**Eligibility Requirements:**

- United States citizen
- Graduated from a CCNE or NLNAC accredited program with a BSN or MSN applying for a **FIRST RN role**.
- Minimum grade point *average: 3.00*
- Current, unrestricted RN license (or NCLEX scheduled **before July 1**)
- Must pass pre-employment medical exam, security checks and drug testing
- Must be able to complete 366 days of training starting in **August / September**

**To Apply:**

- Submit the following:
  - Resume, Cover Letter and Application
  - Personal statement—300 words “I want to be a VA Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Trainee because...”
  - Official Transcripts-in sealed envelope
  - Two letters of support/recommendation: **TWO from** school clinical faculty or **ONE from** clinical faculty and **ONE from Nurse Manager/Assistant Nurse Manager** if you are employed as NA or PCA. All letters of support must be on official college or business letterhead.

**Application Deadline:** See letter distributed by University

**Interviews / Selection** February / March

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**Facility Spotlight**

**VA Connecticut Healthcare System (VACHS)** is an integrated healthcare system with medical campuses in West Haven, CT and Newington, CT and six surrounding community-based outpatient clinics and the Errera Center in Orange, CT. We are a 216-bed facility providing tertiary medical, surgical, psychiatric care, rehabilitation, hospice as well as a full range of outpatient services to America’s Veterans. VA Connecticut is also the location of the Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center for VISN 1. The VACHS Mission is to honor America’s Veterans by providing exceptional healthcare that improves their health and well-being. Our vision is to continue to be the benchmark of excellence and value in healthcare as we continue to provide exemplary Veteran Centric and evidence based care. Our vision further emphasizes prevention and population health, contributing to the Nation’s well-being through education, research, and service in national emergencies. Our Core Values are Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, Excellence ("I CARE").

Completed application packets are to be emailed to:
Ms. Jancee Pust-Marcone MSN, RN, CCRN-K
Program Director
Jancee.Pust-Marcone@va.gov
VA Connecticut Healthcare System
Nursing Service (118-A)
950 Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
Program Mission & Description
The mission of the VACTHS and Egan SON Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency program is to support the transition of the entry-level, advanced beginner nurse to a competent, confident professional nurse, with the goal of preparing nurses to provide safe, high quality care for our nation’s Veterans.

Program Goals
Upon completion of the residency, the RN will:

- Successfully transition from entry-level advanced beginner nurse to competent professional nurse, who provides safe, quality care as defined by Patricia Benner’s “Novice to Expert” theory (1984);
- Demonstrate competency in effective decision-making skills related to clinical judgment and performance;
- Incorporate research and other scientific evidence into practice;
- Demonstrate competency in clinical leadership at the point of care;
- Practice collaboratively as members of the inter-professional healthcare team;
- Formulate an individual career development plan promoting life-long commitment to professional nursing.

Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency
Program Structure

All activities related to the program are incorporated throughout the 12-month experience according to the following timeline:

Phase I (months 0-1)
- Hospital and General Nursing Orientation.
- Introduction to communication and decision making skills, leadership at the point of practice with the focus on improvement of patient outcomes.

Phase II (months 1-2)
- Development of generic and specific competencies unique to each clinical area and Veteran population. Introduction to Inter-professional Team Collaboration. And Evidence-Based Practice.

Phase III (months 2-9)
- Increasing development of leadership skills, improvement of patient outcomes, and RN development in the professional role, and Startup of Evidenced-Based Project Activities. Ongoing development as an inter-professional team member.

Phase IV (months 10-12)
- Synthesis, Assessment, Completion of Evidenced-Based Project, and Program Evaluation.

Post baccalaureate nurse residents are considered trainees receiving a stipend and benefits during this year of advanced training. Successful graduates of the program are well positioned to begin a professional nursing career at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System.

Contacts
Program Directors, VA Nursing Academic Partnership
PBNR Program Director
Jancee Pust-Marcone, MSN, RN, CCRN-K
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(203)932-5711 ext. 5353
VA Connecticut Healthcare System
950 Campbell Ave (118A)
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Program Directors, VA Nursing Academic Partnership
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