



Office of Institutional Research, Assessment and Analysis

February 9, 2024

Dr. Kevin Sightler
Director of Substantive Change
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Sightler,

Coastal Carolina University has received approval to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree program effective Fall 2024 from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (SCCHE) on June 6, 2023 and the South Carolina Board of Nursing (SCBON) on January 25, 2024.

The Name of the program (to indicate the discipline):

Nursing

The credential to be awarded (e.g., Associate of Arts, Master of Accounting):

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The instructional level (associate, baccalaureate, master's, education specialist, or doctoral, if not obvious from the credential):

Baccalaureate

An affirmative statement that the new program consists of 25-49% new content not previously offered by the institution at the new program's instructional level.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program consists of 25-49% new content not previously offered by the institution at the baccalaureate level.

The method of delivery to be added:

Face-to-face instruction

The intended implementation date:

August 1, 2024

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree program will prepare nurses for a variety of entry-level nursing roles in the healthcare system and healthcare organizations. Many healthcare systems and employers are seeking out nurses with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing to improve safety and help prepare for future healthcare challenges. This program will provide Coastal Carolina University students a 4-year bachelor of science program that prepares them to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to become a registered nurse. There is strong evidence that shows a B.S.N. provides graduates the skills and education they need to grow as clinicians and make a significant impact in the nursing profession. The program builds on documented student demand, local and regional need, and existing programs and faculty in the new Conway Medical Center College of Health and Human Performance. Examples of existing programs include a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (R.N. to B.S.N.) completion program and the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences.


The degree incorporates highly experiential and clinical learning practices to enhance academic instruction by experienced and professionally-active faculty. Furthermore, the program will foster academic excellence through a teacher-scholar model with enhanced and supported effective teaching and scholarly/creative endeavors, expanded learning opportunities, and engagement of all campus community members. The resulting student experiences and opportunities promote student excellence. It is highly probable that the new B.S.N. will also be attractive to out-of-state students thereby aligning with Coastal Carolina University's commitment to building undergraduate degree programs of national or regional significance. This degree program will directly support the University mission to "develop students who are both knowledgeable in their chosen fields and prepared to be productive, responsible, healthy citizens with a global perspective" and support "faculty research, creative activities, and expert collaboration in the community, state, nation and world".

The B.S.N. degree program will require eight new courses. New financial resources are needed to renovate current space, purchase equipment, and to hire one new full-time faculty member. The new full-time faculty member will be hired in order to compile with South Carolina state law *Nurse Practice Act* that states the majority of nursing faculty must be full-time and the full-time equivalent of clinical instructors shall not exceed 30% of the filled full-time faculty positions. The current nursing lab will be renovated to accommodate a 3-bed clinical/simulation space that will include simulation equipment. No new library/learning resources are needed to support the new degree program.

Enclosed are the substantive change cover letter and the approval letter from the SCCHE and the SCDON.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Holly J. Legg
Accreditation Liaison
Director

R. Wes Hayes, Jr.
Chairman

Rusty L. Monhollon, Ph.D.
President & Executive Director



June 6, 2023

Dr. Michael Benson, President
Coastal Carolina University
PO Box 261954
Conway, SC 29528

Dear President Benson:

On June 1, 2023, the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) approved the establishment of the B.S., Nursing program at Coastal Carolina University to begin in Fall 2024. The CHE will update the Inventory of Approved Programs to reflect the addition of the program to Coastal Carolina University's approved academic programs.

Sincerely,

Rusty L. Monhollon, Ph.D.
President and Executive Director

CC: Dr. Sara Hottinger, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Coastal Carolina University
Dr. Teresa Burns, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Academic Programs, Coastal Carolina University



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