

Six Recommendations to Address the U.S. Nursing Shortage



START WITH HIGH SCHOOLERS

Increasing awareness of nursing as a career option in high school could, over time, increase the number of applicants to nursing schools and other health career training programs.



HIGHLIGHT ALTERNATIVE FINANCING OPTIONS

Financial demands related to nurse training can deter people from entering the profession. Increasing awareness of loan financing options and high-quality, short-term training can help increase the accessibility and affordability of a nursing career.



OFFER PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

Providing networking opportunities, academic support, and in-depth job previews could curb student drop-out rates, and creating supportive work environments could lower turnover once nurses are on the job.



ENHANCE EDUCATION RESOURCES

Expanding nursing education programs by recruiting more nursing faculty and offering health care placements to student nurses could result in a robust workforce pipeline.



MAXIMIZE LICENSURE RECIPROACITY

Allowing nurses with a license in one state to practice in other states could alleviate barriers and encourage mobility, particularly among military spouses.



CONSIDER HIGH-QUALITY ASSESSMENTS

Administering skill assessments can be an alternative to certain licensing requirements. This could open opportunities for qualified nursing professionals who were trained in international locations.