News Release

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The Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing to Expand Traditional Program

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing will expand its traditional nursing program to students in the Permian Basin, El Paso and Abilene.

The Perry School of Nursing offers several alternative pathways to nursing education, such as web-based learning, throughout Texas, but this is the first time the school has offered a traditional classroom program at TTUHSC’s regional campuses.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recently announced the Perry School of Nursing as No. 1 in the state for 2008 graduation performance with 96.43 percent of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing students graduating. Also, 86.86 percent of these graduates passed the National Council Licensure Examination the first time.

The school will recruit up to 20 undergraduate students on each campus, thus increasing nursing school enrollment.

Texas produced almost 7,700 nurses in 2008 from initial RN licensure programs. By 2013, data predicts the state will need 15,199 nurses per year from these programs to meet the health care needs of Texans.

“We are dedicated to making sure West Texas has a reliable and sustained nursing workforce,” said Alexia Green, Ph.D., R.N., dean of the Perry School of Nursing. “This funding will allow us to further address the state and national nursing shortage by giving us the capability to accept more interested applicants and graduate higher numbers of qualified nurses.”

Two faculty members will be assigned to each campus to provide classroom curricula support and simulation education. Students will receive clinical training on site at local hospitals.

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