

FSCC Nursing Program Approval and Accreditation Status

Initial National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) accreditation was granted in March 1986 for the Associate Degree program. In 1994 and 2002, the NLNAC re-accredited the program for eight addition years. In February 2010, the nursing program was surveyed by both the Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) and the NLNAC. The NLNAC granted continued accreditation with warning. Areas not meeting standards involved lack of nursing faculty with graduate degrees in nursing, curriculum, and systematic program evaluation. A follow-up accreditation survey is scheduled for fall 2012. Corrective actions have been implemented and interim reports have been provided to the NLNAC.

The nursing program has maintained KSBN approval since 1970. In 2010, the program received approval with conditions. Interim reports were provided to the Board of Nursing in June and September of 2010, and a final report was provided in December 2010. Corrective actions completed by the program resulted in the “conditional” approval being lifted in September 2011, and the program was granted full approval by KSBN.

The nursing curriculum has been totally revised with Quality Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) Competencies as its framework. FSCC’s nursing program is the first in the state of Kansas to adopt QSEN for its curriculum, and it was the first to adopt the Kansas ADN Alignment requirements. The curriculum has been approved by the FSCC Curriculum Committee, KSBN, Kansas Board of Regents, and the NLNAC. The first semester of core nursing courses begins in January 2012.

All lead instructors for core courses hold Master of Science degrees in nursing (MSN). We continue to seek and develop clinical instructors to be at the MSN level. Currently, two of our clinical adjunct instructors hold MSN degrees.

The program’s systematic evaluation plan was completed in September 2011. Included in the plan are clinical, course, and instructor evaluation tools that reflect the new QSEN Competencies and Kansas ADN alignment outcomes. Quality indicators and expected levels of performance have been established to ensure compliance with all NLNAC standards, student learning outcomes, and program outcomes.

Questions regarding accreditation or approval status should be directed to the FSCC Director of Nursing, the NLNAC, or to the KSBN. This information is shared so that students are able to make an informed decision regarding their choice of nursing education programs.

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