

MEMORANDUM

To: Toni Christopherson, Director of Nursing & Allied Health, Yuba College

From: Ebony J. Benzing, Research Manager, North/Far North Center of Excellence

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Re: Program endorsement request for 30-Unit LVN-to-RN Option

Background

Yuba College contacted the North (Greater Sacramento) Center of Excellence to request labor market information for the 30-Unit LVN-to-RN Option program. This memo aims to support the college's program development and modification process.

In March 2021, the North (Greater Sacramento) Center of Excellence authored a new program endorsement report, "[Nursing in the Greater Sacramento Region](#)." This report provides the base for the data included in this memo; please refer to that report for additional information.

This memo provides a brief analysis of occupational demand and program supply data to assess labor market gaps. Data is provided for the seven-county North subregion and comes from EMSI. Occupations are aligned to career education programs using the Center of Excellence TOP-to-CIP-to-SOC crosswalk and the ONet OnLine education crosswalk.

Summary of Findings

- The North (Greater Sacramento) region held just over 26,000 jobs for registered and licensed vocational nurses in 2019. Nursing jobs are projected to increase by 8% over the next five years.
- Nursing occupations are projected to have 1,844 annual openings in the North (Greater Sacramento) region over the next five years.
- Wage data shows that nurses earn \$11 to \$32 above the subregion's living wage of \$14.53 per hour.
- Thirty-four percent of registered nurses have education levels consistent with community college offerings (some college or associate degrees). An additional 53% of registered nurses have a bachelor's degree.

- Awards data analysis shows that postsecondary institutions conferred an average of 672 awards (associate and bachelor degrees) in registered nursing programs over the last three academic years.

Recommendations

- A supply gap analysis of registered nurses in the Greater Sacramento region shows an undersupply of registered nurses (1,844 annual openings vs. 672 awards). However, the region's current health and economic climate have limited the ability of students to access necessary clinical training.
 - The coronavirus pandemic has impacted the availability and capacity of clinical training spots within the region and residency training support.
 - Furthermore, local employers have been searching for registered nurses with specialized skills and advanced certifications, such as critical care nursing (compared to newly graduated registered nurses).
- The North/Far North COE also recommends that any community college considering expanding entry-level nursing programs identify and work with local employers to ensure new registered nurses' clinical placements and job opportunities.
- The North/Far North Center of Excellence recommends exercising caution in expanding entry-level registered nursing programs.

Please contact Ebony Benzing, COE Research Manager, for further information at Ebony.Benzing@losrios.edu or 916-563-3215.