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THE NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

ANSWERS TO THE CUIDANCE QUOTIENT TEST

1. Most people admitted to practical nursing programs would not be admitted to community college programs.

FALSE

A study (published in 1975 by Joan Kaiser) of practical nursing students and community college nursing students in New York State showed that the two groups essentially came from the same population. The difference between the two groups was this: practical nursing atudents had heard about practical nursing from relatives and other acquaintances, while community college students had heard about community college programs from their close contacts.

2. Practical nursing school tuition is lower than community college tuition.

FALSE

NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

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prose a an oscilical for gon ha . She is der mining copie of Thelener sheet, I minit Practical nursing school tuition reported in <u>The College Cost Book</u> <u>1986-87</u> for New York State Schools averages \$2,387. The average for New York State community college tuition reported in the same reference is \$1,308.

3. Ecspital nursing echool tuition is higher than community college tuition.

TRUE

Tuition fees in hospital based RN programs have increased dramatically over the last 15 years. The average for New York State hospital programs reported in <u>The College Cost Book 1986-87</u> is \$3,001. This compares to the community college average of \$1,308.

4. Associate degree nursing graduates and bachelor's degree nursing graduates take the same licensing examination.

TRUE

Both of these educational programs, though different in curriculum, goals and length, qualify their graduates to be tested for licensure as registered professional nurses. The New York State Nurses Association has sponsored a bill to change this circumstance for over ten years. We call it the "Entry into Practice" bill. Nurses associations nationwide are attempting to enact similar legislation. N. Dakota is the first and only state to have thus far achieved this goal.

5. Associate degree nursing graduates should plan to apply all of their AD credit toward a bachelor's degree in nursing.

FALSE

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5. Continued

Just as associate degree graduates in other fields such as health technology, communications technology, and engineering technology, must adjust their backgrounds to the individual senior college or university they wish to attend, so must AD nursing graduates. In some situations large amounts of credit are applicable. It is a highly individual matter.

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 Employment opportunities for associate degree nursing graduates and bachelor's degree mursing graduates differ.

TRUE

Bachelor's degree nursing graduates are qualified for positions as community health/public health nurses. AD graduates are not. While both are qualified for beginning staff nurse positions in hospitals, bachelor's degree graduates are prepared to assume greater responsibility after experience. The difference in breadth and depth of opportunity open to both is consistent with the difference in depth and breadth of their education.

7. Practical nurses who decide to study to become RNs are "ahead of" other students who are not practical nurses.

FALSE

RN education is designed for students who have no nursing experience. LPNs who attempt to "fit in" to such programs, must make their own adjustments. Although there are a few programs designed especially for them, they are outside the mainstream of education and accessible to only a few.

8. About 10% of all RN's are men.

FALSE

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that in 1982 nationwide 2.7% of RNs were men. The profession is attempting to recruit more men into nursing. Career opportunities are excellent.

9. Women advance farther than men in nursing.

FALSE

Repeated analysis has shown that men tend to be more likely than women to reach high administrative posts and high salary levels in nursing.

10. Currently, the licensing examinations for RNs and LPNs are the same for all the states in the U.S.

- 3-

TRUE

While graduates of LPN and RN programs throughout the U.S. take the same respective licensing examination (all LPNs take the same LPN examination and all RNs take the same RN examination), other licensing requirements can and do differ. Some states have different educational requirements than others. The New York State Regents College degree is not accepted in all states, for example. If students wish to undertake a non-traditional, non-mainstream educational program, they should be advised that this is risky because licensing requirements vary among states and change with time.

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