



# NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM INFORMATION SURVEY

TEXAS CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE STUDIES  
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING



2012

## Student Admissions, Enrollment, and Graduation Trends in Advanced Practice Nursing Education Programs

This report presents data for the 23 schools offering advanced practice nursing education programs leading to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) authorization in Texas during the 2012 reporting year. These schools represent 30 programs:

- ◆ 4 Nurse Anesthetist programs,
- ◆ 2 Nurse Midwife programs,
- ◆ 19 Nurse Practitioner programs with tracks in 9 population focus areas, and
- ◆ 5 Clinical Nurse Specialist programs with tracks in 4 population focus areas.

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2012 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 8, 2012. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2011-2012 (September 1, 2011 – August 31, 2012) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and implementation of the survey.

### Qualified Applications for APRN Programs

Table 1 lists data on qualified applications and admissions to all 23 APRN programs.

- ◆ Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission at the school to which they were submitted.
- ◆ Nurse Anesthetist programs had the highest percentage of qualified applications not offered admission with 56.4% compared to 50.2% among all programs.
- ◆ 4 of 23 schools (17.4%) offered admission to all qualified applications.
- ◆ In 2012, 50.2% of total qualified applications were not offered admission to APRN programs.

Table 2 lists data on qualified applications and admissions from 2011 through 2012.

- ◆ From 2011 to 2012, there was a 21.5% increase in the number of qualified applications but only a 1.3% increase in the number offered admission.
- ◆ The number of qualified applications not admitted increased by 51.4% from 2011 to 2012.
- ◆ There was a 24.6% increase in the overall percentage of qualified applications not offered admission from 2011 to 2012.

### Reasons for Not Accepting Qualified Applications

The 19 schools that did not accept all qualified applications were asked to rank in order of importance the reasons why qualified applications were not accepted.

- ◆ Lack of budgeted faculty positions and lack of clinical placement were most frequently ranked as the most important reasons for not accepting all qualified applications (7 of 19 schools each) followed by lack of qualified faculty applicants (3 of 19 schools).

Note: All enrollment, graduation and admissions data gathered from this survey include master's students as well as post-master's certificate and post-baccalaureate DNP students. Also, the data may include nurses that are already authorized to practice as an APRN.

Table 1. Qualified Applications & Admissions, 2012

Program Type	# Qualified Applications	# Offered Admission	# Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission	% Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission
Nurse Anesthetist	505	220	285	56.4%
Nurse-Midwife	17	16	1	5.9%
Nurse Practitioner	3,396	1,706	1,690	49.8%
Clinical Nurse Specialist	65	41	24	36.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,983</b>	<b>1,983</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>50.2%</b>

Note: Candidates for admission may apply and be accepted by more than one nursing program; therefore, the data may represent some duplicated counts of individuals.

Table 2. Qualified Applications & Admissions, 2011-2012

	2011	2012	% Change
# Qualified Applications	3,278	3,983	21.5%
# Offered Admission	1,957	1,983	1.3%
# Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission	1,321	2,000	51.4%
% Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission	40.3%	50.2%	24.6%

Note: Candidates for admission may apply and be accepted by more than one nursing program; therefore, the data may represent some duplicated counts of individuals. QANA = Qualified Applications Not Accepted

## Newly Admitted Students for APRN programs

Table 3 shows the number of newly admitted students from 2011 to 2012 by program type.

- Overall, there was a 0.7% increase in the number of newly admitted students from 2011 to 2012.
- From 2011-2012, the number of newly admitted students decreased in Nurse Anesthetist programs (-7.9%).
- In 2012, Nurse Practitioner programs had the highest number of newly admitted students with 1,403 students followed by 210 students in the Nurse Anesthetist programs.

**Table 3. Newly Admitted Students: 2011-2012**

Program Type	2011	2012	% Change
Nurse Anesthetist	228	210	-7.9%
Nurse-Midwife	11	14	27.3%
Nurse Practitioner	1,382	1,403	1.5%
Clinical Nurse Specialist	31	37	19.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,652</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

## Total Enrollment in APRN Programs

**Table 4. Enrollment by Program Type: 2011-2012**

Program Type	2011	2012	% Change
Nurse Anesthetist	654	611	-6.6%
Nurse-Midwife	30	31	3.3%
Nurse Practitioner	3,271	3,574	9.3%
Clinical Nurse Specialist	95	82	-13.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,050</b>	<b>4,298</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

Note: Enrollment data are as of September 30, 2012.

Enrollment by program type is shown in Table 4.

- A total of 4,298 APRN students were enrolled as of September 30, 2012.
- From 2011 to 2012, the overall enrollment increased 6.1%. Nurse-Midwife and Nurse Practitioner program enrollment increased by 3.3% and 9.3%, respectively.
- Enrollment in Nurse Anesthetist and Clinical Nurse Specialist programs decreased from 2011 to 2012.
- Nurse Practitioner students accounted for 83.2% (3,574 of 4,298) of APRN enrollees in 2012.
- The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) reported an increase of 8.3% in APRN enrollment in U.S. nursing schools from 47,407 in AY 2010-2011 to 51,325 in AY 2011-2012.<sup>1</sup>

## Graduates from APRN Programs

**Table 5. Graduates by Program Type: 2011-2012**

Program Type	2011	2012	% Change
Nurse Anesthetist	213	229	7.5%
Nurse-Midwife	2	8	300.0%
Nurse Practitioner	774	970	25.3%
Clinical Nurse Specialist	30	53	76.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>23.7%</b>

Note: The number of graduates reported is for the 2011–2012 academic year (September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012).

APRN program graduates from the academic year 2011-2012 are shown in Table 5.

- A total of 1,260 students graduated during the reporting period. This number represents a 23.7% increase from 2011 to 2012.
- According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the number of APRN graduates increased nationally by 10.4% from 12,184 to 13,447.<sup>1</sup>
- 22 schools reported the number of graduates who will work in Texas. Of the 1,190 graduates among the 22 schools, 1,008 (84.7%) will work in Texas.
- In 2012, state of residence and family in other states were the reasons schools most frequently cited as to why graduates planned to work in states other than Texas (16 of 22 schools).
- Independent practice, higher pay in other states, and military service were also cited by schools as reasons why graduates will work in states other than Texas.

Note: One program did not graduate any students in the academic year 2011-2012.

<sup>1</sup> Fang, D., Li, Y., & Bednash, G.D. (2012). *2011-2012 Enrollment and graduations in baccalaureate and graduate programs in nursing*. Washington, D.C.: American Association of Colleges of Nursing.