



DALTON STATE
C O L L E G E

2008 GRADUATING NURSES (RN) SURVEY
SUMMARY REPORT

Highlights

- ❖ 75 Registered Nurses graduated from Dalton State College. 68 graduates responded to the survey.
- ❖ 61.8% of the respondents said that they would recommend the Dalton State College RN program to others.
- ❖ 63.2% of the graduates said they would select Dalton State College again for their RN program.
- ❖ 76.5% of the respondents said their attitude toward Dalton State College was Very Positive or Positive.

BACKGROUND

Age at the time you graduated

20-25	37	54.4%
26-30	9	13.2%
31-40	15	22.1%
41-55	7	10.3%
Over 55	0	0%
No reply	0	0%

Marital Status

Unmarried (including single, divorced, and widowed)	40	58.8%
Married	25	36.8%
Separated	2	2.9%
No reply	1	1.5%

County of Residence:

Catoosa	16	23.5%
Gordon	6	8.8%
Murray	8	11.8%
Walker	9	13.2%
Whitfield	16	23.5%
Other	12	17.7%
No reply	1	1.5%

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

GED	4	5.9%
High school, graduated within two years of acceptance	24	35.3%
High school, graduated over two years prior to acceptance	18	26.5%
College, 1-4 years (including certificate/technical)	15	22.0%
College graduate	7	10.3%

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

Full-time	52	76.5%
Part-time	16	23.5%

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

Yes	0	0.0%
No	68	100%

BACKGROUND (continued)

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

Independent review	21	30.9%
Computer review	1	1.5%
Formal review classes	27	39.7%
Other	3	4.4%
No preparation	2	2.9%
No reply	14	20.6%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT

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

Yes	33	48.5%
No	35	51.5%

Current working status

Full-time in nursing	13	19.1%
Part-time in nursing	32	47.1%
Employment in another field	12	17.6%
Not employed at this time	11	16.2%

If working, please indicate the month you began your job

January	5	7.4%
February	5	7.4%
March	4	5.9%
April	11	16.2%
May	4	5.9%
June	6	8.8%
July	2	2.9%
August	3	4.4%
September	2	2.9%
October	2	2.9%
November	2	2.9%
December	5	7.4%
No reply	17	25.0%

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

Seeking higher education	4	5.9%
Scheduling	12	17.6%
Family obligations	5	7.4%
Other	16	23.5%
No reply	31	45.6%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT (continued)

If you are working in nursing, please specify which area

Hospital	45	66.3%
Public health / home health	2	2.9%
Industry	1	1.5%
Physician's office / clinic	2	2.9%
Nursing home	2	2.9%
No reply	16	23.5%

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

General duty	19	27.9%
Specialty care unit (ICU, CCU, L&D, NICU)	8	11.8%
Emergency	9	13.2%
Operating room	1	1.5%
Other	9	13.2%
No reply	22	32.4%

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

Medical-surgical	16	23.5%
Psychiatric	1	1.5%
Pediatric	3	4.4%
Other	13	19.1%
No reply	35	51.5%

Your primary position is

Staff nurse	18	26.5%
Head nurse / supervisor	0	0.0%
Team leader	1	1.5%
Charge nurse	2	2.9%
Other	29	42.6%
No reply	18	26.5%

Shift worked

Days	24	35.3%
Rotating shifts	9	13.2%
Evenings	4	5.9%
Nights	15	22.1%
Other	0	0.0%
No reply	16	23.5%

NURSING EMPLOYMENT (continued)

Present hourly salary including any shift differential

Below \$13 with benefits	4	5.9%
Below \$13 without benefits	16	23.5%
\$13.01-\$16.00 with benefits	14	20.6%
\$13.01-\$16.00 without benefits	3	4.4%
\$16.01-\$19.00 with benefits	5	7.4%
\$16.01-\$19.00 without benefits	1	1.5%
\$19.01-\$21.00 with benefits	1	1.5%
\$19.01-\$21.00 without benefits	0	0.0%
Above \$21.00 with benefits	6	8.7%
Above \$21.00 without benefits	0	0.0%
No reply	18	26.5%

In which of the following professional growth activities, have you participated (choose all that apply)

The regular reading of nursing literature	15	22.1%
Attendance at workshops/seminars/in-services	27	39.7%
Participation in a professional organization	4	5.9%
Continuation of formal education	11	16.2%
Other	1	1.5%
No reply	10	14.6%

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>No reply</i>
I received information about employment opportunities in nursing	24 35.3%	19 27.9%	14 20.6%	8 11.8%	0 0.0%	3 4.4%
I was provided information about working conditions in the nursing field	20 29.4%	18 26.5%	24 35.3%	3 4.4%	0 0.0%	3 4.4%
I received information about salary expectations	10 14.7%	10 14.7%	20 29.4%	19 27.9%	6 8.9%	3 4.4%
I was provided with information about job requirements	19 27.9%	17 25.0%	18 26.5%	11 16.2%	0 0.0%	3 4.4%

Which best describes your experiences with the following programs

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>No Reply</i>
Academic Advising	24 35.3%	22 32.4%	9 13.2%	10 14.7%	3 4.4%
Guidance and counseling	16 23.5%	26 38.2%	12 17.6%	11 16.2%	3 4.4%
Nursing courses	15 22.1%	33 48.5%	14 20.6%	3 4.4%	3 4.4%
Non-nursing requirements (e.g., psychology, sociology)	17 25.0%	37 54.4%	10 14.7%	1 1.5%	3 4.4%
Equipment/facilities	18 26.5%	33 48.5%	12 17.6%	2 2.9%	3 4.4%
Student services	18 26.5%	35 51.5%	11 16.2%	1 1.5%	3 4.4%
Student financial aid	18 26.5%	31 45.6%	9 13.2%	6 8.8%	4 5.9%
Career preparation	16 23.5%	29 42.6%	13 19.1%	7 10.4%	3 4.4%
Nursing trends/opportunities data	15 22.1%	27 39.6%	15 22.1%	8 11.8%	3 4.4%

Curriculum

To what extent did the nursing curriculum at Dalton State College prepare you for nursing care and at the entry level in the following areas

	<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>	<i>No reply</i>
Gerontological	10 14.7%	23 33.8%	17 25.0%	15 22.1%	1 1.5%	2 2.9%
Medical	16 23.5%	22 32.4%	18 26.5%	10 14.7%	1 1.5%	1 1.5%
Surgical (Pre and Post-Op)	13 19.1%	18 26.5%	13 19.1%	18 26.5%	5 7.3%	1 1.5%
Obstetrical	14 20.6%	22 32.4%	14 20.6%	16 23.5%	1 1.5%	1 1.5%
Pediatric	7 10.3%	13 19.1%	9 13.2%	28 41.2%	10 14.7%	1 1.5%
Psychiatric	10 14.7%	21 30.9%	16 23.5%	19 27.9%	1 1.5%	1 1.5%

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>	<i>No reply</i>
With the nursing program at DSC	14 20.6%	30 44.1%	9 13.2%	7 10.3%	7 10.3%	1 1.5%
With the teaching ability of the nursing faculty	13 19.1%	33 48.5%	10 14.7%	6 8.8%	5 7.4%	1 1.5%
That the courses prepared me for employment	13 19.1%	28 41.2%	18 26.5%	6 8.8%	2 2.9%	1 1.5%
With the fairness of grading in my nursing courses	20 29.4%	31 45.6%	8 11.8%	5 7.4%	3 4.4%	1 1.5%
With opportunities for classroom evaluation of classroom and practical instruction	15 22.1%	30 44.1%	14 20.6%	7 10.3%	1 1.5%	1 1.5%
With faculty advising in my program	19 27.9%	29 42.6%	4 5.9%	7 10.3%	8 11.8%	1 1.5%
With assistance in planning my career	15 22.1%	17 25.0%	11 16.2%	16 23.5%	7 10.3%	2 2.9%
With feedback from instructors about my progress	15 22.1%	27 39.7%	9 13.2%	9 13.2%	7 10.3%	1 1.5%
With the academic ability of other students in the nursing program	14 20.6%	29 42.6%	20 29.4%	3 4.4%	1 1.5%	1 1.5%

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>	<i>No reply</i>
Academic Experiences	16 23.5%	36 53.0%	6 8.8%	6 8.8%	1 1.5%	3 4.4%
Student Activities	14 20.6%	17 25.0%	23 33.8%	8 11.8%	2 2.9%	4 5.9%
Quality of Instruction	17 25.0%	33 48.5%	12 17.7%	3 4.4%	1 1.5%	2 2.9%

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

Yes	42	61.8%
No	23	33.8%
No reply	3	4.4%

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

Yes	43	63.2%
No	22	32.4%
No reply	3	4.4%

What is your general attitude toward Dalton State College?

Very Positive	20	29.4%
Positive	32	47.1%
Negative	9	13.2%
Very Negative	1	1.5%
No reply	6	8.8%

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

	<i>Very Well</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>No reply</i>
Intellectual growth	32 47.1%	26 38.2%	3 4.4%	7 10.3%
Personal growth	22 32.4%	36 52.9%	3 4.4%	7 10.3%
Preparation for career	22 32.4%	30 44.1%	9 13.2%	7 10.3%