

# STUDENT SUCCESS BEST PRACTICE: DANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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## STUDENT SUCCESS CATEGORY --

- ACADEMIC PROGRAM
- STUDENT SERVICES
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- COLLEGE BUSINESS PRACTICE
- TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION
- OTHER:

## TITLE: "NURSING NCLEX SUCCESS PLANNING"

### PROCESS

The RN program began in 2009. The first class graduated in 2011 and had an NCLEX pass rate of 77%. The second year of graduates, in 2012, had an NCLEX pass rate of 93% and then in 2013, the pass rate declined to 77%. In addition, our graduate rates for the three years were 76%, 78%, and 39% consecutively. The Success Strategy was developed by the nursing faculty in conjunction with the division dean and the Foundation Director to assist students and foster their academic growth. The plan includes proactive academic and financial components with regular student progress checks and remediation strategies.

### STRATEGY & IMPLEMENTATION

The Nursing Success Plan has both an academic component and a financial component. Before entering the nursing program, supplemental instruction takes place in Biology and Anatomy & Physiology courses. This is built into the schedule and required for students not earning a B or better in their coursework. Once in the nursing program, students meet with instructors mid-way through the semester for progress meetings. At this meeting, the student and instructor formulate strategies for improvement. Instructors also meet with students if the student scores below 83% on a test and/or below 83% for the final class score. Course remediation consists of an improvement plan combined with learning activities, videos, remediation, and NCLEX-style review questions. Students are also encouraged to study for tests using the NCLEX 10,000. On the financial side, the College Educational Foundation upgraded the SIMS lab, pays for the NCLEX review questions and for the students to take the Board. They also provide scholarships for nursing students.

## ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

In 2014, the NCLEX pass rate increased to 96%. In 2015 and 2016, the NCLEX pass rate was 100%. We have a 95% retention rate for the students who make it to the 2nd year. We are still working on first year retention!

## PLAN FOR SCALE & SUSTAINABILITY

Our plans are to continue with the Nursing Success Plan and to generate strategies to ameliorate first year retention in the nursing program. In addition, DCC is evaluating low performing programs and will institute some best practices from the Nursing Success Plan. Although we recognize that one size does not fit all programs, we will use the Nursing Success Plan as a basis for generating plans in other programs.

## COLLEGE DESCRIPTION

DCC's service area includes the city of Danville, Pittsylvania County, and Halifax County. The population in Danville is decreasing and currently at about 40,000 residents. Pittsylvania County population is increasing and is currently about 60,000 residents. Halifax County is also decreasing and is currently just over 35,000. Pittsylvania county's median household income is approximately \$40,000, the city of Danville median household income is approximately \$32,000, and Halifax county has a median household income of about \$38,000. In the Fall 2016, Danville Community College's headcount of approximately 3250. This includes Dual Enrollment students. National, state and local parks offer unlimited recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, fishing, canoeing and camping. The Skyline Drive, Shenandoah National Park and Blue Ridge Parkway draw visitors from around the world to view the scenic vistas of the Shenandoah Valley. A four-season climate means year-round outdoor recreational activities from skiing at Massanutten resort to golfing at one of the many championship golf courses in the area to hiking the Appalachian Trail.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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