

School of Nursing Program Outcomes

The SON has an outstanding reputation both in the community and throughout the state. We consistently excel in achieving the common benchmarks of excellence for nursing programs: 1) NCLEX-RN 1st time pass rate, 2) Certification pass rates, 3) Graduation rates, and 4) Employment rates (See table below). For reference, the national NCLEX-RN pass rate has ranged from 85-90% over the past five years.

	2017	2018	2019
BSN NCLEX-RN Pass Rate	95.96%	100%	99.06%
BSN Graduation Rate	95%	84.7%	91%
BSN Employment Rate	100%	100%	100%
FNP Certification Pass Rate	96%	100%	100%
PMHNP Certification Pass Rate	NA	100%	92%
FNP Graduation Rate	86%	70%	82%
PMHNP Graduation Rate	NA	100%	88%
NP Employment Rate	100%	100%	100%
DNP Graduation Rate	83%	81%	67%
DNP Employment Rate	100%	100%	100%

In addition to these measures, GC SON internal benchmarks focus on the attainment of SON programmatic outcomes that are aligned with the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies, American Nursing Association (ANA) Scope and Standards of Practice, and American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials. The recent curriculum revision for the baccalaureate in nursing focused on aligning the programmatic outcomes with the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Essential Learning Outcomes and Set of Principals of Excellence to provide a new framework to guide students' cumulative progress throughout our programs. The GC SON has embraced the LEAP vision which is centered on achieving the program outcomes through high-impact practices which are rooted in the principles of inclusive excellence and supported by a continuous process of assessment of student learning. Baccalaureate nursing is the first GC program to receive a Georgia College Leadership Designation.

School of Nursing Faculty set the benchmark for first time test-takers on the exam higher than the standard set by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing Inc. (ACEN). Standard 6.4.2 states that 80% percent of first-time candidates for certification exams will pass the exams. Criterion stated in the School of Nursing Graduate Program Effectiveness Evaluation Plan requires that 90% of MSN graduates who seek certification pass the certification examination on initial attempt. The rationale for setting the benchmark greater than the ACEN standard is based on the high quality of students admitted to the FNP program and the exemplary record of success on the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners certification exam.

GC students have continually demonstrated achievement on the FNP Certification Exam a high pass rate. This exceeds the benchmarks set by both the School of Nursing and ACEN.

The DNP is a degree designed specifically to prepare individuals for specialized nursing practice, and The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice articulates the competencies for all nurses practicing at this level.