

USU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing is Granted Accreditation | CEHS

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Utah State University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in Logan has been granted accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Nationally recognized as a specialized accrediting agency for post-secondary and higher degree programs, ACEN ensures the application of standards, policies, and criteria in nursing education.

Dr. Carma Miller, head of the Nursing and Health Professions Department, noted that ACEN accreditation is vital because the Utah Board of Nursing requires those seeking initial licensure to graduate from a nursing program accredited by one of the two accrediting bodies approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

In a March 2019 meeting, the Board of Commissioners approved USU's accreditation based on findings by the ACEN site-visit team last fall. In her letter to Dr. Miller, ACEN Chief Executive Officer Marsal P. Stoll congratulated the USU Nursing program on "this outstanding achievement," adding her gratitude for the program's "commitment to quality nursing education."

ACEN accreditation is the result of an intense process that includes a self-study method in which the nursing program critically examines its structure and substance, judges the program's overall effectiveness relative to its goals and learning domains, and identifies specific strengths and deficiencies.

Dr. Carole Grady, USU's nursing program director and the lead for ACEN accreditation, said, "We are proud and excited that the USU BSN Program has been awarded initial accreditation. We appreciate the support of so many

individuals who made this possible, including President Cockett, Provost Galey, and Dean Beth Foley."

The program's initial accreditation is effective through October 2023, and it affirms the USU BSN program's commitment to administering a nursing education of the highest quality. "Accreditation ensures students and the public that a nursing program meets standards of excellence and quality in nursing education," said Dr. Grady.

Utah State University offers the following nursing programs:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in Logan
- Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AAS)—Blanding, Moab, Price, Tooele, Uintah Basin
- Practical Nursing Certificate (PN)—Blanding, Moab, Price

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing is located at 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326. To reach ACEN, call 404-975-500 or visit www.acenursing.org.