

## H. A PROFILE OF THE INSTITUTION

### 1. Degree and certificate programs.

**Undergraduate degree and certificate programs.** Thomas Edison State College offers six associate degrees and seven baccalaureate degrees (including a joint degree program with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey). There are approximately 100 areas of study in the undergraduate degree programs.

The Associate Degree Programs are as follows: Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Arts, Associate in Science in Applied Science and Technology, Associate in Science in Business Administration, Associate in Science in Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Associate in Science in Public and Social Services.

The Baccalaureate Degree Programs include: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Applied Science and Technology, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (a joint degree with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey), Bachelor of Science in Human Services, Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership. The College launched the RN to BSN/MSN program in FY 2007; this provides a seamless transition for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing degree who want to earn a Masters of Science in Nursing degree.

The College also awards certificates in the following professional areas: Accounting, Computer Aided Design, Computer Information Systems, Computer Science, Dental Assistant (with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey), Electronics, Finance, Fitness and Wellness Services, Human Resources Management, Labor Studies, Marketing, Operations Management, and Public Administration.

**Master's degree programs and certificates.** The College currently offers five master's degree programs: the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (formally known as the Master of Arts in Professional Studies), the Master of Science in Human Resources Management, the Master of Science in Management, and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). Graduates of the MSN degree program earn a Nurse Educator certificate in addition to the MSN degree.

There are four professional focus areas within the Master of Science in Management Program: Human Resource Management, Online Learning and Teaching, Public Sector Auditing and Public Service Leadership. In the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program, students may design their own professional focus area or select from one of the pre-designed focus areas.

There are also several graduate certificate program offered: Clinical Trials Management, Homeland Security, Human Resources Management, Online Learning and Teaching, Organizational Management and Leadership, Public Service Leadership (open only to

graduates of the Executive Potential Program offered by the United States Department of Agriculture's Graduate School), and Nurse Educator (post Master's certificate).

More information about the degree programs offered by the College and the majors/areas of study offered is available on our website, <http://www.tesc.edu>.

## 2. Other

**The School of Professional and Continuing Studies.** The School of Professional and Continuing Studies at Thomas Edison State College offers over 50 online noncredit professional certificate programs that prepare students for a wide variety of professions in the fastest growing industries. The School of Professional and Continuing Studies implemented four new certificate programs in the Fitness, Health, and Wellness area. A Nurse Paralegal Certificate Program was also introduced in June 2008. The School was notified recently by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs that 52 of its programs have undergone a successful review and are now VA approved. For more information on the certificate programs, please go to: <http://www.tesc.edu>.

**National Institute on the Assessment of Experiential Learning & The Forum on Assessing Adult Learning at a Distance.** The National Institute on the Assessment of Experiential Learning is sponsored annually by Thomas Edison State College, in cooperation with the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL). The main goals of the National Institute are to address issues of interest to novices and experienced professionals alike, such as the development and growth of a PLA program, student advising, faculty development, research, quality assurance, and current issues and trends. The National Institute also serves as a venue to share experiences in a casual environment and to network with colleagues. This year, in celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National Institute, a pre-Institute Forum, Assessing Adult Learning at a Distance was also held. Both the Forum and National Institute featured speakers from South Africa, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States and focused on best practices for assessing adult learning at a distance. Presentation topics included adult learning, credit-by-examination, prior learning assessment, online learning, online testing and blended learning programs.

**Affiliation with New Jersey State Library.** Legislation codifying in statute the affiliation of the New Jersey State Library with Thomas Edison State College was signed by the Governor in FY 2001. This affiliation and other collaborative projects have made a significant positive difference to the New Jersey State Library and the other libraries with which it is connected.