



CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORIES: HESI TESTING & REMEDIATION

SCHOOL NAME: Western Kentucky University School of Nursing (WKUSON)

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HESI improves NCLEX pass rates

Background: *The Western Kentucky University School of Nursing in Bowling Green offers ASN, BSN, MSN, and DNP programs, including entry level BSN, RN to BSN, and BSN for second-degree students. The school also offers post-masters certification in a nursing specialty.*

Issue: *Faculty at Western Kentucky University School of Nursing wanted to help students prepare for NCLEX.*

Approach: *Western Kentucky University School of Nursing integrated HESI into its program in 2010. HESI materials are used from the first semester through to the last and are part of a variety of courses, including assessment, fundamentals, high acuity, pediatrics, community health, and leadership.*

HESI is incorporated into a course's syllabus. Students can earn extra points from their scores on HESI Exams: Students receive one point for every HESI Case Study and each Specialty Exam (provided they obtain a minimum score) once they have successfully completed the school's own exams. The maximum increase in score is 4% to 5%.

Students also take HESI quizzes at the end of classes, which helps faculty identify those who need assistance; remediation is recommended.

Two instructors who teach medical-surgical and high acuity courses in the third and fourth semesters provide an example of how HESI is used. They match HESI Exams, Practice Tests, and Case Studies with the content they are teaching. The instructors also assign HESI Case Studies and Practice Tests that have not been used in previous courses even though they might not be covering the content, so that students can broaden their knowledge.

Results: *After making HESI part of its curriculum, Western Kentucky University School of Nursing achieved a 100% NCLEX pass rate for four consecutive semesters. Faculty members point to a positive attitude by faculty and integration of HESI products as key to the success.*

Benefits: *Students value what HESI can provide them. For example, they complete a Case Study in preparation for class, and then complete it again before the course's final exam as a review. HESI test questions stimulate critical thinking by students. Faculty at Western Kentucky University School of Nursing state that Elsevier is responsive to their feedback.*