

## **Increasing the Nursing Workforce**

### **SUPPORT EFFORTS TO EXPAND NURSING WORKFORCE THAT:**

- Increases workforce funding
  - A career in nursing will be an even more attractive, lucrative option if students are incentivized by loan forgiveness after school to avoid struggling with excessive student loan debt.  
<http://www.forgetstudentloandebt.com/student-loan-relief-programs/nursing-student-loan-forgiveness-programs/>
- Addresses the impending nursing shortage
  - The U.S. is projected to experience a shortage of Registered Nurses (RNs) that is expected to intensify as Baby Boomers age and the need for health care grows.  
<http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/News/Factsheets/Faculty-Shortage-Factsheet-2017.pdf>
  - The 60-69 age groups comprises 17.2% or 8,835 licensed RNs in Iowa.  
[https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/2015%20Trends%20in%20Nursing%20Report%2010192016%20FINAL\\_0.pdf](https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/2015%20Trends%20in%20Nursing%20Report%2010192016%20FINAL_0.pdf)
  - The Institute Of Medicine's evidenced-based recommendations recognize that patient needs have become more complicated and that nurses must attain higher levels of education in order to have the requisite competencies to deliver high quality care.  
<http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health/Report-Brief-Education.aspx>
- Increases the number of nursing faculty
  - In Iowa from 2015-2017 it is expected that 94 nursing faculty will retire.  
[https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/2015%20Trends%20in%20Nursing%20Report%2010192016%20FINAL\\_0.pdf](https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/media/2015%20Trends%20in%20Nursing%20Report%2010192016%20FINAL_0.pdf)
  - A shortage of nursing school faculty is restricting nursing program enrollments. Schools turned away 64,067 qualified applicants from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2016 due to an insufficient number of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors, and budget constraints.  
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