

Information for Healthcare Decision Makers

NOW AVAILABLE – Tuition Scholarships for Nurses

The Wisconsin Center for Nursing is now accepting tuition scholarship applications for the *Nurses Respond Now Priority Training: Addressing the Needs of Vulnerable Populations During a Public Health Emergency*.

Why Emergency Preparedness is a Wisconsin Nursing Workforce Issue

A public health emergency magnifies the negative health consequences experienced by disparate and vulnerable populations including greater health risk, poorer health outcomes and higher death rates. The Wisconsin Center for Nursing has identified that a nursing workforce better prepared to ensure public health initiatives are supported, vulnerable populations are identified, and nurses are able to offer strategies to reduce risk will contribute positively towards improving potential health equity and outcomes during public health emergencies.

What We Know About Nurses Knowledge and Public Health Emergencies

Currently U.S. nursing education, healthcare, and public health systems do not prepare nurses to fully respond to public health emergencies through an equity lens. Social determinants of health are not well integrated into undergraduate and graduate nursing education resulting in nurses limited knowledge to assess for and address vulnerability. Nurses also lack information about emergency preparedness and disaster response. The Future of Nursing Report 2020–2030 identified that 78% of nurses have little or no familiarity with emergency preparedness and community based public health emergency preparedness. Wisconsin nursing workforce data supports these findings.

WCN's Emergency Preparedness Nursing Workforce Response

WCN has developed the Nurses Respond Now Priority Training focused on preparing frontline clinical nurses to identify and address the needs of at risk and vulnerable populations during a public health emergency. This award winning curriculum supports rapid translation of new knowledge into practice and provides nurses with practice ready tools and resources shown to improve health outcomes.

WCN is also working closely with WI Department of Health Services through their Healthcare Emergency Resource Consortiums (HERC) to ensure that frontline clinical nurses have a pathway for connecting at risk people with emergency response services and initiatives in each region.

What Do We Mean By Front Line Clinical Nurses?

For the purposes of this Training, frontline clinical nurses are described as “those nurses who last touch the patient before going back into the community and/or who connect with them in the community where people live their health”. This includes:

- Registered Nurses responsible for discharge planning, care transitions, case management, care management, population health management and care coordination.
- Nurses working in emergency departments and urgent care.
- Nurses responsible for transitional care management and chronic care management.
- LPN/LVNs, RNs and Advanced Practice RNs working across all practice settings including acute care, primary care and long term services and supports including nursing home, assisted living, hospice, and home health.
- Any nurse seeking to contribute positively toward improving potential health outcomes and ensuring more equitable care is provided for all people during a public health emergency.

Benefits to the Nurse Who Completes This Training

Nurses who complete this training will become part of a strengthened nursing workforce prepared to better assist at risk and vulnerable people, support public health initiatives and ensure health equity during a public health emergency.

Benefits to the Healthcare Organization

Healthcare organizations benefit by having nurses better prepared to meet the health care needs of patients and populations, who can support public health initiatives and contribute to the community response needed to ensure health equity during a public health emergency. This priority training meets CMS initiatives to ensure social determinants of health are addressed and supports organizational health equity goals.

Apply Now

Training Information: <https://nationalrn.com/nurses-respond-now/>

Scholarship Details & Application: <https://nationalrn.com/nurses-respond-now-scholarship/>



Questions? Contact:

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As a recipient of the Center for Championing Nursing in America Innovation Award, this Priority Training provides individual nurses and healthcare organizations an effective way to meet the Future of Nursing 2020-2030 recommendation of preparing nurses to respond to public health emergencies; and promotes a Culture of Health, an initiative of the AARP Foundation, AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF).