409 Population Health: Application to Nursing Practice | 2 | Fall 1 |
| NURS 408 Ethics, law and Public Policy: Application to Nursing Practice | 3 | Spring 1 |
| NURS 462 Advanced Pathophysiological Concepts: Application to Patient Care | 3 | Spring 1 |
| NURS 406 Interprofessional Collaborative Practice | 2 | Summer 2 |
| NURS 477 Leadership and Management Health Care | 4 | Summer 2 |
| NURS 488 Clinical and Management Decision-making | 3 | Fall 2 |

Note: All RN-BS courses offered online

Section IV: Transfer of Credits

1. After successful completion of NURS 308 at VCU, VCU will award students up to 39 proficiency credits from their AAS degree (based on an assessment of their prior learning and clinical work experience).
2. Under applicable academic policy, VCU will award qualifying credit for college courses applicable to the AAS degree taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools as regular proficiency credits.
3. Course credit awarded through Advanced Placement, Cambridge, CLEP, DANTES, International Baccalaureate, and Armed Services experience will be accepted according to stated policies for acceptance of credit, which can be found in the VCU

Undergraduate Bulletin for the year the JTCC student enters VCU. To seek credit from VCU, students must submit the necessary transcripts or documentation of this additional coursework to VCU no later than the conclusion of their first semester of co-enrollment at VCU.

Section V: Responsibilities

CC agrees to do the following:

1. Notify students of the collaboration opportunity with VCU under this agreement.
2. Provide academic advising services to assist JTCC students in selecting required courses for admission to the RN-BS program. Further, JTCC will prepare faculty advisors and counselors to provide appropriate and accurate advising services related to students' plans to apply to VCU.
3. Notify the Chief Transfer Officer at VCU (<http://www.schev.edu/AdminFaculty/VCTOcontact.asp>) when situations arise warranting JTCC and VCU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.

There are no intended third party beneficiaries to this agreement. JTCC agrees to inform prospective and participating students that they are responsible for the following:

1. Understanding the requirements for the BS in Nursing at VCU.
2. Meeting with VCU academic advisors to discuss transferability of courses and advice for a successful transition from JTCC to VCU.
3. Following the VCU application processes and deadlines (<http://nursing.vcu.edu/admission/application-instructions/rn-to-bs/>) and providing official transcripts from any other institutions attended and documentation for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge, CLEP, military credit, or other advanced standing credit applied toward completion of the transfer-oriented associate degree.

VCU agrees to do the following:

1. Disseminate accurate information to prospective students regarding the general conditions of this collaborative agreement.
2. Provide academic advising services through the VCU Transfer Center and School of Nursing to JTCC students during the term prior to transfer to assist these students in making a smooth transition from the community college to VCU. VCU advisors will assist students in registering for appropriate courses.
3. Notify the Chief Transfer Officer (<http://www.schev.edu/index/agency-info/advisory-committees/virginia's-chief-transfer-officers>) at JTCC when situations arise that warrant JTCC and VCU faculty interaction to address advising or curricular issues.
4. If sufficient enrollment (a minimum of 15 students) and faculty capacity (as determined by VCU) is met, students will be offered placement in a special section of course work with their JTCC cohort. The cohort will proceed through the VCU RN-BS curriculum 6 credits each semester, summer, fall, spring continuously until graduation (see Table 2). Students must successfully complete all courses in the designated sequence to remain in this cohort. If there is insufficient enrollment for a

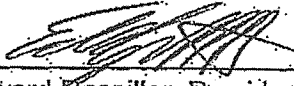
JTCC cohort, or if a student has to repeat a course, students may be placed in regular, non-cohort course sections.

- S. Provide tracking data on performance of JTCC students at VCU, including credits presented and accepted in transfer, VCU courses attempted and completed, cumulative GPA, major, graduation date from VCU, and comparisons with native students. The specific data elements and the timing of the report will be determined by Institutional Research staff from JTCC and VCU.

Section V: Review of the Agreement

- I. JTCC will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of this agreement and VCU will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of this agreement at VCU.
 - a. Representing VCU will be the Vice President for Health Sciences and VCU Health System Chief Executive Officer and the Dean of the School of Nursing and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, or designees.
 - b. Representing the JTCC will be the Director of Nursing.
2. Both parties will communicate the conditions of the agreement to their respective clientele {external and internal constituents). VCU and the JTCC will review the agreement at a minimum of every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of each institution as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provisions of the existing agreement.
3. This agreement shall be effective upon execution by both parties and shall remain in effect for an initial period of three {3} years. This agreement may be renewed for set terms of one to three years thereafter upon written agreement of the parties. Either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any student {s) co-enrolled at VCU at the time of notice of termination shall be given the opportunity to complete the RN-BS degree in alignment with degree-completion requirements.

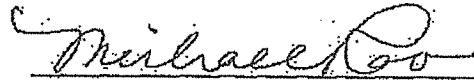
Approval granted by:



Dr. Edward Raspiller, President
John Tyler Community College

12/18/19

Date

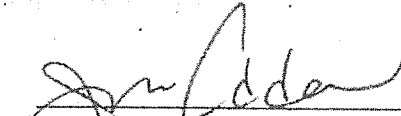


Dr. Michael Rao, President
Virginia Commonwealth University

12/5/19


Date

VCU Reviewers:



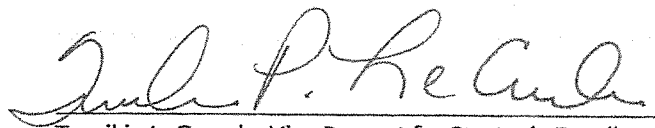
Jean Giddens, Dean, School of Nursing

10/28/19
Date



Marsha Rappley, Vice President for Health Sciences

10/28/19
Date



Tomikia LeGrande, Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management

11/22/19
Date



Deborah Noble-Triplett, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

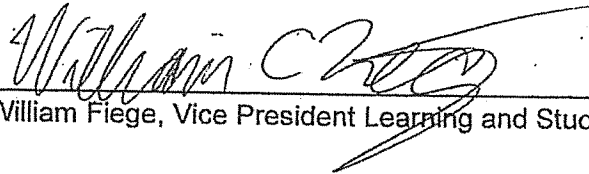
12/3/2019
Date



Gail Hackett, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs


12/3/2019
Date

Tyler Reviewers:



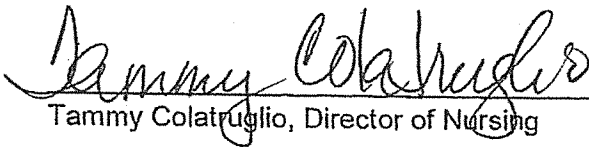
William Fiege, Vice President Learning and Student Success

12/12/19
Date



Carole Graham, Dean of Science, Health and Human Services

12/13/19
Date



Tammy Colatruglio, Director of Nursing

12/13/19
Date