

Pathway to Excellence: Two-Plus-Two Nursing Student Participation in the RUSON Honors Program

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Project Sponsors: Dean Wendy Budin, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN; Dr. Suzanne Willard, PhD, APN, FAAN

Abstract:

Students in the Rutgers Nursing at Blackwood program complete a pre-nursing degree at Camden County College, then complete two additional years of study to earn the baccalaureate nursing degree. Rutgers faculty and course offerings are all based on the campus of Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. High-performing, qualified junior level students from the Blackwood Campus do not have the opportunity to participate in the Honors Program available to undergraduate nursing students on the Newark and New Brunswick campuses because these students are selected during the sophomore year. The goals of this project are to identify commensurate criteria for the Blackwood Campus undergraduate nursing students to qualify and participate in the School of Nursing’s Honors Program and develop a pathway by which these students are identified and selected to participate in the existing program.

Primary Stakeholders:

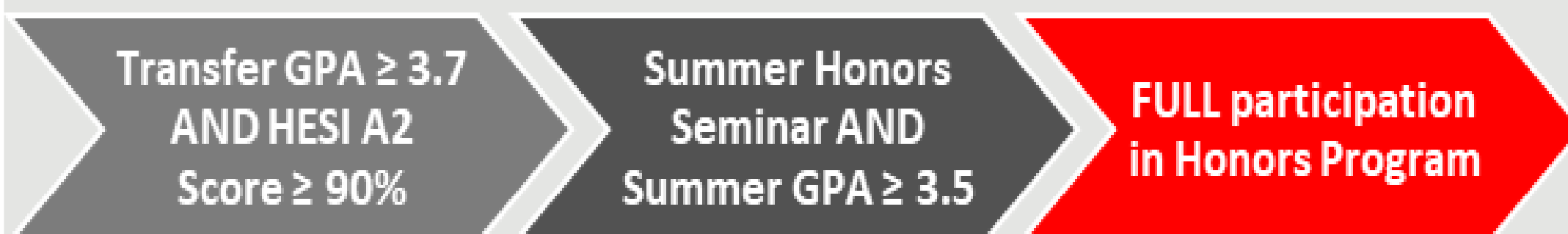
Blackwood Campus

- Students
- Faculty



Key Steps/Activities:

- ✓ Collaborate with Deans, senior faculty, and the Office of Academic Success (OAS)
- ✓ Develop a pathway to admit qualified students on the Blackwood Campus into the School of Nursing’s Honors Program
- ✓ Create a specially designed Honors Seminar offered during the summer bridge seminar



Effectiveness Measures:

- ✓ Qualification of Blackwood Campus students into the RUSON Honors Program
- ✓ Engagement of Blackwood Campus honors students in scholarly activities/nursing research with esteemed faculty across all campuses
- ✓ Successful completion of the Honors Program by Blackwood Campus students annually moving forward
- ✓ Equal opportunities afforded to Rutgers Nursing students on all campuses

Communication/Engagement:

- ✓ Open lines of communication across all campuses
- ✓ Presentation of proposal to RUSON undergraduate and full faculty
- ✓ Collaboration between Blackwood faculty and faculty on other campuses
- ✓ Annual Honors Program poster presentations with participants from Blackwood Campus

Proposed Timeline:

Implementation to start with 2024 Application Cycle: October 1st, 2023 to February 1st, 2024

Current Status/Future Directions:

- Promotion of Rutgers School of Nursing’s Mission, Vision, and Philosophy:
- ✓ Academic excellence
 - ✓ Educational equality and inclusivity

