

PROJECT BRIEF



Project Name: Southwestern College Nursing Program

Grant Program: PIC

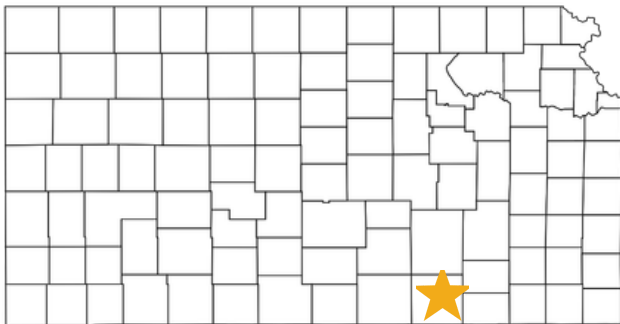
Project Date: July 2022 - December 2025

Project Summary

Southwestern College utilized funding to open a Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing program. Southwestern had a bachelor-level nursing program until approximately 2013, which was the only one in Cowley County. Southwestern partnered with Butler County Community College and Cowley County Community College to launch the two-year pre-nursing curriculum coursework and pathway to bring the nursing program back to Cowley County. Additional funding supported the development of a Master of Science in Physician Associate Studies program.

Location

Winfield, Kansas



Grantee Information

Southwestern College is a private, nonprofit institution in Winfield, committed to developing a skilled regional workforce through high-quality, student-centered education. With strong community partnerships and a focus on applied learning, the college prepares graduates to meet critical workforce needs across south-central Kansas, particularly in high-demand fields such as nursing, education, and business.

Goals and Objectives

Goal: Rebuild and relaunch a fully accredited BSN program to address Kansas' critical nursing shortage.

Objective 1: Hire qualified nursing faculty to meet Kansas Board of Nursing and CCNE standards.

Objective 2: Develop updated curriculum, simulation training, and clinical partnerships.

Objective 3: Complete CCNE accreditation steps leading to site visit.

Objective 4: Increase annual enrollment to meet regional workforce demand.

Budget Overview

- Grant Amount: \$248,085.87
- Match Amount: \$744,257.61
- Total Budget: \$992,343.48

Expense Categories:

- **Labor & Materials:** \$338,636.57
- **Architectural Design:** \$93,235.35
- **Personnel:** \$362,761.16
- **Supplies/Equipment:** \$153,760.40
- **Consulting:** \$43,950.00

Target Population

The grant targets first-time freshmen entering the nursing pathway, transfer students entering the BSN program, students progressing through the 2+2 Cowley → Southwestern pipeline, and adult learners returning to complete a nursing degree.

Sustainability

Southwestern College will sustain the program by staggering faculty and staff hires as needed to support the curriculum, clinical rotations, and partnerships. Southwestern has engaged in additional fundraising efforts and partnerships. Additionally, funds from new students enrolling in the program will assist in sustaining the program.

Opportunities for additional funding needs include continued support of faculty, simulation capacity, and accreditation support to scale its BSN program.

Activities and Timeline

Q4 2023: Nursing Program Director in place

Q1 2024: Partnered with Butler Community College to share a simulation lab at William Newton Hospital

Q4 2024: Program approved by both HLC and the KSBN. Renovations to the Nursing simulation lab completed.

Q2 2025: Physician associate program moving forward with phase I of renovations underway in Winfield.

Outcomes

- In 2025, five students admitted into program, William Newton Hospital Simulation Center opened, and faculty and a faculty assistant onboarded.
- Eleven pre-nursing students admitted for the Fall 2025 semester.
- 1-year medical school acceptance rate for grads of 80% (4 of 5) and a 1-year allied health acceptance rate of 96% (24 of 25) of applicants successfully gaining admission to various professional programs including PT, OT, Public Health, Nursing, Physician Associate, Athletic Training, Prosthetics, Dentistry, and Sonography programs.

Contact Information

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