Description

The Native Access Program to Nursing (NAPN) recruits and supports Aboriginal students interested in or enrolled in the University of Saskatchewan undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

Aboriginal nursing advisors in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert work with students to build community through gatherings and peer networks, provide academic and personal advisement and facilitate tutoring, mentorship and referrals to culturally appropriate supports as requested.

Why was this program established?

To improve the health status of Aboriginal peoples in SK by increasing the number of Aboriginal nurses.

Under-representation in nursing for those of Aboriginal ancestry.

To improve factors for students such as inadequate academic preparation, transition shock from moving to high-population areas to study, a lack of social support in educational programs and economic limitations. These factors contributed to low enrolment and high attrition for aboriginal students in nursing programs.

Ultimate goal of increasing the number of Aboriginal peoples in nursing careers, working towards balanced healthy Aboriginal communities.

Successes and Highlights

25 years of support for over 250 graduates - more than any other nursing program in Canada. ~16% of total seats available to Aboriginal students.

Addition of a NAPN advisor in Prince Albert in Fall 2012.

“I Love Culture Day” luncheon on September 25, 2012 organized by NAPN Regina for all Regina nursing staff, faculty & students was a great success.

“NAPN has been an amazing resource for me throughout my education and I am grateful for the experiences I had with NAPN”

Lisa Francis, NEPS Graduate, 2011

(Photo of Lisa courtesy of Mike Dubois)

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Aboriginal Framework

Coordination

Community Outreach

Academic Programs

Research Programs

Cultural Programs

Student Affairs