

President's Community-Based Job Training Grants

Amarillo College

AWARD AMOUNT: \$1,386,525

AREA SERVED: Texas Panhandle

INDUSTRY: Healthcare

KEY PARTNERS AND LEVERAGED RESOURCES: \$531,800 in leveraged resources from four employer partners, two workforce partners, five education partners and one other partner

CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS: The current market demand and projected job growth for registered nurses (RNs) far exceeds the enrollment capacity of postsecondary sources of educational training for this occupation, and there is a lack of Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) graduates from which to recruit nursing faculty. Further, a high attrition rate has impacted the ability of the program to produce the maximum number of employable RNs for the region at a time when workforce needs are most acute.

ACTIVITIES: The college will build student enrollment capacity within the Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) Program through two approaches: 1) Building capacity in nursing programs by increasing the number of qualified MSN faculty through an accelerated RN to MSN program; and 2) Improving graduation rates. Two universities, offering two distinct educational delivery options, have partnered as training providers in the proposed project to provide the accelerated RN-MSN pathway to the nurse educator role. To assure interest and retain students, the RN-MSN candidates will receive incrementally increasing stipends, tuition assistance and laptops to access the on-line courses and web-based student support community. Student retention strategies will also provide access to a web-based student support community as well as supportive learning communities and academic assistance modalities.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES:

- 68 additional applicants will be admitted into the ADN program annually;
- 88% of ADN students will enter employment and have an average earnings increase of \$3,500;
- The graduation rate for the ADN program will increase by 15%;
- 95% of ADN graduates passing the licensure exam on the first attempt will secure an entry-level nursing position within the first quarter after graduation;
- 18 RN-MSN students will complete the teaching track; and
- 13 MSN graduates will secure a nurse educator position within the first quarter after graduation.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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