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Letter from RN Program Director: Changes for 2021 – 2023 RN Application Process

The mission of the Merced College Registered Nursing program is to prepare our students for careers as professional Registered Nurses that will best serve the community to a recognized standard of excellence. Two areas of focus for the program include:

- 1) Diversity of applicants and students who are accepted into the program. One of the goals of the Merced College Registered Nursing Program is to have a nursing workforce that reflects the diversity of the community they serve.
- 2) Students who are accepted into our program be successful in completing the program **and** passing their State board licensing exams. One of the goals of the California Community College Chancellor office’s multi-criteria application process is “increase the likelihood of success in an RN program”. In the past three years, Merced College’s State board pass rates were 92.31% (2016/2017), 78.33% (2017/2018), and 94.34% (2018/2019).

After every application cycle, the RN faculty, Allied Health counselors, a campus researcher, and the Allied Health staff meet to discuss/review the overall application process of the previous year. This includes: how advising from counselors flowed, how the submission of applications worked, how online forms were utilized, and what potential changes are needed for the next application process. With this past application cycle, our team included representatives from Administration. This was done to improve communication and transparency with any proposed changes.

As a result of this most recent review, the following changes will be made:

For the Spring 2021 application period—30% of “seats” will be selected by points, 70% of “seats” selected by lottery. Only “first-attempt” ATI TEAS scores will be accepted.

For the Spring 2022 application period—40% of “seats” will be selected by points, 60% of the “seats” selected by lottery. Only “first-attempt” ATI TEAS scores will be accepted.

For the Spring 2023 application period—50% of “seats” will be selected by points, 50% of the “seats” selected by lottery. Only “first-attempt” ATI TEAS scores will be accepted.

There will be updates of changes to the point grid and application paperwork starting in Spring 2021. After the current application cycle in complete, we will provide more information on these changes. Please view the RN website, watch Study Central Student Success videos, and look for the new application in Fall 2020.

Kitty Cazares, RN Program Director
Merced College

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