

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

2024 ANNUAL 2025 REPORT



SAINT FRANCIS
MEDICAL CENTER
COLLEGE OF NURSING



MISSION

In the Spirit of Christ and the example of Francis of Assisi, the Mission of Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, a private, single purpose Catholic college, is to provide excellent nursing education that fosters the learner's holistic development in an environment that encourages open inquiry and lifelong learning while serving all persons with the greatest care and love.

VISION

Through God's providence, leading our community in the art and science of nursing through excellence in education, practice and service.

VALUES

LIFELONG LEARNING – An interactive, learner-centered process in which critical thinking and inquiry skills are developed and lead to a lifelong commitment to discovering and disseminating new knowledge.

COMPASSION – A caring response to the holistic needs of the people we serve.

LEADERSHIP – Developing skills and talents through innovation, agility and collaboration to meet the health care and education needs of the community.

JUSTICE – Respecting the personal worth and dignity of each person as an individual.

TRUST – Open and honest communications, actions and behaviors that foster trusting relationships among Mission Partners, students and those served.

INTEGRITY – Upholding the Catholic ethical principles; Catholic social, emotional and intellectual teachings; and professional codes of conduct and ethical standards in education and practice.

ACCOUNTABILITY – The obligation to provide quality and evidence-based education and care while being responsible for outcomes and good stewards of resources.

SUPPORTIVE WORK AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT – Creating an atmosphere that provides support, encouragement and nurturing for the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health of the college community.

“*...with the greatest care and love.*”



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

The 2024-2025 academic year has been another exciting one for the Board and the colleges. We welcomed one new Board member, Marie Lehman, while saying goodbye to Lisa Fuller and John Pompe, thanking them for their years of service and contributions. This is my final annual report, as my nine-year tenure ends July 31. It has been an honor to serve for 18 years: 2004-2013 and 2016-2025. Many changes have been made over that time period, all the while advancing the college's Mission to serve the nursing educational needs of Central Illinois and beyond.

Highlights from the Board's activity this year include:

- Approving the hire of a new provost, to begin in the fall of 2025
- Approving a new CRNA program with a roll-out date of 2027
- Holding the second annual Board Retreat on June 12, 2025, where board members engaged in strategic planning and governance activities for the college
- Hearing from the GEMIC consulting group regarding opportunities for improvement of the current college facilities

The success of the college is directly linked to the hard work of the faculty, staff and administration. The college continues to have wonderful pass rates on licensure and certification exams and tremendous growth within the student body, especially in the graduate programs. Innovative opportunities, such as early high school partnerships, and the new LPN to BSN program, will spark additional growth within the undergraduate program. I'd like to personally thank every Mission Partner for their commitment and dedication to their respective roles within the teaching and learning environment and for advancing the Mission of the college. Finally, I am grateful for the leadership of Dr. Charlene Aaron, president. Her role is a lofty one, serving as president of both Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing and Saint Anthony College of Nursing She has provided guidance, mentorship and great vision in order to make Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing the college of choice for undergraduate and graduate nursing education in Central Illinois. I am very proud of the work that you all do and have no doubt that your future successes are imminent!

Again, thank you all for another excellent year. Although I will be stepping out of my role with the Board, the members look forward to working with and supporting the faculty, staff and the leadership team in advancing the college in the coming year!

Margaret A. Swanson, PhD
Board Chair



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been another exciting and plentiful year at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. It is hard to believe I am in my second year of leadership at the college. I have met so many wonderful alumni and friends of the college of nursing. In December 2024 there were 63 graduates and in May 2025 there were 138 graduates. Nearly 90% of our graduates chose to work at OSF.

Total enrollment for fall 2024 was 682. Spring of 2025 total enrollment was 648, including a 25% male population in the Junior One spring class. We are in the third year of offering the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and are seeing more interest from prospective students who already have a bachelor's degree in another major. The traditional BSN program is growing exponentially as well. The robust scholarship program, and the OSF funding program make it possible for more and more students to come to Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing for their education.

The Saint Francis Medical Center School/College of Nursing Alumni have been engaged with events at Tres Rojas Winery. Planning for the 120th anniversary of the college is a collaborative effort with the Alumni Board of Directors. The Homecoming celebration (2024) was attended by several alumni, and a good time was had by all.

We searched and found our provost and chief academic officer, Dr. Mary McNamara, who joined the college in August 2025. She comes to OSF from Loyola University where she served as associate dean. Dr. McNamara will serve as the provost at Saint Anthony College of Nursing as well. Mary has expertise in curriculum, and the timing is perfect as she will share her expertise with the faculty as they collectively engage in the curriculum revision process. This process fulfills the requirements of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, to make the curriculum competency based. The exercise of curriculum revision will be completed so that the new curriculum will begin in the fall of 2026. The purpose of the competency-based curriculum is to ensure our nursing graduates are ready to provide safe quality care on day one of their nursing careers. I applaud the deans and the faculty for their hard work on this major achievement thus far.

I'm looking forward to more involvement in the community of Peoria, increasing diversity in the student body and faculty, and strengthening our simulation program. All of these endeavors will contribute to the college's Mission of educating, caring and serving with the greatest care and love for all.

Respectfully,

Charlene Aaron, PhD, RN

President

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Saint Anthony College of Nursing



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Graduate Program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing continues to thrive, evolve and make meaningful strides in advanced nursing education. This spring, under the leadership of Dr. Christina Garcia, we celebrated the graduation of our largest cohort of doctor of nursing practice (DNP) students. These scholars presented their culminating projects at Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center, demonstrating exceptional innovation, rigor and relevance to today's health care challenges.

In November 2024, the college embarked on a transformative global health initiative, taking its first group of students to the Dominican Republic under the guidance of Dr. Jessica Nash. In response to the increasing clinical hour requirements, family nurse practitioner students provided care in underserved rural villages. This immersive experience not only fulfilled academic objectives but also profoundly impacted all participants. As one student reflected, "Serving in the Dominican Republic reminded me why I chose nursing – to bring compassion and care to those who need it most."

We remain committed to advancing our curriculum through the integration of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials: Core Competencies for Nursing Education. While AACN anticipates a phased implementation, our college is preparing to launch these curricular enhancements by the fall of 2026. To support this transition, Dr. Crystal Slaughter has developed faculty workshop days, offering continuing education credit and collaborative opportunities for faculty to review, design and embed these competencies into our academic programs.

Our faculty continues to grow in expertise and specialization. We proudly recognize Dr. Jaclyn Lamer, who completed our postgraduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program in the spring of 2025, further enriching our clinical and academic leadership.

The Graduate Program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing is not only expanding in numbers but also deepening its impact – locally, globally and academically. As we look ahead to the coming academic year, we remain focused on creating new opportunities that meet the evolving needs of our health system and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carole Eatock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carole Eatock, DNP, APRN-FPA, NP-C
Dean, Graduate Program



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The baccalaureate program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing has celebrated another highly successful year. I continue to see much academic promise in our baccalaureate students despite many challenges. The college provides many learning opportunities such as access to outstanding clinical sites, student volunteer opportunities, cultural immersion experiences and student governance opportunities that allow students to grow and succeed. In addition, the college employs exceptional faculty and outstanding staff members who are devoted to promoting the students' academic and personal growth.

The college's NCLEX RN pass rate is 91% for 2024. We continue to hone strategies to prepare students for the changes that were implemented in the NCLEX RN licensure exam post-graduation. We continue to offer an NCLEX RN review course, which is embedded into the last semester of the baccalaureate curriculum in addition to other proven strategies. These efforts ensure that all students are well prepared to enter the profession of nursing and are well prepared to take the licensure exam. We continue to expand our support services for students. These services include remediation strategies to support our students in their academic endeavors through our Academic Support Center, peer teachers, counseling and 1:1 time with course faculty. We continue to utilize assessment strategies to tailor our support and remediation for all students as they progress through our curricula.

We remain vigilant in monitoring the national decrease in student enrollment in higher education. I am pleased to report that we are continuing to see strong growth in BSN program enrollment for the 2024–2025 academic year. Aligned with our strategic growth priorities, we launched the BA/BS to BSN accelerated program in October 2023. Our inaugural cohort has already graduated, achieving a 100% first-time pass rate on the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. We are preparing to launch an LPN to BSN program in the fall of 2025 and, through a collaboration with Monmouth College, will expand our ABSN program to their campus in the fall of 2028. The faculty, staff and leadership display flexibility to accommodate for the enrollment changes.

We are grateful for our strong partnership with OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and the OSF HealthCare Ministry. Their support of our undergraduate students in the clinical setting is a blessing. Our students benefit from access to a diverse patient population and expert clinical faculty. The clinical opportunities continue to be a deciding factor in our students choosing Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing over other area programs.

We have been blessed this year with the addition of new faculty members. Faith Johnson, MSN, RN; Cora Fabish, MSN, RN; Cody Feikles, PhD(c), MA, MTS; and Erin Gabbert, MSN, RN, joined our highly qualified faculty in fostering learning and growth in our BSN students in the classroom and clinical arenas.

In summary, this has been a year filled with growth and opportunities. I am blessed to serve Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, the faculty, staff and students.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne C. Brown".

Suzanne C. Brown, PhD, DNP, RN
Dean, Undergraduate Program

2024-2027

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE: LEGACY IN MOTION

In alignment with our Mission to provide excellent nursing and health care education in the spirit of Christ and the example of Francis of Assisi, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing launched its 2024–2027 strategic plan: Legacy in Motion: Transforming Nursing and Healthcare Education.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

The strategic plan was developed through a collaborative and inclusive process. Faculty, staff, students, alumni and board members contributed through retreats, committee meetings and feedback sessions. The Strategic Planning Committee met throughout the spring of 2024, conducting an environmental scan and SWOT analysis. The board held a Strategic Planning retreat in June of 2024, shaping the plan's four strategic priorities. Final approval was granted in the fall of 2024, and implementation with faculty/staff teams began shortly thereafter.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES & PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

1. Infrastructure

- A Facilities Task Force is assessing current and future space needs.
- A new Testing Center is underway to support students with accommodations.
- Technology upgrades include a redesigned website and implementation of Quality Matters standards in Canvas.
- Planning includes simulation strategy, AI integration and collaboration with Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center.

2. Strategic Growth

- The new LPN to BSN program launched in the fall of 2025.
- Recruitment is underway for a CRNA Program Administrator, with benchmarking for additional program opportunities.
- Partnerships with OSF Foundation and OSF Marketing & Communications are enhancing alumni engagement and outreach.
- Two IBHE Nurse Educator Fellowships were awarded in 2024–25.

3. Employer of Choice

- Faculty visibility will be enhanced through bios and scholarship features on the new website.
- Investing in faculty/staff professional development and succession planning.
- Faculty scholarship is achieving target levels.

4. Student Experience

- New student orientation and advising have been strengthened.
- Making connections with the OSF Transition to Practice program.
- Safety initiatives include collaboration with OSF Security and facility planning.
- The college is exploring an award to recognize students who embody the Mission.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)

Progress is tracked through a KPI dashboard aligned with the OSF approach to Key Results. Highlights include:

- Graduate enrollment met its target; recruited largest incoming BSN class in the fall of 2025.
- Faculty/staff development and scholarship metrics are at target.
- Student satisfaction with the college (97%) exceeds expectations.
- Retention rates are strong, with 94% of new undergraduate students retained.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Meagan Rothrock-Magana, DNP, RN, NE-BC



Meagan Rothrock-Magana, DNP, RN, NE-BC, originally planned to go to medical school until a hospital job-shadow experience made her realize she wanted to be able to spend more time with patients.

“Nursing was actually a second career for me. After I got my bachelor’s degree in biology from Loyola University in 1999, I went back and got an associate’s degree in nursing,” said Dr. Rothrock-Magana, who now works as vice president of Patient Care services and chief nursing officer at OSF HealthCare Saint Katharine Medical Center in Dixon.

Dr. Rothrock-Magana earned her DNP from the college in May and also holds her MSN from the college. She worked as a pharmaceuticals rep for about three years before becoming a nurse.

Her first nursing job was at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in 2008. “I had interviewed at some of the community hospitals closer to me, but when I walked into Saint Francis, I just got a different feeling,” said Dr. Rothrock-Magana, who grew up near Streator.

She later moved to OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony Medical Center where she worked as nursing manager, patient care manager and director of Professional Practice, Development and Magnet. She decided to seek her advanced degrees at the college so she could have an even bigger impact on patients.

“I realized I liked the impact I could have on my own team of patients, but when I was in charge I could help influence the care of all of our patients on the unit,” she said. “So I wanted to explore the leader pathway.”

Dr. Rothrock-Magana said she most appreciated the personal relationships students have with faculty at the college. “They know who you are. You’re not just a number,” she said.

To new nursing students, she advised: “Keep at it. There will be hard days, but in the long run it’s very rewarding. I always challenge people to remember why you chose to do this in the first place, especially during those hard classes, hard tests and hard days.”

Amy Stone, MSN, FNP-C



Amy Stone, MSN, FNP-C, has known she wanted to be a nurse since writing about it in first grade.

“In high school, I thought I might want to be a physician but after volunteering at a hospital, I realized physicians had very limited interaction with their patients. It was the nurses who were really taking care of them, so I knew I needed to be a nurse,” she said.

After earning her associate’s in nursing in 1995, Amy spent 24 years working in obstetrician offices as an RN and practice manager, as a hospital labor and delivery nurse and as a school nurse before deciding to obtain her bachelor’s and master’s degrees to become a family nurse practitioner.

She chose to obtain her MSN at the college for several reasons. “I liked the format of the program. I liked that it was all online, but then you also had those important days in person where you could really formulate your skills and have some hands-on training,” she said.

Among highlights of her time at the college was the opportunity to participate in a mission trip to the Dominican Republic last November. “It was nice to be able to give back to those less fortunate than us. That’s something I really hope I can continue to participate in as I move forward in my career,” Amy said.

Amy gives this advice to new nursing students: “Take advantage of every opportunity that’s provided to you, because you never know what experience will drive you to try something new and that might be the one thing that ends up being your all-time love.”

Amy is currently working on a fellowship with OSF OnCall Urgent Care with a future goal of obtaining her DNP from the college and working full-time as a nurse practitioner. Eventually, she hopes to teach at the college in the master’s program.

“I think the college of nursing is an absolute gem. Every professor I had there was amazing. It has opened doors for me I never thought would open,” she said.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Jordan Herring, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN-CPN

Jordan Herring, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN-CPN, was promoted this year to associate professor at the college, where she teaches pediatrics.

A native of Forreston, Illinois, she received her DNP from Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing in May. “I decided to get my doctorate because I always want to expand my knowledge, but I also wanted to expand my teaching into the graduate program,” she said. “And it was kind of a personal challenge since I was the first college graduate of my family.”

Dr. Herring said she’s proud of herself for being promoted to associate professor. “Now I look forward to being able to hopefully get more scholarship under my belt and do my own research to be able to present either to the hospital or at conferences,” she said.

In her new role, Dr. Herring is teaching didactic pediatrics, clinicals and health assessment, as well as research for the graduate program. On breaks, she picks up PRN shifts at OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois, where she worked full-time as a pediatric RN for five years before teaching.

“Nursing is something I always wanted to do,” she said. “My grandmother always had a passion to do nursing but never went for it, so she and I talked about it a lot. She passed before I actually graduated nursing school, but I feel like she was definitely my biggest cheerleader behind everything.”

Dr. Herring said her favorite thing about teaching is when it clicks for her students. “I know they’re usually a little bit confused when we start teaching, so that moment when it clicks and comes into place is awesome to see.”

Dr. Herring enjoys taking on PRN shifts at the hospital to keep up her skills. “It also keeps me up to date with any change in protocols,” she said. “And I love interacting with the patients and the families. Being away from the bedside completely isn’t something I want to do in the near future.”



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– Jordan Herring, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN-CPN

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Kaitlin Bailey, DNP, RN



Kaitlin Bailey, DNP, RN, was promoted by the college to associate professor this year.

“I feel like it’s been such a journey to get there, so being promoted feels really good,” said Dr. Bailey, a Glasford native who’s been teaching at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing for 12 years. She earned her DNP in May.

Prior to teaching, Dr. Bailey worked as a hospital labor and delivery nurse and as a staff nurse for an OB/GYN office in Pekin. “I just loved helping women through that special time of their life, being pregnant and giving birth,” she said.

Dr. Bailey teaches OB women’s health in the college’s undergraduate program. “Truthfully, teaching kind of snuck up on me,” she said. “A friend at Illinois Central College asked if I’d do some adjunct teaching for them, so I did that one summer and realized how much I enjoyed it.”

Her favorite part of teaching is the “aha” moment. “Seeing that look or emotion students get when they realize that they know things

and they know what’s happening with their patient and they know what to do about it is the best part,” she said.

Dr. Bailey is also an academic success coach at the college, helping students who are struggling academically. “We work on ways to improve either with study habits, test-taking skills or paperwork,” she said. “To work with someone one-on-one and really try to help them be successful is very rewarding.”

With an interest in health care from a young age, Dr. Bailey was inspired to pursue nursing by her mom, who also was a nurse. “I’ve always loved helping people and taking care of people, so I think that’s where it came from,” she said.

She believes the college’s rich history and longevity help distinguish it from other nursing schools. “Being here for 120 years has really established who we are in the community,” Dr. Bailey said. “I think being associated with such a high-quality, Level I Trauma Center sets the college apart, as well.”

Lisa Pitzer, DNP, RN, CNE, CNE-cl



Lisa Pitzer, DNP, RN, CNE, CNE-cl, knew from a young age that she wanted to be a teacher but she also developed a passion for nursing as a young adult.

“Just after high school, I got a job at a specialty health care clinic where I was first introduced to nursing and I fell in love with it,” said the Peoria-area native. “I wanted a career where I could make a tangible difference in people’s lives every day with big and small acts. Nursing also aligned really well with my faith-based values and provides opportunities to care for and support individuals and families during those vulnerable moments in life.”

Dr. Pitzer started as an RN on the Medical-Surgical Unit at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center just out of nursing school. “I loved the fast pace and all the different types of people that I got to care for on that unit,” she said. She moved to primary care when she went back to school for her MSN.

Dr. Pitzer joined the faculty at the college as assistant professor of nursing in 2021. She teaches health assessment and is the coordinator for the Nursing Resource Center’s simulation laboratory. “To me it’s just the best of both worlds. I still get to practice in my professional role as a nurse but I also get to teach our future nurses at the same time,” she said.

She earned her DNP from the college in May. “I wanted to be able to give more and serve more in a different and bigger capacity,” she said. “It allows for a lot more leadership opportunities.”

However, Dr. Pitzer said she never wants to stop teaching. “I really just love watching the change in students and being able to guide them as they develop that confidence in themselves and in their skills,” she said. “Seeing them grow and just knowing that the values that I can help instill while they’re in our program will continue to impact others long after my time with them is very rewarding.”

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Carol Swank, DNP, RN

Carol Swank, DNP, RN, originally thought she'd go to medical school before deciding on a career in nursing to have more one-on-one time with patients.

"Nursing is just very unique. There are a lot of different paths you can take," said Dr. Swank, a long-time critical care paramedic who has taught at the college since 2021 but has worked at OSF HealthCare since 2003, mostly in emergency medicine and critical care nursing.

Dr. Swank was promoted to assistant professor last year and earned her DNP in May. At graduation she received the inaugural Sister Diane Marie Memorial Award for Outstanding DNP in Nursing. She primarily teaches pharmacology and also teaches in the new LPN to BSN program, as well as clinicals.

"I've always loved pharmacology. It fascinates me," she said. "I love being able to teach them not only what the medications are but how they work and how they work specifically for their patient."

She began her career at the college as the health nurse. "I was really torn because I loved critical care, but by then I really wanted to teach. So I started my master's the next year, and as soon as I graduated there was a position open at the college. Then I went back for my doctorate. It was one of the hardest things I've ever done in my life, but I am so glad that I did."

Dr. Swank's favorite part of teaching is "when the students make connections, and I can see that lightbulb go on." She also enjoys receiving texts from former students letting her know how well the college prepared them for their jobs as nurses.

"The faculty invest a lot into our students," she added. "You're not going to find that in a lot of colleges or universities. And we have such a unique opportunity with our connection to the medical center. Not everybody can offer what we do."

In her spare time, Dr. Swank enjoys reading, crafting and getting together with friends.



“ I WAS REALLY TORN BECAUSE I LOVED CRITICAL CARE, BUT BY THEN **I REALLY WANTED TO TEACH...** THEN I WENT BACK FOR MY DOCTORATE. **IT WAS ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS I’VE EVER DONE IN MY LIFE, BUT I AM SO GLAD THAT I DID.** ”

– Carol Swank, DNP, RN

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Melinda Cooling, DNP, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP



Melinda Cooling, DNP, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP, became interested in nursing as a child when her father faced a devastating illness.

“When I was 11, my father was diagnosed with glioblastoma. So I was impacted at a very young age by the nurses who took care of him and took care of us, and that inspired me to want to give back in that same way,” said the Peoria-area native.

In part, Dr. Cooling chose to get her BSN at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing because it was close to home and she was impressed by its NCLEX pass rate. She’s worked her entire career at OSF HealthCare, starting as a medical office assistant within OSF Medical Group. Early on, she knew she wanted to become a nurse practitioner and started working toward that goal.

Dr. Cooling holds her MSN and DNP from the University of Illinois College of Nursing and an MBA with focus in health care administration from Baker College in Flint, Michigan.

She began working as a nurse practitioner for OSF HealthCare in 2003 and took on more leadership roles after earning her DNP in 2010. She’s worked her way up from director of Advanced Practice at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and OSF Medical Group to her current position as chief nursing and advanced practice provider executive for OSF HealthCare. Along the way she’s worked in many leadership roles, including interim president of the College of Health Sciences, chief clinician executive of OSF OnCall and senior vice president of Advanced Practice.

“I think there are many things that I’m proud of,” Dr. Cooling said. “One is being able to create a center for expertise around advanced practice within our health care system and being one of the early people who brought to life the APP Fellowship Program, which we still have today and still continues to thrive. Another pride point is being with the health care organization for 28 years, working alongside many people over time to really impact change.”

In her current job, Dr. Cooling provides strategic direction aligned to the future development of nursing and advanced practice within health care, transformation and oversees nursing and advanced practice providers across all clinical areas. She’s also accountable to the executive leadership in terms of the strategy for the College of Health Sciences and the Nursing Innovation Hub.

Earlier this year Dr. Cooling received the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) Telehealth Champions: Advancing Access to Virtual Care Award for her achievements as chief clinician executive of OSF OnCall. She also received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the college, which she said was humbling.

In her spare time, Dr. Cooling enjoys spending time with her husband, dogs and grown children, one of whom is a nurse. “My daughter, Savanna, graduated from the college. Seeing nursing through her eyes is actually really good for me as a leader. But I’m also proud that I provided that inspiration to her about what a great career and calling nursing can be,” she said.

“WHEN I WAS 11, MY FATHER WAS DIAGNOSED WITH GLIOBLASTOMA. SO I WAS IMPACTED AT A VERY YOUNG AGE BY THE NURSES THAT TOOK CARE OF HIM AND TOOK CARE OF US, AND THAT INSPIRED ME TO WANT TO GIVE BACK IN THAT SAME WAY.”

– Melinda Cooling, DNP, MBA, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Serving in the Dominican Republic – Dr. Carole Eatock and Dr. Suzanne Brown lead team in providing care



In November 2024, a group of family nurse practitioner (FNP) students, faculty and administrators embarked on a journey to the Dominican Republic to both learn from and serve another culture. Over the course of four days, the team established and operated medical clinics in four villages, providing primary care services to more than 400 patients.

Guided by our Mission to serve with the greatest care and love, the team approached each patient encounter not only as a medical appointment but as an opportunity to truly see, hear and honor each individual. Whether it was measuring blood pressure, prescribing medication or simply holding a hand and offering reassurance, every act of care was infused with compassion and respect.

In addition to the clinics, the team conducted home visits, delivering essential medical care to Dominicans and their families in their own living spaces. These intimate visits provided students with an invaluable perspective on health care delivery in resource-limited settings and reinforced the need for cultural humility. They also reminded us that the heart of nursing extends far beyond walls and borders – it thrives wherever human need exists.

Stepping outside our tight-knit community into a global context deepened our appreciation for both the universality of human needs and the unique challenges faced by communities with limited access to health care. It was humbling to realize that while our resources and surroundings may differ, the language of care, love and respect is understood everywhere.

The trip was more than a clinical experience, it was a deeply human connection. We returned home with a piece of our heart still in the Dominican Republic, inspired by the resilience, joy and warmth of the people we met. The bonds formed – both within our team and with the communities we served – will continue to shape our perspectives as nurses and as human beings.

This experience reinforced the importance of empathy, cultural sensitivity and service in nursing practice – values that will guide the participants for years to come. With the college expanding to include undergraduate students this November, we look forward to seeing even more members of our community embrace opportunities to serve with the greatest care and love, both at home and across the globe.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Connecting with kids at Camp GranADA



Eleven nursing students spent a week at Camp GranADA, a camp specifically for kids with Type 1 diabetes – and the experience left a lasting impact.

From the very first day, the students were hands-on, helping manage the highs and lows of blood sugars, adjusting insulin doses and learning the nuances of diabetes care in a real-world setting. Late nights were common – not because of campfires or cabin chatter, but because the students gathered together to talk through the day, share what they learned and make plans for the next day's care.

“It was exhausting, but in the best way,” one student said. “We weren't just practicing skills, we were caring for real kids who needed us to be on top of it.”

Throughout the week, the students worked closely with doctors, residents, dietitians, nurses, volunteers and each other. It was a true team effort. Whether it was coordinating carb counts for mealtimes, adjusting insulin after a high-energy activity or comforting a camper during a tough moment, the students saw firsthand just how complex and collaborative diabetes management really is.

But beyond the clinical experience, the week was about connection. Getting to know the campers – their routines, their challenges and their resilience – was what really stuck with many of the students.

“This experience reminded me why I went into nursing,” one student shared. “The relationships we built, even in just a few days, were incredible. You don't forget that.”

Camp GranADA wasn't just a learning opportunity, it was a full immersion into pediatric diabetes care, teamwork and heart. And for these 11 nursing students, it was a week they'll never forget.





COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Reaching out to the 'unheard and unseen'



Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing offers an undergraduate Diverse Population Health course each summer, where students study population health issues and travel to various locations to provide direct patient care. The immersion experience allows students to gain cultural awareness of diverse health needs and allows the opportunity for lived experiences.

In the summer of 2025, the course took place in Wise, Virginia, located in the Appalachia region. Kate Bailey, DNP, RN, accompanied six students on the trip.

The college partnered with the Health Wagon to provide public health services and education. Services included dental, vision, medical, hearing and even veterinary care. Students spent their time triaging patients, identifying care needs, assisting providers and providing patient education. With our students' help, the Health Wagon was able to provide care for over 1,800 patients.

Students reflected on their experiences daily by posting on the group's Facebook page, which allowed friends and family back home the opportunity to keep up to date with what the group was doing in Virginia. Students felt that the experience was life-changing and impactful to how they view caring for diverse groups of people.

Student, Alex Salazar said one of his biggest takeaways from the trip was how amazing it was to see many people from various areas coming together to provide services to rural communities where residents don't have access to these services. He went on to say that the experience is one he will never forget and it truly showed him that he can make a difference.

Student Reagan Grunloh said she was grateful to have been a part of this experience; not just in helping to provide care, but truly being able to understand the depth of need in rural communities in the United States. She said the trip helped remind her that she needs to continue to be a voice and an advocate for those who often go unheard and unseen.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Camp Hope 2025 creates educational opportunity



Nursing students have the opportunity to attend Camp Hope, a five-day overnight camp for local children with cancer or blood disorders. Camp Hope creates an environment rich in fun, education, positive coping and life skills to cultivate relationships with others enduring the chronic illness journey.

The students were accompanied by faculty members, Alissa Watkins, PhD, RN, and Jordan Herring, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN-CPN, to work alongside various other oncology/hematology medical staff to participate in the camp experience. The camp is held at East Bay Camp in Hudson, Illinois. The children who attend camp range from ages 5 to 16 with a current or previous diagnosis of cancer or blood disorder. Their siblings are also invited to attend.

Throughout the week, the nursing students collaborate with other health care professionals to provide a safe experience for the campers. They work alongside a camp counselor and are assigned a cabin and a group of children. The students collaborate with the cabin team and are responsible for the well-being and daily care of the campers throughout the week. Under supervision, the students ensure the camper receives their scheduled medications and medical therapies while at camp. They accompany the camper to the “Zoo” which is a medical area supervised by physicians, advanced practice nurses and camp nurses to receive daily medications and other medical needs. Students rotate through the “Zoo” to assist with medication administration, daily care and assessments of campers.

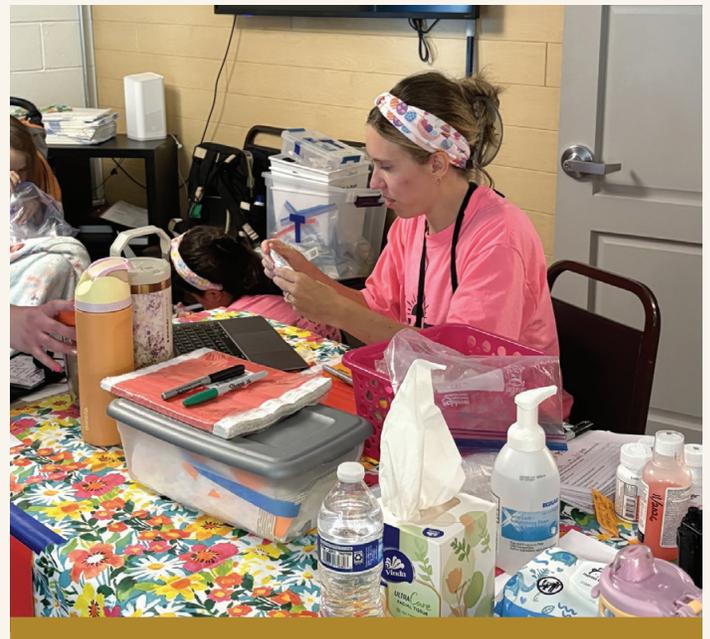
While at Camp Hope, the students provide intentional experiences for each camper. Students accompany the campers to the various activities throughout the day and ensure their safety. They provide education on cancer and blood disorders while providing a fun experience. The students are encouraged to participate in the daily camp activities of swimming, fishing, archery, canoeing and arts and crafts, to engage the camper in the camp experience. Students are exposed to many great learning experiences while at Camp Hope and develop positive relationships with the campers and cabin teams. The students feel that Camp Hope is a life-changing experience that provides a new outlook on life.

Camp Hope welcomes first graduate student

This year marked a meaningful milestone in our partnership with Camp Hope, as we welcomed our first graduate student to participate in this transformative clinical experience. Paige Dylewski, a family nurse practitioner (FNP) student, fully embraced the opportunity and brought enthusiasm, compassion and professionalism to every aspect of camp life.

Unlike any traditional clinical rotation, Camp Hope offered Paige a unique environment to deepen her understanding of complex pediatric conditions, including sickle cell disease and childhood cancers. Her involvement included actively participating in physical assessments during camper check-in, medical care in the “Zoo” (our on-site health station) and assisting with triage. She even participated wholeheartedly in the camp’s recreational activities.

The Graduate Program is thrilled to continue building this partnership alongside our undergraduate students. This collaborative model strengthens interprofessional education and enhances the quality of care provided at Camp Hope. We look forward to expanding this initiative in the coming year and creating even more impactful experiences for our students and the children we serve.



NEW FACULTY

Faith Johnson, MSN, RN

Faith Johnson, MSN, RN, has joined the faculty at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing as an instructor in the undergraduate program.

“As a dual alumnus of the college, first obtaining my BSN in nursing in May 2015 and then my MSN in nursing in December 2024, I feel very privileged to now be a faculty member. To work alongside educators who helped shape me into not only the nurse I am today but also the nurse educator I am, is a true blessing,” she said.

Faith teaches at the senior second semester level within the community health rotation. “Community health focuses on wellness, preventing illness and protecting the health of the communities we serve,” she said. “To be able to educate future nurses on the importance of social, environmental and economic factors affecting health outcomes allows them to look at their patients in a holistic manner.”

She also teaches in the Health Assessment Lab and the Accelerated BSN program in Foundations of Nursing and Health Assessment. In addition, she has taught pharmacology and assists in the Academic Support Center.

“I love when students have a lightbulb moment,” Faith said. “When they can connect what they’re learning to real-life practice and are able to apply their knowledge. To be a part of that moment is truly one of the most rewarding aspects of teaching.”



Cora Fabish, MSN, RN

Cora Fabish, MSN, RN, has joined the faculty at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing as an assistant professor of nursing.

“As an alum and now faculty member working with current nursing students, life feels like it’s coming full circle,” Cora said. “Every time I step into the classroom or simulation lab, I see pieces of myself: the hands shaking before the first patient contact, late-night study sessions and the moment when theory finally makes sense in practice.”

Cora, who holds her BSN and MSN from the college, teaches OB, mental health and Accelerated BSN courses. She previously taught at Bradley University.

Prior to teaching, Cora worked for eight years at Pekin Hospital as an RN and educator in obstetrics and pediatrics and as Lean Six Sigma quality improvement and project manager, among other positions. She also previously worked as a travel nurse.

“There’s a unique joy in watching a student’s eyes light up when they realize that they are capable of learning how to comfort, assess and intervene. One of the most fulfilling moments is when a student comes back after a clinical rotation and tells me about something they did that scared them at first, but they did it anyway,” Cora said. “These are the moments where I know I’m not just helping them learn skills, but helping shape compassionate, resilient nurses. These experiences are why I love teaching and being a team member at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing.”



NEW FACULTY

Cody Feikles, PhD(c), MA, MTS, HEC-C



Cody Feikles, PhD(c), MA, MTS, HEC-C, has joined the college as an assistant professor.

Cody teaches undergraduate and graduate ethics courses at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing and at Saint Anthony College of Nursing.

“Working as an assistant professor on the ethics faculty at the colleges of nursing is a sincere privilege. Each day I am blessed with the opportunity to accompany our students as they integrate the wisdom of the Catholic moral tradition with the ever-expanding challenges and complexities of the nursing profession,” Cody said.

He holds his bachelor’s in theology from Gannon University, master’s of theological studies from Boston College and master’s in clinical ethics from Georgetown University. He is currently writing his PhD dissertation in bioethics with the Ateneo Pontificio Regina Apostolorum, a Catholic Pontifical University in Rome.

Cody was previously regional director of ethics at Christus Health in Texas and also serves as managing editor for “Theoretical Medicine & Bioethics” at Georgetown University and as an ethics consultant for the National Catholic Bioethics Center.

Cody said he invites students to “make the commitment to both understand and live out nursing as a sacred healing profession motivated by the Christian virtues of charity and compassion.”

He added, “Ultimately, I love being able to teach health care ethics to our students, for the subject is not only demanding at the level of theories and concepts, but it fundamentally hinges on our students’ abilities to practice virtuously, serving with the greatest care and love.”

“ **EACH DAY I AM BLESSED** WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACCOMPANY OUR STUDENTS AS THEY INTEGRATE THE WISDOM OF THE CATHOLIC MORAL TRADITION WITH THE **EVER-EXPANDING CHALLENGES AND COMPLEXITIES OF THE NURSING PROFESSION.** ”

– *Cody Feikles, PhD(c), MA, MTS, HEC-C*

SISTER M. LUDGERA MEMORIAL AWARD

Sister M. Ludgera



This award is named in honor of Sister Mary Ludgera, PhD, RN, who led the transformation of the School of Nursing to the College of Nursing. Born in Germany in 1927, she came to the United States and earned her diploma from the Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing in 1956.

Over the next 20 years, she worked in a number of nursing roles at different hospitals and also got involved in nursing education. In 1976, she was named director of the School of Nursing. From 1983–86, Sister Ludgera and her

faculty initiated the transition from a general nursing program to one that offered a BSN. The first class of baccalaureate students graduated in 1988. Graduate programs would follow, and the college grew in stature.

Sister Ludgera led the college for 27 years, before her death during a trip to Germany in 2004.

The Sister M. Ludgera Award is presented to a graduate of the college's master's program who has demonstrated outstanding nursing practice, caring patient interactions, problem-solving abilities or outstanding teaching abilities.

Fall Recipient: Faith Johnson, MSN, RN



Faith Johnson, MSN, RN, was surprised and honored to win the fall Sister M. Ludgera Award.

"I was humbled to receive an award that bears the name of such an extraordinary nurse, nurse educator and true transformational leader," said Faith, who earned her MSN at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing in December. "To be awarded an honor that exudes

values I have instilled in my nursing practice for nearly 10 years furthered my drive to be an educator that nursing students respect and reach out to as they navigate their journey to becoming a nurse."

Faith, who also holds her BSN from the college, said she chose to obtain her MSN in nursing education due to her deep passion for the nursing profession. "As a nurse educator, I can go beyond caring for a few patients each shift. I can aid dozens of students who will then go on to care for hundreds of patients," she said.

Faith joined the college as a full-time instructor this year, teaching within the community health rotation. Previously, she worked inpatient on a cardiac unit at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and in the electrophysiology department at OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute. She also worked at OSF OnCall before becoming a graduate assistant in the college's Nursing Resource Center while working on her master's degree.

Faith, who plans to obtain her DNP in the future, said, "The college stands out from other nursing schools due to the years of dedication it has given to the nursing profession. While we are part of a large health care system, we keep our classroom sizes smaller, which lends to more assistance as students navigate the nursing school journey. I may be biased, but the Peoria area is blessed to have such a dedicated college of nursing in their backyard."

Spring Recipient: Amy Stone, MSN, FNP-C



Amy Stone, MSN, FNP-C, was astonished to receive the spring Sister M. Ludgera Award, which is presented each semester to a master's program graduate who shows high academic achievement, excellent leadership, professionalism and a willingness to go "above and beyond."

"I was completely shocked," said Amy, a north central Illinois native who received her MSN from Saint Francis Medical

Center College of Nursing in May. "It was a huge honor to receive the award, but I was surprised to be chosen because I'm not from the Peoria area. I do work for OSF HealthCare, but I work remotely, so I feel like I'm not well known. I was just blown away and honored."

Amy, who also holds her BSN from Western Governors University and her associate's in nursing from Illinois Valley Community College, is currently doing a one-year fellowship with OSF OnCall Urgent Care. "I'm pretty excited to be chosen for that fellowship and to be able to get that additional boost to become the best clinician that I can be," she said.

Amy started her nursing career in 1995 as an RN at an obstetrician's office. She also has worked as a hospital labor and delivery nurse, a practice manager and a school nurse. While working on her MSN, Amy realized she wanted to work for OSF HealthCare and took a job as a digital health nurse helping pregnant women through the OSF OnCall Connect pregnancy and postpartum program.

"I chose to work at OSF HealthCare because I share their core Values and their Mission," she said. "I like that they are innovative and supportive of their employees. I just felt like it was going to be a good fit, and it has been. It's probably the best move I ever made."

SISTER DIANE MARIE MEMORIAL AWARD

Sister Diane Marie McGrew, O.S.F.



This award is named in honor of Sister Diane Marie McGrew, O.S.F. We celebrate her dedication to compassionate service, leadership and faith. Sister Diane joined The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis in 1988 and served as president of OSF HealthCare from 2006 to 2024.

Her unwavering commitment to the Mission of OSF, her leadership through challenges and her dedication to caring for others have left a lasting impact on our community. She served on key boards, demonstrating her steadfast devotion to the Ministry's growth

and the well-being of those it serves. We remember her as a guiding light whose legacy of love and service continues to inspire us all.

The Sister Diane Marie Memorial Award for Outstanding DNP in Nursing recognizes graduates who exemplify high academic achievement, demonstrated by a GPA of 3.6 or higher, as well as service to the discipline of nursing and the community.

Recipients uphold professionalism by maintaining integrity and high ethical standards and make a significant impact on nursing practice through their scholarly projects. Additionally, they demonstrate nursing leadership aimed at transforming health care.

Spring Recipient: Carol Swank, DNP, RN



Carol Swank, DNP, RN, received the inaugural Sister Diane Marie Memorial Award for Outstanding DNP in Nursing this year.

"Sister Diane Marie was an amazing person, so to be able to receive that award was very humbling," Dr. Swank said. "I was both shocked and thankful."

Dr. Swank was chosen in part for her DNP scholarly project and its impact on nursing practice. She developed an inpatient nurse-led palliative care screening tool that she hopes will become a part of the hospital screening process.

"We have patients who meet the criteria for palliative care, but the providers don't order it," she said. "Part of the problem is there's a lack of understanding of what palliative care actually is. People automatically think end-of-life and hospice, and that's not what it is."

Palliative care is managing chronic disease to address symptoms and improve quality of life, which can help reduce hospital readmissions, she said. When the time comes, patients can then transition to hospice.

Dr. Swank was invited to present her project at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Graduate Student Nurses Association's (AACN GNSA) conference in Washington, D.C., in August.

"I still get excited about that project because I think it's so important. I worked in medical ICU for three years and palliative care was invaluable, but the problem I saw consistently is we're bringing it in way too late. We need to bring it in sooner to help support the patient and the family," she said.

Another criteria of the award is professionalism evidenced by maintaining integrity and high ethical standards in practice, a trait Dr. Swank credits her parents for teaching her. "From a young age it was instilled in me to do the right thing even when no one is looking," she said. "And ethics is at the very core of what we do in nursing."

“FROM A YOUNG AGE IT WAS INSTILLED IN ME TO DO THE RIGHT THING EVEN WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING. AND ETHICS IS AT THE VERY CORE OF WHAT WE DO IN NURSING.”

– Carol Swank, DNP, RN

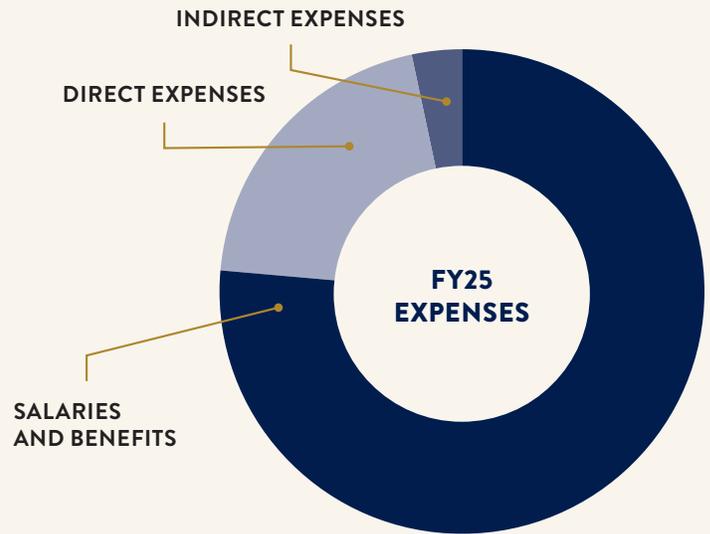
SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIALS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Saint Francis College of Nursing awarded **54** scholarships. The dollar amount awarded was **\$320,067**.



REVENUES	
Total revenue <i>(including federal support)</i>	\$11,652,957
EXPENSES	
Salaries and benefits	\$8,930,521
Direct expenses <i>(e.g. maintenance, marketing, equipment)</i>	\$2,345,588
Indirect expenses <i>(e.g. utilities)</i>	\$376,848
Total net income	--

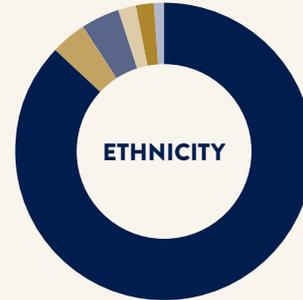
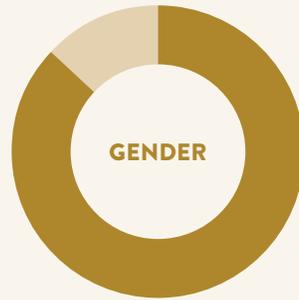
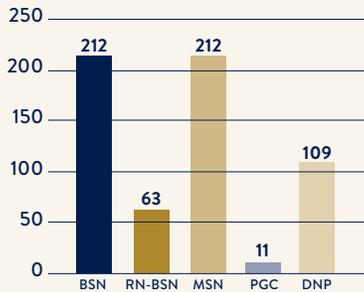


OUR STUDENTS

Fall 2024

Total Enrollment: 607

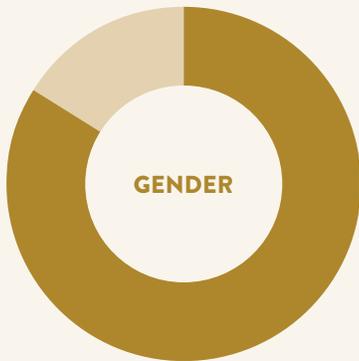
Overall Demographics



- Asian (2%)
- Black or African American (4%)
- Hispanic of any race (4%)
- Two or More Races (1%)
- Unknown (2%)
- White (87%)

Less than 1% American Indian or Alaska Native.

Undergraduate Program Enrollment Data

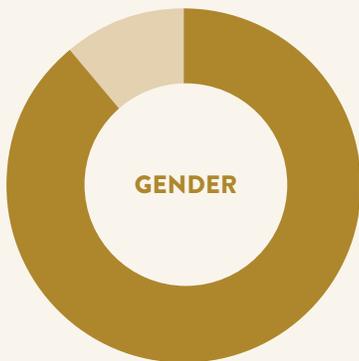


- Female (84%)
- Male (16%)



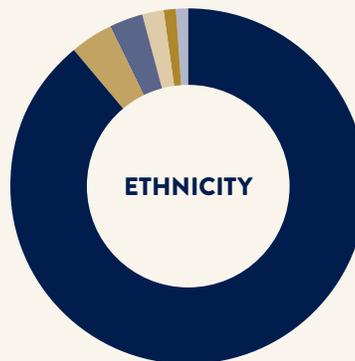
- Asian (3%)
- Black or African American (5%)
- Hispanic of any race (5%)
- Two or More Races (1%)
- Unknown (2%)
- White (84%)

Graduate Program Enrollment Data



- Female (89%)
- Male (11%)

Less than 1% unknown gender.

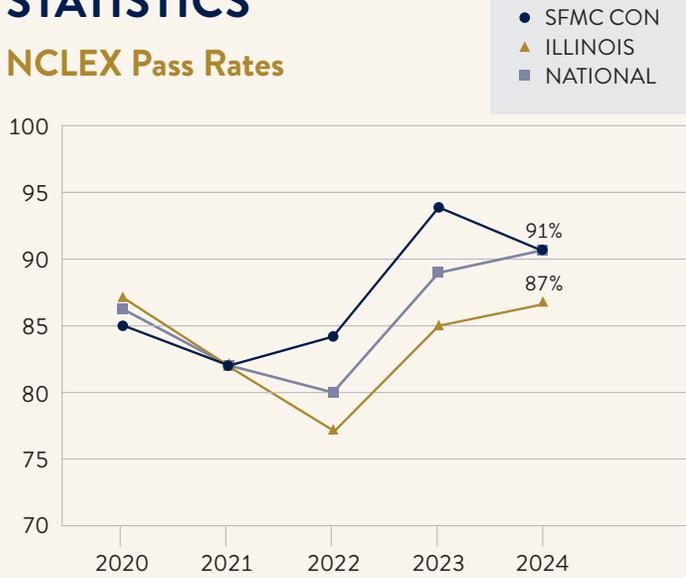


- Asian (2%)
- Black or African American (3%)
- Hispanic of any race (4%)
- Two or More Races (1%)
- Unknown (1%)
- White (89%)

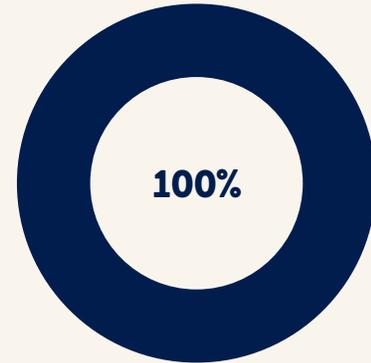
Less than 1% American Indian or Alaska Native.

STATISTICS

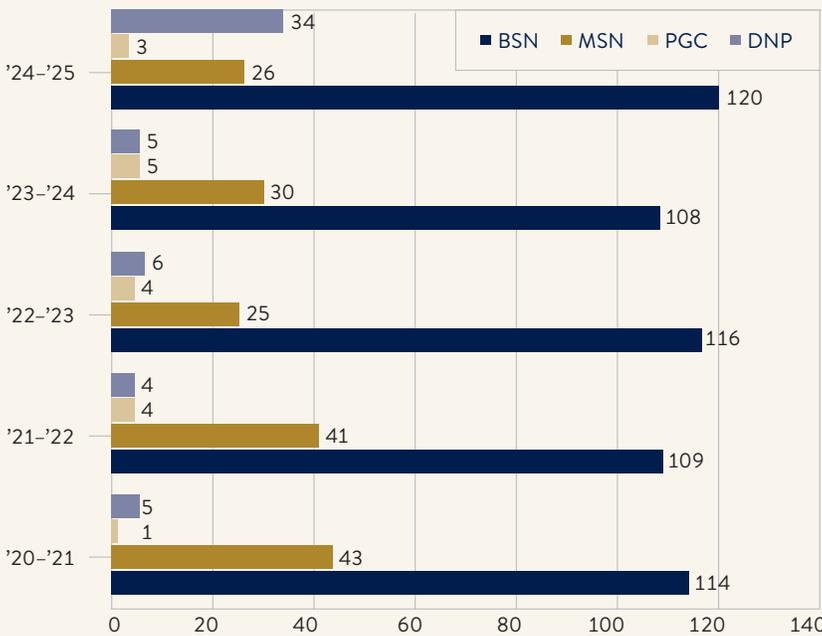
NCLEX Pass Rates



MSN/DNP Graduate Student Certification Pass Rate 2024



Graduation class size by degree



Average GPA

(As of end of spring 2025 semester)

BSN	3.34
MSN	3.81
PGC	3.89
DNP	3.93

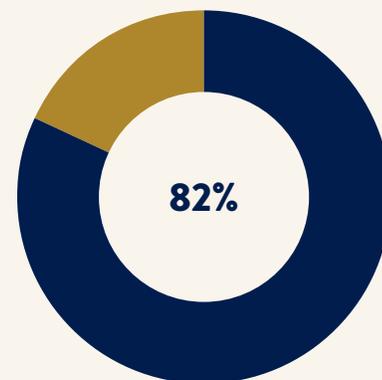
2024 Job Placement

(Within one year of graduation)



Note: Job placement rates are primarily based on alumni surveys. For 2024 alumni, reporting on 91% of BSN, 88% of MSN and 88% of DNP graduates.

Program Retention Fall 2023–Spring 2024



82% of new students who enrolled in fall 2023 were still enrolled in fall 2024.

YEAR IN PICTURES





SAINT FRANCIS
MEDICAL CENTER
COLLEGE OF NURSING



2024 Scholarship Recipients

COMMENCEMENT



WHITE COAT CEREMONY



COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERS

Philip Baer

Director of Medical Imaging and Radiology
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Tim Bromley, MA, LCPC

Director of Behavioral Health
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Jennifer Croland, DNP, RN, NE-BC

Vice President, Patient Care Services
Chief Nursing Officer
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Lisa Fuller, MS, MA

Vice President, Outpatient and Ancillary Services
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Sherri Greenwood, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

Vice President, Surgical and Procedural Services
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Wendee Guth, MSN, RN

Dean, Department of Health Careers
Illinois Central College

Marie Lehman, RN, DNP, NEA-BC

Director of Professional Development
Patient Relations and Nursing Operations Support
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Michael Murtagh

President of Moraisling Consulting

John Pompe, PsyD., SPHR

Manager, Integrated Health Programs
Caterpillar Human Services Division, Caterpillar, Inc.

Ashley Simper, MS, RD, LDN

Dietic Internship Director
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Lisa Smith, MSN, RN, IBCLC

Patient Care Manager, Labor and Delivery and Breastfeeding
Resource Center, OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Robert Sparrow, MD

Chief Medical Officer and Academic Affairs Lead
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Margaret Swanson, PhD

Chair, College Board
Retired, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Illinois Central College

William Tammone

Retired, Senior Vice President
American Sentinel University

Jeff Thomas, MBA

Vice President of Accounting
Citizens Equity First Credit Union (CEFCU)

Michael Wells

President
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Sister Agnes Joseph Williams, O.S.F., MBA

Chairperson, OSF HealthCare Board of Directors
Major Superior, The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis

COLLEGE BOARD EMERITUS

Sarah Buller Fenton, MS, RN, BC

Retired, Director of Nursing
Tazewell County Health Department

ADMINISTRATION

Charlene S. Aaron, PhD, RN

President
PhD, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
MSN, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal
BSN, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington

Austin Blair, BA, CAEP

Dean, Admissions and Marketing
BA, Eureka College, Eureka

Suzanne Brown, PhD, DNP, RN

Dean, Undergraduate Program
PhD, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado
DNP, MSN, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
BS, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Carole Eatock, DNP, APRN-FPA, FNP-C

Dean, Graduate Program
DNP, MSN, University of Illinois-Chicago, Rockford, Illinois
BSN, Illinois State University, Bloomington, Illinois

Christina Garcia, PhD, RN, NE-BC

Chair, DNP Program
PhD, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal
MSN, BSN, Bradley University, Peoria

Elizabeth Harp, PhD

Dean, Institutional Effectiveness, Assessment and Accreditation
PhD, University of Nebraska Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska

Kevin Stephens, BS

Assistant Dean, Support Services
BSN, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington

FACULTY

Kaitlin Bailey, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Kaplan University, Des Moines, Iowa

Nancy R. Bailey, DNP, RN, CNE

Assistant Professor
DNP, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
MS, University of Illinois, Chicago
BSN, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Leigh Ann Bonney, PhD, RN, CCRN, CNE

Professor
PhD, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Laura Bowers, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC

Instructor
DNP, MSN, University of Missouri-Kansas City,
Kansas City, Missouri
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Susan Buck, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota
ADN, Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg

Krissy Coffman, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Kelly J. Cone, PhD, RN, CNE

Professor
PhD, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri
MS, University of Illinois, Chicago
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Rebecca Culp, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, Kaplan University (online)
BSN, Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University,
Normal

Mark Dabbs, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center
College of Nursing

Robert J. Degitz, PhD, RN, CCRN

Assistant Professor
PhD, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal
MSN, BSN, Bradley University, Peoria

Karen Ehnle, MS, RN

Instructor
MS, BSN, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal

Cora Fabish, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Katie Fosburgh, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College,
St. Louis, Missouri
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Megan Frye, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Erin Havron, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Gerri Hellhake-Hall, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Assistant Professor
DNP, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
MSN, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville
BSN, Hannibal LaGrange College, Hannibal, Missouri

Jordan Herring, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN-CPN

Assistant Professor
MSN, Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, Utah
BSN, Methodist College, Peoria

Theresa Hoadley, PhD, RN, TNS

Professor
PhD, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado
MS, University of Illinois, Chicago
BSN, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington

Jeremy Hulet, MSN, RN, CVRN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Faith Johnson, MSN, RN

Instructor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

FACULTY *(cont.)*

Melissa Joos, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Angela Kouri, MSN, RN, RN-BC

Instructor
MSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
BSN, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

Jaclyn Lamer, DNP, RN, CPN

Instructor
DNP, University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Anne Look, MSN, ACNP

Assistant Professor
MSN, University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago
BSN, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

Dana McVicker, MSN, RN

Instructor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Stephanie Meuser, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal

Theresa Miller, PhD, RN

Professor
PhD, Capella University, Minneapolis, Minnesota
MSN/MSHA, Saint Joseph College of Maine, Standish, Maine
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Tiereny Minassian, MSN, APN, FNP-C

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center
College of Nursing

Jessica Nash, DNP, APN, FNP-BC

Instructor
DNP, Bradley University, Peoria
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Kaitlyn Orwig, MSN, RN

Instructor
MSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
BSN, Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York

Danielle Pagano, APRN, FNP-BC

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Mennonite College of Nursing at
Illinois State University, Normal

Lisa Pitzer, MSN, RN, CNE, CNE-cl

Instructor/Nursing Resource Center Coordinator
MSN, NED Program, University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona
BSN, Methodist College of Nursing, Peoria

Victoria Schick, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Crystal Slaughter, DNP, APRN, ACNS-BC

Professor
DNP, MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center
College of Nursing

Danielle Smith, MSN, RN, PMHNP

Instructor
MSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Sheri Streitmatter, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Chamberlain University of Nursing, Addison

Carol Swank, DNP, RN

Assistant Professor
DNP, MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Jillian Thomas, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Michelle Thompson, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, Chamberlain College of Nursing, Downers Grove
BSN, Methodist College of Nursing, Peoria

Angela Timm, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, University of Phoenix Online, Phoenix, Arizona
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Rebecca Vaughn, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor
MSN, University of Kansas School of Nursing,
Kansas City, Kansas
BSN, University of Iowa College of Nursing, Iowa City, Iowa

Jessica Verplaetse, MSN, RN, RNC-NIC

Assistant Professor
MSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
BSN, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville

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