
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

State of Wisconsin Initiative to Fast Track Nurse Educators



Grant amount: \$1,365,101

Grantee: University of Wisconsin System

Key partners: University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee College of Nursing; Wisconsin Technical College System; Wisconsin Workforce Development Boards; Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development; healthcare employers statewide.

Leveraged amount: \$1,650,939 (\$881,689 in cash; \$461,250 in-kind; 308,000 in WIA funds)

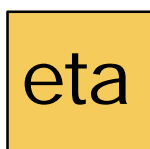
Location of Grant Activities: State of Wisconsin

Challenge: A growing shortage of nurse educators in the United States limits the capacity of colleges and universities to meet current and projected demand for nurse education and training. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reports that nursing schools turned away nearly 16,000 qualified applicants across the United States in 2003 due to insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, and classroom space. In Wisconsin, 16 technical colleges report waiting lists of over 3,000 individuals for nursing programs. The shortage of nurse educators can be explained in part by the significant time and investment required to obtain the necessary teaching credentials and the fact that higher compensation in clinical and private-sector settings is luring current and potential nurse educators away from teaching. Across the country, there is a need for creative ways to assist would-be educators to gain the education credentials required to serve in that role.

Addressing the Challenge: The University of Wisconsin will address the nursing faculty shortage by speeding up the training period for nurse educators by as much as 18 to 24 months. To attract additional nurses, unique hospital-university-technical college partnerships will allow participating nurses to balance clinical and educational roles, thus earning a higher salary than nurse educators do on their own. The project also will develop a multi-level, public/private partnership for the recruitment and accelerated preparation of health professional educators.

Projected Outcomes:

- Seventy new master's level clinical nurse educators will be available to teach by 2007, increasing current education capacity at the pre-licensure level by at least 800 students per year.
- At least 20 percent of trainees will be from minority populations, increasing cultural competence in healthcare across the state.
- New accelerated curriculum options for the preparation of master's level nurses will be available across the state and will serve as a nationally replicable model.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Healthcare Industry Demonstration Grants
Announced on June 7, 2005