**FY 2023 Nurse Support Program II Funded Proposal Abstracts**

**NSP II-23-101**

**Allegany College of Maryland**

***Evening Cohort Expansion in Western Maryland***

**$749,215, 4-year grant**

**Project Director: Rick Cooper,** [**rcooper@acm.edu**](mailto:rcooper@acm.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: UPMC-Western Maryland and Garrett Regional Medical Center**

As the only institution of higher education in Western Maryland that offers an associate degree nursing program, the Allegany College of Maryland nursing program will double the capacity of the evening nursing program in Allegany County to create an opportunity for an additional 30 RN qualified nurses every other year (60 new graduates after year four); and increase the student retention rate in the nursing program to 90% of evening nursing students annually. ACM will meet part of the nursing shortage by doubling the capacity of the evening RN program. This will result in a larger number of highly skilled nurses that are qualified and available to serve as bedside nurses throughout the state of Maryland.

**NSP II-23-104**

**Anne Arundel Community College**

***Expanding Nursing Capacity***

**$444,652, 3-year grant**

**Project Director: Scott Olden,** [**smolden@aacc.edu**](mailto:smolden@aacc.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

Anne Arundel Community College will increase the number of pre-licensure graduates by 114 students by 2025 by designing, implementing, and evaluating modalities in online instruction to expand class capacity and prepare students for graduation. A full-time nursing online Instructional Specialist will evaluate current online activities in each nursing course and collaborate with nursing faculty to revise and enhance online instruction.

**NSP II 23-110**

**Salisbury University**

***Lead Nursing Forward-continuation***

**$617,392, 5-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Lisa Seldomridge,** [**laseldomridge@salisbury.edu**](mailto:laseldomridge@salisbury.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

This project builds on the success of [www.LeadNursingForward.org](http://www.LeadNursingForward.org), a comprehensive web resource with easy-to-access information about becoming a registered nurse and nurse educator in Maryland. The website aims to increase the number of academic and hospital nurse educators by connecting job seekers with open positions found on the searchable career portal. Through continued management and operation, expanded publicity and outreach, expected outcomes include an increase in website page views by 50%, doubling the number of registered users, and additional utilization of the site. All Cohen Scholars with service obligations will maintain profiles on the website; all Maryland nursing programs and all NSP II hospitals with open educator positions will use the site to publicize their vacancies. These coordinated efforts will help increase the number of nurse educators in full and part-time positions to support expanded enrollments in Maryland’s nursing programs.

**NSP II-23-111**

**Towson University**

***Entry Level Master of Science, Nursing***

**$1,258,176, 4-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Hayley Mark,** [**hmark@towson.edu**](mailto:hmark@towson.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

This implementation grant addresses the NSP II goal to increase the enrollment and graduation of nurses who then practice in Maryland hospitals and health systems. A survey of nurses found that they are quitting their jobs in significant rates across the country; 62% of hospitals reported a nurse vacancy rate above 7.5% (NSI, 2021). The Towson University Department of Nursing (TUDON) will implement an Entry Level Master’s in Nursing (ELMS) Program which will increase nursing graduates to help fill this void. The ELMS program is a five-semester experience designed for individuals with non-nursing bachelor’s degrees who wish to pursue a career in nursing at the graduate level. Twenty-four students will be enrolled in fall 2022. Enrollment will increase by 6 students every year to reach a total of 80 graduates over the grant period.

**NSP II-23-112**

**University of Maryland Global Campus**

***Implementing an ATB Program***

**$742,510, 4-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Mary Schroeder,** [**mary.schroeder@umgc.edu**](mailto:mary.schroeder@umgc.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: College of Southern Maryland**

There continues to be a need to find ways to increase the number of Bachelor of Science (BSN) prepared students in the state. To facilitate this goal, the Nursing program at University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) will offer students a convenient online option for completing their BSN degree. Working with partner institutions, UMGC’s Associate to Baccalaureate (ATB) program will increase the number of BSN prepared nurses by 50 with an additional pipeline of 132 students working towards attaining their BSN degree by 8.30.25, increase availability of the ATB Program option to 10 community college by 2026, and complete curriculum redesign of UMGC’s nursing program to ensure curriculum alignment with AACN essentials and a seamless transition to BSN courses by mid-2023.

**NSP II-23-201**

**Coppin State University**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$25,535, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Crystal Day-Black,** [**cblack@coppin.edu**](mailto:cblack@coppin.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

Coppin State University College of Health Professions Helene Fuld School of Nursing Baccalaureate Nursing program’s resource grant is to advance the cognitive and affective domains of the pre-licensure nursing students through teaching-learning strategies that integrate instructional technology incorporating ExamSoft. The CSU Blackboard Learning Management System does not include the capacity to develop the alternate test item types that the pre-licensure student must be exposed to prepare for the Next Generation NCLEX-RN. This grant will help fully prepare the identified cohorts to be successful on the first-time NCLEX-RN examination.

**NSP II-23-202**

**Howard Community College**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$83,575, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Archiena Beaver,** [**abeaver@howardcc.edu**](mailto:abeaver@howardcc.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

The faculty of the Nurse Education Program (NEP) at Howard Community College have been preparing for the NCLEX Next Generation exam scheduled to start in April 2023. The NEP will purchase new testing software in order to adequately prepare students for the exam. ExamSoft is the software of choice because it provides questions in the new format for the Next Generation NCLEX examination.

As an added benefit, ExamSoft has partnered with NurseTim to create a robust test bank of new format questions that have been validated. Having a robust test bank as a ready resource will assist the faculty in providing immediate opportunities for students to practice the new format test questions in both formal and informal environments. This will also help to improve test-taking strategies, as well as increase familiarity and comfort with a computerized testing environment. Additionally, the immediate acquisition of validated questions will allow the NEP faculty time to build upon the test bank by creating quality questions, case studies, simulations, and other class activities to support the curriculum and student learning.

**NSP II-23-203**

**Johns Hopkins University**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$55,029, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Rita D’Aoust,** [**rdaoust1@jhu.edu**](mailto:rdaoust1@jhu.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

The overall purpose of this resource grant is to provide start-up costs for the implementation of the revised Next Generation (NGN) National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) including migration to an exam authoring system, ExamSoft to support NCLEX-RN NGN electronic testing at JHSON.

**NSP II-23-204**

**Notre Dame of Maryland University**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$10,172, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Rodnita Davis,** [**rdavis9@ndm.edu**](mailto:rdavis9@ndm.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

The School of Nursing at Notre Dame of Maryland University (NDMU) will purchase a bundle of resources for faculty who teach in didactic, clinical, and simulation settings. A revamping of the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) items include more focus on clinical judgment when making decisions. The School of Nursing will benefit from materials that complement faculty-focused resources already in use.

**NSP II-23-205**

**Prince George’s Community College**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$46,350, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Vivian Kuawogai,** [**vkuawogai@pgcc.edu**](mailto:vkuawogai@pgcc.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

PGCC seeks to increase the number of nursing students who pass the NCLEX-RN, passage of which is associated with taking practice exams such as the NCLEX. Second, there is a need to align the program with future changes to the NCLEX. The NGN will have a different format, asking questions within context and engaging the nurses to apply critical thinking and critical decision-making. To be successful, there is a need to align the program with future changes to the NCLEX test plan. Although currently implemented at PGCC, the grant will continue access for students to practice the NGN test items and benefit from other helpful didactic properties of the software.

**NSP II-23-206**

**Towson University**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$27,000, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Hayley Mark, hmark,** [**hmark@towson.edu**](mailto:hmark@towson.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

The NextGen NCLEX (NGN) is a new version of the NCLEX that is designed to assess clinical judgement in nursing. It will include 15 new item types that are a significant departure from the questions currently on the NCLEX exam. In order for nursing students to be successful on this exam and pass NCLEX, questions in this format must be included in their classes and on the exams in their courses. There is an urgency for faculty to be able to design and implement these questions as the NGN is expected to be implemented in the near future.

The Nurse Think project is a response to this critical need. Nurse Think is a partnership through NurseTim and ExamSoft. It provides pre-written, high-quality assessments that measure clinical judgment in the NGN format. This product will allow TUDON faculty to study and understand NGN type questions, practice writing their own questions, and then compare them to expert-written assessments.

**NSP II-23-207**

**Washington Adventist University**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$16,161, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Tijuana Griffin,** [**tgriffin@wau.edu**](mailto:tgriffin@wau.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

Well-constructed tests throughout the nursing program results in first time student success on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) licensing exam. This resource grant will implement a standardized platform testing WAU nursing program in Fall 2022 with ExamSoft. It will prepare students immediately for the major changes coming in the NCLEX, referred to as Next Generation NCLEX (NGN).

**NSP II-23-208**

**Wor-Wic Community College**

***Resource Grant-NGN***

**$26,080, 1-year grant**

**Project Director: Dr. Brenda Mister,** [**bmister@worwic.edu**](mailto:bmister@worwic.edu)

**Partners and Affiliates: None**

The National Council for State Boards of Nursing will roll out the NCLEX Next Generation model of exam items on the NCLEX-PN and NCLEX-RN examinations. Schools of nursing must prepare their current nursing students who are slated to complete their nursing degrees in Spring 2023. This preparation involves the development of NCLEX-style exam items with which to test our nursing students as they progress through our nursing programs. These test items must be those like the NCLEX Next Generation exam questions. The Next Generation questions will require much clinical reasoning utilizing the Clinical Judgment Model, whereby the test takers must decipher the bet means of action to care for clients portrayed in the unfolding case scenarios. The NurseThink Clinical Judgment Exams will be a powerful resource for the nursing faculty team to be able to utilize the clinical judgment exam items in the classroom, as well as the clinical and simulation settings. The faculty will also utilize these items on exams to begin testing our nursing students now, preparing them for success on the NCLEX Next Generation exams. First-time NCLEX success generates more licensed practical and registered nurses for the local healthcare workforce, alleviating the strains of the current critical nursing shortage. This resource will enable nursing faculty to build their own exams.