

Condition: CRITICAL

**The need for qualified
nursing educators**

is URGENT.

Do you need to supplement the number of qualified nurse educators at your college or university? You're not alone. There is a dire need for nursing faculty nationwide.

The Nursing Online Education Project at Kent State University was created to reduce these shortages.

The project goal is to expand the nursing faculty workforce in colleges of nursing across the United States by:

- Recruiting new nurse educators – non-academic masters-prepared nurses – for part-time teaching
- Using a train-the-trainer model for current nursing faculty to develop new online educators
- Supplementing the faculty workforce with new educators prepared to teach online nursing courses
- Creating a self-sustaining and replicable educational model
- Expanding the qualified faculty workforce

The Nursing Online Education Project is a Partners Investing in Nursing's Future (PIN) collaborative housed at the Kent State University College of Nursing. The project is supported by The Robert Wood Johnson, Northwest Health, Cleveland and Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundations.

How You Can Participate

- Discuss the Nursing Online Education Project with faculty and deans at your college/university.
- Recommend nursing faculty to attend the Methods of Online Education course, offered 100% online. Grant support covers half of the tuition.
- Recruit and develop non-traditional nurse educators for part-time online teaching.

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College of Nursing

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The Nursing Online Education Project

**Invest in the future of your institution –
and the future of nursing.**



College of Nursing

Excellence in Action



A Self-Sustaining Solution

Following a “train the trainer” model, the Online Education Project aims to address faculty shortages by:

- Partnering with colleges of nursing to identify and prepare traditional nurse educators (TNEs) in the science and art of online education through a 3-credit-hour graduate course, Methods of Online Education. Upon course completion, TNEs will teach the Methods course to masters-prepared non-traditional nurse educators (NTNEs), preparing them as online educators. NTNEs are nurses who would like to teach part-time and who are currently working in clinical roles, engaged in family responsibilities, retired/retiring, and/or physically disabled.
- Preparing additional educators: After completing the Methods of Online Education course, the NTNEs will be ready to deliver high-quality online education in collegiate graduate and undergraduate nursing programs.
- Entering NTNEs into a national database of supplementary online faculty and distributing the information to U.S. schools of nursing. The database will include NTNE contact information, availability and areas of expertise.
- Continuing development of NTNEs: TNEs may continue developing more NTNEs in cycles at their own university, using the copyrighted curriculum from this program.
- Enabling nursing programs to expand capacity and increase the number of qualified students they admit by utilizing available supplementary NTNEs.



Susan Hoefflinger Taft received her BSN from Duke University and her MSN in community health nursing administration and Ph.D. in organizational behavior from Case Western Reserve University.

Her teaching, research and writing have focused on organizational behavior issues in health care, organizational analysis, leadership, group behavior, emotional intelligence, professional ethics, health care policy, pedagogy and online education.

She has been on the faculty of the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University and the College of Nursing at Kent State University.

Taft has published in numerous nursing, health care and management journals and has presented her research nationally.

Currently, Taft is an associate professor and serves as the director of the MSN-MBA/MPA dual degree programs and MSN in nursing and health care management program at Kent State, where she also teaches in the MBA and Executive MBA programs.

The Coming Shortage

The U.S. health care industry anticipates a critical shortage of nurses by 2020. The anticipated retirement of both nurses and nursing faculty over the next 10-15 years will increase this shortage.

The biggest contributor to the shortage of practicing nurses is an educational bottleneck resulting from an insufficient pool of qualified faculty needed to teach additional students. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reported more than 55,000 qualified nursing school applicants were turned away from colleges last year.