



DALTON STATE
C O L L E G E

**2003 GRADUATING NURSES SURVEY
SUMMARY REPORT**

Highlights

- ❖ 54 nurses graduated from Dalton State College. All graduates responded to the survey.
- ❖ 96.3% of the respondents said that they would recommend the Dalton State College nursing program to others.
- ❖ 92.6% of the graduates said they would select Dalton State College again for their nursing program.
- ❖ 70.4% of the respondents said their attitude toward Dalton State College was “very positive.”

BACKGROUND

Age at the time you graduated

20-25	32	59.3%
26-30	9	16.7%
31-40	8	14.8%
41-55	4	7.4%
Over 55	1	1.9%

Marital Status

Unmarried (including single, divorced, and widowed)	23	42.6%
Married	31	57.4%
Separated	0	0.0%

County of Residence:

Catoosa	16	29.6%
Gordon	7	13.0%
Murray	6	11.1%
Walker	5	19.3%
Whitfield	9	16.7%
Other	11	20.4%

Highest level of educational experience achieved prior to entrance into the Dalton State College nursing program

GED	3	5.6%
High school, graduated within two years of acceptance	24	44.4%
High school, graduated over two years prior to acceptance	9	16.7%
College, 1-4 years (including certificate/technical)	9	16.7%
College graduate	8	14.8%
No Response	1	1.9%

While you were a student at Dalton State College, were you mainly enrolled

Full-time	43	79.6%
Part-time	11	20.4%

BACKGROUND (cont'd)

At the time of this survey, have you written and passed your licensing examination?

Yes	2	3.7%
No	52	96.3%

If you've passed, please indicate the month you received board results

No Response	53	98.1%
January	0	0.0%
February	0	0.0%
March	0	0.0%
April	0	0.0%
May	0	0.0%
June	0	0.0%
July	1	1.9%
August	0	0.0%
September	0	0.0%
October	0	0.0%
November	0	0.0%

After graduation, what was your primary source of preparation for the NCLEX?

Independent review	7	13.0%
Computer review	1	1.9%
Formal review classes	32	59.3%
Other	5	9.3%
No Response	9	16.7%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT

Did you have any health related work experience prior to entering the Nursing program at Dalton State College

Yes	28	51.9%
No	26	48.1%

Current working status

Full-time in nursing	11	20.4%
Part-time in nursing	27	50.0%
Employment in another field	6	11.1%
Not employed at this time	10	18.5%

If working, please indicate the month you began your job

January	4	7.4%
February	4	7.4%
March	5	9.3%
April	1	1.9%
May	6	11.1%
June	3	5.6%
July	4	7.4%
August	2	3.7%
September	1	1.9%
October	0	0.0%
November	3	5.6%
December	4	7.4%
No Response	17	31.5%

If you're not working full-time in nursing, please specify your reason

Seeking higher education	1	1.9%
Scheduling	10	18.5%
Family obligations	7	13.0%
Other	10	18.5%
No Response	26	48.1%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT (cont'd)

If you are working in nursing, please specify which area

Hospital	39	72.2%
Physician's office/clinic	2	3.7%
Nursing home	1	1.9%
No Response	12	22.2%

If you are employed in hospital nursing, please specify which area

General duty	19	35.2%
Specialty care unit (ICU, CCU, L&D, NICU)	14	25.9%
Emergency	3	5.6%
Other	3	5.6%
No Response	15	27.8%

If you are employed in general duty nursing, please specify which area

Medical-surgical	19	35.2%
Pediatric	1	1.9%
Other	5	9.3%
No Response	29	53.7%

Your primary position is

Staff nurse	21	38.9%
Other	19	35.2%
No Response	14	25.9%

Shift worked

Days	18	33.3%
Rotating shifts	6	11.1%
Evenings	4	7.4%
Nights	10	18.5%
Other	2	3.7%
No Response	14	25.9%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT (cont'd)

Present hourly salary including any shift differential

Below \$13 with benefits	3	5.6%
Below \$13 without benefits	9	16.7%
\$13.01-\$16.00 with benefits	5	9.3%
\$13.01-\$16.00 without benefits	1	1.9%
\$16.01-\$19.00 with benefits	12	22.2%
\$16.01-\$19.00 without benefits	4	7.4%
\$19.01-\$21.00 with benefits	4	7.4%
\$19.01-\$21.00 without benefits	0	0.0%
Above \$21.00 with benefits	3	5.6%
Above \$21.00 without benefits	1	1.9%
No Response	12	22.2%

In which of the following professional growth activities, have you participated

The regular reading of nursing literature	20	37.0%
Attendance at workshops/seminars/in-services	22	40.7%
Participation in a professional organization	0	0.0%
Continuation of formal education	1	1.9%
Other	2	3.7%
No Response	9	16.7

PROGRAM INFORMATION

During the nursing program

	<i>Always</i>	<i>Most of the time</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>Never</i>
I received information about employment opportunities in nursing	31 57.4%	21 38.9%	2 3.7%	0 0.0	0 0.0
I was provided information about working conditions in the nursing field	34 63.0%	17 31.5%	2 3.7%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
I received information about salary expectations	31 57.4%	17 31.5%	3 5.6%	2 3.7%	1 1.9%
I was provided with information about job requirements	35 64.8%	18 33.3%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 1.9%

Which best describes your experiences with the following programs

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	No Response
Academic Advising	31 57.4%	14 25.9%	7 13.0%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
Guidance and counseling	33 61.1%	15 27.8%	4 7.4%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
Nursing courses	40 74.1%	12 22.2%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%	1 2.9%
Non-nursing requirements (e.g., psychology, sociology)	33 61.1%	19 35.2%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Equipment/facilities	34 63.0%	17 31.5%	3 5.6%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Student services	30 55.6%	21 38.9%	3 5.6%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Student financial aid	30 55.6%	14 25.9%	7 13.0%	3 5.6%	0 0.0%
Career preparation	38 70.4%	14 25.9%	1 1.9%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
Nursing trends/opportunities data	39 72.2%	14 25.9%	0 0.0%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%

CURRICULUM

	<i>To a Very Great Extent</i>	<i>To a Great Extent</i>	<i>To a Moderate Extent</i>	<i>To a Limited Extent</i>	<i>To No Extent At All</i>
Gerontological	26 48.1%	21 38.9%	7 13.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Medical	31 57.4%	17 31.5%	5 9.3%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
Surgical (Pre and Post-Op)	16 29.6%	11 20.4%	14 25.9%	10 18.5%	3 5.6%
Obstetrical	17 31.5%	15 27.8%	21 38.9%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
Pediatric	14 25.9%	16 29.6%	21 38.9%	3 5.6%	0 0.0%
Psychiatric	21 38.9%	19 35.2%	14 25.9%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%

SATISFACTION WITH NURSING PROGRAM AT DALTON STATE COLLEGE

I am satisfied...

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
With the nursing program at DSC	39 72.2%	13 24.1%	0 0.0%	1 1.9%	1 1.9%
With the teaching ability of the nursing faculty	34 63.0%	17 31.5%	1 1.9%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
That the courses in prepared me for employment	33 61.1%	19 35.2%	0 0.0%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
With the fairness of grading in my nursing courses	32 59.3%	20 37.0%	1 1.9%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
With opportunities for classroom evaluation of classroom and practical instruction	37 68.5%	15 27.8%	1 1.9%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
With faculty advising in my program	34 63.0%	17 31.5%	1 1.9%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%
With assistance in planning my career	31 57.4%	18 33.3%	2 3.7%	2 3.7%	1 1.9%
With feedback from instructors about my progress	35 64.8%	17 31.5%	0 0.0%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
With the academic ability of other students in the nursing program	34 63.0%	17 31.5%	2 3.7%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%

ABOUT DALTON STATE COLLEGE

Overall, how would you rate your satisfaction with the following experiences at Dalton State College?

	<i>Very High</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Very Low</i>
Academic Experiences	35 64.8%	15 27.8%	2 3.7%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%
Student Activities	23 42.6%	22 40.7%	6 11.1%	3 5.6%	0 0.0%
Quality of Instruction	37 68.5%	15 27.8%	0 0.0%	2 3.7%	0 0.0%

Would you recommend Dalton State College to someone who wanted to major in nursing?

Yes	52	96.3
No	2	3.7

If you had to do it all again, would you select the Dalton State College nursing program?

Yes	50	92.6
No	4	7.4

What is your general attitude toward Dalton State College?

Very Positive	38	70.4%
Positive	14	25.9%
Negative	2	3.7%
Very Negative	0	0.0%

Overall, how did your experiences at Dalton State College meet your need in the following areas?

	<i>Very Well</i>	<i>Satisfactorily</i>	<i>Poorly</i>
Intellectual growth	44 81.5%	10 18.5%	0 0.0%
Personal growth	41 75.9%	12 22.2%	1 1.9%
Preparation for career	41 75.9%	12 22.2%	1 1.9%

If you had to do it all again, would you select Dalton State College nursing program?

Responses

Yes, I believe this NSQ program is one of the best in our area. It is tough; but excellent.

Yes, it is very hard nursing program, but you will learn your stuff!

Yes, I choose to come to DSC over Chattanooga State because I had heard the nursing program here was very good. I know students who went through the program at Chatt. State and their learning experience doesn't even compare to what I feel that I have learned. I am thoroughly satisfied with the nursing program and I am thankful that I decided to come to DSC.

Yes, I think it was great program and gives great preparation for the future.

Yes, the program itself is excellent. The staff is excellent in clinical situations. Although, classroom time is not utilized as it should be. Sometimes, the instructors would lecture over one thing and test over another. Exams should reinforce what was covered in the lecture. Also, my advisor lacked appropriate knowledge of the GPA system and did not show a true interest in my academic career.

Yes, it the best in the area.

Yes, good pass rate for NCLEX.

Yes, Dalton's nursing program has a great reputation and is well respected, and I feel like I have received as much education and training possible in 4 semesters.

Yes, DSC prepares you well to become a nurse.

Yes, it was a great program, but I regret moving away from my in Atlanta.

Yes, I feel that this nursing program was very good I would tell everyone to come here.

Yes, wonderful college, wonderful teachers, high passing rate.

Yes, it has been difficult; I have enjoyed my studies here at Dalton.

Yes, I am glad attended the program.

Yes, a great school, great instructors and terrific reputation.

Yes, I feel that I have been well prepared begin employment as an entry level/ graduate RN.

Yes, Dalton State College has great nursing reputation I feel I have gotten a good education in the nursing field. I am proud to say I came from Dalton State College.

No, I felt the staff dwelled on the minor details way to much such as hair and nails. I always felt like I needed to know more details. The instructors needed to seek out more experiences.

Yes, I feel prepared for a job in nursing.

Yes, because of LPN experiences I fell this program was good for me. If I wasn't already a nurse I don't think that I would have made it through the program.

Yes, strong teaching and great books.

Yes, the nursing program is very good and even the hospitals know it. They see a difference in DSC graduates.

Yes, it was very academically challenging, yet the instructors were wonderful in assisting us and encouraging us. They really seemed to care that we did well.

Yes, Is good.....Is very good!