LONE STAR COLLEGE SYSTEM NURSING PROGRAMS

The nursing faculty of Lone Star College System (LSCS) is committed to the stated vision, mission, and value statements of the institution and to the concept of quality education to meet community needs through the preparation of individuals to function at a variety of levels of nursing practice.

MISSION STATEMENT OF NURSING
The mission of the nursing programs of LSCS is to provide a quality education to prepare competent, caring, ethical nurses to function as members of the health care team in the dynamic health care environment. We believe the community college provides an ideal, accessible setting for nursing education where students of all educational and cultural backgrounds may achieve their goals.

The uniqueness of each individual college program, faculty and students is acknowledged and respected. The individual campuses implement the philosophy to meet the diverse needs of the communities they serve.

PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING EDUCATION
The nursing faculty is committed to quality programs that provide distinctive levels of preparation with clearly differentiated essential competencies. The graduates of all levels are prepared to provide and coordinate health care of individuals and their families throughout the lifespan across the health continuum. The nursing program strives to build on each student's prior experience.

Nursing education synthesizes knowledge from the arts, biological, physical, behavioral and social sciences; incorporates critical reasoning, psychomotor and psychosocial skills; and empowers students to develop the knowledge and skills to become safe practitioners. Progressively complex learning tasks build upon previous knowledge and experience and further serve as a motivational force for continued, lifelong learning. Learning becomes more effective when the learner is an active participant.

Nursing education must be proactive in the ever changing health care environment and provide opportunities for students to prepare for evolving nursing roles. Educational experiences are planned in diverse health care settings. Nursing faculty encourages students to strive for excellence and quality by utilizing a variety of current educational theories, nursing theories and evidence based strategies.

The nursing role is characterized by the utilization of a systematic, problem-solving process; a caring relationship; and commitment to continuing education and professionalism in practice.

Nurses collaborate with the patient, family, significant others, and members of the interdisciplinary health care team to empower the patient and/or family to make informed decisions, prevent illness and restore and maintain their optimal level of function. Each graduate of the associate degree or vocational nursing program assumes increasing levels of accountability and responsibility in practice, demonstrating competencies in the roles of provider of patient-centered care, and patient safety advocate member of the profession and member of the health care team. (pursuant to Texas Board of Nursing Delineated Essential Competencies (DEC). link to bon website http://www.bon.texas.gov/about/pdfs/delc-2010.pdf