Frequently Asked Questions
(RN-BSN Program)

How long does it take to complete the program?
Students can go at their pace but the average time is about two years. Much of this depends on how many general education courses a student needs. Many students use summer and winter sessions to get the general education courses in. Completion time also depends on how many courses a student can take at one time given work and family responsibilities.

How many courses can I transfer in from other colleges?
CCSU has a 30 credit residency requirement. In order to obtain a BSN degree from CCSU, a student must take a minimum of 30 CCSU credits. There are 8 required nursing courses, which amount to 25 credits. As long as 2 other general education courses are from CCSU, all remaining requirements may be transferred in.

How do I know what courses will transfer in?
Students can meet with the RN to BSN coordinator to get an informal evaluation of what will transfer in. The registrar will make an official assessment once all official transcripts are reviewed. If a course seems like it should transfer, but did not, students can attempt to have a course substitution approved from the corresponding department. CCSU has a transfer credit equivalency guide on its website should students want to check how various courses from the Connecticut Community Colleges or other state universities transfer in. It can be found on the a-z index; under “t”

Is there a clinical requirement to the program?
Yes. Students taking Nursing 413 will have a weekly clinical experience in community/public health. Typically clinical is from 8-1:30 and the class meets from 2-4:20 once a week. Students are placed in settings that interest them, such as school health, occupational health, local health departments, and college health and home care. They work with a preceptor one on one to meet the clinical objectives.

What are the requirements for clinical experiences?
Prior to starting clinical, students must submit evidence of immunity to common childhood infectious diseases, have had a physical exam and TB test within the past year, pass a background check, have a current CPR license, and show evidence of professional liability insurance.

When are classes held?
Classes are held once a week, usually in the afternoon. Classes usually taken together are often scheduled back to back on the same day. The following classes are offered every fall: NRSE 300 (Nursing Assessment), NRSE 301 (Theoretical Foundations in Nursing), and NRSE 413 (Population and Community Health). The following classes are offered every spring: NRSE 246 (Ethical Issues in Professional Nursing Practice), NRSE 305 (Evidence-Based Practice for the Professional Nurse), NRSE 414 (Policy and Practice for the Professional Nurse), and NRSE 492 (Leadership). There is a 1 credit synthesis course that is offered both fall and spring, NRSE 496. Students take this course in their last semester of nursing coursework. We do offer some of the nursing courses over the summer as well.

Is this an on-line program?
For the most part, the program is offered in a traditional format, meeting on the CCSU campus. We are, however, beginning to offer hybrid options for many of the courses and have some off-campus sites as well.