The facts.

Programs offered

UNIVERSITY PARK AND HERSHEY
+ Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
+ BSN to PhD in Nursing
+ PhD in Nursing
+ Dual-title PhD in Nursing and Bioethics
  Dual-title PhD in Nursing and Clinical and Translational Sciences
+ Post-graduate Nurse Practitioner certificate

OTHER PENN STATE CAMPUSES
+ RN to BSN (six campuses)
+ BSN (seven campuses)
+ Second Degree BSN (two campuses)

WORLD CAMPUS (ONLINE)
+ RN to BSN
+ Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)
  (Nurse Educator and Nurse Administrator Options)
+ Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
  (Leadership, Gerontological Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Gerontological
   Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Family/Individual Across the Lifespan Nurse
   Practitioner, and Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner)
+ Undergraduate certificates in Nursing Forensics, Nursing Informatics, and Nursing Management
+ Graduate certificates in Gerontology, Nurse Educator, Nurse Administrator, and Primary Palliative Care
+ Various continuing education opportunities

Degrees awarded
BACCALAUREATE 518
MASTER’S 60
DOCTORAL 12

Faculty Profile
17 Tenured and Tenure-track
6 Clinical track
8 Research
94 Teaching
3 Endowed professors
11 Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing

Research Profile
Over $17 million in research expenditures since the college’s inception
Over $8 million awarded for gerontology research
Over $4 million awarded for the development of a sexual assault forensics training center (SAFE-T Center)
Approx. $1.5 million awarded to support clinical and translational science

Enrollment
2,012 total enrollment
1,798 students enrolled in a baccalaureate program
1,139 students enrolled at a Commonwealth Campus
617 students enrolled at University Park
256 students enrolled in an online degree program

Program established in the College of Health and Physical Education - 22 students admitted
First two students received B.S. degrees in Nursing
School of Nursing becomes the College of Nursing
Nationally ranked online program: Penn State World Campus
Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
Full-time PhD students are eligible for funding
Through a transformational gift, the college is renamed the Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

1964
1968
2013
TOP 10
ALL
2021

Data based on degrees conferred in summer 2021, fall 2021, and spring 2022

Updated on January 27, 2022
Current Initiatives

WE LEAD
WE LEAD uses experiential learning to develop, foster, and champion the leadership competencies of emerging and established nurse leaders, preparing them to build a culture of health around the world.

The Tressa Nese and Helen Diskevich Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (CGNE) is a community of nurse educators, clinicians, and researchers whose leadership is actively improving health care for older adults.

MINDSTRONG/MINDBODYSTRONG is a cognitive behavioral skills building (CBSB) program that provides a theory-based approach to improve mental health, healthy lifestyle beliefs and behaviors, and job satisfaction in clinicians.

Nursing Research Network
The college has received funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute to develop networks for community-based nursing research throughout Pennsylvania.

Person-Centered Care Collaboration is a program that was established by the college and the Polisher Research Institute in North Wales, Pennsylvania. The program will expand on the college’s current focus on research in aging and person-centered care — a model of elder care that seeks to improve quality of life by focusing on the patient’s own lifestyle preferences.

THON Medication Administration
Under the supervision of nursing faculty, BSN students enrolled in NURS 306 (Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents) administer medications for the dancers in the IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) as part of their required clinical hours.

Age-Friendly Care, PA is a collaborative for age- and dementia-friendly care that is a dedicated group of diverse professionals from different backgrounds working together to improve the lives of older adults in Pennsylvania, with special attention to older adults living in rural parts of our state.

Two-Step Delirium Identification Tool
Supported by a grant from the National Institute on Aging, a four-year interprofessional project, “Researching Efficient Approaches to Delirium Identification,” aims to improve the care of older adults by developing and testing a two-step bedside tool to detect delirium in hospitalized adults age 70 and older.

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Telehealth (SAFE-T) System
This project uses telehealth technology to enhance access to sexual assault forensic exams in underserved populations. Through live-examination videoconferencing with high-resolution image display, SAFE-T System improves the quality of services afforded to victims of assault in rural hospitals across Pennsylvania.