

# **REPORT**

## ***FALL 2004 SURVEY OF MAINE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS***

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## MAINE'S 13 NURSING PROGRAMS

Central Maine Community College (CMCC)  
 Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC)  
 Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC)  
 Husson College (HC)  
 Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC)  
 Northern Maine Community College (NMCC)  
 Saint Joseph's College of Maine (SJC)

Southern Maine Community College (SMCC)  
 University of Maine (UM)  
 University of Maine at Augusta (UMA)  
 University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK)  
 University of New England (UNE)  
 University of Southern Maine (USM)

### TYPES OF NURSING PROGRAMS

Type of Program	#	Cap	Enrollment Caps
<b>LPN:</b> CMCC, EMCC, NMCC	3	1	8 (NMCC)
<b>LPN to ADN:</b> CMCC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, SMCC, UMA	6	-	-
<b>Associate Degree:</b> CMCC, CMMC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, SMCC, UMA, UNE	8	8	32 (CMCC, EMCC, NMCC); 40 (KVCC); 56-88 (UMA); 64 (CMMC, SMCC); 75 (UNE)
<b>Baccalaureate Degree:</b> HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, USM	5	3	45 (SJC); 100 (UM); 120 (USM)
<b>Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree:</b> <sup>1</sup> UMFK, USM	2	1	32 (USM)
<b>RN to BSN:</b> HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, UNE, USM	6	1	20 (UNE)
<b>Master's Degree:</b> HC, SJC, UM, USM	4	0	-
<b>Masters Entry Persons with Degree Another Field:</b> USM	1	1	24 (USM)
<b>Post-Master's Certificate:</b> HC, UM, USM	3	3	-
<b>Other:</b> (1) UNE Master in Nurse Anesthesia, data not submitted for this report and (2) USM RN to MS and Master's for Certified Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.			

Programs with student enrollment caps were asked about plans for admitting more students during the coming year. Responses included: (1) CMCC for Associate Degree, looking at evening program; and (2) UM we are capping at a higher level than the number for which the program was designed, from 60 to 100.

Programs with student enrollment caps were asked about plans for admitting fewer students during the coming year and there was one response from UM. For the past two years, 120-140 students admitted each year. Due to higher interest, students were admitted if they met admission criteria. This has created an unrealistic increase given clinical resources in this geographic area.

In response to new programs that that are being planned: (1) UM Clinical Leader track in MSN program; (2) UMA RN-BSN; and (3) USM Masters Degree Clinical Nurse Leader. In relation to programs that are being phased out: (1) NMCC studying whether to discontinue LPN exit, (2) KVCC LPN suspended, and (3) USM Nursing Management.

### FACULTY INFORMATION

In Fall 2002 the State's 13 nursing programs employed 128 full-time<sup>2</sup> nursing faculty (range 4 to 24 FTEs) and in Fall 2004 they employed 18 additional full-time nursing faculty (146, range 5 to 29 FTEs). Of the full time faculty in 2004, 13 had full-time and 16 had part-time administrative responsibilities. In 2004, the majority of nursing faculty were female (138) and Caucasian (145). In 2004, 5 programs had males on their faculty ranging from 1 to 3.

<sup>1</sup> Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree programs are for persons with a Baccalaureate Degree in another field.

<sup>2</sup> Includes any full-time faculty member that had any teaching responsibilities within the nursing program(s), even if the person had administrative responsibilities.

For further analysis, the 13 programs were broken down into those that currently admit students to an associate's degree program as the terminal degree for preparation as an registered nurse (RN) (8 programs<sup>3</sup>) and those that offer a generic baccalaureate degree program as the terminal degree for preparation as an RN (5 programs<sup>4</sup>). Table 2 provides an overview of full-time faculty members' highest degree and rank. Current and projected vacancies for full-time faculty are also provided. Table 3 provides a breakdown of full-time faculty by age.

**Table 2. Maine's Nursing Programs: Full-Time Faculty Profile and Vacancies<sup>5</sup>**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Full-time nursing faculty	6 to 15, total 69	6-20, total 77 <sup>6</sup>	6-16, total 73	4 to 24, total 59	3 to 26, total 62	5 to 29, total 73
<i>Full-Time Faculty Highest Degree</i>						
Doctorally prepared in nursing	3 (4%)	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	18 (31%)	19 (31%)	21 (29%)
Doctorally prepared in other field	2 (3%)	4 (5%)	2 (3%)	9 (15%)	10 (16%)	9 (12%)
Master's prepared in nursing	60 (87%)	68 (88%)	63 (86%)	32 (54%)	32 (52%)	39 (53%)
Master's prepared in other field <sup>7</sup>	3 (4%)	2 (3%)	1 (1%)	-	1 (1%)	1 (1%)
Bachelor's prepared in nursing <sup>7</sup>	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	5 (7%)	-	-	3 (4%)
<i>Full-time Faculty Rank<sup>8</sup></i>						
Professor	2 (4%)	5 (6%)	5 (7%)	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	4 (5%)
Associate Professor	5 (11%)	9 (12%)	7 (10%)	29 (49%)	31 (50%)	36 (49%)
Assistant Professor	17 (36%)	30 (39%)	18 (25%)	17 (29%)	17 (28%)	14 (19%)
Lecturer/Instructor/Other	23 (49%)	33 (43%)	43 (59%)	11 (19%)	12 (19%)	19 (26%)
<i>Full-time Faculty Vacancies</i>						
Current vacancies <sup>9</sup>	2 programs, 1.5 FTE	1 program, 1 FTE	3 programs, 3 FTE	3 programs, 9 FTEs	2 programs, 4 FTEs	1 program, 1 FTE
Projected vacancies next year	4 programs, 1 to 2.5 FTEs	2 programs, 5 FTEs	3 programs, 4 FTE	1 program, 1 FTE	4 programs, 4 FTE	4 programs, 9 FTE

<sup>3</sup> Associate Degree programs: CMCC, CMMC, EMCC, KVCC, NMCC, UMA, and UNE.

<sup>4</sup> Baccalaureate Degree programs: HC, SJC, UM, UMFK, and USM.

<sup>5</sup> Due to rounding error, percentages may not equal 100%.

<sup>6</sup> Data reported on UNE's nurse anesthesia master's program is included in this year, represent 4 additional faculty.

<sup>7</sup> Requires exemption from Maine State Board of Nursing.

<sup>8</sup> Some Community Colleges do not use "rank" with faculty; classified as "other".

<sup>9</sup> Included in this FTE is any full-time faculty position that was temporarily being filled with someone who had been hired on a temporary/short term basis until the "permanent" full-time person is hired.

**Table 3. Maine's Nursing Faculty: Age Distribution<sup>10</sup>**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
30 years of age or younger	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 to 40 years of age	2 (4%)	6 (8%)	4 (5%)	3 (5%)	4 (6%)	6 (8%)
41 to 50 years of age	30 (55%)	33 (43%)	31 (42%)	20 (35%)	14 (23%)	21 (29%)
51 to 60 years of age	16 (29%)	27 (35%)	29 (40%)	32 (56%)	37 (60%)	36 (49%)
61 to 65 years of age	6 (11%)	10 (13%)	9 (12%)	2 (4%)	7 (11%)	7 (10%)
66 years of age or older	1 (2%)	1 (1%)	0	0	0	3 (4%)

Programs with current full-time faculty vacancies were asked how long the position(s) has been vacant, what types of difficulties the program has experienced in filling the position, and the qualifications for the position. In 2004 the following programs responded:

- CMMC 6 months few qualified applicants position requires MSN
- HC Difficulty recruiting faculty with APRN experience.
- SMCC Just became vacant, one fulltime faculty member resigned in November, effective in December.
- UMA one BSN faculty member in fixed length (1 semester) position, looking to fill Spring 2005 for one semester; position resulted from August 2004 resignation of tenure track position faculty.

Nursing programs were also asked about their use of part-time nursing faculty<sup>11</sup> and difficulties they have experienced in hiring part-time faculty. In 2004, 9 programs responded as follows:

- CMCC Someone leaving mid-semester.
- CMMC Staff qualified at MSN level.
- KVCC Lack of educational credentials (i.e., master's degree), schedule (i.e., 2 days per week for 12 weeks).
- NMCC Have one clinical adjunct MSN, 2 BSN. Difficult to recruit MSN prepared nurses for adjunct positions.
- SMCC Poor response to job ads, mediocre response to job offers related to low salary or hours or both.
- UM Due to total number, we did have difficulty, we managed to hire all needed but up to the last minute in Fall (in Spring we started with 2 labs uncovered).
- UMA getting nurses with masters.
- UNE Difficulty securing MSN prepared faculty for clinical faculty positions for medical-surgical and pediatric specialty areas.
- USM Part-time clinical faculty, particularly obstetrics and pediatrics.

Information on part-time faculty is provided in Table 4.

**Table 4. Maine's Nursing Programs: Part-time Faculty Teaching Assignment**

	Associate's Degree (8 programs)			Generic Baccalaureate Degree (5 programs)		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
Didactic Courses	0	0	0	21	17	12
Clinicals	26	32	30	19	40	53
Both	2	7	6	7	24	7
Total Part-time Faculty	28	39	36	47	81	72

<sup>10</sup> Due to rounding error, percentages may not equal 100%.

<sup>11</sup> Part-time faculty included anyone who received enumeration from the nursing program.

## ENROLLMENTS AND GRADUATIONS

Trend data on nursing enrollments and graduations in Maine's 13 nursing programs is reported in Table 6. Enrollments and graduations from RN to BSN and graduate programs in Maine are provided in Table 7 for 2002, 2003, and 2004.

**Table 6. Maine's Nursing Programs: Trend Date on Enrollments and Graduates**

	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	Percent Change Previous Year
Enrollments <sup>12</sup>					
Associate's Degree	537	668	773	789	2%
Baccalaureate Degree	805	1,100	1,210	1,513	25%
Total	1,342	1,768	1,983	2,302	16%
Graduates					
Associate's Degree	241	239	251	324	29%
Baccalaureate Degree	184	153	162	246	52%
Total	425	392	413	570	38%

**Table 7. Maine's Nursing Programs: 2002 and 2003 Enrollments and Graduates from RN to BSN and Graduate Programs**

Program	Enrollments			Graduates		
	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
RN to BSN <sup>13</sup>	821	656	707	82	71	93
Master's Degree in Nursing <sup>14</sup>	453	486 <sup>15</sup>	500	44	40 <sup>14</sup>	56
Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field	45	48	51	9	8	12
Post-master's Certificate	-	20	10	-	8	12

In relation to LPNs, 6 programs reported graduating a total of 3 LPN students and only 1 student was currently enrolled.

Programs who reported wait listing applications included the following:

- CMCC Enrolment cap – limits related to faculty and clinical resources.
- EMCC Waitlists are generated to fill any openings that may occur if accepted students withdraw prior to start up.
- SMCC Admissions to ADN capped. Admission to LPN to ADN restricted by available seats in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the program.
- UMA All students who apply and meet pre-reqs are placed on wait list. All currently enrolled students who complete pre-reqs are placed on wait list. Admission each Spring is by date on wait list.
- UNE Space limitations due to appropriate clinical placements.

<sup>12</sup> Enrollment numbers in generic Baccalaureate Degree programs reflect students enrolled as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, in contrast to Associate Degree numbers, which reflect 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.

<sup>13</sup> Includes distance programs offered by UMFK and SJC.

<sup>14</sup> Includes distance program offered by SJC.

<sup>15</sup> Includes UN Nurse Anesthesia program.

- USM Accelerated baccalaureate degree program – we knew that some students we accepted would not accept, wanted two cohorts of 16 each for the program.

Programs were also asked about plans to admit additional students in response to the nursing shortage in 2005-2006: (1) CMMC 16 ADN students and (2) HC 10 master’s degree, 2 master’s entry, and 4 post-masters students

### PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS AND COST

Maine’s nursing programs were asked to provide information on the total number of credits required for degree completion, the cost per credit hour, whether the nursing courses had nursing fees in addition to the credit hour cost, and if a student completed all course work for the degree at the institution as a full-time student how many semesters it would take (see Table 8).

**Table 8. Maine’s Nursing Programs: Credit Hours and Cost**

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>16</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>17</sup>	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
<b><i>LPN Programs</i></b>				
CMCC	35	\$68	\$56/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	3 semesters
EMCC	34	\$68	\$21.42	3 semesters (Fall, Spring, Summer)
NMCC	38	\$68	\$121 per semester	2.5
KVCC	38	\$68	\$300 per semester	2 semesters + 3 week summer session
<b><i>LPN to ADN Programs</i></b>				
CMCC	68	\$68	\$56/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	3 semesters
EMCC	69.5	\$68	\$21.42	3 semesters
KVCC	71	\$68	\$300 per semester	4 semesters
NMCC	35	\$68	\$121 per semester	2 semesters
SMCC	71	\$68	\$23/credit for nursing courses	3 semesters + 1 semester for prereqs
UMA	53	\$132	\$150/semester	3 semesters
<b><i>AD Programs</i></b>				
CMCC	67	\$68	\$56/semester testing fee; \$15/year liability insurance	4 semesters
CMMC	69	\$138	\$1,045 per year	4 semesters
EMCC	66	\$68	\$21.42	4 semesters
KVCC	69	\$68	\$300 per semester	4 semesters
NMCC	70	\$68	\$242 per semester	4 semesters
SMCC	70	\$68	\$23/credit for nursing courses	4 semesters + 1 semester for prereqs
UMA	69	\$132	\$150/semester	4 semesters
UNE	68	Full-time tuition \$20,225 <sup>18</sup>	\$30/credit	4 semesters

<sup>16</sup> For state-support programs, in-state tuition rate is provided.

<sup>17</sup> Fees specific to nursing vs. university wide fees.

<sup>18</sup> UNE Part-time students pay \$680/credit.

**Table 8. Maine's Nursing Programs: Credit Hours and Cost**

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>16</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>17</sup>	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
<b><i>Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing</i></b>				
HC	126	\$360	\$25/credit clinical courses	8 semesters
SJC	129	1-8 credits \$275/cr; 9-11 \$500/cr	\$200 fee/year	8 semesters
UM	123	\$157	\$25 per lab/clinical credit	8 semesters
UMFK	128	\$132	\$30/nursing courses with a lab	8 semesters
USM	120-123	\$154	\$15-115/selected nursing courses	8 semesters
<b><i>Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i></b>				
UMFK	62	\$132	\$30/nursing course with a lab	5 semesters
USM	57	\$154	\$15-115/selected nursing courses	15 months
<b><i>RN to BS</i></b>				
HC	124	\$360	\$25/credit clinical courses	4
UM	121 <sup>19</sup>	\$157	No	Not Provided
UMFK	128	\$132	\$30/nursing course with a lab	4
UNE	63	Full-time tuition \$20,225, part-time \$680/ credit	Occasional lab fees, \$30/credit	4
USM	120-123	\$154	\$30 selected nursing course	4
<b><i>Master's Degree in Nursing</i></b>				
HC	43-46	\$360	No	5-6
SJC	42	\$275	No	Open enrollment
UM	36-45	\$254	\$25/credit clinical	3-4
UNE Nurse Anesthesia	50	\$545	Lab fee \$50-75/course	6
USM	48-54	\$229	\$30-\$110 selected lab/practicum courses	4
<b><i>Masters Entry Program for Persons with Baccalaureate Degree in Another Field</i></b>				
USM	100-106	\$154 first 40-49 credits, \$229 for last 40- 59 credits	\$15-115/selected nursing undergraduate courses, \$30-\$300 graduate nursing lab/clinical courses	11 semesters

<sup>19</sup> UM usual transfer is 60+ credits.

**Table 8. Maine's Nursing Programs: Credit Hours and Cost**

Program	Credit Hours	Cost per Credit Hours <sup>16</sup>	Nursing Fees <sup>17</sup>	Time to Degree Completion Full-time Student
<i>Post-masters Certificate</i>				
HC	12-43	\$360/credit	No	4-6 semesters
SJC	18	\$275/credit	No	Not Applicable
UM	18 min	\$254/credit	\$25/clinical credit	2 semesters
USM	3-27	\$229/credit	\$30-\$110 nursing lab/clinical courses	1-2 semesters

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