



Pathways Transfer Program Agreement in Nursing (RN to BSN)

Including Optional Upper-division Courses Offered for
Genesee Community College Students

Empire State College (SUNY Empire) and Genesee Community College (GCC), both of the State University of New York, agree to enter into a Pathways Transfer Program Agreement in Nursing. The agreement is designed to support transfer students during their transition to SUNY Empire, and intends to:

- Ensure a smooth transfer for GCC graduates to SUNY Empire;
- Ease the transition process for graduates changing from classroom-based learning to an educational model comprised significantly of online coursework;
- Provide an affordable and convenient baccalaureate degree option for GCC graduates who want to remain close to their homes and/or community;
- Provide an option for pre-licensure GCC students to take up to two upper-division (online) nursing courses offered by SUNY Empire.

SUNY Empire will offer nursing graduates and senior nursing students from GCC an opportunity to participate in the Pathways Transfer Program into the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. GCC graduates will be able to transfer all 64 credits earned as part of their associate degree in Nursing to SUNY Empire upon enrollment.

Admissions Requirements

- Completed degree in Nursing (A.A.S.)
- Possession of an active, unencumbered New York State Nursing license (RN)
- Completed SUNY Empire admissions application (www.esc.edu/nursing)

With advisement, students in the Nursing Pathways Program may elect to register for up to 15 additional credits at GCC. These lower-division credits will be applicable to the baccalaureate degree program by satisfying SUNY General Education requirements or needed pre-requisite courses. The minimum number of credits to be taken at SUNY Empire will be at least 45 upper-division credits, which would include 41 credits in nursing. Up to 79 total lower-division credits could be included from GCC towards the 124 credit bachelor's degree at SUNY Empire.

Benefits for GCC Transfer Students

SUNY Empire will provide the following benefits for participating GCC students:

- Guaranteed admission for applicants who meet the admissions criteria
- Provision of a one-time \$100 *Better Together* transfer scholarship at SUNY Empire
- Waiver of the \$50 orientation / application fee
- Waiver of the admissions application essay

To be eligible, GCC transfer students must have completed an associate degree within the last 3 years, or be in (or entering) their final semester of completing an associate degree.¹ Once SUNY Empire receives the student's official transcript that indicates an earned associate degree, the transfer scholarship will be awarded.

A unique code for interested students to use during the admissions application process will be created by SUNY Empire and provided to appropriate staff members in the Nursing program and the transfer counseling office at GCC. Participants must enter the code upon submission of their online application for admission to receive the benefits. GCC will make good faith efforts to not make the code publicly available.

Guidelines of the Agreement

As part of the agreement, SUNY Empire will provide the following: (1) individual educational planning and mentoring for all transferring Nursing students, (2) outreach to faculty and transfer office staff at GCC to provide program information, and (3) offer information sessions for students at GCC, at SUNY Empire locations, and online.

GCC agrees to provide: (1) access for partnership students to campus facilities and resources (i.e. Library, academic support, computer labs), (2) promotion of the program on campus to current students and faculty advisors, as well as alumni, and licensed RNs in the community and (3) to include this transfer agreement in any college publications where such agreements are listed (i.e. college catalog, website, transfer office brochures).

Nursing students may enroll at SUNY Empire on a full or part-time basis.

¹ Note that this applies only to the completion date of the associate degree, and not when all of the courses within the degree were completed. Please refer to "Appendix B", item #4.

Optional Upper-division Online Nursing Courses

SUNY Empire may offer up to two upper-division courses for GCC students – NURS 3010 Health Assessment, and NURS 3015 Pharmacology. These optional courses are offered to serve two different groups of students:

1. Pre-licensure
 - GCC students who have completed at least year one of their nursing courses
 - Recent graduates who have yet to become licensed RNs
2. Licensed
 - Graduates of an associate degree nursing program who are licensed RNs and want to begin working towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Pre-licensed Nursing Students

GCC students and recent graduates who have not yet earned their RN license may take these upper-division courses as non-matriculated (non-degree) students with SUNY Empire. Interested students should complete the non-degree application process found at www.esc.edu/nondegree.

Licensed Registered Nurses (RN)

Licensed associate degree nurses may enroll directly into SUNY Empire as a full or part-time student. For more information or to apply, please go to www.esc.edu/nursing.

Please note that non-matriculated students are not eligible for financial aid. Students who are accepted to SUNY Empire as a degree-seeking, matriculated student will be eligible for financial aid.

Students who wish to apply or have application or registration questions should contact:

Genesee Community College
Deborah Penoyer
Director of Nursing
DLPenoyer@genesee.edu

SUNY Empire State College
Nursing.Program@esc.edu

This Agreement becomes effective when all signatures are affixed, as of the date of last signature, and remains in effect for five years or until one or both institutions deem it necessary to terminate the Agreement. The agreement may be amended by mutual agreement and will be formalized via revision of this agreement.


Signatures to the Agreement

EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE



Dr. Nathan Gonyea
Officer in Charge

8/16/21
Date



Dr. Tai Arnold
Acting Provost


8/12/2021
Date

Kim S. Stote

Dr. Kim Stote
Dean, School of Nursing and Allied Health

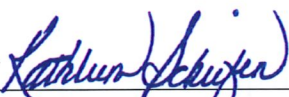
08/10/2021
Date

GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Dr. James Sunser
President

8/9/2021
Date



Dr. Kathleen Schieren
Provost and Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs

August 9, 2021
Date

Deborah Penoyer, Nursing Program Director

Deborah Penoyer
Director of Nursing

8/9/2021
Date

**Appendix A:
Sample Degree Plan (Nursing: RN to BSN)**

Genesee Community College - Nursing, A.A.S.

NUR 111 Nursing 1	5
NUR LC1 Nursing Lab / Clinical 1	3
NUR 112 Nursing 2	5
NUR LC2 Nursing Lab / Clinical 2	3
NUR 122 Pharmacology for Nurses	3
NUR 211 Nursing 3	5
NUR LC3 Nursing Lab / Clinical 3	3
NUR 212 Nursing 4	5
NUR LC4 Nursing Lab / Clinical 4	3
NUR 230 Professional Issues in Nursing	3
NUR 222 Nursing 5	2
NUR LC5 Nursing Lab / Clinical 5	3

ENG 101 College Composition	3
ENG 102 Composition in the Natural and Social Sciences	3
PSY 101 General Psychology	3
BIO 152 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIO 153 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIO 201 Microbiology and Human Disease	4

Total Degree Credits 64
Potential additional lower-division credits at GCC¹ 15

Optional upper-division course for GCC students: NURS 3010 Health Assessment	4
Optional upper-division course for GCC students: NURS 3015 Pharmacology	4

Empire State College - Nursing, B.S.

NURS 3020 Nursing Informatics	4
NURS 3025 Nursing Research	4
NURS 4005 Health Care Delivery Systems and Policy	4
NURS 4010 Professional Issues and Leadership in Contemporary Nursing	4
NURS 4015 Community Nursing	4
Nursing elective	4
NURS 4020 Baccalaureate Nursing Capstone	5

NURS 3005 Educational Planning: Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing	4
Elective	4

Total SUNY Empire Credits 45
Degree Program Total 124

¹ Any of these credits not completed at GCC will be completed at SUNY Empire. Students should seek advisement from a SUNY Empire advisor in advance of selecting which courses to take to ensure they will fit into the baccalaureate degree plan.

Appendix B:
Empire State College Policies and Procedures for Transfer

1. Students successfully completing degree requirements for an A.A., A.S., or A.A.S. and transferring in the entire associate degree will be able to transfer to SUNY Empire all credit earned for the associate degree, including “D” grades that are part of the completed degree.
2. The maximum advanced standing (lower and upper-division credits; prior learning assessment credits) allowed toward a bachelor's degree in nursing is 79 credits, which means that students must complete at least 45 upper-level credits in residence at SUNY Empire. A student may exceed stated credit minimums in certain circumstances to preserve the integrity of components that meet degree requirements.
3. Any courses taken at GCC beyond the associate degree will be evaluated for transfer separately from the associate degree based on SUNY Empire’s advance standing policies.
4. There is no statute of limitations regarding the age of acceptable learning substantiated by transcript except in some areas, technologies and science for instance, where that learning may be outmoded and may not be accepted if it is crucial to the structure of a degree program concentration.
5. Students earning a bachelor’s degree from SUNY Empire must fulfill all graduation requirements, which include completing 45 advanced-level credits of which 24 are in the concentration. SUNY also requires the completion of 30 general education credits across 7 of 10 designated areas, including mathematics and basic communication.
6. All students need to complete the application process and meet all admissions criteria before being accepted to SUNY Empire. Students must submit the SUNY Empire Application for Admission form along with an official transcript(s) of their completed course work to the Office of Admissions, SUNY Empire State College, 111 West Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. These forms can be found at www.esc.edu/admissions.
7. Both colleges acknowledge the confidential nature of student information that may be exchanged between them. As such, both colleges agree that this information must be kept secure, confidential, and only disclosed for academic reasons. Student information will not be shared with third parties, and all FERPA regulations will be adhered to.

Appendix C: Benefits for Active Military, Veterans, and Spouses

SUNY Empire State College has a long-standing commitment of supporting active military, veterans and family members, and enthusiastically pledges to maintain its commitment to provide the following benefits and services to military-aligned students and as they may be amended from time to time by SUNY Empire:

- Pre-enrollment advising and an Evaluated Education Plan (EEP) with a review of anticipated transfer credits prior to enrollment
- Waive or otherwise pay on the eligible student(s)' behalf, all mandatory fees for military members (active-duty, guard, reserve and veterans) along with their spouses. Waived or otherwise covered fees include: orientation fee, college fee, student activity fee, technology fee, health and wellness fee, portfolio (assessment) fee, and program amendment fee.
- Individualized Prior Learning Assessment (iPLA) fees are waived for military members
- Support military-aligned students through Veterans Affairs (VA) and Tuition Assistance (TA) funding processes
- Access to SUNY Empire's Office of Veteran and Military Education (OVME) and its dedicated resources to support student success all the way through to degree completion.

Active, Reserve and Guard Army soldiers should apply and register through Army IgnitED at - www.armyignited.com/app.

Active military, veterans, and spouses may contact SUNY Empire's Office of Veteran and Military Education (OVME) for assistance at military.programs@esc.edu or 518-587-2100 ext. 2779.