



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Jefferson College of Nursing Slated to Offer BSN Program at Aria Campus in Trevoise

PHILADELPHIA AND TREVOISE, PA (July 19, 2016) — The leadership of Thomas Jefferson University’s [Jefferson College of Nursing](#) and [Aria Health’s School of Nursing](#) are planning to open a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at the Aria Campus in Trevoise, Pa., pending approval by the Pennsylvania Board of Nursing.

The decision to move from a diploma program to a BSN-degree granting program was the result of a thoughtful and deliberate process involving an integration team that included nursing and nursing education leaders from Aria-Jefferson Health and Jefferson Health. The Jefferson College of Nursing will operate the proposed BSN program as an additional location at what will become the Aria Campus located at 3 Neshaminy Interplex Drive in Trevoise. The BSN day-program is slated to begin in January 2018 and will appeal to prospective students in the northern suburbs of Philadelphia.

“The Aria Health School of Nursing has more than a century-long history of and commitment to academic excellence and innovation,” says Jennifer A. Specht, Ph.D., RN, Director of the Aria Health School of Nursing. “Our new relationship with Jefferson allows us to take a strength-on-strength approach by combining the distinctive aptitude each program offers in terms of providing exceptional nursing education. Moving our program to a BSN-degree granting program broadens our ability to offer nursing education to our local and global communities.”

Research supports educating and employing BSN-prepared nurses. Many acute care hospitals are moving to an all-BSN model, especially those seeking or maintaining Magnet status, the designation granted by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). For their approval,

the ANCC requires organizations to define a goal to achieve 80 percent staffing by BSN-prepared nurses within the organization by 2020.

“A BSN can help create a variety of career paths for nurses,” said Beth Ann Swan, Ph.D., CRNP, Dean and Professor, Thomas Jefferson University’s Jefferson College of Nursing. “BSN degrees can prepare nurses for jobs beyond hospital walls, including careers in management, outpatient nursing, transitional care, community health and clinical instruction.”

This opportunity will help meet the growing demand for BSN-prepared nurses. The Aria Campus will offer a BSN day-program. Students will apply to Jefferson College of Nursing and indicate if they wish to attend the Aria, Abington-Dixon or Center City Campus.

“Now that the Jefferson College of Nursing will have three locations, we anticipate being able to accommodate a larger pool of students interested in earning a BSN, especially prospective students in the northern suburbs of Philadelphia,” said Swan. In addition to a BSN program, at the Center City Campus, the Jefferson College of Nursing also offers full-time and part-time master’s programs and a doctoral program in nursing.

“We take pride in our past and are optimistic about the future as we move to a BSN program,” said Specht. “This is an exciting time for all of us as we meet the needs of those in our community who desire careers in nursing.”

A plan is in place to incrementally accommodate an additional 200 students, both to ensure the proper allocation of resources and to deliver the quality education for which Jefferson College of Nursing is recognized. Over time, between the Aria Campus, Abington-Dixon Campus and our location in Center City Philadelphia, the Jefferson College of Nursing will seat 800 students.

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#### About [Jefferson](#)

Jefferson, through its academic and clinical entities of Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health, is reimagining health care for the greater Philadelphia region and southern New Jersey. Since its mergers with Abington Health and Aria Health, Jefferson now has 23,000 people dedicated to providing the highest-quality, compassionate clinical care for patients, educating the health professionals of tomorrow, and discovering new treatments and therapies to define the future of care. With a university and hospital that date to 1824, today Jefferson is comprised of six colleges, eight hospitals, 24 outpatient and urgent care

locations, and a multitude of physician practices throughout the region, serving more than 96,000 inpatients, 363,000 emergency patients and 1.9 million outpatient visits annually.

For more information and a complete listing of Jefferson services and locations, visit [www.jefferson.edu](http://www.jefferson.edu).