



Stockton's Baccalaureate Nursing Program Receives Full Accreditation from State Board

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Galloway Township, NJ -The four-year Baccalaureate Nursing Program at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey recently received full accreditation from the state Board of Nursing through 2022.

Stockton's prelicensure BSN program prepares students to become registered nurses while completing the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. The program is also accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

One of the many criteria of the state evaluation includes tracking the program's nursing graduate licensure pass rate. Since the BSN program's inception in 2006, the nursing graduate licensure pass rate has consistently ranked high. In 2012, the pass rate for first-time test-takers who took the exam was 100 percent. In 2013, the pass rate was 96.55 percent — the highest pass rate for four-year BSN programs in the state that year, explained Dr. Linda Aaronson, associate professor of Nursing.

Dr. Mary Padden, coordinator of the Nursing Program, explained that nursing programs are required to be certified by the state's board of nursing, which bases its decision on a review of documentation the college submits.

"It's a fairly lengthy process to even begin a program. The school has to apply, and the board has to evaluate and approve the program," Dr. Padden said.

Dr. Aaronson, who wrote the program's self-study submitted to the board, described the recent accreditation as the "final jewel in the crown" and a "validation of Stockton's nursing program."

"We had to document that we meet the criteria for a fully accredited program in both academics and clinical education," Dr. Aaronson explained. "There's usually a site visit as part of the accreditation process. We were able to document so well that they did not require a site visit."

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Dr. Theresa Bartolotta, Dean, School of Health Sciences, said the self-study was accepted in the summer with no revisions and no site visit. She credited the efforts of Dr. Padden, Dr. Aaronson and the entire nursing faculty.

“This is evidence that our outstanding curriculum and clinical training meet the highest standards that are set by the state Board of Nursing,” Dr. Bartolotta said. “It is a testament to the excellent reputation of our program and faculty, and our extraordinary pass rate.”

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