Policy No: 5005

Title of Procedure: Nursing Program Selective Admission

Applies to (check all that apply):
Faculty____  Staff____  Students __X__
Division/Department _X__  College _X__

Topic/Issue:
This procedure applies to all students who seek entry into the Nursing Program. The Nursing Program has an admission process which is limited and highly selective.

Background to Issue/Rationale for Policy:
In response to the high attrition rate, recommendations from the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland Board of Nursing, and data analyzed by the BCCC Office of Institutional Research (OIR), the Nursing Program faculty amended the selection criterion for entry into the Associate Degree Nursing Program and the Practical Nursing Certificate Program.

State/Federal Regulatory Requirements (cite if applicable):
COMAR 10.27.03.08

Proposed Procedural Language:
The amended selection process for entry into the Associate Degree Nursing Program and the Practical Nursing Certificate Program includes:

- The Department of Nursing updates the application for the Fall and Spring semester and the application is placed on the BCCC web site.
- Students download the application from the BCCC web site.
- The student returns the completed application and required supporting documents in a sealed envelope to the Admissions Office. The envelope is sent/delivered per the instructions on the application.
- Prerequisites for eligibility for selective admission into the nursing program include:
  - Minimum GPA of 2.5
  - Pre 100 Preparation for Academic Achievement
  - Completion of the science placement test with a passing score or Bio 101, and BIO 111, 112, 212 and CHEM 103 with a score of C or better.
Science courses must have been taken within 5 years of application to the nursing program; a science course can only be repeated once; and with a grade of “C” or better).

- Foreign students must satisfactorily complete the Test of Spoken English (TSE) with a score of 50 or higher.
- Resident BCCC courses (minimum 6 credits)
- Application submitted by deadline
  - The **Associate Degree Nursing Program** application deadline for the spring semester is **Third Monday in September**; application deadline for the fall semester is the **Third Monday in March**.
  - The **Practical Nursing Certificate Program** application deadline for the fall semester is the **Last Friday in May**.

The application of those students who meet the prerequisites for eligibility for admission are ranked by the number of selection points they receive in descending order until all the seats are filled. If there is a tie in selection points, students who have been previously wait listed and applied again will receive priority.

**Point System**

**Overall GPA at time of admission**

- 4.00 = 4 points
- 3.5 to 3.99 = 3 points
- 3.0 to 3.49 = 2 points
- 2.5 to 2.99 = 1 point
- Below 2.5 = 0 points

**GPA in Science Classes (Bio 111; Bio 112; Bio 212;)**

- 4.00 = 4 points
- 3.5 to 3.99 = 3 points
- 3.0 to 3.49 = 2 points
- 2.5 to 2.99 = 1 point
- Below 2.5 = 0 points

- The application will be ranked from highest to lowest points. The applicant(s) with the highest score will be offered admission, followed by the next highest score until all seats are filled.

- Students who were qualified, but no seats were available will be placed on a waiting list. Should a seat become available before the start of the year, the student with the highest score will be offered admission until all seats are filled for the upcoming academic semester.
• Applicants are notified of the admission decision. Notification letters include:
  ■ Qualified, accepted
  ■ Qualified, not accepted (no seats available)
  ■ Not qualified, not accepted

**Proposed Implementation Date:** Spring 2010

**Approved by the Board of Trustees:** October 27, 2009

**Proposed by:**

Vice President of Academic Affairs