## Illinois Eastern Community Colleges -- University of Illinois Chicago Online RN-BSN Program

## Memorandum of Understanding

It is the shared intention of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges (IECC) and the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing, working with the UIC School of Continuing Studies, to create a well defined pathway from the IECC ADN to the online UIC RN-BSN degree, and to build a strong support system for those IECC nursing students interested in pursuing this educational goal.

This cooperative relationship is undertaken for the purpose of increasing access to educational opportunities for IECC ADN students. In so doing, it seeks to address the region's need for a professional nursing work force that is educationally prepared to serve as nursing leaders in the community. This memorandum targets those IECC students who exhibit a high degree of motivation and academic achievement, have an aptitude for and interest in online education, and who seek a quality baccalaureate to post-baccalaureate education from a research university. The fully online UIC RN-BSN program will allow IECC ADN students to achieve their academic and career goals while continuing to live and work in the region.

IECC and UIC will cooperate to identify qualified prospective students and provide them with early academic advising that will expedite matriculation in the online UIC RN-BSN program upon completion of the IECC ADN. Furthermore, IECC and the UIC RN-BSN program will work together to establish a student friendly transfer process and will jointly market the online UIC RN-BSN program to IECC nursing students. To accomplish this, UIC RN-BSN program will endeavor to:

- Provide transfer guides to assist students in completing prerequisite courses for the online UIC RN-BSN program before graduation from the ADN program;
- Provide training for the IECC advisors on the online UIC RN-BSN program;
- Create informational microsites on the UIC Online gateway for IECC students, advisors, and administrators;
- Provide RN-BSN program staff for college, corporate, and/or organization webinars, open houses, meetings, class visits or transfer fairs;
- Provide suitable informational materials for IECC ADN students interested in pursuing the online RN-BSN degree;
- Provide information on available scholarship and financial aid options.

Illinois Eastern Community Colleges will endeavor to:

- Advise ADN students and recent graduates interested in the UIC online RN-BSN program, based on information provided by the RN-BSN program;
- Provide assistance to IECC students in completing financial aid applications for the UIC RN-BSN program;

- Provide access to IECC's library services and computer labs for IECC ADN graduates participating in the UIC RN-BSN program;
- Collaborate to locate and/or provide appropriate pre-requisite courses for IECC ADN graduates

This memorandum of understanding is nonbinding but it reflects the strong commitment on the part of the UIC RN-BSN program and IECC to build a flexible relationship that responds to student needs while moving toward the mutual goal of increasing the number of nurses who earn the BSN degree in the Southeastern Illinois region.

This agreement will be reviewed annually by both parties in terms of program participation and outcomes.

Dr.G	Andr	ew Fisc	cher,	Chairman	

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