

Eastern Kentucky University

President David McFaddin



EKU Nursing Initiatives

To grow and strengthen current healthcare education and support future workforce needs of the Commonwealth

92% of EKU graduates with health-related majors remain in Kentucky to practice



Nursing: Strengthening the Pipeline



EKU[®]
SCHOOL OF NURSING

What Impacts Nursing Enrollment?

- **Lack of academic readiness in STEM related high school courses**
- **Limited specialty clinical sites**
Pediatric and mental health
- **Difficult to recruit faculty (full-time and part-time)**
Difficult to compete with current hourly rate of bedside nurses
New graduate salaries are equivalent to initial academic faculty salary

Barriers to Advanced Degrees for Nursing Professionals - RN-BSN, MSN (FNP & PMHNP), DNP

Stepping away from advanced education or not currently applying due to:

- **Emotional & physical exhaustion**
Working overtime due to nursing shortage
- **Travel nursing pay**
Pays more than advanced degree
- **Homeschooling children during the pandemic, limited or high-cost childcare options**
- **Working more due to spouse/partner unemployment**
- **Caregiving for elderly or ill family members**

RN-to-BSN Program

#1 Best in Kentucky



MSN Program

Fortune National Ranking
#20 Best Online
Master's in Nursing



Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree

- To meet healthcare needs of service region, restructured Associate and Baccalaureate programs to form the School of Nursing
- Program is growing with more than 100 students
- Curriculum plan designed for working students with family obligations
- Students on campus one day a week, plus 1-2 clinical days in home region when possible – examples: Laurel, Estill, Pulaski, Boyle and Rockcastle counties to decrease commute time



EKU Manchester Campus and Somerset Community College

Collaboration on nursing programs



Nursing: Creative Approaches to Support our Students



\$634,500 Healthcare Workforce Collaborative Grant -- Enhancing the Simulation Center

- Provide additional clinical experiences for pediatric and mental health nursing
- Add high fidelity infant and child mannequins for simulation experiences
- Purchase Hearing Voices for simulated mental health experiences



Community Partners



**Baptist Health Richmond
donated seven Stryker beds
for simulation center**

\$100,000 in bed technology



New Mental Health Center

Relocated counseling/psychology clinic adjacent to Student Health Services Center

Observation hours for Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students



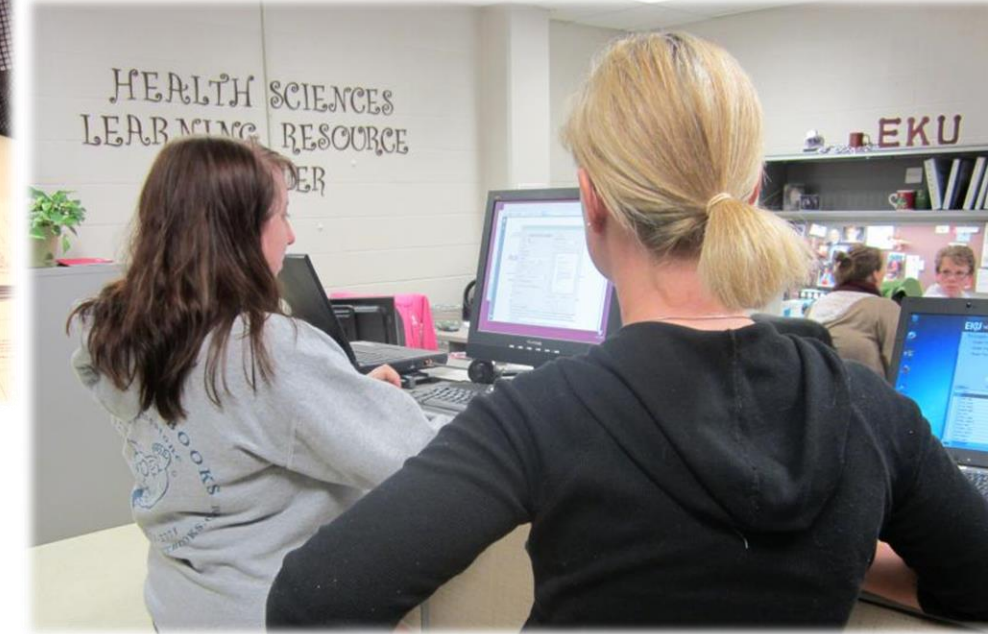
Kentucky Work Ready Scholarship Program

- Changed ASN (Associate of Science in Nursing) degree to AAS (Associate of Applied Science) in nursing so students are eligible for the Work Ready Scholarship, which pays tuition and course fees for associate degree!
- Students eligible beginning Fall 2022



Student Resources

- Health Sciences Learning Resource Center
- Test preparation
- Study Buddy peer tutoring program
- On site research librarian, Karen Gilbert
- Learning Assistants (LAs)
- Campus Childcare
- Colonel's Cupboard
- Mental health providers & counseling



\$100,000 2nd Annual Anthem Rural Medicine Scholarship



EKU is a Vets Ready University



School of Nursing recognizes military training and on job experience

Allows veterans with certain military credentials to graduate from the AAS program in 3 semesters

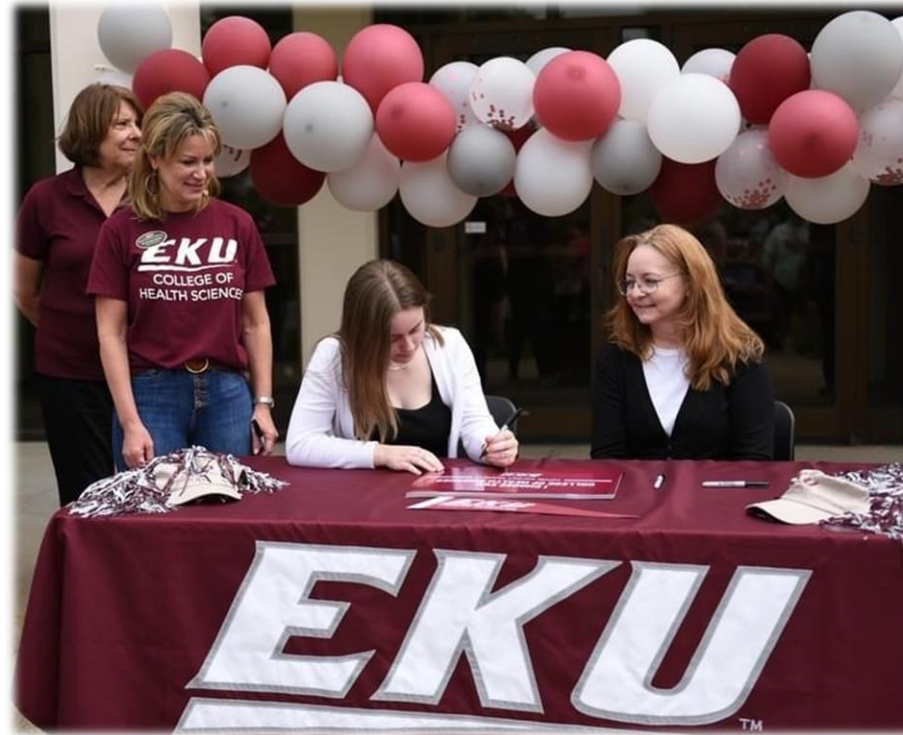


Corporate Partner Tuition Reduction



- ECU is working with corporate partners (examples Humana, Baptist Health and CHI) to cohort employees as they obtain AAS, RN-BSN, MSN, or DNP degrees.
- Course assignments may be tailored to nursing related organizational needs.
- Cohorting allows for increased student support, team building and greater student satisfaction.

CHS Signing Day



BookSmart

- Free text books for all undergraduate students
- This is an investment in our students and is meant to ensure that all undergraduates have every opportunity to succeed and earn a college degree



Outreach to Future Kentucky Healthcare Professionals



Dual Credit Pre-Nursing Course



- NSC 243 Communication in Healthcare
- Fall 2022 launch at Madison Southern High School
- Spring 2023 launch at surrounding high schools



Outreach and Diversity



Engaging Middle & High School Students

2nd Annual Summer Camp with high school students from Madison, Laurel and Pike Counties – open to any high school student.



Middle School Students: Rogers Explorers Camp



Richmond Medical Explorers Program

Developing early experiences for middle and high school students to explore health related careers.

EKU partnering with Baptist Health Richmond

- Biweekly after school meetings at ECU with fun, engaging science activities on campus and at Baptist Health Richmond shadowing health professionals in the hospital setting.



Community Engagement

- Public Health nursing students support on-campus and community vaccination clinics
- Supporting students impacted by the Eastern KY flash flooding



**We are grateful for the efforts of
Kentucky Policymakers to strengthen
and grow the healthcare workforce
of the Commonwealth.**

