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

Penn State Commonwealth Campuses
+ RN to BSN (two campuses)
+ BSN (six additional 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

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

Degrees awarded

Baccalaureate 437
Master’s 20
Doctoral 19

Enrollment

1,909 total enrollment
1,748 students enrolled in a baccalaureate program
1,060 students enrolled at a Commonwealth Campus
585 students enrolled at University Park
264 students enrolled in an online degree program

Faculty Profile

19 Tenured and Tenure-track
4 Clinical track
9 Research
93 Teaching
2 Endowed professors
12 Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing

1964 Program established in the College of Health and Physical Education - 22 students admitted
1968 First two students received B.S. degrees in Nursing
2013 School of Nursing becomes the College of Nursing

Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
TOP 10 Nationally ranked online program: Penn State World Campus
ALL Full-time PhD students are eligible for funding
2021 Through a transformational gift, the college is renamed the Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

Updated on August 13, 2024
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.

**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**
This program 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.

**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.

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**Highlights**
- **3.65 - 3.94** High School GPA (Unweighted 4.0 Scale)
- **3.15 - 3.81** Middle 50% GPA
- **97%** NCLEX Pass Rate
- **700+** Pre-existing Clinical Partnerships

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