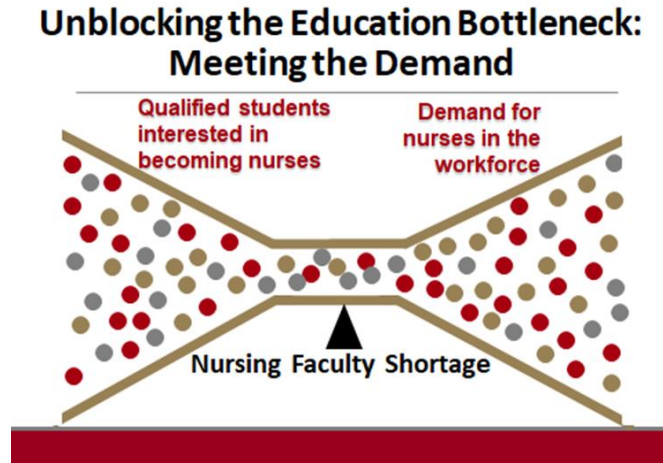


Nurse Faculty Shortage



The Nurse Faculty Shortage is one of WNA's priorities for the 2021-2022 legislative biennium

March 2021 Update: WNA and the Administrators of Nursing Education in Wisconsin (ANEW) would like to see Wisconsin's state biennial budget proposal presented by the Governor be improved. WNA and ANEW are launching a campaign to increase the budgeted dollars.

Background

According to the 2020 RN Workforce Report Wisconsin's Nursing Programs in less than ten years will see a 58 percent reduction in nurse faculty. At the same time, in less than ten years 32,000 RNs plan to leave direct patient care.

These forecasts call for an immediate action. The proposal that WNA and ANEW is advancing is for an allocation of \$10 million for this biennium. The dollars will be used for two initiatives which are as follows:

1. Provide forgivable grants for nurses to pursue any of three advanced degrees required to teach professional nursing in Wisconsin in exchange for a 3-year teaching obligation at a nursing school in Wisconsin once they complete their degree and ;
2. Forgive a portion of qualifying student loans of an out-of-state nurse educator or appropriately credentialed practicing Wisconsin nurse in exchange for a 3-year teaching obligation at a nursing school in Wisconsin.

Call to Action

This is an official Call to Action, beginning with March 3, 2021 **WNA's Nurses Day of Action**. WNA is asking that you contact your state legislators to let them know about the impact of not having enough

nurse faculty will have on the supply of Wisconsin's future nursing workforce and to request that they support the \$10 million budget allocation.

Tips for writing to your legislator.

This campaign is to persuade your state legislators to support WNA and ANEW's position on the need for more Nurse Faculty by allocating \$10 million in the Wisconsin state budget. The \$10 million will be used to provide loan forgiveness, stipends and fellowships for those nurses wanting to pursue a career as a nurse educator in Wisconsin nursing education programs. WNA is requesting that you send an email to your legislators asking for the allocation of \$10 million to grow the nurse faculty workforce. WNA will be providing assistance to you as you develop your email. Here are some tips that can assist you in formulating an impactful letter:

Show a connection - you are his/her constituent, and if you know them make sure you share that.

Make it personal - Let your legislators know: Let your legislators know: your name, what you do, (practicing nurse/nursing student/nurse educator) and what you have experienced -- COVID-19 demonstrated the impact of not enough nurses on health care delivery,

Give the facts

- As of 2020, Wisconsin is experiencing a nurse shortage of 2,800.
- In less than ten years 32,000 RNs will be leaving direct patient care.
- In 2018 there were 1,256 nurse educators and of that 58% will be retired by 2030.
- Given the peak of Wisconsin's pandemic, and growing number of older adults that will need nursing services, Wisconsin needs to be prepared
- Wisconsin graduates 3,000 new nursing graduates per year this will not meet future demands.
- Solution, provide funding in the state budget that will recruit nurses to earn a Master's in Nursing Education, Doctor in Nursing Practice or PhD in nursing and recruit already prepared nurses to teach.
- Include a call to action - Ask your legislator to reply, and ask very directly whether he or she will support funding.
- Be respectful - Like everyone else, legislators dislike a threatening tone.
- Give thanks - Thank your legislator for their consideration of your request and that you look forward to hearing from him/her.

Resources

Video presentation explaining the nurse faculty shortage and the budgetary solution. (on event page)

PowerPoint presentation on the nurse faculty shortage in Wisconsin. (attached)

Connection to WNA's Nurses Voice legislator messaging platform. Nurse Voice