



Secrets to Successful Associate to Bachelor's Nursing Partnerships

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Since the release of the 2010 IOM report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, nurse educators have examined ways to produce a more highly educated nursing workforce. Compelling research that links a higher number of BSN prepared nurses in the workforce to better patient outcomes is providing the impetus for creative new partnerships in nursing education. At last, educators recognize that by embracing the richness of both ADN and BSN education programs, they can forge effective, inclusive partnerships that can help achieve the IOM's recommendation of 80% BSN by 2020. Affordable ADN-BSN dual enrollment partnership education models also serve to improve access to the BSN credential and contribute to a more diverse nursing workforce. This poster describes a grant-funded initiative led by an ADN program to create a dual enrollment Associate to Bachelor's (ATB) Nursing Option with four partner universities. The process of forming the partnerships, creating dual enrollment curriculum plans, and the successes and challenges experienced to date are outlined. Attendees will explore the progress that can be made in advancing the nursing profession if educators from community colleges and universities can work together to create seamless, affordable academic progression models.