



**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Memnonite College of Nursing

Pathways Program for Seamless Transition of the A.D.N. to RN-B.S.N.

As the care within and outside of hospitals becomes more complex and demanding, professional nurses are debating what qualifications and educational levels should be required for entry level nursing positions. These positions now demand skills in coordinating care among clinicians and agencies, assisting patients with managing chronic illness, and technological literacy—all of which affect the quality and effectiveness of the care they provide. Increasing the percentage of nurses with a B.S.N. is a logical step toward addressing the immediate needs of the healthcare system. It also provides a workforce prepared to pursue the graduate levels of education required for meeting the increasing demand for primary care providers, nurse researchers and nurse faculty. The Institute of Medicine recommends that the number of nurses with baccalaureate degrees reach 80% by 2020. (AACN, 2015). MCN has responded to this challenge by establishing the Pathways Program for educational progression.

In Fall 2015 partnerships with four Associate Degree Nursing Programs, to include Heartland Community College, Illinois Central College, Illinois Valley Community College, and Parkland Community College, were formed to promote dual admission and seamless transition from the A.D.N. program into the RN-B.S.N. Sequence at Illinois State University. These pilot partnerships were formalized with Memorandums of Understanding signed by each institution. Meetings with faculty and students are scheduled at each community college every year. In Fall 2016, the first cohort of students was admitted into the Pathways Program.

Information about the Pathways Program may be directed to:

[Janeen Mollenhauer](#), MS, LCPC

Assistant Dean for the Office of Student & Faculty Services
(309) 438-2417