



Clinical Education Study Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board

The Clinical Education Task was formed at an ad hoc committee of the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board and the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers.

The mission of the Task Force was to develop recommendations that will expand the capacity of the clinical education system to allow for an increase in the number of students served within Pennsylvania's nursing programs.

The long-term goal is to increase the number of graduates from nursing programs who successfully obtain licensure, upgrade their skills, and practice nursing in Pennsylvania.

The Task Force identified and prioritized three major issues that influence clinical education capacity in this report:

- Faculty Capacity
- Clinical Sites
- Health Care Technology

The Faculty Capacity section of this report explains the impact that a shortage of clinical faculty can have on the availability of clinical experiences and the quality of clinical education. A multitude of entities, including the Pennsylvania Department of Health, collect information regarding the nursing profession in the Commonwealth. The culmination of this data suggest there is a need for more nurse educators in the Commonwealth. However, there is a need to modify and streamline data collection and analysis methods.

Policy makers and practitioners also are concerned about the availability of clinical sites, the quality of experiences students receive at sites, and how these circumstances affect

Client

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
PA Workforce Investment Board

Location

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The Hill Group's Role

- Strategy Formulation
- Policy Analysis
- Market Research
- Project Coordination
- Focus Group Facilitation
- Change Management
- Industry Cluster Development
- Strategic Planning
- Group Facilitation
- Branding

Results

- Develop methodology to forecast statewide and regional supply and demand for nurse faculty
- Support the creation and sustainability of opportunities to expand supply of qualified faculty
- Develop practices to motivate nursing students and experienced nurses to become nursing faculty
- Create/support clinical receptor development programs for students
- Develop a State-wide clinical site database to maximize the availability and use of clinical sites
- Support use of clinical education technologies and simulated learning in nursing education

the supply of nurses. The Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing (Board) collects clinical education data through its Agency Data Form; however, this information is not available in an aggregate form. Therefore, it is difficult to know whether the commonwealth has an abundance or dearth of clinical sites.

Health educators increasingly rely on varying forms of technology to aid in instructing new generations of health care professionals. Advancements in the sophistication of technology make it an important tool for clinical education. Technology allows nursing students to practice standardized skills in a controlled environment. This minimizes risk and maximizes the positive outcomes of clinical education such as increased confidence, competency, and collaboration.

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