

**PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSAL FORM**

Name of Institution: **University of South Carolina Aiken**

Briefly state the nature of the proposed modification (e.g., adding a new concentration, extending the program to a new site, curriculum change, etc.):

**Purpose of this modification is to offer the USC Aiken B.S. in Nursing at the USC Sumter and USC Union campuses.**

Current Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks):

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Generic)**

Proposed Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks):

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Generic)**

Program Designation:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's Degree   | <input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 4 Year   | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 5 Year  | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.) |  |

Does the program currently qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No

If No, should the program be considered for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Proposed Date of Implementation: August 2019

CIP Code: 513801

Current delivery site(s) and modes: USC Aiken Campus, via traditional classroom delivery modes, along with on-site labs and off-site clinicals.

Proposed delivery site(s) and modes: In addition to the current USC Aiken campus, proposed delivery sites are the USC Union campus and the USC Sumter campus, with both traditional and distance education instruction, with all labs on site at USC Union and USC Sumter and all clinical in the USC Union area and the USC Sumter area.

Program Contact Information (name, title, telephone number, and email address):

Thayer McGahee, RN, PhD  
Dean, School of Nursing  
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The program contact information person for the USC Union campus is:  
John Catalano  
Acting Dean, USC Union  
864-424-8019  
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The program contact information person for the USC Sumter campus is:  
Michael Sonntag  
Dean, USC Sumter  
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Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval:

Jan 2019	School of Nursing
Jan 2019	Provost
Jan 2019	Chancellor

### **Background Information**

Provide a detailed description of the proposed modification, including target audience, centrality to institutional mission, and relation to strategic plan.

This proposed program modification is to provide for the offering of upper-level nursing courses at USC Union and USC Sumter in order to promote access to students into the USC Aiken School of Nursing program (SON) and allow USC Union and USC Sumter to offer the lower level nursing courses required for the BSN. USC Aiken SON shall establish a baccalaureate nursing program of study at USC Union and USC Sumter. USC Union and USC Sumter will provide all of the non-nursing courses on each of their campuses, including the required core and general education courses. The upper division nursing courses will be provided by USC Aiken through a combination of distance education and live instruction. All lab activities will be held on the USC Union and USC Sumter campuses, and all clinical experiences will take place in Union, Laurens and neighboring counties for USC Union and in Sumter county and neighboring counties for USC Sumter.

Students may apply for admission to USC Union or USC Sumter by indicating nursing as an interest. After successful completion of the required courses necessary to have before applying to the SON, students may apply to the USC Aiken SON on the USC Union campus or the USC Sumter campus. Students must meet the same entry requirements as other students applying for nursing on the USC Aiken campus. All nursing courses will be taken by students on the USC Union campus and the USC Sumter will be the same courses taken by students on the USC Aiken campus, but students admitted to the USC Union and USC Sumter cohorts will take all nursing courses, clinicals, and labs on their respective campuses. Students will be admitted once a year in the fall.

The target audience includes students attending USC Union and USC Sumter who wish to pursue a baccalaureate in nursing degree and desire to stay on their respective campuses. The degree will be a USC Aiken degree, but offered on the other two campuses. This is central to the mission and strategic plan to strategically grow the student body, and to be a key resource for pre-professionals. It also supports the Institute of Medicine recommendation to increase the percentage of BSN prepared nurses by 2020.

### **Assessment of Need**

Provide an assessment of the need for the program modification for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable.

Dean Catalano approached USC Aiken about this partnership as a result of being approached by leaders in Union County to find ways to recruit and retain more nurses in Union County. There is a need for more registered nurses in Union County's healthcare system. The Union County Healthcare Foundation has donated \$25,000 to USC Union for this nursing program. USC Union has already recently received a \$750,000 gift designated to support nursing.

Dean Sonntag approached USC Aiken about this partnership also as a way to recruit and retain more nurses in Sumter Country.

There is a need for BSN prepared nurses in the state of South Carolina.

### **Transfer and Articulation**

Identify any special articulation agreements for the modified proposed program. Provide the articulation agreement or Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding.

**Description of the Program  
USC Aiken Students from USC Union**

<b>Projected Enrollment</b>						
<b>Year</b>	Fall Headcount		Spring Headcount		Summer Headcount	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
2019	16	16	0	16	0	0
2020	16	30	0	30	0	0
2021	16	44	0	30	0	0
2022	16	44	0	30	0	0

**USC Aiken Students from USC Sumter**

<b>Projected Enrollment</b>						
<b>Year</b>	Fall Headcount		Spring Headcount		Summer Headcount	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
2019	16	16	0	16	0	0
2020	16	30	0	30	0	0
2021	16	44	0	30	0	0
2022	16	44	0	30	0	0

Explain how the enrollment projections were calculated.

For each campus, 16 students will be admitted each fall as a cohort. We expect at least two students to drop out from each cohort after the first year. So for Fall and Spring 2019 we have 16 new students. Year Two (2020) will have 14 students from the first cohort plus 16 new students for a total of 30. Fall of 2021 will be the final semester of the program for 14 students in cohort 1 plus 14 students from cohort 2, plus 16 new students in cohort 3 ( $14+14+16 = 44$ ). After the program is at fully in-process, we expect 44 students each Fall and 30 students each Spring.

### Curriculum

Attach a curriculum sheet identifying the courses required for the program.

#### Curriculum Changes

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program	Core Courses Modified
N/A	N/A	N/A

#### New Courses

List and provide course descriptions for new courses.

N/A

**Similar Programs in South Carolina offered by Public and Independent Institutions**

Identify the similar programs offered and describe the similarities and differences for each program.

There are a number of nursing programs in South Carolina, USC Beaufort, USC Upstate, USC Columbia, ..... however, USC Columbia is the only program that offers its program on other system campuses (USC Lancaster and USC Salkehatchie)

<b>Program Name and Designation</b>	<b>Total Credit Hours</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Similarities</b>	<b>Differences</b>
BSN	120	USC Columbia	Curriculum similar	In addition to Columbia Campus, Program is also offered at USC Salkehatchie and USC Lancaster

## **Faculty**

State whether new faculty, staff or administrative personnel are needed to implement the program modification; if so, discuss the plan and timeline for hiring the personnel. Provide a brief explanation of any personnel reassignment as a result of the proposed program modification.

Yes, this partnership will necessitate new faculty and staff in order to be implemented.

USC Union and USC Sumter will each hire and fund an advisor/program coordinator to ensure there are 16 students per site ready to enter the USC Aiken program after two years. This person will be responsible for advising all students as they are admitted to these colleges who are on the pre-nursing track. This person will also be responsible for getting contracts with each of the clinical facilities needed for student clinical experiences. This person will also keep up with student scheduling once students are admitted into the nursing program and keep track of required credentialing materials. This person may possibly teach courses. The minimum requirement is a MSN.

There will be a need for one faculty member at each site to teach both NURS 201 Introduction to Nursing Practice and NURS 307 Health Assessment for labs and clinicals in the first semester of nursing. This person will also be responsible for administering and grading all exams in nursing courses, grading all papers and other assessments, and administering the ATI proctored exams with each course in which these exams are embedded.

There will also need to be a faculty member for each campus trained in high fidelity simulation who can run and teach simulation labs beginning in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the nursing sequence.

Adjunct/clinical faculty will be needed for each clinical course.

One new nursing faculty is to be added at USC Aiken in Year 4, to help alleviate any additional burden on current faculty.

## **Resources**

Identify new library, instructional equipment and facilities needed to support the modified program.

**Library Resources:** No additional library resources are required.

**Equipment:** At least one dedicated lab to be used for health assessment and skills labs. Each lab would need to be fully equipped with 4 hospital beds and other lab equipment as needed. (A list of necessary skills lab equipment is attached.) In addition, a high fidelity simulation lab will be needed for each of the Union and Sumter campuses for semesters 2, 3, & 4 of the nursing sequence with both adult and pediatric manikens.

Two classroom at USC Aiken will need to be outfitted for distance learning before students begin the nursing courses. Additional classrooms will need to be outfitted in Year 2 or 3 until all 4 USC Aiken classroom are outfitted for distance learning. The funding for this has been promised by USC Union and USC Sumter.

**Facilities:** At least one dedicated lab to be used for health assessment and skills labs.

**Impact on Existing Programs**

Will the proposed program impact existing degree programs or services at the institution (e.g., course offerings or enrollment)? If yes, explain

☒ Yes

☐ No

The proposed program will have some impact on the existing degree program/services at USC Aiken. For most upper level courses, faculty will have to teach their face-to-face classes in rooms outfitted for distance education so that the Union and Sumter students will be able to participate in the classes. This means that faculty on the USC Aiken campus will have additional papers, tests, assignments to grade. Additionally, a faculty member at USC Aiken will have a reduced teaching load in order to be the coordinator/liaison between the USC Aiken campus and Union/Sumter campuses. The increased number of students in the classes will necessitate more course administrative time for faculty, and more time in office hours to meet with students one-on-one.



**Financial Support  
Overall Program**

<b>Estimated Sources of Financing for the New Costs</b>						
<b>Category</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Tuition Funding	\$166,368	\$311,940	\$384,726	\$384,726	\$384,726	\$1,632,486
Program-Specific Fees	\$19,200	\$36,000	\$44,400	\$44,400	\$44,400	\$188,400
Special State Appropriation						
Reallocation of Existing Funds	\$104,000*	\$54,000*	\$54,000*	\$4,000	\$4000	\$220,000
Federal, Grant, or Other Funding						
<b>Total</b>	\$289,568	\$401,940	\$483,126	\$433,126	\$433,126	\$2,040,886
<b>Estimated New Costs by Year</b>						
<b>Category</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Total</b>
Program Administration and Faculty and Staff Salaries	\$63,000	\$306,400	\$328,400	\$410,600	\$410,600	\$1,519,000
Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials	\$104,000^	\$54,000^	\$54,000^	\$4,000	\$4000	\$220,000
Library Resources						
Other (specify)						
<b>Total</b>	\$167,000	\$360,400	\$382,400	\$414,600	\$414,600	\$1,739,000
<b>Net Total (i.e., Sources of Financing Minus Estimated New Costs)</b>	\$122,568	\$41,540	\$100,726	\$18,526	\$18,526	\$301,886

\*Funding provided by USC Sumter and USC Union through private monies or from pre-nursing revenue.

^\$50,000/ea. to outfit USC Aiken nursing classrooms for video conferencing. 2 in year 1; 2 in years 2 and 3.

### Budget Justification

Provide a brief explanation for all new costs and sources of financing identified in the Financial Support table.

All new financing are tuition and fees.

All new costs are based on equipment needs and personnel needs to support the programs.

New faculty salaries estimated at \$82,200 (Need: 1 @ Sumter, 1 @ Union, 1 @ Aiken)

Clinical/Adjunct section @ \$4000 ea.

USC Aiken professor overloads @ \$3000 ea. or \$36,000/year.

### Evaluation and Assessment

Program Objectives	Student Learning Outcomes Aligned to Program Objectives	Methods of Assessment
See attached	Student learning outcomes are specific to each course and are cross-referenced in attached chart	In addition to successful completion of all courses, this includes student artifacts from senior capstone course and performance on NCLEX-RN Predictor exam.

Will any the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed? If yes, explain.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation? If yes, explain; and, if the modification will result in the program seeking program-specific accreditation, provide the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification? If yes, identify the licensure or certification.

☒ Yes

☐ No

Explain how the program will prepare students for this licensure or certification.

This program prepares students to take the NCLEX-RN examination which is required to practice as an RN.

If the program is an Educator Preparation Program, does the proposed certification area require national recognition from a Specialized Professional Association (SPA)? If yes, describe the institution's plans to seek national recognition, including the expected timeline.

☐ Yes

☒ No