TOWARD A MORE HIGHLY EDUCATED NURSING WORKFORCE

The nation will need a larger, more diverse, and more highly educated nursing workforce in coming years.

RN to BSN
Efficient pathway for ADNs to prepare for a broader RN role.

LPN
Licensed Practical Nurse certificates are conferred by high school training programs, vocational/technical schools, and community colleges.

ADN
Community colleges offer Associates Degrees in Nursing. Prepares the individual to become a registered nurse (RN).

BSN
Encompasses courses taught to ADNs, plus more in-depth study of sciences and leadership. Prepares new RNs, provides degree-completion for ADNs.

RN to MSN
Efficient pathway for nurses to pursue master's degrees and more specialized study.

MSN
Builds on BSN and focuses on a nursing specialty.

PhD and DNP
PhDs are for nurses who plan to conduct nursing research and become faculty; DNPs are for nurses seeking terminal degrees in nursing practice.

There are 2.74 million nurses now, but 495 thousand nurses will retire between now and 2020.

Needing 3.45 million nurses in 2020...

We will have to train 1.2 million new nurses.