

**UNM HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
PRIMARY CARE
NURSE PRACTITIONER EDUCATION**

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**Note: This is not a formal budget request at this time.
This proposal is currently being reviewed in the UNM approval process.**

**Adequacy of New Mexico's
Healthcare Systems Workforce**

**Department of Health and Allied Agencies report to
LFC May 15, 2013:**

"...shortage of 236 NPs in NM. The true number is probably much higher." (p. 6)

"New Mexico's limited production of NPs and PAs will inhibit the state's ability to expand its primary care workforce." (p. 12)

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Primary Care Need in NM:

- 1) NM is seriously underserved in terms of access to primary care providers. All but one county (32 of 33) are designated all or part Health Professions Shortage Areas (HPSAs).
- 2) In 2011, the estimated underserved population living in primary care health professional shortage areas was 29.9% in NM, compared to 11.2% in the United States.
- 3) NM ranks 47th in the nation for the number of nurses per 100,000 population (669 per 100,000).
- 4) NM is ranked 50th out of 50 states for access to health care.
- 5) NM has over 22,000 nurses registered to practice, many of whom intend to become advanced practice nurses.
- 6) FNPs and CNMs are clearly needed to provide primary care for the state and region, and there are hundreds of nurses awaiting the opportunity.

References:

1. 2011, *Health Resources and Services Administration*. Retrieved June 28, 2013, from <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/HPSASearch.aspx>.
2. New Mexico Board of Nursing A (NMBON) Annual Report, 2011

3

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Primary Care Need in NM (continued):

- 7)FNPs and CNMs hold prescriptive privileges in NM and can see uninsured patients as well as those who are covered by Medicaid, Medicare, and commercial insurance carriers.
- 8)Increased access for women's services. Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) deliver more than a third of the vaginal births in New Mexico.
- 9)Historical data from UNM College of Nursing indicate that a majority of the nurse practitioner graduates remain in NM to work. (FNP and PNP over 90%; CNM 70%) Increased access for primary care services in rural areas. Nationally, about 20% of NPs practice in rural and frontier areas.
- 10)Delivery of quality health care. Malpractice rates remain low for NPs; nationally, only 2% have been named as primary defendants in a malpractice case.

References:

1. 2011, *Health Resources and Services Administration*. Retrieved June 28, 2013, from <http://hpsafind.hrsa.gov/HPSASearch.aspx>.
2. New Mexico Board of Nursing A (NMBON) Annual Report, 2011

4

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Objectives:

- 1) Address the anticipated needs of ACA. Some of the ACA needs:
 - a) ACA fills in gaps in coverage for the poorest Americans by giving states the option to expand Medicaid to individuals under 65 years of age with income below 133 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL)
 - b) ACA will provide new coverage options for young adults. Health plans are now required to allow parents to keep their children under age 26 without job-based coverage on their family coverage.
 - c) December 2011, 26,000 young adults in New Mexico gained insurance coverage as a result of the health care law.
 - d) ACA provides numerous provisions aimed at reducing disparities in access to care.
- 2) Address **Primary Care Needs** for the State of NM by increasing NP and CNM student enrollment.

5


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UNM/HSC Primary Care Nurse Education FY15 Expansion Request

The College of Nursing will request Recurring I&G funding in order to increase enrollment in several of our nursing graduate programs.

- 12 additional masters level students will be admitted each year.
- This funding will support the increased enrollment until formula funding is available.
- In order to sustain the increased enrollment beginning in FY15 recurring appropriation would be required.
- Once formula funding is available the recurring appropriation will be reduced.

Measures:

- 1) Increase graduate admissions by 12 students each year.
- 2) Graduate an additional 50% (12 students) at the end of two years.
- 3) Certification exam pass rate for Advance Practice Nurses above 80%.
- 4) 80% of Advance Practice Nursing students will have at least one rural rotation.

6


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