

USU Launches BSN Program on Logan Campus | CEHS

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In Fall 2017, the first class of students entered USU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The effort to establish this program at the main Logan campus began in response to high demand in the community for baccalaureate-prepared nurses as well as high student demand for a BSN. Nationally and statewide, the nursing profession is moving toward the baccalaureate degree as the entry level degree for registered nursing.

"Students in this BSN program will be prepared to meet the high demands that nursing places on RNs," said Callie Bosworth, Professional Practice Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing and Health Professions. "My experiences as a practicing nurse will help students to learn how to be critical thinkers, and I am looking forward to seeing the students evolve into professional BSN nurses."

The new BSN program is a strong addition to USU's practical nurse certificate and associate degree in nursing (RN) programs that exist on several of USU's regional campuses.

"It's exciting to see the eagerness with which the students approach the challenge of learning to become nurses," said Keith Kent, Professional Practice Assistant Professor. "Our program will provide a variety of clinical experiences for the students, which will expose them to many different healthcare settings and prepare them for many types of nursing."

There are currently 300 pre-nursing majors on the Logan campus; BSN students enter the program as juniors after completing prerequisite courses and general education

courses. Nursing courses take place over two years during the junior and senior years and include didactic, nursing skills laboratory, simulation, and clinical learning experiences.

The USU Nursing program prepares students to provide and improve health care in a challenging and diverse practice environment. Science courses, such as anatomy and physiology, provide a foundation on which nurse educators help students build the core knowledge, skills, and attitudes required of modern nurses.

The program embraces nursing as a profession that requires considerable psychomotor skill and cognitive ability to provide safe and effective care. USU offers state-of-the-art simulation laboratories, experienced nurse educators, and a wide variety of clinical experiences.

The 23 students currently enrolled in the BSN program are learning management of care, evidence-based practice, population health, health information management, pharmacology, family health, leadership and management, and completing their capstone.

Academic degrees are available for Nursing (AAS, BSN) and Medical Laboratory Technician (AAS), while program certificates are available for Practical Nursing, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Medical Assistant. Programs are located at selected sites throughout the Utah State University Regional Campus system.