

LC Nursing Program Earns Continued ACEN Accreditation



Lewis and Clark Community College's Nursing program has received continued ACEN accreditation with no findings for the second consecutive cycle.

Lewis and Clark Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program has been granted continued accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), following a site visit in September 2025.

The visit takes 2.5 days and is a peer-reviewed process where nursing educators from across the country volunteer to visit and evaluate other nursing programs.

ACEN accreditation indicates to the general public and educational community that a nursing program meets the clearly defined educational standards and outcomes it has set.

"Our program turns our students into extraordinary nurses," said Britt Quigley, LC's Director of Nursing Education.

LC's Nursing program spent two years preparing for the review. This prepara-

tion consisted of completing a comprehensive self-study and providing evidence that the program is meeting its stated standards and expectations.

The program received no findings and has been re-accredited for another eight years, the maximum term awarded between visits. This marks the Nursing program's second ACEN visit and second consecutive accreditation cycle with no findings.

"The continued success of the Nursing program and its remarkable scores reflect not only the hard work and determination of our students, but also the dedication of our faculty to producing exceptional nurses," said Student Trustee Emily Hoge, who is also a current LC Nursing student.

For more information on LC's Nursing program, visit www.lc.edu/nursing, or contact Quigley at (618) 468-4410 or blquigley@lc.edu.



16th Annual Grafton Winery Blues Festival Returns May 16 & 17

Regional blues musical talent headlines free festival

Soul stirring blues music returns to Grafton Winery The Vineyards Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17 during the highly anticipated 16th annual Grafton Winery Blues Festival.

This free event features the music of regional blues

bands at the scenic winery nestled in the hills of Grafton. Doors open at 11 a.m. May 16 and May 17 at The Vineyards, located at 21028 Eckert Orchard Rd., Grafton. Enjoy award-winning Grafton Winery wines, beer, cocktails and soft drinks along with a special Blues Festival Menu. No outside food, drinks or coolers will be allowed as per state law.

Enjoy an afternoon and evening filled with performances from regional blues

band favorites. Kicking off the weekend of music on Saturday, May 16 at The Vineyards will be a classic blues band lineup:

Soulard Blues Band from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Ivas John Band from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Entertainment on Sunday, May 17 will include:

Blue Moon Blues Band from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Paul Bonn & The Bluesmen from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

"We're excited to bring this festival to Grafton

again for a celebration of blues music and local flavor," Mike Nikonovich, co-owner of the popular winery said. "The Blues Fest has become a tradition for many and we're looking forward to enjoying some great music, drinks, food all weekend."

This is a rain or shine event and it is free to attend for all ages. Lawn chairs and blankets are welcome.

For more information, contact the Grafton Winery at (618) 786-3001.

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