

Jana Lybarger – nursing

Why did you choose your degree program? How has it helped you grow personally and professionally?

I chose McKendree because of my friend, Tonya, who was going back to school and wanted me to do it with her. I had talked about going back to get my BSN for years, but Tonya pushed me to actually do it. Many of our colleagues had attended McKendree and after researching local programs, this program seemed to fit the best. The BSN program has advanced my professional career and has afforded me new opportunities.

What are you most proud of accomplishing during your time here?

I am most proud of the grades I received throughout the program.

If you could go back in time, what advice would you give your first-year self?

If I could go back in time, I would tell myself not to wait so long to go back to school. I thought I would take a break after obtaining my ADN and ended up waiting 17 years to go back. The online program has been perfect for me as a nurse, wife, and mother.

Who helped you the most on your journey?

I am grateful for guidance from the professors, especially from Dr. Angela Gilbreth. She has been phenomenal as a professor and mentor during the BSN program. She is the reason I am applying for the MSN program. I also had a lot of help and encouragement from my friend and former coworker, Tonya, who went through the course with me. We were able to encourage each other and bounce ideas around to be able to complete our assignments to the best of our ability.