

PENNSYLVANIA'S HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE IS FACING A CHALLENGE

The American Nurses Association has called the worker shortage a "national crisis."



SHORTAGE OF MILLIONS OF NURSES

According to an analysis conducted for the AHA there is a projected national shortage of up to 3.2 million healthcare workers by 2026.



HIRING STATS

AHA projects that America will need to hire at least 200,000 nurses per year through 2033 to meet increased demand and to replace those leaving the profession.



LARGEST PROJECTED GAP IS HERE IN PA

The Commonwealth is projected to have a deficit of 20,345 registered nurses by 2026; the largest projected gap of registered nurses in the country.



DENTAL ASSISTANTS & HYGIENISTS ARE IN-DEMAND

The Pennsylvania Center for Workforce Information & Analysis projects a 13 percent increase in demand for dental office employees by 2030.

THE PROBLEM

Healthcare providers across the country are sounding the alarm about the significant staffing shortages in the field. The **American Hospital Association** (AHA) suggests that the staffing crisis – including critical shortages of physicians, nurses, and other allied health professionals – could jeopardize access to care and lead to poor health outcomes. Some of the largest projected shortages are expected to be in **Pennsylvania**.



IMAGINE

community colleges are a way
out of the healthcare crisis

THE SOLUTION

Community colleges can help to increase the pipeline of nurses and allied health professionals to address this significant challenge. Community colleges grant more than 75 percent of nursing associate degrees in the Commonwealth and produce professionals who are highly trained, highly skilled and pass the NCLEX – the nursing certification exam – at rates comparable to or higher than the national average.

OUR RECOMMENDATION

Pennsylvania's community colleges are recommending the Commonwealth adopt a comprehensive approach and make strategic investments to address the healthcare workforce shortage. These investments include:

HEALTHCARE CAREER EXPLORATION

Support expansion of healthcare career exploration and development activities and programs in secondary schools including:
\$10M for Career Exploration
\$15M for Dual Enrollment

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Implement a \$35M scholarship program for individuals seeking a credential in a healthcare field at a Pennsylvania community college

EXPAND BSN OPPORTUNITIES

Authorize community colleges to award the BSN and/or provide funding for ADN-BSN partnerships on community college campuses.

INVEST IN EQUIPMENT

Provide \$15M capital funding for the colleges to invest in high-quality, industry standard laboratories, equipment, virtual reality simulations, and mannequins

Community College of Allegheny County | Community College of Beaver County | Bucks County Community College | Butler County Community College
Delaware County Community College | Erie County Community College of PA | HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College | Lehigh Carbon Community College
Luzerne County Community College | Montgomery County Community College | Northampton Community College | Pennsylvania Highlands Community College
Community College of Philadelphia | Reading Area Community College | Westmoreland County Community College

NEXT STEPS

If you want to learn more or partner with community colleges to address the healthcare workforce crisis in Pennsylvania, please contact:

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