



MARYLAND ACTION COALITION

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FUTURE OF NURSING™ CAMPAIGN FOR ACTION

Streamlined Path to Adult and Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certification

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Abstract

The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) is in the process of developing a streamlined process for experienced nurse practitioners with other certifications returning to school and obtain their Doctor of Nursing Practice degree while obtaining the academic education needed to qualify for the Adult Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP) National Certification Exam. This work is made possible due to funding through the Nurse Support Program II that was awarded by the Maryland Higher Education Commission. In July 2008, the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Consensus Work Group completed the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation. The unintended outcome of this work is that all nationally certified adult nurse practitioners, or ANPs, currently hold a certification that is no longer offered. Another issue arising recently is with COVID-19. The currently practicing advanced practice nurses are in areas of practice they are considering changing from to a different APRN specialty area. We are facilitating a plan for nurses to increase their knowledge and skills, especially with the expectation that the population of people over the age of 60 will double by 2050, and the need for qualified health care providers for this population is crucial. This will also address the increase numbers of doctoral-prepared nurse practitioners.

Continued strategies to facilitate this streamlined path include:

- Structured plan of study to address gaps in academic requirements for the advanced nurse practitioner returning to school
- Targeted clinical experiences to develop expertise in management of different populations, such as older adults
- Development of online modules to supplement specific population content in the AGPCNP courses
- Development of a targeted market strategy to recruit potential applicants

This project is in its second year and has focused on marketing and recruitment of applicants. This presentation will detail the strategies for marketing and recruiting potential students.