



Investing in our health

by Tara Hulsey Feb 9, 2024 🗨️ 0

I have always said nursing is not just a career — it's a calling.



Tara Hulsey

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the nursing workforce shortage was put in the national spotlight. But even now, the demand for nurses continues to grow and is projected to expand well into the next decade.



The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the projected growth for nurses is double the national average for all occupations between now and 2032. There are more than 193,000 projected openings each year for registered nurses over the course of the next eight years.

The West Virginia University School of Nursing is well-equipped to educate and train future nurses to meet these needs with nursing programs located throughout the state (Beckley, Bridgeport, Charleston, Keyser and our flagship in Morgantown) and online offerings.

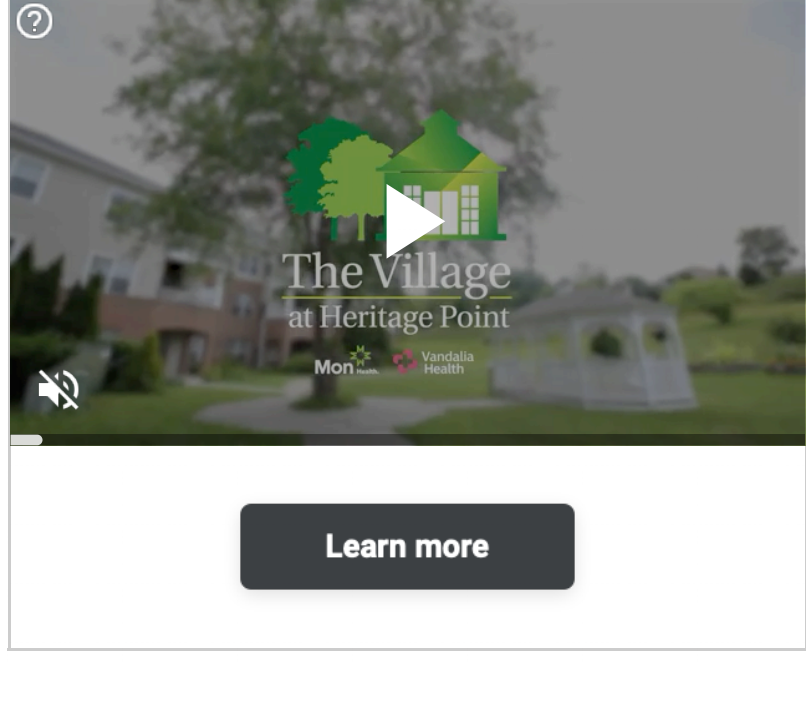
The demand for registered nurses is evident, but the demand for baccalaureate-prepared nurses is even greater.



In a 2011 report, The Future of Nursing, The Institute of Medicine called for increasing the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in the workforce to at least 80% to enhance patient safety.

A 2020 National Nursing Workforce Survey showed that the nursing workforce is falling short of this recommendation, with just over 65% of registered nurses having a bachelor's degree or greater. Multiple studies have shown that nurses who are baccalaureate-prepared deliver better patient outcomes.

Supporting WVU nursing programs is also an excellent way to build a more prosperous future for state residents. For example, a career in nursing with a median pay more than \$80,000 is well above the median household income in West Virginia of \$55,000.



We are incredibly grateful that Gov. Jim Justice has recognized this smart investment by providing funding for the Nursing Workforce Expansion Program over the last two years, which has allowed us to expand our Accelerated BSN program to our Bridgeport Campus. We are hopeful for the support of Gov. Justice's proposed \$30 million addition to this program.

Our newest campus in Bridgeport has expanded access for nontraditional students, like Miguel Carunungan, who already have a bachelor's degree to pursue a career in nursing. Miguel served as a combat medic in the U.S. Army and is set to graduate with his bachelor's degree in nursing in August. He plans to pursue a career in the emergency medicine field and eventually become a flight nurse.

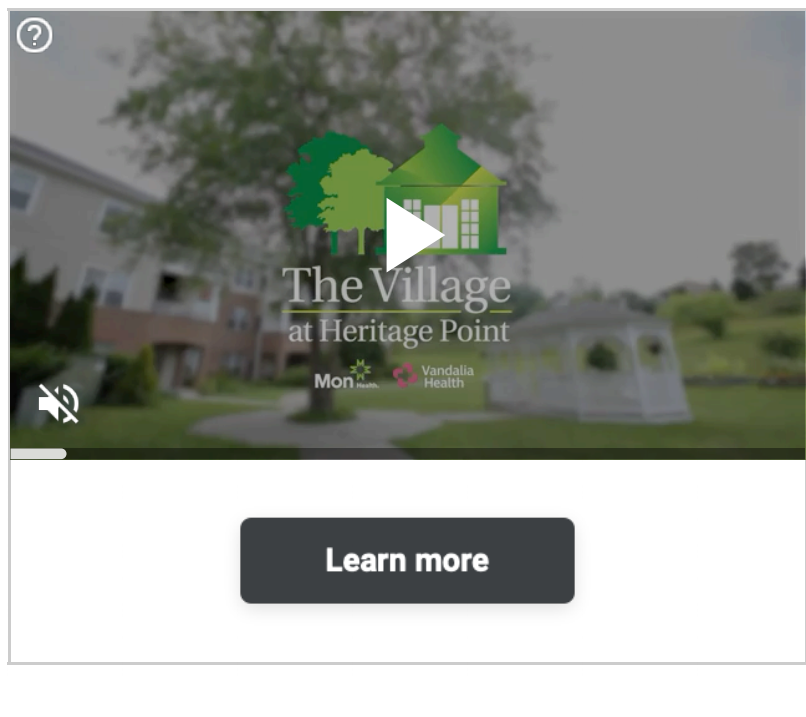
We are excited to build on the strength and quality of the WVU School of Nursing programs reflected in our first-time NCLEX licensure pass rates. The most recent results from our fall 2023 Accelerated BSN graduates yielded a 100% first-time pass rate from our Morgantown Campus.



The curriculum in Bridgeport mirrors the program in Morgantown, so we are excitedly anticipating results when our first cohort graduates in August. Our licensure pass rates are a testament to our excellent faculty, who are clearly preparing our nursing students with the knowledge and clinical skills they need to succeed.

The School of Nursing proudly carries the WVU land-grant mission of advancing healthcare and prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity. State support helps us advance even further.

Let's go.

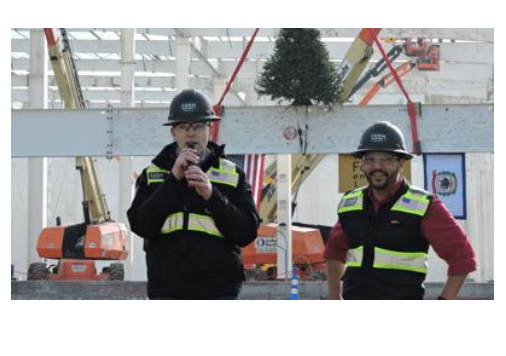


Tara Hulsey is the dean of the WVU School of Nursing.

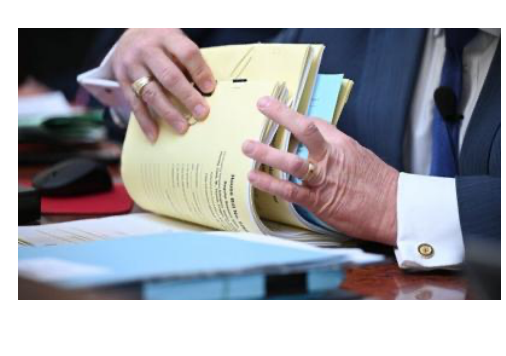
f X in

Tags: Tsjopinion University Medicine Education Hospitals Job Market The Economy Finance

Recommended for you



Final beam raised on Form Factory One in Weirton, West Virginia



Halfway There: West Virginia legislative session hits halfway mark



US & WORLD BUSINESS AND POLITICS
US Energy Information Administration Targets Cryptocurrency Mining Energy Consumption Amid Environmental Concerns



Oil-to-Gas Ratio Hits Highest Level Since 2012, Signaling Shift in Energy Production Strategy

🗨️ (0) comments

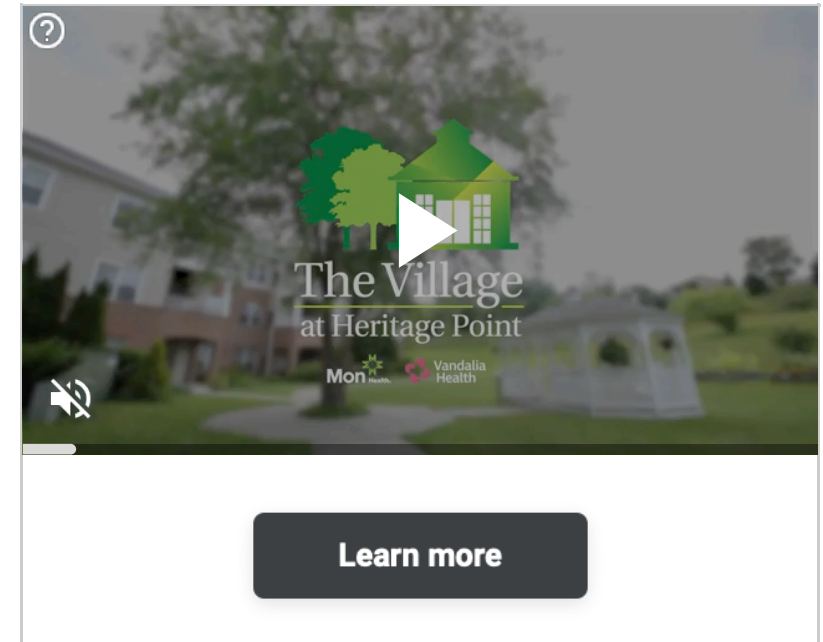
Welcome to the discussion.

Log In



Most Popular

- 1 House approves bills on vaping, infrastructure and squatters
- 2 House approves bill prohibiting non-binary designation on birth certificates
- 3 West Virginia House passes community monitoring bill
- 4 Republican rivals for West Virginia governor spar on issues at debate
- 5 West Virginia House of Delegates passes gas royalty penalty bill



Sign up for updates!

Get news from The State Journal in your inbox.

*Email

By submitting this form, you are consenting to receive News Emails from: WV News, PO Box 2000, Clarksburg, WV, 26302, US; https://www.wvnews.com. You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the SafeUnsubscribe® link, found at the bottom of every email. Emails are serviced by Constant Contact.

Sign up!

Constant Contact



Latest e-Edition

The State Journal

To view our latest e-Edition click the image on the left.



Sections

- Business News
- Politics
- US & World
- Opinion
- Multimedia

Services

- Subscribe
- Submission Forms
- Advertise
- Calendar
- Search
- Weather

Contact Us

statejournal.com
 324 Hewes Avenue
 Clarksburg, WV 26301
 Phone: 304-626-1400
 Email: support@statejournal.com

f X in