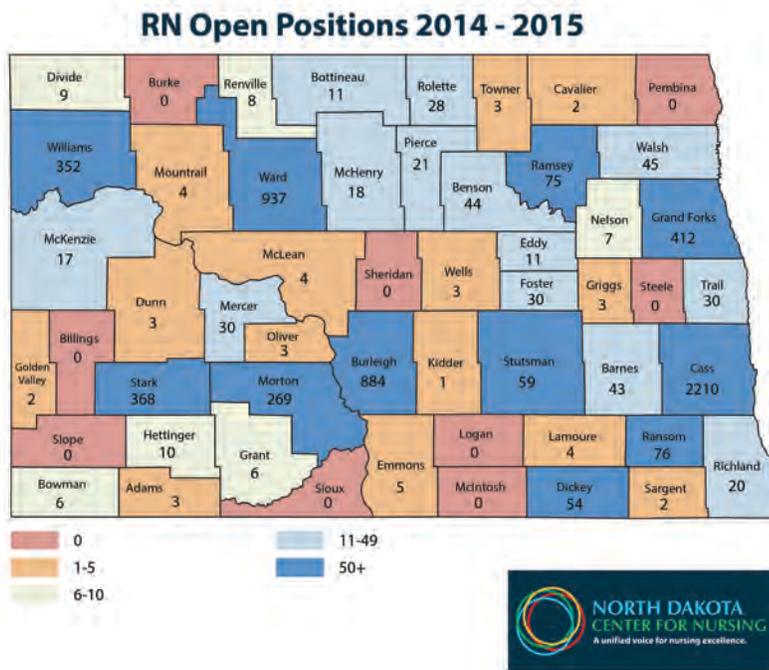


NDSU's College of Health Professions provides a critical link to supply steady stream of health professionals serving North Dakota

The state of North Dakota currently faces a critical shortage of health care professionals, especially in the field of nursing, with the need likely to increase substantially in the coming years.

A national study projects North Dakota will have 4,430 registered nurse openings through 2020, according to a report from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. How do we meet current and future needs in a state where there are 55 medically underserved areas, according to the Health Resources and Services Administration?



For 2014-15, the average number of job openings for nurses in North Dakota was:

- 511 openings/month for RNs (total RN postings of 6,132)
- 112 openings/month for LPNs (total LPN postings of 1,342)
- 60 openings/month for Nurse Practitioners (total postings of 722), majority in Cass, Grand Forks and Williams counties
- Vacancy rates for RNs at 7.3% for rural hospitals and 8.10% for urban hospitals in 2014
- The ratio of RNs to population is anticipated to drop 39% by 2032
- North Dakota has 41 federally designated, medically underserved areas

Data from the January 2016 North Dakota Nursing Education, Supply and Demand Chartbook, North Dakota Center for Nursing

The role of the NDSU College of Health Professions to address workforce needs

NDSU's College of Health Professions provides a critical link to supply a steady stream of health professionals serving North Dakota and it is bursting at the seams, due to high demand for its programs.

- From 1995 to 2016, enrollment in the College of Health Professions grew 208%, from 650 students to more than 2,000 students
- Approximately 80% of NDSU nursing graduates stay in the state
- Based on 2014-15 enrollment figures, NDSU's nursing program has the highest nursing program enrollment in the state
- More than 90% of practicing pharmacists in the state are NDSU graduates
- Students receive the most up-to-date training possible to serve patients, but limited physical space and other factors constrain the number of students who can be admitted to the programs
- Grant-funded research in the College of Health Professions grew significantly in recent years to its current level of \$30M cumulative grants awarded

NDSU is responding to the region's critical health care workforce needs by:

- Expanding the pre-licensure BSN program from 64 graduates per year to 96/year, with the plan to expand to 128/year; with program increases constrained by accreditation concerns that cite lack of sufficient space
- Graduating 80 students per year from NDSU Nursing at Sanford Health in Bismarck (pre-licensure BSN)
- Strengthening the LPN to BSN program which graduates ~32/year
- Providing a blended online RN to BSN program which will eventually graduate up to 60/year
- Expanding the BSN to DNP program to the Bismarck campus to graduate 5/year in Bismarck and 10/year in Fargo
- Implementing expansion plans that ultimately will lead to producing approximately 315 nursing graduates annually, including Fargo and Bismarck locations
- Forging an educational model where students in pharmacy, nursing, dietetics, and social work collaborate as an interprofessional team to ultimately improve the quality of health care

Sudro Hall built in 1960

While the three-story, 62,000-square-foot Sudro Hall has seen minor renovations over the years and a 13,000-square-foot addition built in 2002, much of its construction bears the mark of an era where health care education was delivered very differently than today. Accrediting agencies also cited these challenges in their reports after onsite visits.



Need for Sudro Hall addition

- Ensure successful implementation of expansion plans to address critical workforce shortages of health professions in the state, especially in nursing
- Promote collaborative learning and research
- Address accreditation concerns about space shortages that impede improvements needed for continued accreditation
- Enhance teaching, research, clinical lab, student study spaces and library space
- Upgrade technology to more effectively train students in their professions
- Alleviate space shortages for student classrooms
- Lessen the need for separate leased space for nursing and public health programs, now located off campus
- Establish space for interprofessional education where students work in collaborative teams, just as they will in hospitals, clinics and other health care settings upon graduation

Goals of the project

- Construction of approx. 94,000 square-foot addition to allow further program expansion and to enhance educational facilities of existing Sudro Hall building at an estimated \$28M
- Teaching and research space in a six-story facility
- Clinical labs
- Student study areas and Health Science Library
- Offices

A commitment to North Dakota

NDSU's College of Health Professions and its predecessors have served the state since 1902. The College of Health Professions includes the School of Pharmacy, School of Nursing, Department of Allied Sciences, the Department of Public Health, Family HealthCare Pharmacy and the North Dakota Telepharmacy Project. Approximately 80,000 rural citizens have had their pharmacy services retained, restored or established through the Telepharmacy program, adding approximately 80 to 100 jobs, and approximately \$26.5 million annually in economic impact to the local rural economy.

