

ABOUT UNION COUNTY COLLEGE

Union County College is a public comprehensive community college and is a member of New Jersey's system of nineteen county colleges. It is the oldest 2-year college in the State of New Jersey.



The College operates major campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth, Plainfield and Scotch Plains. It enrolls approximately 10,000 full and part-time credit students and over 26,000 non-credit and continuing education students. The College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Many programs lead to the Associate in Arts and the Associate in Science degrees. Students who satisfactorily complete these two-year programs may transfer to four-year institutions for their junior and senior years. Many programs lead to the Associate in Applied Science degree, the Certificate or the Diploma after which students may choose to conclude their formal education and seek employment in their fields of study immediately after graduation.

Union County College confers the Associate in Science degree upon graduates of Trinitas School of Nursing, Elizabeth, N.J., and Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Schools of Nursing, Medical Imaging and Therapeutic Sciences, Plainfield, N.J.

HISTORY

Union County College (previously known as Union County Junior College, Union Junior College and Union College) traces its founding to the opening of Union County Junior College on October 16, 1933 in Abraham Clark High School, Roselle, N.J., with an enrollment of 243 evening students. It was the first of six Emergency Relief Administration projects in New Jersey. When federal aid was terminated in 1936, the College became an independent, non-profit institution governed by a Board of Trustees composed of educational, professional, and business leaders in the community. A day session was added in 1942 and the College moved into its own building in Cranford a year later. Following a Silver Anniversary Development Fund Campaign, the College in 1959 moved to its 48-acre Campus in Cranford.

Union County College was established on August 17, 1982, through a consolidation of Union College, Cranford, N.J., a two-year, independently-governed college, and Union County Technical Institute, Scotch Plains, N.J., a publicly-governed institution. From 1969 to 1982, Union College and Union County Technical Institute had provided college-level programs for Union County in lieu of a county college under contracts with the Union County Coordinating Agency for Higher Education. In 1970, Union College opened two urban campuses in Elizabeth and Plainfield, Union County's major urban centers. In 1971, Union College entered into contracts with Elizabeth General Medical Center (now Trinitas Hospital) in Elizabeth and Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield to jointly conduct a Cooperative Program in Professional Nursing. In 1975 the College opened an Institute for Intensive English in Elizabeth, providing intensive English instruction for speakers of other languages. The Institute is now the largest provider of ESL instruction in the State of New Jersey.



Major branch campuses were opened in newly-renovated facilities in 1992 in Elizabeth, N.J., utilizing the eight-story headquarters of the Elizabethtown Gas Company, and in Plainfield, N.J., utilizing the three-level Courier-News Building. In 1999, the Plainfield campus was expanded to include an annex that houses instructional space for Emergency Medical Technician/ Paramedic training and a state-of-the-art laboratory for American Sign Language and Deaf Studies.

The Cranford Campus was enhanced in 1991 with the opening of The Commons, a student life building; in 1994 with the development of the Center for Visual Arts and Communications in the lower level of the MacKay Library; and in 1995 with an addition to the Campus Center, providing a Fitness Center, Executive Education Center and other facilities.

Union County College and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey opened the Regional Health Education Center in the Health Technologies Building at the Scotch Plains Campus in 1994 to jointly offer programs in the health professions. In 1999, UMDNJ designated the jointly operated site as its fifth campus in the state.



MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

Union County College, in cooperation with other agencies, is dedicated to serving the higher educational needs of Union County. The College has an open admissions policy for both transfer and career programs and is dedicated to the fundamental values of public higher education. The oldest two-year, continuously operating, non-profit, degree-granting institution in New Jersey (1933), Union County College provides opportunities for higher education for people of diverse ethnic, racial, cultural, educational and socioeconomic backgrounds in a multi-campus setting. The College has four campuses which are located in Cranford, Elizabeth, Plainfield and Scotch Plains. The Scotch Plains campus is operated in collaboration with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

The College strives to promote in students a sense of responsibility for their own development and an understanding of their obligations as members of a democratic society. The College fosters in students the desire to learn, the ability to think clearly and express themselves effectively, the habit of analytical and reflective thought, and an awareness of themselves, their heritage, other cultures, and their environment.

THE COLLEGE SEEKS TO PROVIDE:

- the highest quality transfer education through comprehensive curricula and the use of the most current technology, allowing for transfer to four-year colleges and universities;
- the highest quality technical and career-oriented education through selected degree and certificate programs which use the most current technology, preparing students for immediate entry into a career;
- innovative student-centered teaching and support services to foster students' personal and social development;
- continuing and community education programs and courses in varied schedules, at varied locations, and with varied modes of instruction for credit or without;
- developmental studies, particularly in writing, reading and mathematics, to prepare students for college-level programs and courses and to increase their literacy;
- academic advising, career/employment services, transfer services, counseling services, tutoring services, and an array of extra and co-curricular activities;
- customized training and retraining for business and industry;
- workforce education programs for persons displaced from their jobs or unemployed.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL I

Provide a series of relevant general education courses for all students.

OBJECTIVES

- insure that general education courses enable students to develop:
 - critical thinking and problem solving skills
 - effective communication skills
 - values and ethical standards
 - the ability to use modern technology
 - the ability to become self-directed learners
 - an awareness of and concern about the ethical implications of institutional policies and individual practices
 - an expanded awareness of their rights and responsibilities as citizens of a world community
 - the ability to understand, communicate with, respect, and live harmoniously in a diverse society
 - an understanding of themselves - their abilities, interests, and personalities
 - an awareness of the diverse forces that shape their world and themselves in order to keep pace with the changing society



GOAL II

Provide transfer programs and courses for students who want to continue their education at four-year institutions.

OBJECTIVES

- meet the specific needs of transfer students
- ensure the academic standards for transfer are reviewed and maintained through the offering of a range of technical and professional programs
- continue to add to the existing articulation and dual admissions agreements with four-year institutions both within and outside the state
- maintain an open avenue of communication among faculty, counselors, and administrators at the institutions involved

GOAL III

Provide career programs to prepare students to function in a technologically and socially changing world.

OBJECTIVES

- offer a range of technical and professional programs in the business, engineering, and health technology fields
- evaluate and update curricula, programs, and courses in response to workforce needs
- accommodate the diverse needs of students entering the workforce, seeking to advance further in their careers, or retraining for new jobs

GOAL IV

Provide developmental courses for students who need to prepare for college-level credit courses.

OBJECTIVES

- develop necessary oral, reading, writing, and mathematical skills emphasizing process and concepts
- help students develop effective learning strategies
- facilitate the transition from developmental to regular college credit courses
- provide academic advising and placement



GOAL V

Provide professional development programs to ensure excellence in teaching-learning processes.

OBJECTIVES

- develop in-service programs which explore and implement new pedagogy and technology
- provide a wide variety of professional development programs supporting individual, departmental, and college-wide professional development
- provide faculty with access, support, and training in computer-mediated instruction
- train faculty in the development and implementation of distance learning courses

GOAL VI

Provide support services for all students.

OBJECTIVES

- provide orientation for students and their families
- provide academic, career, and personal intervention counseling
- provide activities that promote personal and social growth and development such as multi-cultural activities, wellness programs, and athletics
- explore new ways to assist students in financial need who do not qualify for established programs
- provide job placement services as required

GOAL VII

Provide college services and resources to accommodate a diverse student population.

OBJECTIVES

- provide delivery systems to reach populations, including distance learning courses and non-traditional course offerings
- provide courses in the English language and American culture to students whose first language is not English
- provide scheduling patterns responsive to the needs of working students
- expand articulation with high schools through faculty collaboration, college credit in high school, summer programs, and early identification of potential college candidates
- provide appropriate accommodations and accessibility to students with physical and learning disabilities
- effectively communicate the services of the College throughout the county
- provide peer, paraprofessional and professional tutoring and computer-assisted instruction through the College's Academic Learning Centers

GOAL VIII

Provide opportunities for life-long learning and personal enrichment.

OBJECTIVES

- use community-based physical, financial, and human resources available to complement those within the College
- provide educational, cultural, and recreational activities for the Union County College community
- provide technological education



GOAL IX

Develop workforce development programs through alliances with hospitals, universities, business, industry, and professional and governmental groups to meet the changing workforce requirements.

OBJECTIVES

- provide courses and programs that are responsive to the needs of business, industry, and professional and governmental groups through the Center for Economic and Workforce Development (CEWD)
- provide career assessment and educational opportunities through the Center for Economic and Workforce Development (CEWD) for persons displaced from their jobs, unemployed or underemployed
- actively participate in the economic planning and development of the county
- encourage faculty and staff to take active roles in various local and national community, service, business, and professional organizations
- provide active program advisory committees for technical programs
- collaborate with hospitals, universities, business, and industry in order to provide comprehensive programs
- provide externships and workstudy programs when appropriate
- provide instruction in English as a Second Language (ESL), civics, literacy, and General Education Development (GED) preparation.

GOAL X

Serve as a cultural center for the community and surrounding areas.

OBJECTIVES

- provide an annual series of theatrical programs
- provide an annual series of art exhibitions
- provide a program of intercultural exchange including musical performances, lectures, literary publications and readings

GOAL XI

Enhance teaching and learning through the use of instructional technology.

OBJECTIVES

- incorporate whole class multi-media presentation methodologies into classroom instruction on all campuses
- integrate web-based activities into the college curricula
- provide specialized hardware and software in dedicated laboratories and classrooms to meet curricular needs
- provide the required institutional support and access to students, instructors, and staff to realize the full potential advantages of technology



GOAL XII

Offer distance learning courses and programs.

OBJECTIVES

- provide courses and programs utilizing a variety of media such as telecourses, Campus Web, wireless, and web-based/on-line
- provide faculty support and training for the development and delivery of distance education courses and programs
- provide web-based academic and non-academic student support services for distance learners
- foster collaborations with educational institutions and other organizations to better serve distance education students

GOAL XIII

Provide the Union County College community with state-of-the-art information resources and services in facilities designed to foster intellectual, technical, and vocational growth.

OBJECTIVES

- develop library collections sensitive to and reflective of a diverse curricular and student body
- provide access to information in changing and emerging formats
- provide a program of information literacy-across-the-curriculum that teaches students how to access, evaluate and use information in the classroom and throughout their lives
- provide a comfortable library atmosphere and facilities that stimulate the learning process
- develop resources and services to support the needs of remote users
- develop in students an appreciation for the value of the library as an educational and life resource

GOAL XIV

Increase the diversity of the College faculty, staff, and administration.

OBJECTIVES

- assess progress toward meeting these goals on a monthly basis
- achieve the goals contained in the affirmative action plan by the dates indicated

GOAL XV

Provide sufficient resources, both public and private, to implement the preceding goals.

OBJECTIVES

- continue to seek funds from appropriate Federal, State and County agencies
- continue to seek funds from individuals and private sources
- continue to operate in a cost effective manner
- continue to seek funds for scholarship assistance to students and for faculty grants



ACCREDITATION

Union County College is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680, (267) 284-5000. The Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The former Union College was accredited by and admitted to membership in the Association in 1957. Its accreditation was reaffirmed in 1967, 1973, 1982, 1986, 1997, and again in 2002 as Union County College.



Union County College was granted the authority by the State of New Jersey in April 1982, to confer the degree of Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science and to award the certificate and the diploma. Union College had held the authority to confer the Associate in Arts degree since 1953, and the Associate in Science and Associate in Applied Science degree since 1969.

Union County College is licensed by the State of New Jersey. Union College had been licensed since 1939.

The following programs hold professional accreditation: radiography and radiation therapy (Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, conducted jointly with Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center); physical therapist assistant (American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education); respiratory care (Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care, conducted jointly with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)); professional nursing (National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc., conducted jointly with Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center and Trinitas Hospital); practical nursing (new program, provisional accreditation through the New Jersey Board of Nursing); dental assisting (Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, conducted jointly with UMDNJ); dental hygiene (Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, conducted jointly with UMDNJ); and nuclear medicine technology (Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology, conducted jointly with Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center). These organizations are specialized accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and/or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The Certificate program in electrology is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of the American Electrology Association.

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Union County College operates major campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth, Plainfield, and Scotch Plains, N.J.

The College's main offices are on the 48-acre Cranford Campus at 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, N.J., 07016. Cranford is located near major highways, including the Garden State Parkway, Routes 1-9, 22, 27, 28, and 78 and is accessible to a wide area of north central New Jersey. Bus Route 58, serving Elizabeth, Roselle Park and Kenilworth, and Bus Route 66, serving Hillside, Union and Springfield, terminate at the

Cranford Campus. Bus and rail transportation is available to downtown Cranford.

The Elizabeth Campus is located at 12 West Jersey Street, in the eight-story Sidney F. Lessner Building within the city's major business district. Extensive bus and rail service is available within a half block of the Campus.

The Plainfield Campus is located at 232 East Second Street, Plainfield, in a three-story building. Bus and rail transportation is available within two blocks of the Campus.

The College conducts cooperative programs in professional nursing with Trinitas School of Nursing located on UCC's Elizabeth campus and Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Harold B. and Dorothy A. Snyder Schools on Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield, N.J.

In addition, the College operates a Regional Health Education Center at its Scotch Plains Campus jointly with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. The 40-acre campus at 1776 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, N.J. It is accessible via the Garden State Parkway and Route 22.

FACILITIES



CRAFORD CAMPUS

There are eight major buildings on the Cranford Campus at 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford: Kenneth Campbell MacKay Library with the Tomasulo Art Gallery, Academic Learning Center, and the Center for Visual Arts and Communication; the Humanities, Science and Nomahegan Buildings with classrooms, lecture halls, seminar rooms, science and computing laboratories, counseling and faculty offices, lounges, cafete-

ria and student and faculty dining rooms; the Campus Center with the Roy W. Smith Theater, gymnasium, Fitness Center, Executive Education Center, other facilities for student activities, and bookstore; The Commons, a student life/student lounge facility, featuring an atrium and multi-level floor providing a variety of lounge and meeting spaces; James R. MacDonald Hall, which contains administrative offices; and the William Miller Sperry Observatory, which houses 24-inch reflector and 10-inch refractor telescopes, a lecture room, optical shop, computer center, and an astronomy library.



ELIZABETH CAMPUS

The entire Elizabeth Campus is housed in the eight-story, 100,000 sq. ft. Sidney F. Lessner Building at 12 West Jersey Street, Elizabeth. It provides classrooms, theater, lecture hall, seminar and conference rooms, allied health, computer and science laboratories, Kellogg Library and Academic Learning Center, faculty and administrative offices, faculty and student lounges, dining room, and bookstore.



PLAINFIELD CAMPUS

The Plainfield Campus is comprised of most of a city block between East Second and East Third Streets and Church Street and Roosevelt Avenue. The three-story, 28,000 sq. ft. building contains classrooms, lecture hall, allied health, computing and science laboratories, seminar and conference rooms, Library and Academic Learning Center, faculty and administrative offices. An adjacent building on the site houses instructional space for Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic training and a state-of-the-art laboratory for American Sign Language and Deaf Studies, a student lounge, faculty offices, faculty lounge, bookstore, and cafeteria.



SCOTCH PLAINS CAMPUS

The College shares a 40-acre campus in Scotch Plains at 1776 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains with the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools and the John H. Stampler Police Academy. The College and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey jointly operate the Regional Health Education Center in the College's 65,000 sq. ft. Health Technologies Building and it has also been designated as the fifth campus of UMDNJ. It provides classrooms, lecture hall, seminar and conference rooms, allied health and science laboratories, library, faculty and administrative offices, dining room and Campus Center.