



NURSING DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (N-DEP)

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The Morgan State University Nursing Dual Enrollment Program (N-DEP) is a three-year college preparatory nursing program targeting high school 10th-12th-graders enrolled in Career Technical Education Nursing Pathways. Through this educational initiative, students will have the opportunity to earn 28-31 college level credits toward a Baccalaureate Nursing degree. The goal of N-DEP is to increase the number of high school students enrolling in nursing education leading to completion of Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

The Maryland General Assembly passed the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act (CCR-CCA), in 2013. This legislation sets rules and regulations for the dual enrollment requirements. Dual enrollment programs are recognized as "jump start" strategies providing an opportunity for high school students to gain leverage on post-secondary education and improve their college performance. According to the literature, dual enrollment helps reduce the need for remediation while in college. However, in 2016 the Maryland General Assembly reported Baltimore City dual enrollment rate was 2%, among the lowest in the state. The low level of minority participation in dual enrollment programs is attributed to financial obstacles, lack of program visibility, limited student engagement strategies, and partnerships with college support services. The development of relationships between high school guidance staff and college advisors is fundamental to students gaining access to dual enrollment programs as well as having the support needed to be successful in the program and to advance at the college level (Sunderman, 2017).

The Morgan State University Nursing Program believes early engagement of high school career counselors and developing partnerships with college support services will increase the number of students who access dual enrollment nursing programs. The Nursing Program was awarded funding through the Nurse Support Program II (MHEC) FY 2019 to establish the planning process for the implementation of N-DEP. To date, N-DEP has taken steps to establish a partnership between Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy High School in Baltimore City and the Morgan State Office University Office of Strategic Enrollment Partnerships. Additionally, partnerships between the Nursing Program and the Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) Office Career Technical Education and Fine Arts and the BCPS Office of College and Career Readiness was initiated.

N-DEP will initially enroll a cohort of 40 students, 20 students from Baltimore City Public Schools and 20 students from Baltimore County Public Schools. A dual enrollment course sequence was designed to align high school course work with the selected dual credit college level courses. N-DEP will provide adjunct professors to teach the courses at the high schools and a curriculum will be designed to qualify high school teachers to teach college level courses. The participants will attend a summer bridge program each year for remediation in math, science and reading/literacy. The students will be assigned tutors and student ambassadors for academic and social support.

The establishment of the of partnership between high school career technical education nursing programs and N-DEP has the potential to significantly increase the number of diverse professional nurses entering the health care workforce, particularly bedside nurses.