

KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
OF
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

LETTER OF INTENT

24-Credit Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate Program

Sponsored by the Department of Nursing

Attachment C

A. Name of Institution: Kingsborough Community College

Specify campus where program will be offered, if other than the main campus.

B. CEO or designee: President Regina S. Peruggi

THE SIGNATURE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVE INDICATES THE INSTITUTION'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED PROGRAM.

C. Contact person, if different: Joanne Lavin, Chair, Nursing Department

Telephone: 718-368-5522

D. Proposed program title: Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate

E. Proposed degree or other award: Certificate

F. Proposed HEGIS Code: N/A Total Credits: 24

G. If the program would be offered jointly with another institution, name the institution/branch below: N/A

IF THE OTHER INSTITUTION IS DEGREE GRANTING, ATTACH A CONTRACT OR LETTER OF AGREEMENT SIGNED BY THAT MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFERS NO 94-04. CONTACT THIS OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY.

H. If the program would lead to a teacher certification other than a classroom teacher: N/A

I. Indicate the accrediting group: N/A

J. Indicate the expected date of accreditation: N/A

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I. PURPOSE AND GOALS

Perioperative Nursing focuses on the Perioperative experience and the meaning it has for patients, families and the health care team. It aims to provide compassionate, individualized care for the patient undergoing anesthesia and surgical intervention. It is the Perioperative nurse who coordinates all phases of care for the patient, ensuring their safety and advocating for them in their most vulnerable state.

The Kingsborough Community College Perioperative Nursing Certificate aims to provide graduate nurses with the opportunity to develop advanced skills specifically directed at the care of the surgical patient in the operating room environment. It is expected that students complete this program will acquire the nursing knowledge and competencies consistent with the AORN standards and recommended practices (2008) necessary for beginning levels of practice.

On completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Identify the professional responsibilities of the nurse through the three phases of Perioperative care: preoperative, intraoperative and postoperative.
- Apply principles of infection control and asepsis to patient care in the operating room environment.
- Incorporate legal and ethical principles in Perioperative care.
- Identify and apply effective nursing care for the patient throughout all stages of anesthesia.
- Apply clinical knowledge and skills in order to provide safe, effective nursing care for the surgical patient.

II. NEED AND JUSTIFICATION

It is expected that as today's nursing workforce ages and retires, the nursing shortage in this country will continue. Nurses in specialties such as the ICU and Operating Room find themselves in even shorter supply than the national average. Consequently, current nursing administrators have to be proactive in their planning in order to ensure they have adequate staff as the baby boomers begin to retire. This is exacerbated by the anticipated increase in illness-prone seniors in need of surgical care.

Nursing education programs generally do not have the ability to provide today's nursing students with more than minimal exposure to Perioperative nursing. Perioperative educators would agree preparing the graduate nurse to practice competently requires a great deal of time, energy and effort. While the standard nursing curriculum teaches aseptic technique so the bedside nurse can perform tasks such as sterile dressing changes, it falls far short of preparing the nurse to practice in the surgical setting. Most Operating Rooms must either hire experienced staff nurses or try to prepare their own from inexperienced candidates.

The sophistication of technology in the Perioperative setting and the ever important focus on patient safety consistent with the Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goals makes the need and demand for qualified professional nurse in the OR more essential.

III. CURRICULUM

The 24-credit Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate is offered by the Kingsborough Community College Department of Nursing and consists of

The courses are:

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 02700	Pathophysiology	3 credits
NUR 04500	Pharmacology	3 credits
<i>PON 00100</i>	<i>Perioperative Concepts</i>	<i>4 credits</i>
<i>PON 00200</i>	<i>Surgical Interventions</i>	<i>4 credits</i>
<i>PON 00300</i>	<i>Perioperative Skills Lab</i>	<i>2 credits</i>
<i>PON 00400</i>	<i>Clinical Practicum 1</i>	<i>4 credits</i>
<i>PON 00500</i>	<i>Clinical Practicum 2</i>	<i>4 credits</i>
	Total Credits	24 credits

NOTE:

Proposed new courses are shown in italics.

The course descriptions are as follows:

NUR 02700 Pathophysiology 3 credits/3 hours

This course introduces physiologic and pathophysiologic mechanisms that act singly or in concert to produce alterations on a cellular, tissue, organ, system level as well as on the total human organism. Emphasis is placed on underlying concepts that create recurrent patterns of cellular dysfunction and progression to alterations in system function and interweaves development across the lifespan with disease processes.

NUR 04500 Pharmacology 3 credits/3 hours

This course is intended for individuals of any background who desire information regarding safe use of prescription and non-prescription drugs. Emphasis is placed on the impact of safe drug use on promoting and maintaining health. This course examines how

drugs affect the body by changing many of its normal mechanisms and thereby contributing to health problems

PON 00100 Perioperative Concepts 4 credits/4 hours

This course provides theoretical knowledge for the application of essential operative skills during the perioperative phase. It introduces the student to the practice of Perioperative nursing with a focus on those skills necessary for function at an entry level clinician in both the scrub and the circulating roles. Topics include surgical asepsis, sterilization and disinfection; wound closure and instrumentation and perioperative patient care.

PON 00200 Surgical Interventions 4 credits/4 hours

This course provides the clinician with the essential knowledge to prepare for procedures in all major areas of surgical sub-specialties. It consists of an anatomical review of systems with a focused review of pathology in conjunction with specific procedures performed. The instrumentation and surgical modalities of each specialty is covered as they relate to the practice of Perioperative nursing. The surgical specialties include biliary, breast, gynecological, urologic, ophthalmic, vascular, orthopedic, neurosurgery, thoracic, and cardiac surgery.

PON 00300 Perioperative Skills Lab 2 credits/4 hours

This course provides the student with the opportunity to develop and perfect the practical application of the essential Perioperative skills in a simulated operating room environment so that prior to entry into the clinical setting a level of rudimentary proficiency can be achieved.

PON 00400 Clinical Practicum 1 4 credits/8 hours

This course provides the student with individualized experience in practice in the field. Emphasis is placed on demonstrating proficiency in skills necessary and participating in basic surgical procedures.

PON 00500 Clinical Practicum 2 4 credits/8 hours

This course provides the student with individualized experience in practice in the field. Emphasis is placed on continued demonstration of proficiency in skills necessary and participating in more complex surgical procedures.

IV. STUDENTS

A. Potential Students:

Throughout the New York metropolitan area there are numerous registered nurse graduates from diploma, associate and bachelors degree nursing programs who are general practitioners but who would like to specialize in working in perioperative nursing. This is an area of specialization which

requires a long orientation period and many employers will not hire inexperienced staff due to the cost of this orientation. In addition, a number of students who are currently completing their studies in nursing have expressed a desire to continue with their studies to become perioperative nursing specialists before entering into the general nursing market.

B. Recruitment Sources:

1. There are numerous hospitals in the New York Metropolitan area who employ perioperative nurses. Given the general shortage of qualified nurses which is reflected in the limited pool of perioperative nurses, there is an extreme need for nurses who are skilled in this specialty. The nursing department has a list of hospitals that are located in the five boroughs and Long Island and will devise a brochure that will be sent to each establishment.
2. In addition, the Kingsborough Community College Admissions Information Center will disseminate information to the greater New York City community.

V: ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

To be accepted into the Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate Program, the prospective student must be a graduate of a registered nursing education program and licensed as a registered nurse. Students who have a non-CUNY 2-year degree must take the CUNY Assessment Test. Those who have a CUNY 2-year degree and a 4-year degree for any college are waived from taking the test.

VI. COST

No additional funds will be needed for classroom and laboratory space. In addition, the Chair of the Nursing Department will supervise the program. However, adjunct faculty will be hired to teach the perioperative courses but will be paid through student enrollment.

VII: FACULTY

The two required nursing courses will be taught by currently employed faculty. However, the perioperative nursing courses will require the hiring of adjunct faculty who are specialists in the field.

VIII. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate Program will use the existing facilities and equipment utilized in the academic program. However, clinical hours will be held at medical and hospital facilities who service the regular nursing student population and additional locations who have agreed to allow the perioperative students to use their facilities. Discussions with Lutheran Medical Center and Richmond University Medical Center have begun. Maimonides Medical Center and New York Methodist Hospital have also been contacted for consideration.

IX. EVALUATION AND OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

It will be the responsibility of the supervisor the Perioperative Nursing Specialist Certificate Program to evaluate the efficacy of the program, especially during its initial implementation. Students and faculty will be contacted to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the program. Feedback from ongoing and assessment and evaluation efforts may then be incorporated into program modifications.

In addition, student learning will be assessed. This will be accomplished through:

1. Student self-assessments/logs
2. Faculty assessments – written exams and course research papers
3. Industry evaluations during the clinical components
4. Successful completion of assignments and projects
5. Successful passing of all clinical and written tests.