

New Mexico State University
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School of Nursing Update
Addressing the Healthcare Workforce Shortages in New Mexico

Legislative Health and Human Services Committee
September 16, 2021

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Director, School of Nursing



School of Nursing
DELIVER CARE THAT CHANGES LIVES

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New Mexico State University

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Undergraduate Nursing Education
at






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Bachelor of Science in Nursing

NMSU BSN Campuses – Annual Admissions

- ❖ Las Cruces – 152 students
- ❖ Alamogordo – 24 students
- ❖ Grants – 8 students

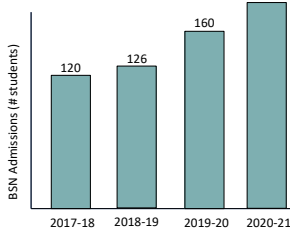
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New Mexico Map - ©2020 Destination360

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Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Goal: To increase the number of Registered Nurses in the workforce



Year	BSN Admissions (# students)
2017-18	120
2018-19	126
2019-20	160
2020-21	184

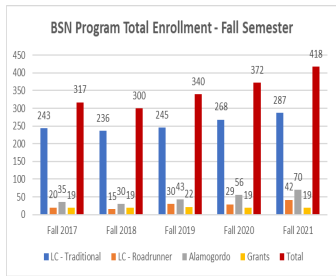
BSN students reflect the diversity of NMSU and New Mexico.
50% are first generation college students



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Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Goal: To increase the number of Registered Nurses in the workforce




Semester	LC-Traditional	LC-Roadrunner	Alamogordo	Grants	Total
Fall 2017	243	20	35	19	317
Fall 2018	236	15	30	19	300
Fall 2019	245	30	42	22	340
Fall 2020	268	29	56	19	372
Fall 2021	287	42	70	19	418

NMSU has graduated over **2100 nurses** during the 16-year RPSP funding period (2005-2021)

BSN students reflect the diversity of NMSU and New Mexico

75-80% of BSN graduates obtain their RN license in New Mexico



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Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Where do NMSU nursing students come from?

Geographical Location	% of BSN Students*
Out of state (not including Texas)	10%
Texas	10%
New Mexico	80%

Geographical Location	% of NM BSN Students
Doña Ana County	55%
Bernalillo/Sandoval/Santa Fe Counties	5%
Rural NM Counties	40%

Note – Approximate %s over the past 3 years



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Skills & Simulation Center

Project
Remodel, update and expand the existing *School of Nursing Skills and Simulation Center* on the NMSU Las Cruces campus to serve the needs of the BSN and graduate nursing programs.

2021 Capital Outlay Funding
\$150,000 for the design and planning phase




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Partnership with BCBSNM

A \$500,000 gift to NMSU
From Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico

Goals

- Increase access to care for New Mexicans who are receiving health care coverage through New Mexico's Medicaid expansion program.
- Increase the number of nursing and social work students who successfully graduate and enter the health care field in New Mexico through a generous scholarship fund.
- Increase nurse practitioner student knowledge of New Mexico's Medicaid managed care program.

The NM BCBS Professor of Practice in Nursing to bridge classroom and field experience.





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Partnership with BCBSNM

A \$500,000 gift to NMSU
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NM BCBS Scholarships for Nursing and Social Work Students



"My parents are unable to assist me with my education, because they currently support their grandchildren and my younger sister. Family is a huge aspect of Navajo culture, and it does not bother me that they are unable to help me. I have known my whole life that getting an education would be expensive, so I worked hard to earn scholarships for my education. With that being said, I would like to thank you for your generosity."

Scholarship Recipient
Vanisha Sam
Level 5 BSN
Roadrunner Program




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NMSU Nursing's COVID-19 Efforts



New Mexico State University nursing students play key role in state vaccination roll out



Erin Watoko, a nursing student at New Mexico State University, administers a COVID-19 vaccine during a clinic at NMSU on April 30, (NMSU photo by Josh Bachman)

NMSU senior nursing students prepare to be on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic

Nancy Mestre, center, a nursing student at New Mexico State University, helps classmate Kayla Espinoza register a person to receive a COVID-19 vaccine during a clinic at NMSU on April 30, (NMSU photo by Josh Bachman)

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Nurse Practitioner Education at


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Nurse Practitioner Programs

The nurse practitioner programs offered at NMSU are at the highest degree level – the **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)**

DNP Specialty Tracks offered:


- **Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**
Prepares graduates to provide comprehensive healthcare in primary care settings, including diagnosing and treating acute and chronic diseases; performing prenatal, well-child, and adult care checkups; and supporting health promotion/disease prevention.
- **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)**
Prepares graduates to provide comprehensive psychiatric and behavioral healthcare to individuals, families, and communities, including assessing, diagnosing and treating the full range of mental health disorders.



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Nurse Practitioner Programs

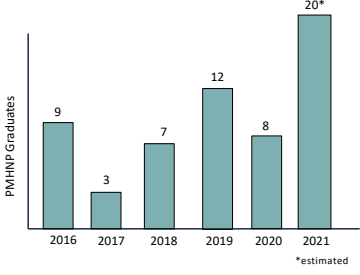
- **Distance education** technology allows nurses from across the state to complete the 3-year DNP program in their home towns
- The School of Nursing also offers an 18-credit post graduate certificate that allows other nurse practitioners to sit for FNP or PMHNP certification
- Nurse practitioner students have clinical experiences in rural areas of New Mexico and with underserved populations
- **RPSP funding** allows the School of Nursing to provide a **stipend** to all New Mexico-based PMHNP students (must commit to working in New Mexico for 3 years)



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Nurse Practitioner Programs

Goal: To increase the number of mental health nurse practitioners



On average, **60%** of PMHNP students are from New Mexico

Admitted 24 PMHNP DNP students and certificate students in Fall 2021




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Opioid Workforce Education Program

“Expanding the New Mexico SUD/OD Treatment and Prevention Workforce through Interprofessional Education and Training”

\$1.3 Million HRSA Grant



Project Goal: To increase the number of professionals in the state of New Mexico, and in particular the Southern New Mexico counties, who are trained in interprofessional settings to effectively prevent and treat opioid use disorder and other substance abuse disorders in community-based practices.


NMSU School of Nursing to tackle opioid epidemic in NM with \$1.35 million HRSA grant

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Practitioner Education Grant

“Integrating Competencies in SUD Prevention, Screening and Treatment throughout a Family Nurse Practitioner Curriculum in the Rural U.S.-Mexico Border Region”

\$200,000 SAMHSA Grant



Project Goal
Increase the number of FNPs in New Mexico and the surrounding border region who are trained to effectively identify, evaluate and treat all forms of SUD and prevent OUD through acute/chronic pain assessment and management using non-opioid alternatives.

NMSU School of Nursing continues to tackle opioid epidemic in NM with \$200,000 grant

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A New Nurse Anesthesiology Program at




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Nurse Anesthetist Practice

- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) that are trained to administer every type of anesthesia in any healthcare setting.
- There are over 57,000 practicing CRNAs nationally administering approximately 49 million anesthetics annually.
- Research has demonstrated that CRNAs deliver anesthesia to patients as safely as physician anesthesiologists.



<https://www.aana.com/membership/become-a-crna/crna-fact-sheet>

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Nurse Anesthetist Practice



- CRNAs provide anesthesia in collaboration with surgeons, dentists, podiatrists, physician anesthesiologists, and others
- In addition to the operating room, CRNAs work in surgical centers, dental clinics, pain management clinics and medical clinics.
- In New Mexico, CRNAs are often the only anesthesia providers in rural health centers and critical access hospitals.
- Most recently hospitals have been depending on CRNAs to manage critically ill COVID-19 patients who require mechanical ventilation.
- CRNAs have played a central role in addressing the opioid crisis by incorporating evidence based, opioid-free anesthesia and opioid-sparing techniques throughout the perioperative phase.

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Nurse Anesthetist Education



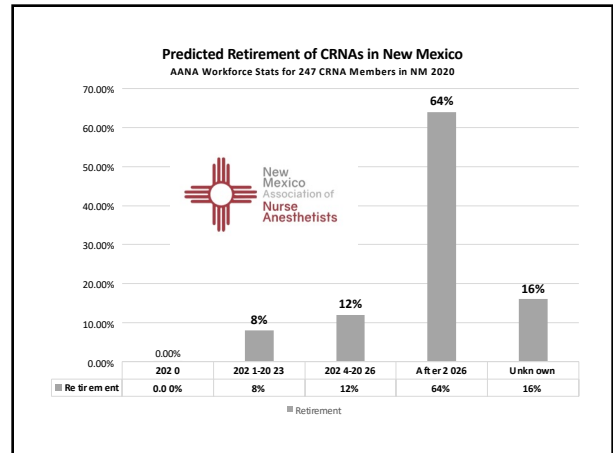
- CRNAs complete a three-year doctoral program with over 90 credits of rigorous didactic courses and 2-3000 hours of supervised clinical training.
- Programs must be accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.
- Graduates from accredited programs are qualified to take the national certification exam administered by the National Boards of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists.

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Supply and Demand for CRNAs in New Mexico

- Currently > **200** CRNA jobs posted in New Mexico
- National unemployment rate for CRNAs is < **1%**
- There are currently ~ **2400** new CRNA graduates/year, however the projected need for 2028 is **7600** graduates/year
- Many local hospitals are having to hire locums and other temporary/on-demand employees from out of state
- Only **124** accredited nurse anesthesiology programs in the country
- For every 1 student accepted, **6** qualified applicants are rejected

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Why start a Nurse Anesthesiology Program at NMSU?

- No other nursing school or the state or region has plans to launch a nurse anesthesiology program
- Would attract state-level and national visibility as the first nurse anesthesiology program in New Mexico
- Significant increase in NMSU graduate student enrollment (minimum of 75 students/year)
- Be able to offer a 'local' focus on rural health care and health disparities
- Help decrease health disparities and address health crises in New Mexico
- Provide opportunities for NM nurses to advance their careers without leaving the state
- Provide a continuous supply of CRNAs graduates to fill the positions in NM, especially in rural and medically underserved areas
- Be part of the workforce solution to projected retirements and increase in demand for anesthesia providers.
- Keep tuition and future tax revenue in New Mexico (CRNAs can earn between \$200,000 and \$350,000/year)

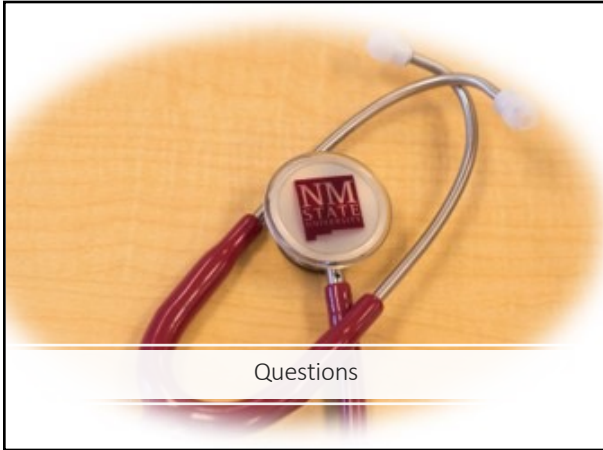
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Nurse Anesthesiology Program Planning



- Awarded a \$100,000 grant from the NM Board of Nursing to support program development.
- Launched a \$1.25 million fundraising campaign to support program development and launch
- Consulting team is assisting SON director develop curriculum, clinical training requirements, clinical sites and all documents required for nurse anesthesia program accreditation.
- Nurse anesthesia education program accreditation visit in April 2022
- Accept 18 students in January 2023 and 18-24 students each year thereafter

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