



For Immediate Release

Contact: Jen Donovan
Public Information Officer
Marketing Department
(302)857-1609

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Terry Campus Nursing Program Receives Reaccreditation

DOVER-The practical and associate degree nursing programs at Delaware Technical & Community College, Terry Campus have received full reaccreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

Accreditation indicates to the general public and educational community that the nursing program at Terry Campus meets the established standards of the NLNAC. This gives the program accountability and shows evidence of ongoing improvement. The process is necessary to keep the program current with developments in education and nursing.

The Terry Campus nursing program was initially accredited in 2001. In October 2006, the NLNAC announced it as a candidate for reaccreditation. The staff on campus then conducted a self study that described in detail how the campus met each of the NLNAC's seven standards. Because of the campus's dedication to high standards the staff will not have to go through the process again for another eight years. That is the longest duration of accreditation.

The campus had to provide evidence of a clear and publicly stated mission, a learning environment that encourages student achievement, a curriculum designed to accomplish its stated purposes, sufficient resources and distinct integrity.

Another standard includes employing a qualified and credentialed faculty. The Terry Campus employs 23 full time nursing technology faculty and 13 adjuncts.

“Our faculty is excellent,” Terry Campus Nursing Department Chair and Instructor Jo Ann Baker said. “As a whole we have a diverse and extended background. We ask a lot from our students and that helps them to succeed.”

According to Baker, the program’s students regularly score above the national average on their NCLEX® licensure exams and the program has a hire rate of 95% to 100% after graduation. This meets the NLNAC’s last standard for accreditation which is assessment of student academic achievement. The graduates primarily work in Delaware hospitals and health care agencies.

Not every college nursing program is accredited. Employers know they can find competent graduates at an accredited college and students may only continue their nursing education if they begin with an accredited program, therefore it pays to attend one of those schools.

Soon after national reaccreditation came state wide recognition.

Terry Campus nursing students and staff received honors at the fifth annual Delaware Nurse’s Ball, sponsored by the Delaware Student Nurse’s Association on March 31. Pam Zickafoose, Ed.D., RN, CNE, nursing instructor, was awarded the Nurse of the Year Award presented by Representative Bethany Hall-Long. Additionally, Terry Campus students from the Associate Degree Student Nurse’s Association were awarded the Spirit of Nursing Award for their community service over the past year.

“When you have great people doing great things, recognition like this is much deserved,” Delaware Tech Vice President and Campus Director Daniel L. Simpson said.

For more information about the nursing program at Terry Campus please visit www.dtcc.edu/terry/nurse or call Jo Ann Baker at 302-857-1329.

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