College of Nursing

https://nursing.tamhsc.edu

Administrative Officers

Dean - Nancy Fahrenwald, Ph.D., R.N., PHNA-BC, FAAN
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs - Debra Matthews, Ph.D., R.N.
Associate Dean for Student Affairs - Kathryn McCallum, M.S.N., R.N.
Associate Dean for Finance and Administration - Shirley Davidson, M.B.A.
Associate Dean for Research - Jane Bolin, Ph.D., J.D., R.N.
Associate Dean for Clinical and Outreach Affairs - Cindy Weston, D.N.P., R.N., CSN-CC, FNP-BC

General Statement

Registered nurses have been called the backbone of our health care system. Working on the front lines of health care, they treat patients, monitor and record their condition, help establish a plan of care, educate patients or the public about a health condition and provide advice and emotional support to patients’ family members. Registered nurses are increasingly being recognized as leaders in transforming the health care system to meet the burgeoning demand for prevention, wellness and primary care services with a focus on improving quality and managing costs. In addition to their clinical expertise, nurses are being sought out to serve in a variety of leadership posts on bodies developing policy recommendations related to a wide-range of health care policy issues.

Individuals who earn a nursing degree must first complete a national licensing examination in order to obtain a nursing license for practice. Further training or education can qualify nurses to work in specialty areas, such as emergency care, pediatrics, labor and delivery, mental health, oncology, surgery, school or public health. Graduate education can increase advancement opportunities for nurses including administrative positions in health care, academic faculty positions, and health care delivery as advanced practice nurses.

The College of Nursing is committed to addressing the critical nursing shortage across Texas through exceptional graduate and undergraduate educational programs and advanced technologies in nursing. Students are educated through cutting-edge technologies and simulated experiences, which include standardized patients and virtual learning activities. As leaders, our graduates are taught to question traditional methods and continually seek the best practices based on relevant clinical research. Through community service and leadership opportunities, the College of Nursing fosters a sense of social responsibility and global citizenship.

History

Texas A&M College of Nursing received approval from the Texas Board of Nursing on July 17, 2008, and admitted its first class on July 21, 2008. The college has grown to approximately 450 nursing students enrolled at two campuses: Bryan and Round Rock as well as having many students in distance education programs. The college also has a resident recruiting presence in Lufkin and McAllen serving residents in East and South Texas, for both undergraduate and graduate nursing students.

Texas A&M College of Nursing graduates are among the best-prepared masters and baccalaureate nurses in the nation, and they are highly sought after by prospective employers. First-time passing rates on certification board exams for graduates of the FNP degree program are significantly above the national average. Additionally, the first-time National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses® (NCLEX-RN) pass rates for BSN graduates have ranked 10 percentage points higher than both the Texas and national average for the past ten years. The percent of graduates employed within the first month following graduation is consistently high compared to national averages.

In recognition of this standard of excellence, the college received the National League of Nursing’s prestigious designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for the years 2016-2020 which recognizes schools of nursing that have achieved a level of distinction by outstanding innovations, commitment, and sustainability of excellence.

The Degrees of Master of Science in Nursing

The College of Nursing offers three Master of Science in nursing (MSN) degrees. The MSN degree programs are offered primarily online, with some required visits to the Bryan-College Station campus, based on the program.

Completion of the MSN Nursing Education degree enables graduates to instruct future generations of the nursing profession with advanced teaching emphasis, preparing them for the national certification exam in nursing education.

Graduates of the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program are advanced practice registered nurses who provide primary health care to a wide range of patients from infants and children to older adults. MSN-FNP graduates are eligible to take the ANCC and AANP certification exams. With a focus on health promotion, risk reduction, disease prevention and illness management, FNPs help meet the escalating need for high-quality and accessible health care.

The MSN in Forensic Nursing prepares graduates to care for victims and perpetrators of traumatic events or criminal acts. While caring for patients, the forensic nurse is responsible for observing, recognizing, collecting and documenting forensic evidence.

Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public’s health. A specialized/professional accrediting agency, CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs and of post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs. The baccalaureate and master’s degree programs in nursing at Texas A&M University College of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.ccneaccreditation.org), 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

Locations

The Bryan/College Station campus serves as the headquarters of the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Nursing. The 200-acre campus is located along State Highway 47 approximately three miles
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west of the main campus of Texas A&M University. The College of Nursing campus in Round Rock, Texas provides a state-of-the-art 134,000-square-foot structure with classrooms, a simulation center, library, study lounge, student services and faculty offices. Additionally, the College of Nursing has two advising locations: Lufkin and McAllen, Texas.

Bryan/College Station Campus
8447 State Highway 47
Bryan, TX 77807-3260
(979) 436-0110
nursing.tamhsc.edu (http://nursing.tamhsc.edu)

Round Rock Campus
3950 North A. W. Grimes Blvd.
Round Rock, TX 78665
(512) 341-4200

McAllen Advising Location
2101 South McColl Road
McAllen, TX 78503
(956) 668-6328

Lufkin Advising Location
Angelina College, Health Careers Building
3500 South 1st Street, Room #H110
Lufkin, TX 75904
936-633-3293

Masters

• Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-family-practitioner)
• Master of Science in Nursing in Forensic Nursing (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-forensic-nursing)
• Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Education (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn)

Certificates

• Certificate in Forensic Healthcare (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/forensic-healthcare-certificate)