

Registered Nurse  
Graduate Survey



Department of Nursing Education  
Joliet Junior College  
Nursing Graduates of Spring 2018  
(6 - 9 month follow-up)

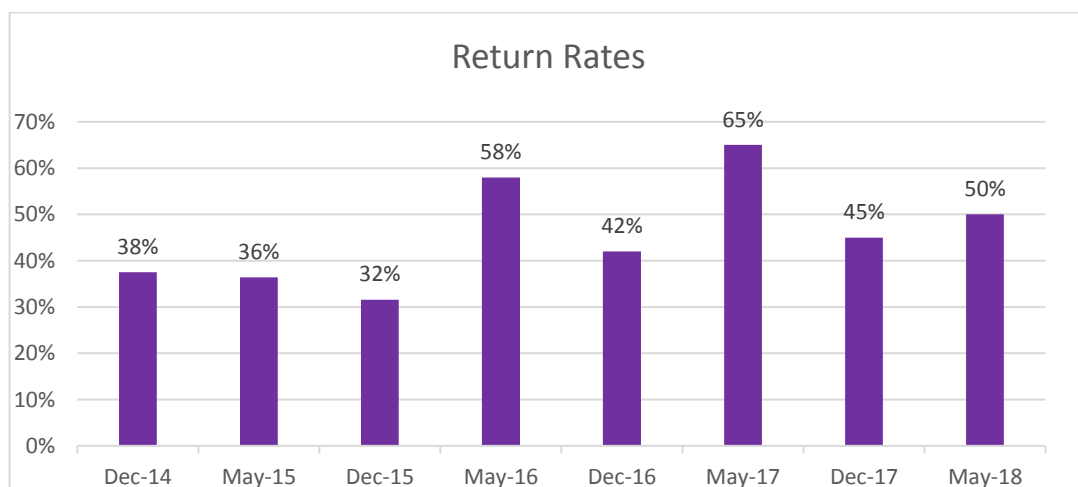
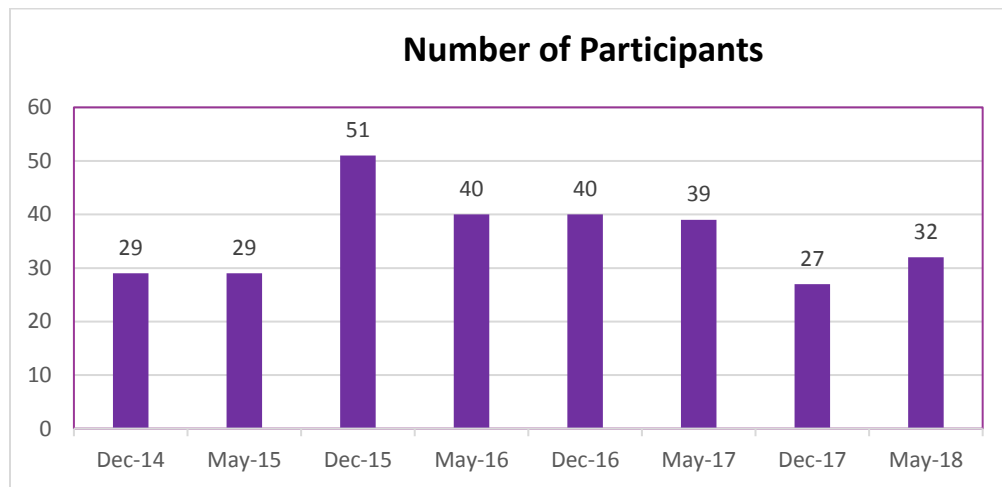


## Introduction

Graduate surveys (obtained via Survey Monkey) are sent approximately six (6) months to nine (9) months after the student graduates, which made the target date in December 2018 for the graduating class of May 2018. The survey was sent out to sixty-four (64) graduates on December 11, 2018 via the student's personal e-mail address, which they provided to us prior to graduation. On December 11, 2018, nineteen (19) graduates replied then five (5) additional responses were received between December 12 -16, 2018. A reminder was sent on December 28, 2018, and eight (8) additional responses were received by December 28, 2018. On January 11, 2019, the survey was closed with thirty-one (32) graduates participating. The overall response rate for this survey group is 50%.

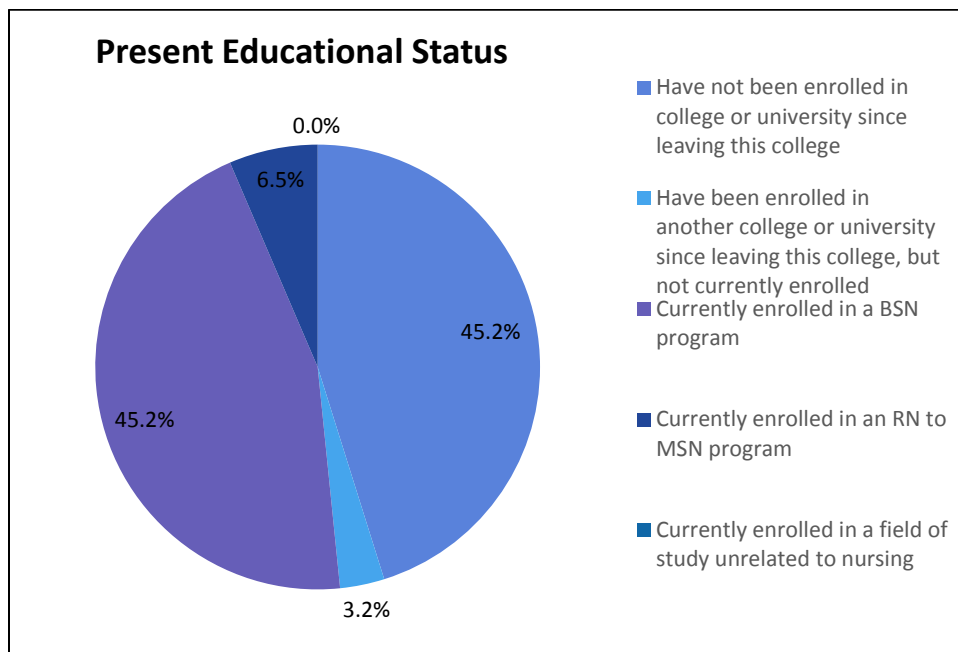
**Please Note: graduate responses in quotations are reprinted as they appeared on the survey, including spelling and grammatical errors..**

## Historical Data Trends:



**Results:**

**Educational status** (31 out of 32 responded): 45.2% (n=14) indicated that they are enrolled in a BSN program. 45.2% (n=14) have not been enrolled in college or university since leaving this college. Two graduates (n=2) indicated enrollment in a MSN program. Zero (n=0) of responding graduates is currently enrolled in a field of study unrelated to nursing and 3.2% (n=1) have been enrolled in another college or university since leaving this college, but not currently enrolled.

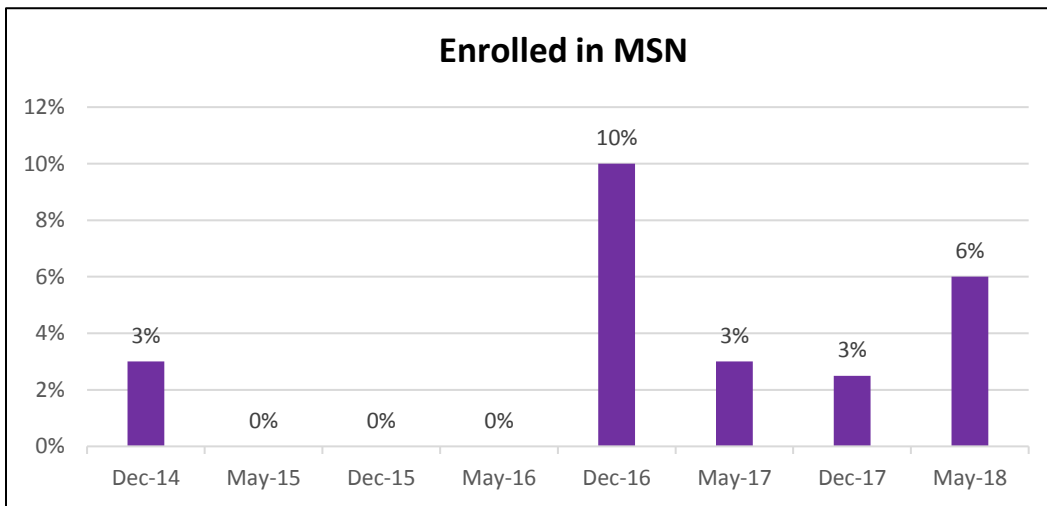
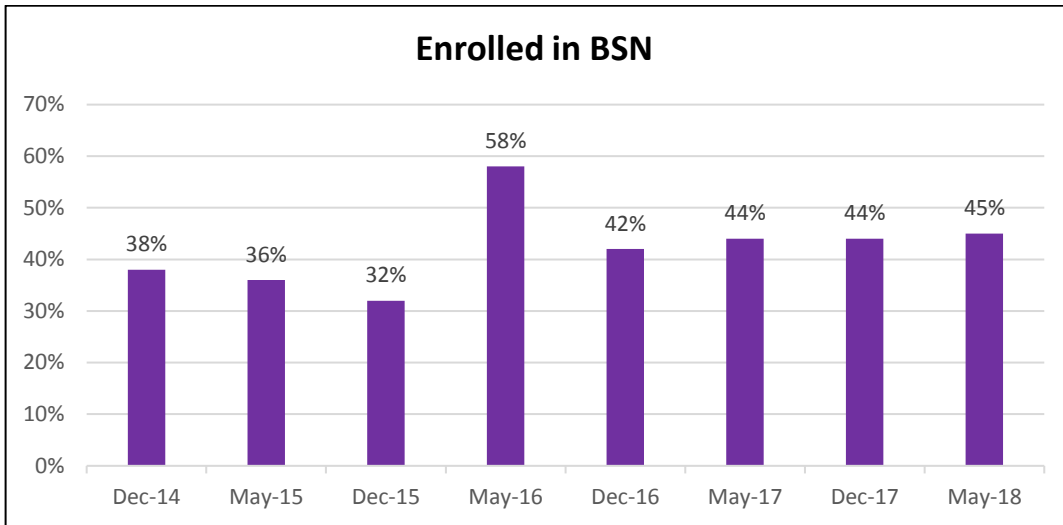


Enrollment in a BSN program by educational institution (19 out of 19 enrolled responded): 31.5% (n=6) were enrolled at Western Governors University/WGU; 21% enrolled at Lewis University; 10.5% (n=2) enrolled at Governor’s State University; 15.8% (n=3) enrolled at Purdue University Northwest; 5% (n=1) enrolled at Univeristy of Illinois-Chicago; 5% (n=1) enrolled at Indiana Wesleyan University; 5% (n=1) enrolled at University of St. Francis.

When asked why they were not enrolled in a BSN program, twelve (12) graduates responded. Of the responding students, nearly 58% (n=7) cite too many family responsibilities; 25% (n=3) cannot afford school right now. One (1) student indicated since it was not required by ththeir employer they were not enrolled, and one (1) student indicated tha they were not motivated to continue their education at this time. Some of the respondents indicated the additional reasons added as to why they are not enrolled:

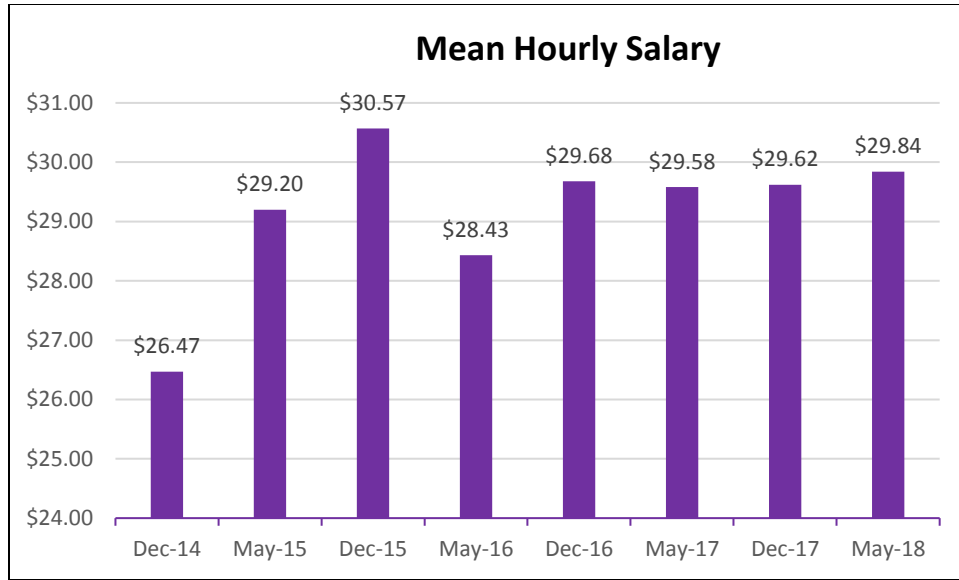
- *“Will be starting in fall of 2019”*
- *“Starting in March once tuition reimbursement is available through my employer.”*
- *“Just started a position with tuition reimbursement. I will be enrolling soon!”*

**Historical Data Trends:**

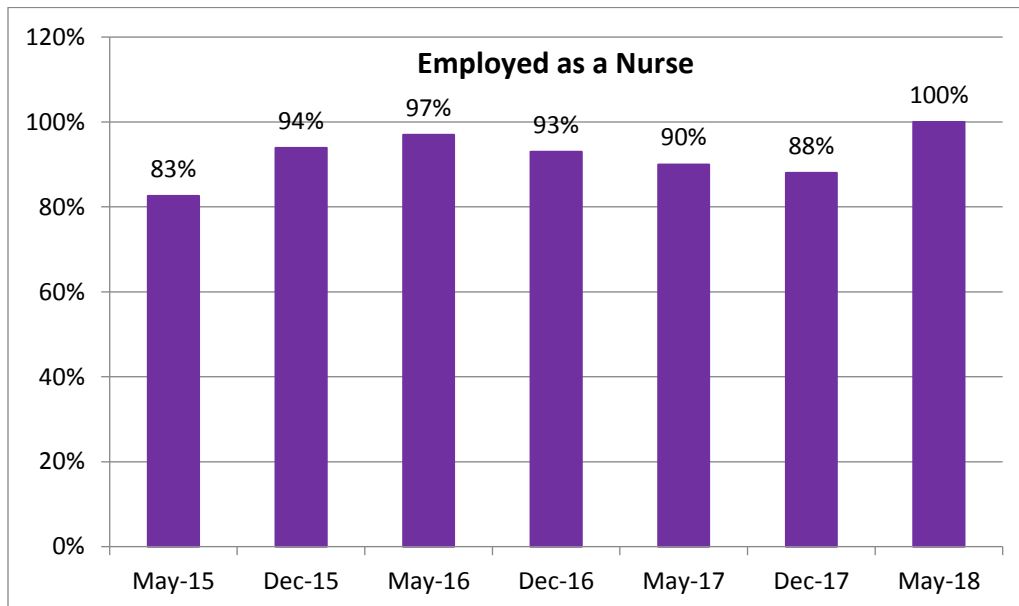


**Hourly salary:** (32 out of 32 responded) before deductions (does not include overtime). Range of responses: \$23.58 to \$51.73 per hour, with an average of \$29.84 per hour.

### Historical Data Trends:



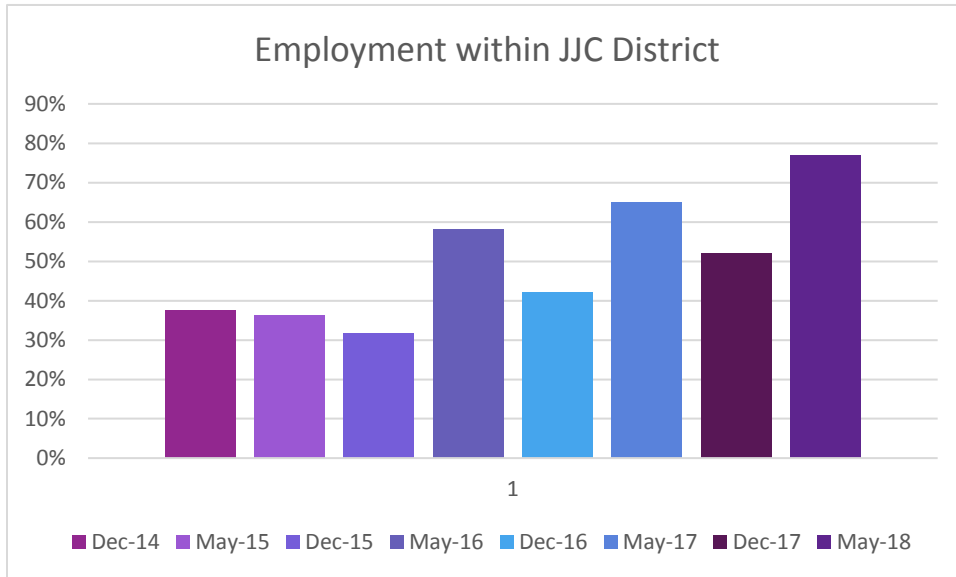
**Employment status** (32 out of 32 responded): 100% (n=32) of the graduates were employed as a nurse.



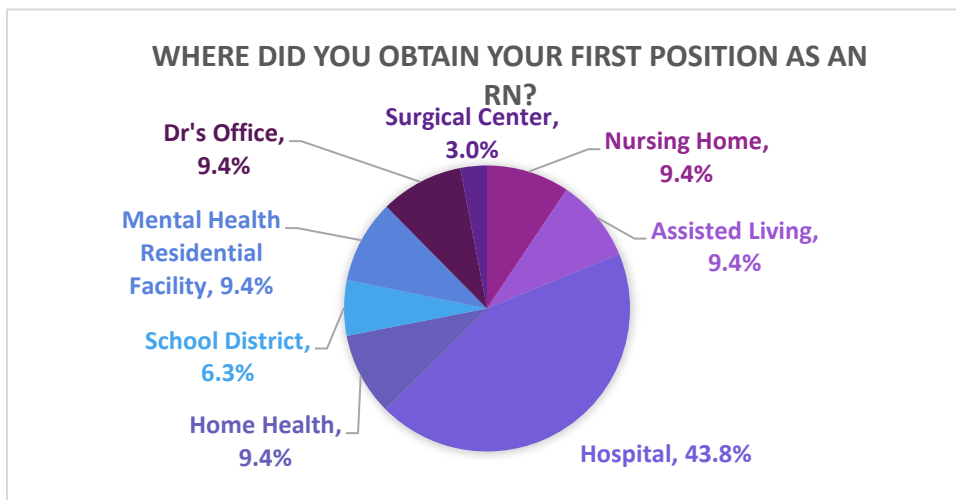
**JJC Community (32 out of 32) responded:** Employment within the JJC community district is 75% (n=24) and 25% (n=8) outside the JJC community district. Previously, we asked the graduates if they worked in or out of district. Since the in-district numbers were decreasing, the nursing faculty decided to just ask what city they are employed in. The faculty felt that some students may not be fully aware of how large the JJC district really is, thus they may had thought that they worked out of

district if they did not work in the immediate Joliet area. This began in May 2016, which has demonstrated a larger percentage of our students are working in district.

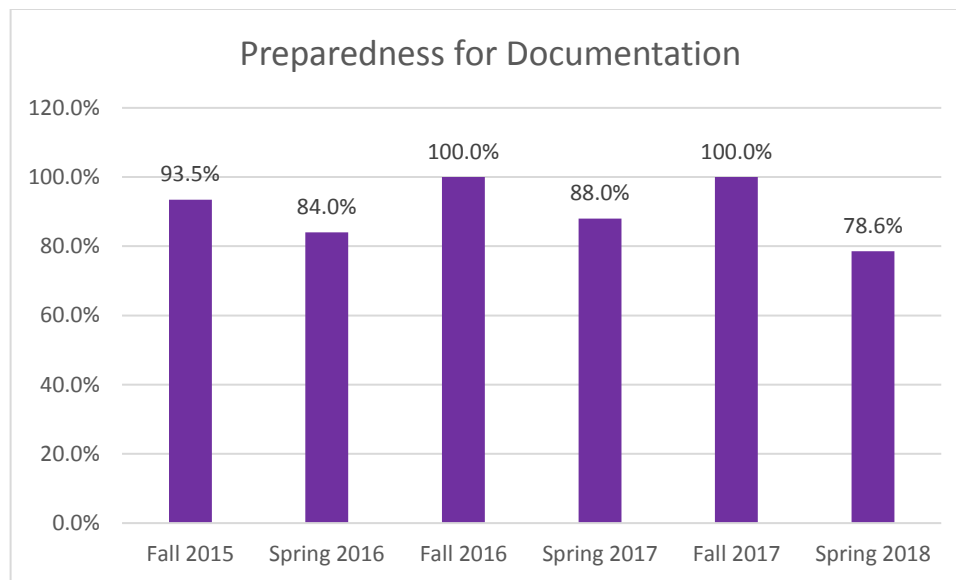
**Historical Data Trends:**



**First position as a nurse:** Of the thirty-two (32 out of 32) graduates who answered this question; 43.8% (n=14) obtained their first RN job in the hospital, 9.4% (n=3) in an extended care facility, 9.4% (n=3) in assisted living facility, 9.4% (n=3) in home health care, 9.4% (n=3) in a doctor’s office, 9.4% (n=3) in a mental health residential facility, 6.3% (n=2) in a school district, and 3% (n=1) in an outpatient surgical center..



**How well prepared were you in your job as a registered nurse related to documentation?** (28 out of 32 responded). The nursing faculty identified in past graduate surveys that documentation consistently scored at or below our expected level of achievement (ELA) of 80%. The nursing program does provide practice documentation in each semester, but the faculty were not sure why the students rated this area as “somewhat unprepared” or “very unprepared”. Thus, the faculty decided to ask a specific question about documentation and provide a commentary section to find out more specific needs/concerns in order to make changes in the program regarding documentation.



As this graph demonstrates, we did not reach our expected level of achievement ( $\geq$  to 80%). Only 78.6% of our students responded positively to documentation preparedness. 35.7% (n=10) of respondents indicated they were very prepared related to documentation and 42.9% (n=12) felt somewhat prepared. 14.3% (n=4) felt somewhat unprepared and an additional 7.1% (n=2) felt very unprepared in relation to documentation in their job as a registered nurse. Comments given to us by respondents to indicated their choice of level of preparedness included:

- *Focus was not placed on documentation and every work place has different systems*
- *It is hard to prepare for documentation during simulations. And based upon what the facility requires for documentation, it is hard to focus in on specifics*
- *There's no way to be fully prepared. Every institution has their own way of documenting and every nurse has their own way of documenting as well. But JJC did give me an idea of what's expected*
- *We did not get to do a lot of documentation in the*

- *There's a lot more charting than I expected.*
- *Did not do enough by hand*
- *Need more hands on experience, longer preceptorship*
- *More practice documentation*
- *We didn't focus too much on documentation at school, so I have to work on that. I am still doing it fairly well.*
- *We weren't allowed to actually document at clinicals*
- *Different facilities have different ways and firna to document only to be learned with hands on experience*
- *Need more critical care*
- *Did not cover as much in nursing school I.e situations or examples to practice documenting*
- *As students we weren't allowed to document anything, ever.*
- *There is a lot more to documentation than a SOAP note or a DAR note. It's hard to explain but*
- *Technology*

Update: The nursing faculty has agreed to implement an EHR program through one of the textbook publishers with whom JJC works. There was a selection process that took place and the faculty decided on DocuCare. All new students were required to purchase this program starting in Fall 2018. The graduates of the Spring 2020 semester will be the first set of students to have the EHR documentation tool implemented into the program.

**How well prepared were you in your job as a registered nurse related to the following?** Graduates (28 out of 32) ( 4 skipped this question) responded: Expected level of achievement (ELA) is 80% for each line item for responses “Very Prepared & Somewhat Prepared”. We reached our ELA for each line item.

	Very Prepared	Somewhat Prepared	Somewhat Unprepared	Very Unprepared	Rating of Very Prepared & Somewhat Prepared
Nursing Skills (catheterization, IV, IM, suctioning, etc.)	15	12	1	0	96.4%
Utilization of the nursing process	21	7	0	0	100%



Delegation skills	15	12	0	1	96.4%
Patient/family physical assessment skills	23	5	0	0	100%
Patient/family psychosocial assessment skills	21	7	0	0	100%
Nursing care prioritization	20	7	1	0	96.4%
Cultural competence	21	7	0	0	100%
Using evidenced based practice in patient care	18	10	0	0	100%
Critical thinking skills	18	9	1	0	96.4%
Nursing care prioritization	20	7	1	0	96.4%
Patient communication skills	21	7	0	0	100%
Legal/ethical issues	15	13	0	0	100%
Clinical decision making skills	17	11	0	0	100%
Patient/family teaching skills	21	6	1	0	96.4%
Collaboration with other healthcare members	17	10	1	0	96.4%
Medication knowledge/skills	14	13	1	0	96.4%
Patient safety issues	25	3	0	0	100%

**Comments from graduates on preparedness:** No comments were received

### Historical Data Trends:

	Dec 2014	May 2015	Dec 2015	May 2016	Dec 2016	May 2017	Dec 2017	May 2018
Nursing Skills (catheterization, IV, IM, Suctioning, etc)	100%	92%	97%	100%	93%	90%	100%	96.4%
Utilization of the nursing process	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	100%	100%
Delegation skills	87%	90%	92%	94%	96%	90%	100%	96.4%
Patient/family physical assessment skills	100%	100%	100%	100%	96%	100%	100%	100%
Patient/family psychosocial assessment skills	96%	100%	100%	97%	96%	97%	100%	100%
Patient/family spiritual assessment skills	92%	92%	92%	100%	89%	94%	100%	96.4%
Nursing care prioritization	100%	92%	100%	100%	96%	97%	100%	100%
Cultural competence	100%	100%	100%	100%	96%	94%	100%	100%
Using evidenced based practice in patient care	100%	92%	100%	97%	96%	94%	100%	96.4%
Critical thinking skills	100%	96%	100%	97%	96%	90%	100%	96.4%
Patient communication skills	96%	100%	97%	100%	100%	*N/A	100%	100%
Legal/ethical issues	79%	92%	95%	97%	93%	*N/A	100%	100%
Clinical decision making skills	100%	88%	100%	97%	100%	*N/A	100%	100%
Patient/family teaching skills	92%	100%	100%	100%	93%	*N/A	100%	96.4%
Collaboration with other healthcare members	96%	92%	97%	97%	86%	*N/A	100%	96.4%
Medication knowledge/skills	87%	92%	100%	97%	93%	*N/A	100%	96.4%
Patient safety issues	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*N/A	100%	100%

**\*NOTE:** In the May 2017 graduate survey, the final 7 categories were inadvertently omitted in the survey data collection (as indicated by N/A). This was rectified for the Fall 2017 graduate survey report.

**Comments made by graduates of ideas/suggestions not addressed in the survey are noted below (4/32 responses)**

- *“I would just like to thank all of my professors at JJC for truly molding me into being a great new graduate nurse! My team on my floor really like me, and my boss says that I'm a great fit as well. I have learned so much more on the floor for how things run, but the foundation I received from JJC is what allowed me the opportunity to begin my career. I'm always happy every day I go to work; even on the most stressful of days. The patients I work with always love it when I come in to take care of them, and that is the most rewarding feeling in the world. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication!!!”*
- *“Practicing skills needs to be more of a priority in the program. Also documentation and delegation. Somehow those all need to be incorporated more into the program.”*
- *“One surprise I had after finishing school was how long it would take to get a job. Especially for someone like me who did not work during school (and has been out of the work force for 10 years on top of that). For future students I would stress the importance of connections with people working in the hospitals. Even suggesting they get an email address or cell number if they do clinicals with someone that they get along with well. Then when applying, just drop a text or email saying that you applied and asking to get your app pulled. It was hard getting an interview and that extra edge, even if it is not a reference really makes a difference.”*
- *“Use another form of NCLEX prep other than ATI or don't weight it so heavily. I strongly recommend uworld!”*