



**RN to BSN Express Plus Degree Program  
Articulation Agreement**

**Between**

**William Paterson University  
College of Science and Health  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

**And**

**Mercer County Community College  
Associate in Science Degree in Nursing**

Mercer County Community College and William Paterson University (WP) recognize the need to provide community college students with accessible, affordable, and quality postsecondary education opportunities. In response to this need, Mercer County Community College and WP are partnering to create this RN to BSN Express Plus Program Articulation Agreement. Under this agreement, Mercer County Community College graduates who are registered nurses can transfer up to ninety (90) credits, which are guaranteed to count toward the nursing baccalaureate degree at WP. Sixty credits will transfer in from the AS diploma in nursing at Mercer County Community College and another 30 credits will be granted (as a block) upon obtaining the RN license. In this agreement, “express” means the student will be awarded thirty (30) credits for having a valid and unencumbered U.S. RN license and “plus” means the student will obtain twelve (12) credits to count towards their MSN degree in nursing while paying undergraduate tuition rates.

This program will allow any Mercer County Community College nursing graduate who completes their Associate in Science degree in good academic standing (a 2.5 cumulative GPA or above) and has a valid and unencumbered U.S. RN license in any state in the U.S. or its territories, an easy and affordable way to complete their bachelor’s degree, either online or in-person, with the opportunity for earning simultaneous credits toward the master’s in Nursing (MSN).

Admissions Criteria

First year AS students at the Mercer County Community College will be conditionally admitted to this RN to BSN Express Plus Degree Program at William Paterson University. As long as they have the required GPA for admittance at the time of completing the associate’s degree or diploma and an RN license, they will be accepted into the RN to BSN program. This opportunity offers students a clear academic pathway to the William

Paterson University BS in Nursing, with “peace of mind” in knowing that all of their credits will transfer and that they will have a jump-start on their MSN.

To be eligible to transfer into the RN to BSN, students must have graduated from Mercer County Community College with an associate’s degree or diploma in nursing and have earned at least sixty (60) credits. Students will be required to complete the last thirty (30) credits for the BSN at WP, either online or in-person. An Elementary Statistics class is required prior to taking NUR 3500 (Nursing Research) at WP. Students may choose to complete this at Mercer County Community College or at WP. If students choose to take an Elementary Statistics class at WP, these three (3) credits would be in addition to the thirty (30) WP credits required for the bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Students will follow all standard procedures for application, including requesting and submitting all official transcripts listing prior college credits earned from each institution they attended. WP requires all original transcripts to ensure that students obtain the maximum amount of transfer credit possible.

### Simultaneous Undergraduate/Graduate Credit

Significantly, while working on the BSN degree at William Paterson University, the student can simultaneously earn twelve (12) credits towards a William Paterson University Master of Science degree in Nursing (MSN) at the undergraduate tuition rate. These credits will count towards both a BSN and MSN. Students are encouraged to pursue the MSN at William Paterson University if they obtained a grade of B or higher in the 12 graduate credits and achieved a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## Appendix A

### Associate in Science in Nursing Degree at Mercer County Community College

And

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing at William Paterson University

The RN-BSN student will complete a total of 30 credits including 12 graduate credits at WPU:

Undergraduate Courses:

NUR 3500 Nursing Research	(3 credits)
NUR 4252 Dimensions of Public Health Post Licensure	(3 credits)
NUR 4280 Healthcare Economics	(3 credits)
NUR 4305 Leadership & Professional Practice	(3 credits)
NUR 4307 Leadership Seminar	(3 credits)
NUR 4361 Nursing Practice for RN-BSN	(3 credits)

Graduate Courses\*:

NUR 5461 Advanced Pathophysiology	(3 credits)
NUR 5701 Population Health & Legislation	(3 credits)
NUR 6001 Advanced Health Assessment of the Adult Client	(3 credits)
NUR Elective: NUR 5081 Role of APN (3 credits) or NUR 6011 Adv. Pharmacology	(3 credits)

\*For these courses to be credited in the MSN program at WP, the student must achieve a grade of B and higher. The student must also maintain a GPA to 3.0 to matriculate in the MSN program.