

## Departmental Base Budget Overview

Department **College of Nursing**

Executive **Provost**

Index **411600**

Program **01**

**Base Budgets:**

1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	10-Year % Change
2,633,971	2,741,226	2,763,775	2,921,958	3,011,982	2,993,343	3,129,307	3,115,751	3,128,543	3,398,217	3,915,924	48.67%

Since 1937, the College of Nursing has been central to the land grant mission of Montana State University as the only state-assisted generic baccalaureate nursing program and the only graduate nursing program in Montana. The nationally-accredited baccalaureate program is offered at four sites – Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls and Missoula, and one satellite location in Kalispell. In August, 2004, upper division coursework was initiated on the Bozeman campus. On-site faculty provide education to and clinical supervision of students in approximately 150 health care agencies throughout the state.

The undergraduate program has had continuous approval by the State Board of Nursing since inception and continuous national accreditation since 1949. The entire baccalaureate program (two years of lower-division study and two years of upper-division study) can be completed at any campus. Baccalaureate graduates are prepared to take the national licensing exam for registered nurses (RN). The FY '05-'06 pass rate for those taking the exam for the first time was 95.60% and has averaged more than 90% for the past 16 years; the national average for FY '05-'06 was 87.52%. Upon graduation, approximately 71% work as registered nurses in Montana. Furthermore, the College of Nursing has achieved national recognition for excellence in programs which support the recruitment and success of Native American nursing students

The nationally-accredited graduate program leads to a master's in nursing (MN) degree and prepares students to take a national certification exam as a family nurse practitioner (FNP) or clinical nurse specialist (CNS). Both the FNP and CNS graduates are licensed as Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. Most FNP's have prescriptive authority. Every master's graduate in the FNP option, since it was made available in 1994, has successfully passed a national certification exam on the first try. Approximately 75% of these nurses have stayed to work as family nurse practitioners in Montana - many in rural areas. The Clinical Nurse Specialist option for advanced nursing practice was added to the graduate program in the fall semester of 2003. The option offers an education in the care of adults with complex acute and chronic health problems. The clinical nurse specialists have greater responsibility for the overview of patient care. Additionally, the Board of Regents approved the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) option at the November 2006 BOR meeting. This new option will prepare nurses for leadership roles in a variety of clinical settings and will also provide a strong foundation for nurses seeking preparation as nurse educators.

The graduate program can be accessed through any of the College's four campuses via teleconference, interactive video, and web-based or web-enhanced courses. Face-to-face classes are held in Bozeman once each year. Clinical supervision is provided by faculty on each campus site.

As of Fall semester 2006, 774 generic baccalaureate students and 33 graduate students were enrolled in the College. The breakdown for each campus follows. Billings: baccalaureate 178, graduate 4; Bozeman: baccalaureate 405, graduate 7; Great Falls: baccalaureate 74, graduate 11; Missoula: baccalaureate 97, graduate 11; Kalispell: baccalaureate 20.