



NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM

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**Sponsoring Institution(s):** Missouri Southern State University

**Program Title:** Cooperative Graduate Nursing Program

**Degree/Certificate:** Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

**Options:** Nurse Practitioner Track

**Delivery Site(s):** Joplin, Missouri

**CIP Classification:** 51.3801

\*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory [highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp](http://highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp)

**Implementation Date:** Fall 2015

**Cooperative Partners:** Southeast Missouri State University

\*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Dr. Alan Marble, President

10-16-14

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Name/Title of Institutional Officer

Signature

Date

Dr. Crystal Lemmons, Assistant VPAA

417-625-9592

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Person to Contact for More Information

Telephone



**STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

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Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	12	12	12	18	18
Part Time	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12	12	12	18	18

Please provide a rationale regarding how student enrollment projections were calculated:

Student enrollments were projected based on faculty availability and program initiation. The determining factor for years 2 and 3 is based on projected faculty availability based on a 1:6 faculty to student ratio for clinical. The hiring of 2 full-time faculty members has been approved by Missouri Southern State University administration. For the years subsequent to the third year, again the projection is based on available faculty, with the intention of hiring a part-time clinical faculty member.

Provide a **rationale** for proposing this program, including **evidence of market demand and societal need supported by research**:

The aging population is growing and the needs for health care services are expanding for the population. There is a need for mid-level health care providers, such as nurse practitioners (Lacey & Wright, 2009). The Institute of Medicine reported that nurse practitioners are in need to provide primary-level care, and that nurses need to work at their highest level of practice. The Bureau of Labor Statistics states that mid-level providers will grow much faster than average with a 31% increase by 2022. This growth will occur primarily because of the effects of healthcare legislation, an increased emphasis on preventative care and demand from the large, aging baby-boom population needing healthcare services as they are living longer more active lives. In an anecdotal report from neighboring Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas,

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there were 200 applicants for 20 positions in their last class of master's-level nurse practitioner students. Two of the graduate nurse practitioner programs closest to our region have transitioned to the doctorate degree for the Practitioner option. The doctorate degree is a four to five year time commitment where the master's degree still remains more attractive to many students with only two years to finish their degree. There is a need in the area for a program.



Missouri Department of Higher Education

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## COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

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**Sponsoring Institutions:** Missouri Southern State University and Southeast Missouri State University

**Degree program:** Master of Science in Nursing

**Length of agreement:** Initial term two-years with renewal of two-year periods  
(open-ended or limited)

1. Which institution(s) will have degree-granting authority?  
Both- Missouri Southern State University (MSSU) and Southeast State Missouri Univeristy (SEMO)
2. Which institution(s) will have the authority for faculty hiring, course assignment, evaluation, and reappointment decisions?  
Both: MSSU and SEMO
3. What agreements exist to ensure that faculty from all participating institutions will be involved in decisions about the curriculum, admissions standards, exit requirements?  
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) executed October 17, 2013 between MSSU and SEMO (attachment)
4. Which institution(s) will be responsible for academic and student-support services, e.g., registration, advising, library, academic assistance, financial aid, etc.?  
Both: MSSU and SEMO
5. What agreements exist to ensure that the academic calendars of the participating institutions have been aligned as needed?  
MOU (October 17, 2013) between MSSU and SEMO (attachment)
6. In addition to the information provided by each participating institution regarding Financial Projections (Form FP), please address the following items:
  1. How will tuition rates be determined if they differ among the institutions?  
SEMO tuition will be charged for all courses offered as per the signed MOU between both institutions.
  2. Has a formal agreement been developed regarding cost-sharing policies? If yes, please include it as part of the proposal. If no, please summarize the current understanding between all parties and the plans for developing a formal agreement.  
Yes, please see the attached MOU.
  3. What arrangements, if any, have been made for exchange of money between participating institutions?

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Form CL – Collaborative Programs

SEMO and MSSU will “keep all tuition and fees generated” when each respective institution “teaches a course in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program” as provided for in the signed MOU.

7. What commitments have been made by all participants to evaluate the program systematically?

The faculty from MSSU will attend the Graduate Nursing Advisory Board meetings at SEMO. SEMO will administer end-of semester and graduate surveys. MSSU intends to seek cooperative accreditation with the Commission on Colleague Nursing Education.

8. If one institution wishes to discontinue the program, what agreements exist for terminating the offering?

Item #19 in the signed MOU outlines discontinuance procedures.



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E. Free elective credits:

Zero

(Sum of C, D, and E should equal A.)

F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:

None

G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:

NA



## PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

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Institution Name Missouri Southern State University  
Program Name Cooperative Graduate Nursing Program (with SEMO)  
Date October 15, 2014

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

### 1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.  
Bachelor's of Science in Nursing required; a statement of academic goals and objectives; GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale; courses in elementary statistics and health assessment.
- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.  
Nursing graduates with a BSN seeking to be a nurse practitioner.

### 2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.  
Faculty will meet all standards for professional credentialing as set by the CCNE (accrediting body). Faculty teaching in the program will include those that have MSN and doctorate degrees. Most faculty will need to have experience as a nurse practitioner.
- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.  
100% of the program credit hours will be taught by full-time faculty for first three years. After three years, full-time faculty will teach approximately 84% of the credit hours with part-time faculty teaching approximately 16%.
- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.  
In order to maintain their certification, nurse practitioners are expected to maintain their practice hours as well as a specific number of continuing education hours required by the credentialing agency. Interactive television will be one medium by which faculty will teach and faculty members will need to be trained in the use of that technology. Each

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institution has it's own course management system, and the faculty will require the appropriate orientation.

### 3. Enrollment Projections

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.  
A total of 36 students, 18 first year and 18 second year, will likely be enrolled in the cooperative program at the end of 5 years.
- Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.  
No part-time offerings are projected for this program.

### 4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.  
At the end of three years the number of graduates projected are 12. At the end of five years the number of graduates projected are 18.
- Special skills specific to the program.  
Each graduate of the program will be prepared to fully function as a nurse practitioner.
- Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.  
100%
- Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.  
To obtain certification as a nurse practitioner the graduate candidate must pass one of two exams, either the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) or American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). The passing standard is determine by each professional agency that is higher than the 50th percentile.
- Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.  
Within six months after graduation it is expected that 100% of the students will be employed as a nurse practitioner.
- Transfer rates, continuous study.  
Students will be able to transfer within the MSSU and SEMO programs as the classes are taught simutaneoulsy, as long as clinical space allows.

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## 5. Program Accreditation

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. **If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide a rationale.**

Within one year after the admission of the first student to the Cooperate Graduate Nursing degree program, MSSU expects to seek accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The CCNE requires the institution seeking accreditation to complete one full year of operation prior to them completing their site visit.

## 6. Alumni and Employer Survey

- Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, *including timing and method of surveys*. Within six to twelve months after graduation each graduate will be surveyed. The expected rate of satisfaction among graduates is expected to be at least 4.0 or higher on a 1-5 point scale (low to high).
- Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys. Within six to twelve months after graduation each employer will be surveyed. The expected rate of satisfaction among employers is expected to be at least 4.0 or higher on a 1-5 point scale (low to high).

## 7. Institutional Characteristics

- Characteristics demonstrating why your institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program.

The facilities at Missouri Southern State University are state-of-the art. The Health Science building is equipped with five interactive television classrooms to connect students at both universities. This equipment includes a polycom, computer, projection system, document camera, multiple large screen televisions with fully equipped audio-visual capabilities. MSSU also has an advanced assessment lab-classroom with six exam tables equipped to assess patients to resemble a health care provider's office. An additional laboratory emulates a physician's exam room where the student can be recorded for evaluation of their assessment by faculty at both universities. A large human simulation center provides real world assessment and treatment scenerios to build on the students competency level as well as interprofessional training opportunities with other allied health programs in the facility.

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This agreement is made and entered into as of the 17 day of October, 2013 by and between the Southeast Missouri State University a public corporation (hereinafter referred to as the Southeast) and Missouri Southern State University, a public corporation (hereinafter referred to as MSSU) to deliver certain cooperative nursing graduate programs as described herein.

Section 173.005 of RSMo authorizes joint graduate programs. Southeast and MSSU hereby agree to collaborate in the delivery of a cooperative Master's of Science in Nursing degree for preparation of Family Nursing Practitioner (FNP) and Nurse Educator (the "Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program"). Governance, obligations and duties of Southeast and MSSU in Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program are as specified below:

1. Governance of the curriculum of the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program will be the responsibility of Southeast Department of Nursing in consultation with MSSU.
2. Delivery of each course will be determined based on pedagogical needs and/or enrollment on each campus. If enrollment is large enough to warrant a separate class on each campus and each campus has the faculty expertise to teach that specific course, it may be taught face-to-face or online.
3. Mediated courses delivery for the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program may be taught by various modalities to meet the curricular outcomes.
4. Courses may be team-taught by Southeast and MSSU. Furthermore, the number of faculty needed for didactic courses will be determined based on the curricular outcomes.
5. Southeast and MSSU will contribute the adequate number of clinical FNP faculty to meet the standards identified by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NNPF) for teaching FNP clinical courses; 1 FNP faculty for every 6 students.
6. Each campus will provide the following resources:
  - a. Graduate level writing center
  - b. Access to MOBIUS
  - c. Access to same on-line journals as Southeast, if required for the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Programs
  - d. MSSU registration on-site
  - e. Video conferencing equipment
  - f. State-of-the-art video classroom
  - g. Budget for faculty to travel for meetings, professional development, and other meetings required to provide a quality nursing education.
    1. Brochures and website for advertising the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program with collaborative input.
7. Appointment to the graduate faculty will be governed by Southeast policies. Each MSSU faculty member who teaches any course for the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program must meet the Southeast criteria for Graduate Teaching Faculty.

8. This joint degree program will begin with the fall semester 2014. The family nurse practitioner and nurse educator options will be offered through this cooperative agreement.
9. Southeast course numbering system will be used in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program.
10. Southeast and MSSU will identify days and times for course scheduling and a 2 year projected course offering will be provided by Southeast.
11. Southeast policies and procedures for student admission, progression, retention, payment, financial aid, program completion, and graduation shall be applied to students enrolled in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program.
12. Southeast tuition will be charged for all courses offered in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program including any additional distance education, administrative fees and clinical fees. Students admitted on the MSSU campus will pay activity fees and other related fees to their home campus. Southeast will keep all tuition and fees generated when Southeast teaches a course in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program. MSSU will keep all tuition and fees generated when MSSU teaches a course in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program.
13. Each institution will maintain its own registration system for the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program.
14. Each institution shall maintain its own instructional television classroom and equipment to keep it operational and available during hours negotiated between the Chair of the Nursing Department at Southeast and the Dean School of Health Sciences at MSSU.
15. All courses taught in the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program will meet the residency requirements of both institutions.
16. Each institution will be responsible for compensating its faculty members who participate in this joint degree program. Southeast faculty members will remain at all times employees of Southeast, and MSSU's faculty members will remain at all times employees of MSSU. Each party is responsible for payment of the salary and fringe benefits of its own faculty members. Each party is responsible for making all appropriate payroll deduction withholdings and reporting with respect to its faculty members as required by Federal or state law or otherwise authorized by its faculty members. Under no circumstances will faculty members of one party be considered employees of the other party.
17. As required by statute, the diplomas issued for this joint degree program will contain the names of both institutions. The diploma shall read:

*Southeast Missouri State University and Missouri Southern State University  
Cooperative Master of Science in Nursing*

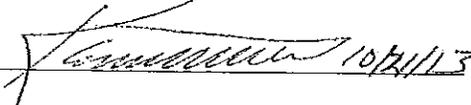
18. By mutual written consent, this agreement may be modified at any time.

19. The initial term of this agreement shall be for a period of two (2) years. After the initial term, this Agreement shall continue in effect for additional periods of two years each, unless terminated earlier as provided in this Agreement. Both parties shall have the right to terminate this Agreement, whether during the initial term or any renewal term, for convenience without liability upon giving the other party a one-year notice. However, notification by a party of its intent not to renew shall not affect students currently enrolled and participating in the program. Should the site exercise its one-year termination clause, students currently in the program would be allowed to complete the program. This agreement will be reviewed by both parties every two-years.

20. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties for the Cooperative Graduate Nursing Degree Program described herein. Neither party may assign its interest under this agreement without the written consent of the other party. Southeast is not an employee, agent, partner, joint venture, or legal representative of MSSU. Nothing in this agreement is intended to, or shall, operate to create a partnership or joint venture of any kind between Southeast and MSSU, nor authorize either party to act as agent for the other. Neither party has the authority to act in the name or on behalf of, or otherwise bind, the other party in any way. Each party retains the legal right and authority to act independently in taking various actions and shall independently supervise, control, and be responsible for each of its respective operations, employees, and agents. This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri.

21. This agreement is entered into by:

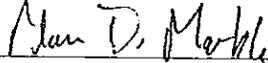
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Signed:  10/21/13

Name: Dr. Kenneth Dobbins

Title: President

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Signed: 

Name: Dr. Alan Marble

Title: President