

Online RN-BSN/MSN, DNP Degree Programs
BSN > BSN/MSN > MSN > DNP

Campus-Based Accelerated
2nd Degree BSN Program

Online Graduate Nursing
Certificate Programs

Nursing Prospectus 2017-2018

tesu.edu/nursing



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THOMAS EDISON
STATE UNIVERSITY

W. CARY EDWARDS SCHOOL OF NURSING

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The *W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Prospectus* provides an overview of the programs offered by the School. The information contained in this *Prospectus* is current as of July 1, 2017. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information contained in this *Prospectus*, the University reserves the right to make changes without prior notice.

Accreditation and Quality Assurance

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing baccalaureate and master's degree programs at Thomas Edison State University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

- COMMISSION ON COLLEGIATE NURSING EDUCATION (CCNE)
www.ccneaccreditation.org

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing programs at Thomas Edison State University are accredited by the New Jersey Board of Nursing.

- NEW JERSEY BOARD OF NURSING
P.O. Box 45010
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6430
www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/nur/pages/default.aspx

- MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
3264 Market St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104
(267) 284-5000
www.msche.org

“ The University specializes in providing flexible, high-quality nursing programs tailored to the working adult student. ”



An early pioneer in distance education for nurses, the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University now has more than 30 years of experience in providing quality, flexible, distance education programs for students who desire an alternative to campus-based education. During these years, the School has grown and achieved many goals.

In addition to the growth of our programs, partnerships with major healthcare institutions have been developed to further assist in the advancement and transformation of nursing through education. We provide a flexible and seamless pathway for students to earn the BSN, the MSN and the DNP.

As we continue in our mission to provide high-quality educational opportunities to adult learners, we are committed to upholding the standards of the nursing profession and empowering tomorrow's leaders as they transform the health of the nation. In celebration of our expansive history, we have highlighted some of the milestones that have provided our foundation for this exciting future. We invite you to review these in the special two-page section on Pages 12-13 as you read this *Prospectus*.

I thank you for your interest. If you have questions about any of our programs, you may visit the University website at www.tesu.edu/nursing, contact the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at (609) 633-6460 or email nursinginfo@tesu.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Filomela A. Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Filomela A. Marshall, EdD, RN, CNE
Dean, W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing

About Thomas Edison State University

Established in 1972, Thomas Edison State University is one of New Jersey's 11 senior public institutions of higher education and one of the oldest institutions in the country designed specifically for adults. The University offers associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in more than 100 areas of study as well as undergraduate, graduate and professional certificates.

The University has pioneered the use of the latest technology to develop flexible, high-quality educational programs for self-directed adults and is a national leader in the assessment of adult learning.

❖ About the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing

The mission of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing of Thomas Edison State University is guided by the mission of the University, which is to "provide flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults."

The School offers online Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN) and RN-BSN/MSN (Master of Science in Nursing) degree programs, and an online Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program as well as graduate nursing certificate programs, all designed for experienced RNs. The programs are flexible, with few course prerequisites. Students are expected to earn a minimum of 3 credits per year at the University that apply to degree requirements to remain on active status in the program.

The School also offers an Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, which is a 12-month, 120-credit Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program designed for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor's degree completed prior to acceptance and are interested in becoming registered nurses. The program prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).



“Thomas Edison had the timeframe that fit for me. I worked full time, took care of a busy household and a growing family, and this was a perfect fit for me. The School was very

accommodating when it came time to transfer my credits.”

*Dawne Marie Piotrowicz
BSN '14*



Promoting Diversity in Nursing Through Online Education

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State University is a national leader in recruiting and preparing minority nurse educators in online teaching. The School has enabled nurse educators to gain proficiency in online pedagogy and expand online education programs at their local institutions. Through a grant, an online database of minority nurse educators was established to expand the recruitment of the nurse educators and is available to nursing schools throughout the nation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q Are the nursing programs accredited?

Yes. W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing programs have accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and by the New Jersey Board of Nursing. Thomas Edison State University is regionally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Please see inside front cover for details. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is scheduled for its initial accreditation visit in the fall of 2017.

Q Do I need to travel to the University?

No. With the exception of the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program (see Page 11), nursing programs are offered via an online learning management platform format in 12-week terms on a quarterly basis. All advisement services can be completed over the telephone or online.

Q How and when can I apply?

With rolling admissions, RNs can apply any day of the year, 24 hours a day. To apply online, visit www.tesu.edu/apply. For information on the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, see Page 11. For information on the DNP program, see Page 8.

Q What happens after I apply?

If you are accepted, you will receive an acceptance letter by email with important information on how to register for courses, and a University ID card will be mailed to you. If you have not received your acceptance letter within two weeks of submitting your application, please contact the Office of Admissions and Enrollment Services at (609) 777-5680 (option 2) or via email at nursinginfo@tesu.edu. It is important that you check your email account frequently for important information from the University.

Q When can I speak to an advisor?

Once you are accepted, your transcripts are evaluated to see what previously earned credits transfer. You will be contacted via email once completed. When your evaluation is complete, it is suggested that you make an advisement

appointment. You may schedule a telephone or in-person appointment with an academic nursing advisor by using the Advisement Appointment Scheduling tool that you can find in your myEdison® portal.

Q How long will it take to complete my degree?

On average, RNs complete their BSN in approximately 24 months and the BSN/MSN in 34 months. Students in our Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program complete their degree in 12 months. DNP is completed in 18 months.

Q How often are nursing courses offered?

Nursing courses are offered four times per year, January, April, July and October. Non-nursing courses are offered every month. View the registration dates for the current academic year on the University website. While all required BSN nursing courses are offered four times each year, some graduate specialty courses, Practicums and electives are offered every other term. For information on the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, see Page 11. For information on the DNP program, see Page 8.

Q Do you accept international students?

Yes, international students can earn degrees and certificates from Thomas Edison State University. The University does not sponsor foreign national students for F-1 or J-1 visa status. Please see the University website regarding all policies on foreign students and acceptance of foreign credit at www.tesu.edu/academics/catalog/International-Student-Policies.cfm.

Q How do I contact the School if my questions aren't answered online?

Email the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing directly at nursing@tesu.edu. Students can submit a HelpDesk ticket via myEdison®.

RN-BSN/MSN Degree Programs

Overview

RNs can apply any day of the year. With maximum credit for prior learning and many credit earning options, RNs can achieve their educational goals in a manner that saves both time and money. With highly interactive, asynchronous online group discussions, adult independent learners become part of a community of learners where experiences are shared and learning is enhanced.

The BSN degree will be awarded on certification of completion of degree requirements to students in both the RN-BSN program and the RN-BSN/MSN program. Three courses (9 credits of graduate study) are included in undergraduate degree requirements: Health Policy; Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues; and Advanced Health Assessment. These graduate credits, along with an additional elective, earned as part of the RN-BSN degree program, may be applied toward MSN degree requirements for students continuing on for that degree at Thomas Edison State University.

● **Provisional Admission** to the RN-BSN and RN-BSN/MSN programs are open to senior nursing students or graduates of an RN diploma program of nursing, or a regionally accredited college or university in the United States with an associate degree in nursing awaiting RN licensure. Students provisionally admitted to the program may enroll in NUR-340 and NUR-342. Provisionally admitted students will have one year from the date of Provisional Admission to obtain RN licensure. Failure to do so within that time, will result in removal from the program.

● **Full Admission** to the RN-BSN and RN-BSN/MSN programs requires that the applicant must be a graduate of an RN diploma program of nursing or a regionally accredited college or university in the United States or recognized foreign institution with an associate degree in nursing. A current and valid RN license, recognized in the United States, must be submitted for full admission to the program.

BSN Degree Program Requirements

The BSN degree program requires a minimum of 120 credits.

General Education

The credit requirement in general education provides the foundation for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Many of these credits are earned through transfer and prior learning assessment.

Professional Nursing

The nursing requirement includes credit in lower-division nursing and upper-division nursing.

Lower-Division Nursing

The lower-division nursing requirement will be satisfied by transfer credit from an associate degree nursing program or by the award of credit for diploma nursing course work.

Upper-Division Nursing

The upper-division nursing requirement may be completed entirely by online courses offered by the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing. Three graduate courses will be completed by all RN-BSN degree students and may be applied to the MSN degree. An additional elective may also apply to the MSN.

Electives

Elective credits of college-level course work and examinations that do not duplicate other credits may be used. Additional lower-division nursing courses may be accepted.

Credit Distribution Requirements Bachelor of Science in Nursing

	Credits
GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS	48
INTELLECTUAL AND PRACTICAL SKILLS	15
Written Communication	6
Oral Communication	3
Quantitative Literacy	3
Information Literacy	3
CIVIC AND GLOBAL LEARNING	9
Diversity	3
Ethics	3
Civic Engagement	3
KNOWLEDGE OF HUMAN CULTURES	9
UNDERSTANDING THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL WORLD	9
MATHEMATICS	3
GENERAL EDUCATION ELECTIVE	3
AREA OF STUDY REQUIREMENTS	
PROFESSIONAL NURSING CREDITS	48
LOWER-DIVISION/CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING	20
UPPER-DIVISION	28
<i>NUR-340</i> Nursing Informatics	3
<i>NUR-342</i> Advancing Nursing Practice	3
<i>NUR-516</i> Advanced Health Assessment*	3 GR
<i>NUR-418</i> Research in Nursing	3
<i>NUR-428</i> Leadership and Management in Nursing	3
<i>NUR-531</i> Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues*	3 GR
<i>NUR-529</i> Health Policy*	3 GR
<i>NUR-443</i> Public Health Nursing	4
<i>NUR-445</i> Validating Nursing Competence	3
ELECTIVES	24
<i>(May be fulfilled by lower-division transfer)</i>	
TOTAL	120

Degree Requirements: Statistics (3 credits); Ethics (3 credits); Anatomy and Physiology I,II (6 credits); Microbiology (3 credits)

*Graduate-level course

Suggested Plan of Study for Upper-Division Nursing Courses for RN-BSN Program

9 Months

TERM	COURSE
1	<i>NUR-340</i> <i>NUR-342</i> <i>NUR-516*</i> <i>NUR-418**</i>
2	<i>NUR-428</i> <i>NUR-531*</i> <i>NUR-529*</i>
3	<i>NUR-443***</i> <i>NUR-445***</i>

12 Months

TERM	COURSE
1	<i>NUR-340</i> <i>NUR-342</i> <i>NUR-516*</i>
2	<i>NUR-418**</i> <i>NUR-428</i> <i>NUR-531*</i>
3	<i>NUR-529*</i>
4	<i>NUR-443***</i> <i>NUR-445***</i>

15 Months

TERM	COURSE
1	<i>NUR-340</i> <i>NUR-342</i>
2	<i>NUR-516*</i> <i>NUR-418**</i>
3	<i>NUR-428</i> <i>NUR-531*</i>
4	<i>NUR-529*</i>
5	<i>NUR-443***</i> <i>NUR-445***</i>

27 Months

TERM	COURSE
1	<i>NUR-340</i>
2	<i>NUR-342</i>
3	<i>NUR-516*</i>
4	<i>NUR-418**</i>
5	<i>NUR-428</i>
6	<i>NUR-531*</i>
7	<i>NUR-529*</i>
8	<i>NUR-443***</i>
9	<i>NUR-445***</i>

*Graduate-level course

**Statistic prerequisite

***These courses are taken at the end of the BSN program. Clearance from a nursing advisor is required to register for these courses.

Suggested Nursing Electives

<i>HEA-305</i>	Women's Health
<i>HEA-306</i>	Men's Health
<i>NUR-614</i>	Professional Writing from Idea to Publication
<i>SOS-320</i>	The Management of Stress and Tension

MSN Degree Program Requirements

The MSN degree requires a minimum of 36 credits consisting of different combinations of courses: core, direct care core, electives, specialty and Practicum. Two years of nursing experience is recommended, and a BSN degree from an accredited program is required.

Nurse Educator

MSN IN NURSE EDUCATOR COURSES AND CREDIT ALLOCATION

The Nurse Educator program prepares graduates for teaching roles in healthcare and academic settings. A Graduate Certificate in Nurse Educator is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

	Credits
CORE COURSES	12
<i>NUR-531</i> Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues	
<i>NUR-529</i> Health Policy	
<i>NUR-530</i> Evidence-Based Nursing Practice*	
<i>NUR-600</i> Nursing Leadership in a Global Community	
DIRECT CARE CORE COURSES	9
<i>NUR-516</i> Advanced Health Assessment	
<i>NUR-640</i> Advanced Pathophysiology	
<i>NUR-650</i> Advanced Pharmacology	
SPECIALTY COURSES	9
<i>NUR-630</i> Theoretical Foundations and Instructional Strategies in Nursing Education	
<i>NUR-700</i> Curriculum Theory and Development in Nursing Education	
<i>NUR-710</i> Testing, Assessment and Evaluation	
PRACTICUM COURSES	6
<i>NUR-740</i> Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum I**	
<i>NUR-750</i> Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum II**	
TOTAL	36

*Successful completion of a 3-credit statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR-530.

**Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be done consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Informatics

MSN IN NURSING INFORMATICS COURSES AND CREDIT ALLOCATION

The Nursing Informatics program prepares graduates to function as nursing informatics specialists. A Graduate Certificate in Nursing Informatics is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

	Credits
CORE COURSES	12
<i>NUR-531</i> Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues	
<i>NUR-529</i> Health Policy	
<i>NUR-530</i> Evidence-Based Nursing Practice*	
<i>NUR-600</i> Nursing Leadership in a Global Community	
ELECTIVE COURSES	9
Electives may be selected from nursing elective course offerings, direct care core courses and/or alternate specialty area courses.	
For example, students may take three courses in nursing administration or nursing education to enhance their skill base and work toward a future certificate in another nursing specialty.	
SPECIALTY COURSES	9
<i>NUR-701</i> Nursing Informatics: Databases and Knowledge Management	
<i>NUR-631</i> Nursing Informatics: Systems Life Cycle	
<i>NUR-711</i> Nursing Informatics: Consumer Informatics and Communication Technologies	
PRACTICUM COURSES	6
<i>NUR-721</i> Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum I**	
<i>NUR-731</i> Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum II**	
TOTAL	36

*Successful completion of a 3-credit statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR-530.

**Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be done consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Administration

MSN IN NURSING ADMINISTRATION COURSES AND CREDIT ALLOCATION

The Nursing Administration program prepares graduates for the role of nurse administrator in healthcare settings. A Graduate Certificate in Nursing Administration is awarded in addition to the degree upon MSN program completion.

CORE COURSES Credits 12

NUR-531 Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues
NUR-529 Health Policy
NUR-530 Evidence-Based Nursing Practice*
NUR-600 Nursing Leadership in a Global Community

ELECTIVE COURSES 9

Electives may be selected from nursing elective course offerings, direct care core courses and/or alternate specialty area courses.

For example, students may take three courses in nursing informatics or nursing education to enhance their skill base and work toward a future certificate in another nursing specialty.

SPECIALTY COURSES 9

NUR-632 Nursing Administration: Standards and Structures
NUR-702 Nursing Administration: Executive Managerial Process
NUR-712 Nursing Administration: Resource Acquisition and Management

PRACTICUM COURSES 6

NUR-722 Nursing Administration: Seminar and Role Practicum**
NUR-732 Nursing Administration: Seminar and Process Practicum**

TOTAL 36

*Successful completion of a 3-credit statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR-530.

**Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be done consecutively at the same facility.



“Thomas Edison has given me the opportunity to continue to work full time, care for my three young children and disabled mother, support my military spouse, and pursue my professional and personal goals. I could not have done it any other way!”

*Nicole Klein, RN-BC, BSN '10, MSN '11
Lakewood, Wash.*

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree Program

Overview

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree is offered online with a specialty area in Systems-Level Leadership that can be completed in 18 months. The 36-credit program focuses on the improvement of evidence-based outcomes using theoretical knowledge and systems-level initiatives to advance nurses to the highest level of nursing practice. The program prepares nurse leaders with competencies in advanced nursing practice, organizational leadership, economics and finance, healthcare policy and technology.

Program Highlights

- All courses are offered online and available 24/7
- 36-credit program completed in 18 months
- Up to 9 doctoral-level credits may be transferred toward the DNP
- No physical campus visits are required
- W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing guidance for Practicum placement

Admissions Requirements

- Master's degree from a regionally accredited higher education institution or MSN degree from a nationally accredited school of nursing (CCNE, CNEA or ACEN)
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the master's program
- Two (2) current professional letters of recommendation from a healthcare supervisor or professional colleague, or from a faculty member who has taught the applicant (dated and on organizational letterhead)
- Well-written statement of background and goals*
- Well-written scholarly essay*
- Relevant professional work experience recommended
- Current valid unencumbered registered nurse license in the United States in the state where the DNP project will be completed

*Candidates should visit www.tesu.edu/dnp to access instructions for the statement of background and goals and the scholarly essay.

www.tesu.edu/dnp

Doctor of Nursing Practice

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

	Credits
Term I	
<i>NUR-800</i> DNP Role Development	3
<i>NUR-805</i> Scholarly Inquiry: A Basis for Evidence-Based Practice	3
Term II	
<i>NUR-902</i> Scholarly Immersion I - Project Identification and Mentored Practicum	3
<i>NUR-832</i> Organizational and Systems Leadership I	3
Term III	
<i>NUR-810</i> Health, Healthcare Policy and Politics	3
<i>NUR-842</i> Organizational and Systems Leadership II	3
Term IV	
<i>NUR-820</i> Integrating and Evaluating Population Health in Advanced Nursing Practice	3
<i>NUR-815</i> Information Systems and Technology Impacting Healthcare Delivery	3
Term V	
<i>NUR-912</i> Scholarly Immersion II - Project Management and Mentored Practicum	3
<i>NUR-825</i> Health Economics and Finance	3
Term VI	
<i>NUR-922</i> Scholarly Immersion III - Project Completion and Mentored Practicum	3
Elective	3
TOTAL	36



Graduate Nursing Certificate Programs

The graduate nursing certificate programs are designed for experienced RNs with a master's degree in nursing who want to develop the knowledge and skills needed to practice in another area of nursing specialty. The certificate programs consist of specialty and Practicum courses and are available in each area of specialty offered in the MSN degree program. The competencies identified, and the theory and Practicum courses, are the same for the certificate programs as for students completing the same area of specialty in the MSN degree program. A certificate in the selected area of specialty is awarded on program completion and submission of the Request for Graduate Nursing Certificate form, pending clearance by the University.

Note: Successful completion of NUR-516, NUR-640 and NUR-650 is a prerequisite for enrollment in the nurse educator certificate program.

Nurse Educator CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

	Credits
NUR-630 Theoretical Foundations and Instructional Strategies in Nursing Education	3
NUR-700 Curriculum Theory and Development in Nursing Education	3
NUR-710 Testing, Assessment and Evaluation	3
NUR-740 Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum I*	3
NUR-750 Nurse Educator: Seminar and Practicum II*	3
TOTAL	15

*Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Informatics CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

	Credits
NUR-531 Nursing Informatics: Concepts and Issues*	3
NUR-631 Nursing Informatics: Systems Life Cycle	3
NUR-701 Nursing Informatics: Databases and Knowledge Management	3
NUR-711 Nursing Informatics: Consumer Informatics and Communication Technology	3
NUR-721 Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum I**	3
NUR-731 Nursing Informatics: Seminar and Practicum II**	3
TOTAL	18

*If completed as part of degree requirements for the BSN or MSN at Thomas Edison State University, this course will not be required for certificate completion.

**Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Nursing Administration CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

	Credits
NUR-632 Nursing Administration: Standards and Structures	3
NUR-702 Nursing Administration: Executive Managerial Process	3
NUR-712 Nursing Administration: Resource Acquisition and Management	3
NUR-722 Nursing Administration: Seminar and Role Practicum*	3
NUR-732 Nursing Administration: Seminar and Process Practicum*	3
TOTAL	15

*Note: Completion of 150 onground, supervised hours is required in each Practicum course. Application for Practicum placement is submitted six months in advance. The Practicums must be taken consecutively at the same facility.

Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program

Change Your Life in 12 Months

The Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program is a rigorous, 12-month Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program. It is designed for adults who already possess a non-nursing bachelor's degree and who are interested in becoming registered nurses.

The 120-credit program prepares graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Applicants are required to have earned all general education and nursing prerequisites prior to being accepted into the program.* Due to the rigorous nature of this full-time program, outside employment is not recommended.

Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Requirements

GENERAL EDUCATION AND NURSING PREREQUISITES	60
PROFESSIONAL NURSING REQUIREMENTS	60
TOTAL	120

Admissions Requirements

- A bachelor's degree (non-nursing) from a regionally accredited college or university completed prior to acceptance.
- An earned cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the previous bachelor's degree.
- All science prerequisites completed within five years prior to the date of acceptance.
- A grade of B or better on all prerequisite science and statistics courses.
- A grade of B or better in any prior nursing courses.
- Have completed all nursing prerequisites prior to acceptance.
- Criminal background check, drug screen, health and immunization verification, malpractice and health insurance, and CPR certification are required upon acceptance.

Program Highlights

- Campus-based courses are offered at Thomas Edison State University in Trenton, N.J.
- All online courses are asynchronous, which means students log in to complete course work when it is convenient for them, but within the timeframe and requirement of the course.
- Onsite free parking available.
- State-of-the-art simulation laboratory.
- Clinical nursing experiences in Magnet-designated facility.
- Classes are designed for highly motivated independent adult learners.
- Program is offered in four consecutive 12-week terms – in October, January, April and July.

Application Guidelines - Next Steps:

- Submit a completed application with nonrefundable fee.**
- Include a current resume.
- Include a personal statement.
- Provide two signed letters of recommendation on letterhead (academic and professional).
- Interviews may be conducted for eligible applicants.
- Review FAQs on nursing website.
- Submit all official transcripts and all other required documents to NursingCAS (The Centralized Application Service for Nursing Programs). Partner institution applicants and TESU alumni apply through the University application.

For full application details, please visit www.tesu.edu/2degreeBSN.

*Credit will not be applied for any science or math courses by examination.

**The application fee is waived for Thomas Edison State University alumni. For more information about the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, please visit www.tesu.edu/2degreeBSN or email nursing@tesu.edu.

Highlighting More Than 30 Years of Nursing Education Excellence

In its first 30 years, the nursing program at Thomas Edison State University grew to become the largest RN to BSN program in New Jersey. Today, the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing has more than 1,000 graduates and more than 1,500 enrolled students, making it one of the largest online programs of its kind in the country.

1983

- Thomas Edison State College establishes its RN-BSN program for registered nurses in New Jersey. By December 1984, more than 230 students are enrolled in the program.



(above) The first graduates of the BSN program at a College reception.

1990

- The RN-BSN program receives its initial accreditation through The National League for Nursing.

2001

- Dr. Susan M. O'Brien is named associate dean. The RN-BSN program transitions to an online format.

2004

- The College establishes the School of Nursing. Dr. Susan M. O'Brien is named dean of the new school. Out-of-state recruitment begins.

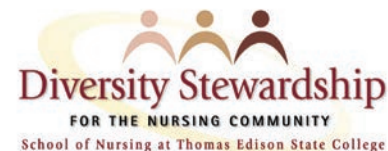
2005

- Courses for the RN-BSN/MSN degree program and master's Nurse Educator certificate program are developed.
- The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awards the College a \$600,000 grant to develop a minority nurse educator project. In its first three years, the program recruits and trains nearly 60 minority nurse educators from around the country, establishing the School of Nursing as a national leader in the area of training minority nurse educators in online pedagogy. It was awarded again in 2008 for an additional three years.

- Thomas Edison State College Honor Society of Nursing is established.



(above) Nursing staff, students and mentors celebrate the charter ceremony for Upsilon Rho, the Thomas Edison State College chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, held in 2008.



(above) The first Distinguished Lectureship on Diversity in Nursing is held at Thomas Edison State College.

2006

- The first annual Distinguished Lectureship on Diversity in Nursing is held at Thomas Edison State College.
- The RN-BSN/MSN and MSN degree programs are launched. In its first year, 59 students enroll in the MSN program.

2007

- The charter for Upsilon Rho chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society is approved.



(above) Nursing students and alumni participate in the The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) site visit.

2008

- The RN-BSN/MSN degree program received its initial accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

2009

- Online database of minority educators launched as part of Health Resources and Services Administration-funded effort.

2010

- MSN degree specialties in Nursing Administration and Nursing Informatics launched.
- School of Nursing named in honor of W. Cary Edwards, a distinguished community leader and public servant.

2011

- Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program launched.



(above) The inaugural class of the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.

2012

- Dr. Filomela A. Marshall named new dean.



(above) Dr. Filomela A. Marshall, dean, W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing.

- Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).



(above) Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program students in the University's nursing simulation laboratory.

2013

- Nursing simulation laboratory opens.

2014

- Construction begins in Trenton, N.J., on Glen Cairn Hall, which will be the new home of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing.

(right) Glen Cairn Hall, home to the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing.

2015

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing (NCIN) funding received to provide scholarships for Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program students.



(above) NCIN Scholars, April 2015.

- School receives \$650,000 grant from Helene Fuld Health Trust to create endowed scholarships for Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.
- 100 percent NCLEX-RN pass rate in Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.

2016

- Thomas Edison State College achieves University status.
- DNP, first doctoral program at the University approved.
- First cohort accepted into DNP.
- New Nursing Education Center in Glen Cairn Hall opens.
- Pre-BSN program developed for nursing students of associate and diploma schools for seamless transition into the RN-BSN program.



RN-BSN/MSN Admissions Requirements and Process

Applicants to the RN-BSN/MSN degree program must:

- have a current unencumbered RN license valid in the United States;
- submit a completed online Application, with nonrefundable fee to Thomas Edison State University. Current U.S. RN licensure will be validated. The Application may be found online at www.tesu.edu/nursing; and
- have all official diploma nursing school and college transcripts and college-level examination score reports sent to Thomas Edison State University, **Office of the Registrar**, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608.

Applicants to the MSN degree program and the graduate nursing certificates must have:

- an official transcript sent from the institution where the BSN degree was awarded and applicants for the certificate programs must have an official transcript sent from the institution where the master's degree in nursing was awarded to Thomas Edison State University, **Office of Admissions**, 111 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608;
- a qualitative evaluation of the applicant's undergraduate educational work from a regionally accredited college or university. An undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 is recommended to be successful in the program;
- a qualitative assessment of the applicant's personal statements, essays and two letters of reference; and
- relevance of work experience and career objectives to the program objectives. Two years of work experience is recommended. A resume is required.

● **SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum System Requirements for Windows and Mac:

- > Screen resolution of at least 800 x 600 pixels
- > Speakers or headphones for audio playback
- > Optical Drive¹
- > Stable internet connection²
- > A current and up-to-date browser, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer, Safari, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox
- > PDF Viewing Software (Adobe Acrobat, Foxit Reader, SumatraPDF, Cute PDF, etc.)
- > Windows XP or above; Mac Leopard 10.5 or above³

Preferred System Requirements for Windows and Mac:

- > Screen resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels or greater
- > Speakers or headphones for audio playback
- > Webcam
- > Optical Drive⁴
- > Broadband internet connection of 1 mbs or greater
- > A current and up-to-date browser, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer, Safari, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox
- > PDF Viewing Software (Adobe Acrobat, Foxit Reader, SumatraPDF, Cute PDF, etc.)
- > Windows 7 or above; Mac Snow Leopard 10.6 or above⁵

1 For certain third-party supplemental course resources

2 Broadband preferable; dial-up connections may not be optimal for certain course features

3 A few courses utilize Windows-only software; if using a Mac, you will need to have access to a Windows PC or have the ability to run a Windows virtual machine on your Mac

4 For certain third-party supplemental course resources

5 A few courses utilize Windows-only software; if using a Mac, you will need to have access to a Windows PC or have the ability to run a Windows virtual machine on your Mac

Generous Transfer Credit Policy

Thomas Edison State University only accepts transfer credits earned at other regionally accredited colleges and universities. Bachelor's degree candidates may transfer an unlimited number of credits from a regionally accredited four-year institution.

- Up to 60 credits toward lower-division nursing requirements for BSN degree, may be awarded for diploma nursing course work on the basis of current RN license and official transcript.
- Up to 90 credits may be accepted from a community college for the BSN degree.

- There is no age restriction on acceptance of credit for general education or lower-division nursing requirements.
- Previously completed upper-division nursing courses must have grade equivalencies of C or better and be newer than 10 years at the time of application to the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing for acceptance toward program requirements.
- Previously completed graduate nursing courses must have grade equivalencies of B or better and be newer than seven years for acceptance toward the MSN degree program and certificate requirements.
- A maximum of 12 graduate credits will be accepted in transfer toward MSN degree program requirements.
- A maximum of 6 graduate credits will be accepted in transfer toward the Nurse Educator certificate and Nursing Administration certificate programs, and a maximum of 9 credits toward the Nursing Informatics certificate program.
- No graduate entrance exams (GRE, GMAT, etc.) are required for acceptance into the MSN program.

Student Services and Resources

Academic Advisement

Accepted students will have access to academic advisement services as described in program materials provided on acceptance. Prospective students may seek additional information as needed through the Office of Admissions at (609) 777-5680 or via email to nursinginfo@tesu.edu.

Scholarships Available!

Credit Earning Methods

Multiple options are available for earning credits and completing program requirements. All RN-BSN/MSN nursing requirements are offered through the School as online courses, and all degree requirements may be met through the University by course, examination or prior learning assessment (PLA). Practicum credit may not be earned through PLA. Degree-seeking students who want to earn credits elsewhere or by methods other than online courses should consult a nursing advisor prior to registering for the course or examination to ensure credit will meet degree requirements. All credit earning methods available through the University are listed in the *University Catalog* and are available on the University website at www.tesu.edu.

Library Services

All enrolled students have access to many resources provided through the New Jersey State Library and through web links embedded in each nursing course. Library information is provided with enrollment materials.

Technical Support

Technical support is provided by the University and in each nursing course. Students should familiarize themselves with the computer requirements listed in the Admissions Requirements section of this publication and the University's *Catalog* to ensure access to the courses and success in course completion.

Financial Aid

Students may request information on financial aid available through the University by calling (609) 633-9658 or online at www.tesu.edu. All students on financial aid must familiarize themselves with the guidelines and rules for sequence of courses to maximize use of financial aid in the nursing programs.

Additional Resources

All University and W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing publications are available on the University website at www.tesu.edu/publications.

Directory for Enrolled Students

Learner Support Center
General inquiries

Phone: (609) 777-5680 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., ET
Fax: (609) 984-8447
Email: nursinginfo@tesu.edu • **Web:** www.tesu.edu

Academic Advisement for Accepted Students

Phone: General Questions: (609) 777-5680 Monday - Thursday, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., ET, and Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., ET
Fax: (609) 292-8279 (nursing)
Web: myEdison® login - go to Help, then University Support Portal to submit a ticket

Office of the Bursar
Payments and student account information

Phone: (609) 984-4099 • **Fax:** (609) 984-4066
Email: bursar@tesu.edu

Office of Test Administration

Phone: (609) 984-1181 • **Fax:** (609) 777-2957
Email: testing@tesu.edu

Office of Financial Aid

Phone: (609) 633-9658 • **Fax:** (609) 633-6489
Email: finaid@tesu.edu

Office of the Registrar
Course registrations
Requesting official transcripts
Receipt of transcripts
Applying for graduation

Phone: (609) 633-9242 (registering for courses)
Fax: (609) 292-1657
Phone: (609) 984-1180 (transcripts, graduation information)
Fax: (609) 777-0477
Email: registrar@tesu.edu

Office of Student Special Services
Information and assistance with accommodations for students with special needs

Phone: (609) 984-1141, ext. 3415
TTY: (609) 341-3109 (for hearing impaired students)
Fax: (609) 943-5232
Email: ada@tesu.edu

Technical Support

Phone: (609) 777-5680
Email: support@tesu.edu

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing

Phone: (609) 633-6460, ext. 3260 • **Fax:** (609) 292-8279
Email: nursing@tesu.edu

Filomela A. Marshall, EdD, RN, CNE - Dean

Ana Maria Catanzaro, PhD, RN, - Associate Dean, Graduate Nursing Programs

Denise Tate, EdD, APRN-BC - Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs

Julie Kulak, MSN, RN, BC, CNE - Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Programs

Maureen Clark-Gallagher, MS, RN - Assistant Dean, Director of Distance Learning

Margaret Ciocco, MS, RN, BC - Nursing Program Advisor

Ritamarie Giosa, MSN, RN, CPN - Nursing Program Advisor

Tara Kennette, BA - Program Assistant, Undergraduate Programs

Holly Leahan, MSN, RN, CMSRN - Nursing Program and Graduate Practicum Advisor

Holly MacDonald, BSW - Recruitment Liaison

Janet McGuire, BA - Assistant to the Dean

Greta O'Keefe, MBA - Publications and Recruitment Specialist

Valerie Preston, AAS - Administrative Assistant

Lisa Whitfield-Harris, PhD, MBA, RN - Diversity Coordinator/Undergraduate Nursing Advisor



“The Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program was intense, demanding and designed for motivated

students only. However, it allowed me to earn the credentials I was seeking in a shorter period of time than conventional programs.”

*Amanda Pinnelli, BSN '12
Sewell, N.J.*



Glen Cairn Hall, home of the
W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing
at Thomas Edison State University





THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY

W. CARY EDWARDS SCHOOL OF NURSING

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