



## New Mexico Statewide Nursing Curriculum *Changes in the Nursing Workforce*

### What is NMNEC?

The New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC) is a collaborative of *every* state-funded nursing program across the state. The consortium has created a common statewide curriculum in nursing that paves the way for seamless transfer of nursing credits. This provides a direct path for students to complete an associate's degree (ADN) or baccalaureate degree (BSN) in nursing through their hometown community college *or* their local university.

### ADN and BSN-Prepared Nurses

This common statewide nursing curriculum was developed for students pursuing an ADN or a BSN degree. At the time of admission, students will select either the ADN or BSN track. Those who choose the BSN track will be able to complete the BSN at their local community college *or* university. This means that the BSN degree can be obtained at eighteen locations in New Mexico (by 2020)!



Universities and Community Colleges are partnering to enable co-enrolled students the opportunity to receive their ADN *and* BSN upon graduation. Those who choose the ADN track may continue their education at a later date by enrolling in an RN-to-BSN program.

### Conceptual-Based Curriculum

NMNEC students are taught in a conceptually-based manner throughout their coursework producing nurses who are patient-centered, who think critically, and are able to recognize the needs of patients. A conceptually-based curriculum promotes students' understanding and application of health/illness and professional nursing concepts in the provision of nursing care. Health and illness concepts illustrate "patterns" observed in diseases/disorders regardless of etiology or population. Recognition of these patterns can then be translated to many different nursing situations. Exemplars (diseases/disorders) of the concepts are selected for the curriculum based on state, national and global incidence and prevalence. Teaching the concepts and exemplars includes covering lifespan, health promotion continuum (primary, secondary, tertiary care), and nursing care in various environments (i.e. community, in-patient).

### The Roll-Out

Three years ago, the pre-licensure BSN was offered in two state-funded schools: UNM and NMSU. Today the NMNEC common statewide Curriculum is offered in ten schools, of which, nine offer the BSN degree option. In the coming years, we project all state-funded ADN and BSN nursing programs will be on board. You may refer to the NMNEC website for a detailed listing of each school's progression in the implementation process [www.nmneec.org/curriculum.aspx](http://www.nmneec.org/curriculum.aspx) and click on "NMNEC Schools: Implementation Grid" or "NMNEC Enrollment ea Term w Grads 2014-2018."

