



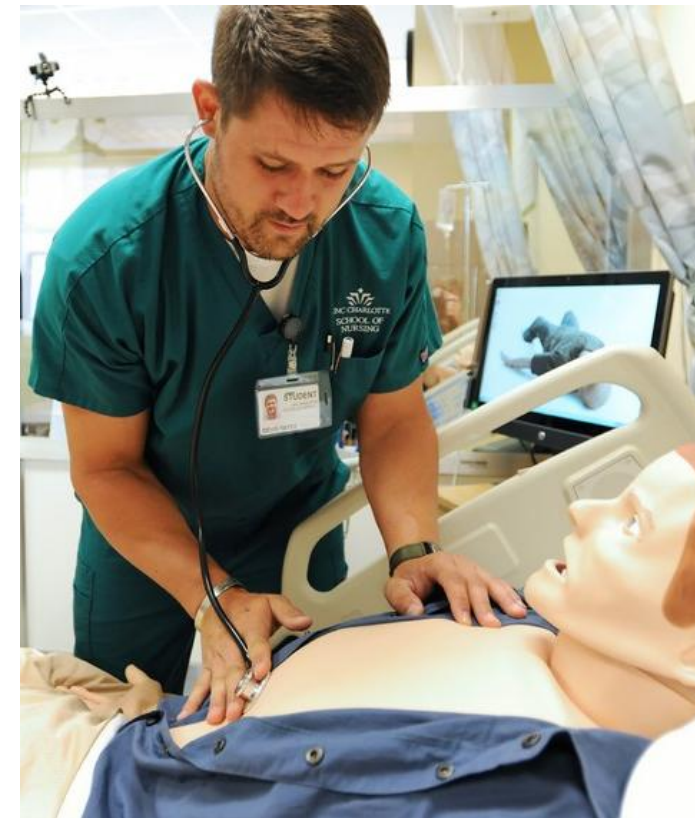
UNC System Nursing Degree Expansion & Evaluation Update

April 7, 2026



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

**SHEPS HEALTH
WORKFORCE NC**



Katherine Martin, MHA

VP Health Affairs

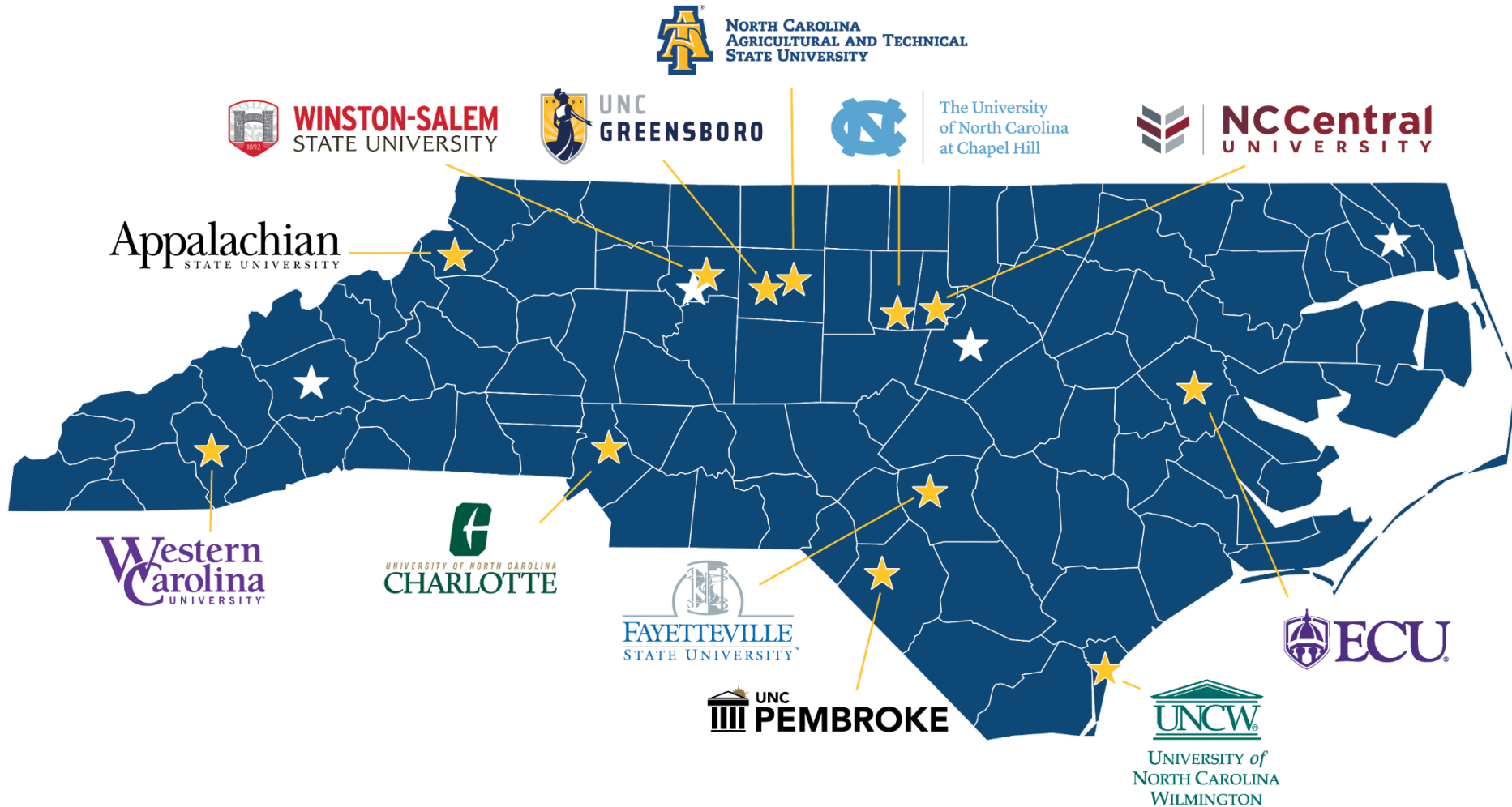
Catherine Moore, RN, PhD

Sheps Health Workforce NC

Jen Headley, MSW

Sheps Health Workforce NC

12 UNC System Nursing Programs



The UNC System is a Key Producer of Nursing Graduates

FY 2022-23 legislative ask:
**Increase Nursing Degrees
by 50%**

UNC System Response:
**Projected 60% Nursing Degree
increase by AY 2029-30**

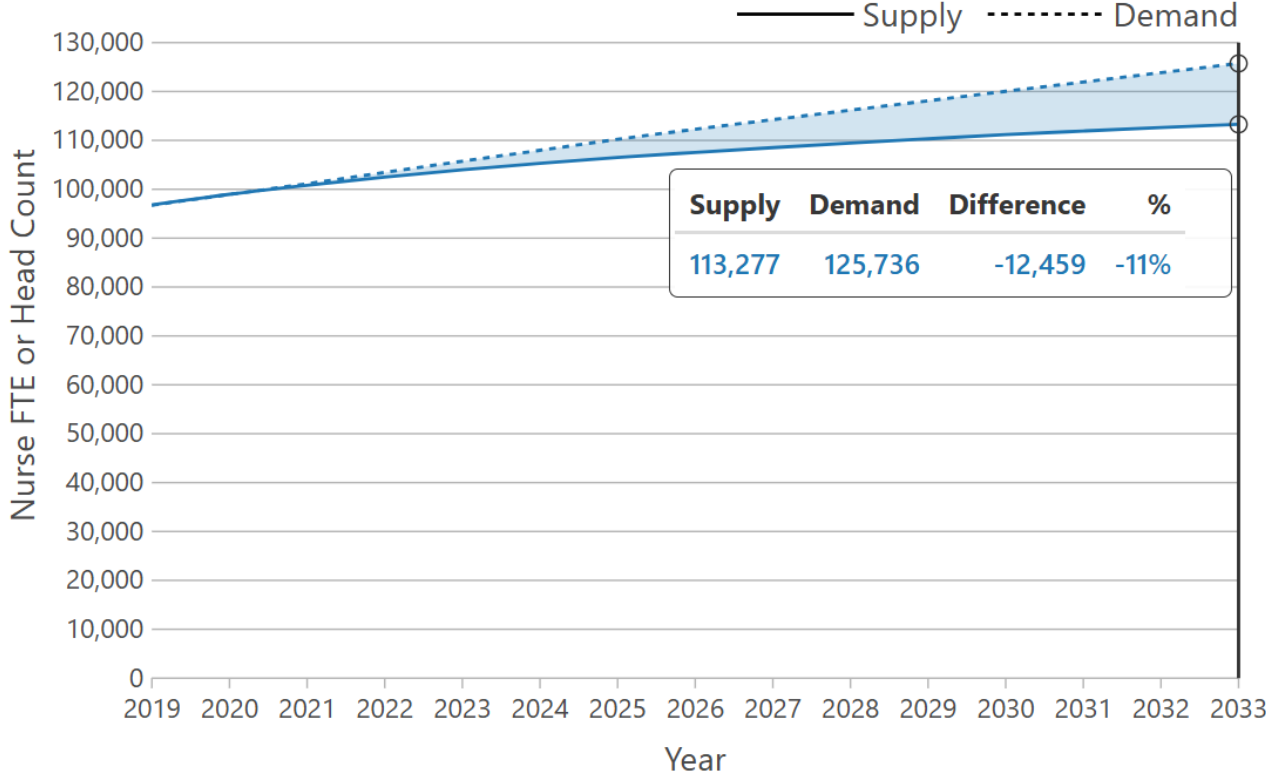
**Net increase of
700 degrees**

**Projected In-State
Retention: 77%**

Sheps NurseCast Model: 12,500 RN Shortage

Projection of Nurse Workforce, Supply - Demand

North Carolina, 2019 - 2033



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2023 State Appropriations Act

128 Healthcare Workforce Programs Expansion - UNC Institutions

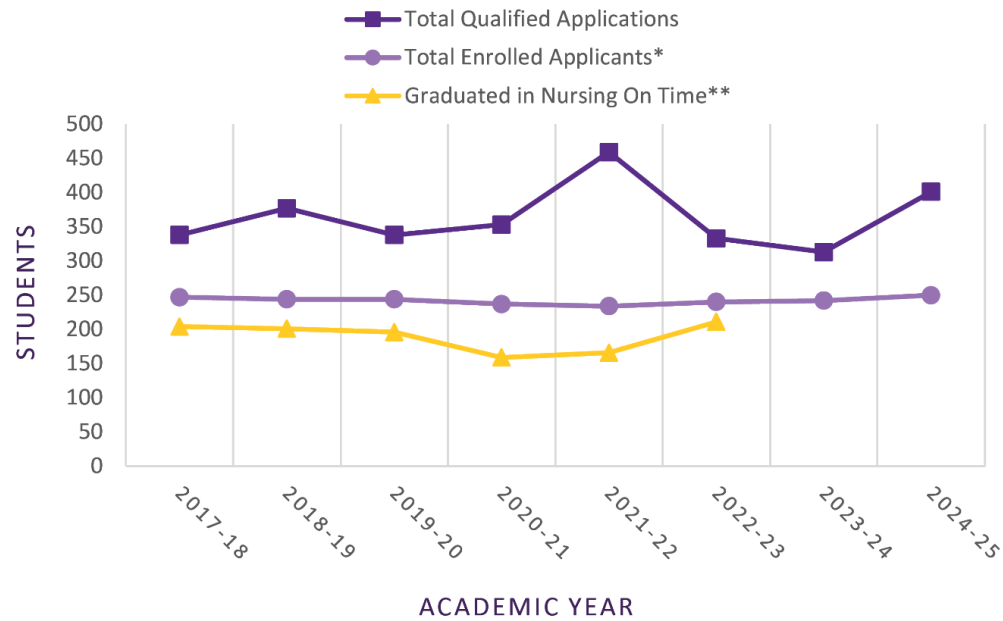
Budgets receipts transferred from the ARPA Temporary Savings Fund to the UNC Board of Governors (BOG) to distribute to constituent institutions to support the development and expansion of courses that lead to a degree in healthcare-related fields.

Requirements	\$	15,000,000NR	\$	25,000,000NR
Less: Receipts	\$	15,000,000NR	\$	25,000,000NR
Net Appropriation	\$	-	\$	-
FTE		-		-

Nursing School is Competitive



TRADITIONAL NURSING STUDENT COHORT TRENDS



Resources Needed to Increase Nursing Graduates

- Faculty (classroom and clinical)
- Simulation lab space and equipment
- Clinical training sites
- Mentors
- Student supports for pre-nursing and nursing students



Sheps Center 5 year- Evaluation

Timeline: January 2025 – December 2029

Evaluation will measure impact of expansion grants on the following data points:

- Enrollment, attrition, and program graduates
- Faculty vacancy rates, student supports
- Use of simulation lab space by course
- Clinical placements
- Program pathways
- Number of nursing graduates that enter and remain in NC workforce

Western Carolina University

Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY

Cullowhee, North Carolina



University of North Carolina at Greensboro



Greensboro, North Carolina



Fayetteville State University



FAYETTEVILLE
STATE UNIVERSITY™

Fayetteville, North Carolina



UNC System Nursing Expansion Timeline

2021	NurseCast Model established by Sheps Center and NC Board of Nursing
2022	SL 2022-74, Section 8.3: Recommendations on increasing nursing graduates by 50%
2023	SL 2023-134: \$40 million appropriation for health workforce to UNC System
2024	UNC System Office establishes nursing program expansion initiative and 5-year evaluation with Sheps Center
2025	Year 1 of UNC System Office + Sheps Center Nursing Program Evaluation
2026	Year 2 of UNC System Office + Sheps Center Nursing Program Evaluation



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QUESTIONS?

