

**CSU**

**The California State University**  
WORKING FOR CALIFORNIA

THE CALIFORNIA  
STATE UNIVERSITY:

# Champions of Nursing Excellence

[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)



**“We are a huge  
force, but we are  
the most trusted  
profession.”**

*Elizabeth Winokur, Lecturer  
MSN alumna, CSULA*

# THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY: **Champions of Nursing Excellence**

Strong nursing is fundamental to the health and wellness of California's communities and to the state as a whole. Considered the most trusted profession, nursing makes up the single largest segment of the health care work force and has been identified by the U.S. Labor Department as the top occupation for job growth. On the front line 24 hours a day, nurses play a key role in a patient's health care experience—as the first point of medical contact and as the professional who often spends the most time with the patient and family.

The California State University has long been committed to graduating highly educated, skilled, caring nurses to meet California's health care needs—as far back as 1947 when Los Angeles State College (now CSU Los Angeles) was granting bachelor's degrees with certification in nursing.

Since then, nursing programs across the CSU system have grown, developed and prospered. For almost 70

years, the CSU has been making a profound mark on health care in the state. A major producer of highly educated nurses in California, the CSU awarded 3,284 nursing degrees in the 2011-12 academic year.

As the state's need for nurses expands, the CSU responds by developing robust curricula, creating state-of-the-art simulation labs, and partnering with community colleges to offer pathways from associate degree in nursing (ADN) to bachelor of science degrees in nursing (BSN), and offering master of science degrees in nursing (MSN) and doctor of nursing practice (DNP) programs that take nursing practice to the highest educational level.

In fall 2012 the CSU launched two DNP programs for nurses seeking advancement into the higher-level clinician and administrator roles that will become more in demand with demographic shifts and with implementation of the Affordable Care Act.



CSU nursing programs embrace current educational and philosophical advances, including:

- Evidence-based training
- Patient-centered care
- Multi-disciplinary curriculum
- Cutting-edge health care technology
- Community-centered service

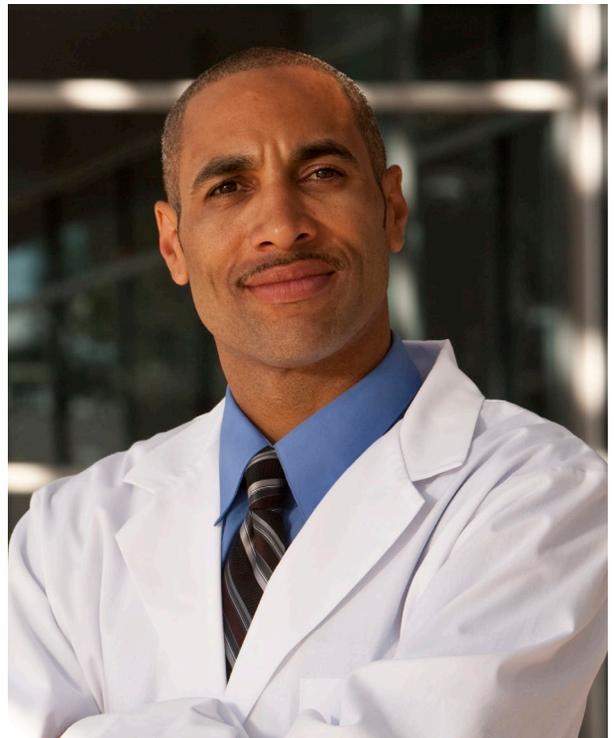
**“I love my instructors. They are some of the most beautiful people I’ve ever met.”**

*Harold Woodard, BSN student  
CSU East Bay*

CSU nurses are innovative, intellectually curious and insightful—capable of meeting the complex challenges of a quickly evolving profession. As the scope of nursing practice grows, nurses are tasked with an ever-wider range of health care responsibilities and with mastering ever-advancing medical technologies. CSU nursing education programs empower graduates to lead the way in providing excellence in clinical care, patient advocacy, research, nursing education, and health care administration.

## **CSU NURSING PROGRAMS: Making a Mark on Health care in California**

Nineteen of the 23 CSU campuses offer nursing programs, with both the BSN and the MSN degree programs being offered at 14 CSU campuses across the state. CSU nursing programs offer advanced practice registered nurse specializations that include family nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, and nurse anesthetist, among others. The CSU also offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at two regional university consortia: CSU Fresno-San José State University in Northern California and CSU Fullerton-CSU Long Beach-CSU Los Angeles in Southern California.



## THE FUTURE OF NURSING: **CSU Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Programs**

Two CSU Doctor of Nursing Practice programs were launched in fall 2012 and are designed to prepare nurses for advanced practice, leadership roles and to educate future nursing faculty. There are two consortium-based programs, one located in the southern region and another in the northern region of the state.



The CSU Northern Consortium DNP is a joint effort of CSU Fresno and San José State University. The program is designed for working professionals and is offered in an online format with occasional intensive sessions held alternately on the Fresno State and San José campuses.

In Southern California, the DNP program is offered through a consortium of the Schools of Nursing at the CSU Fullerton, CSU Long Beach and CSU Los Angeles campuses. Students attend classes on the CSU Fullerton campus for the first three semesters of the program and complete the final two semesters through independent effort with a project chair at a consortium campus, primarily through online courses.

The rigorous practice-oriented doctoral program allows post-master's nursing students to conduct applied research and develop advanced scientific knowledge through participation in a three-semester integrative doctoral project that is embedded in clinical practice.

Students work full time and, with permission of their current employer, complete a required doctoral project within the work setting. Learn more at [www.calstate.edu/dnp](http://www.calstate.edu/dnp).

**“Physicians are not going into primary care any longer. A nurse practitioner, as I am, is in an excellent position to deliver quality primary health care to patients.”**

*Barbara Pidermann, DNP student  
MSN, CSULB alumna*

# Improving Practices, Enhancing Care

Marny Fern still remembers the day when a 42-year-old woman with obscure symptoms entered the emergency room where Marny was a staff nurse. She also remembers her shock at the woman's sudden and unexpected death from sepsis—a serious condition resulting from the body's immune response to a bloodstream infection.

Years later, when Marny returned to CSU Stanislaus (CSUS) to pursue a master's degree in nursing, she decided to make sepsis—which kills more than a quarter of the nearly 750,000 Americans who contract it annually—her research topic. Once she learned that early detection saves lives, her master's project became the development of an evaluation checklist that allows health care providers to quickly identify sepsis in real-world situations.



**CSU Stanislaus nursing alumna (BSN and MSN) Marny Fern combines personal experience and rigorous research to help save patients' lives.**

Currently Director of Patient Care Services at Doctors Medical Center in Modesto, Marny is a clear example of how CSU students are helping solve critical issues in medicine. Her sepsis checklist, developed with the encouragement and support of CSUS nursing faculty, has been rolled out in emergency rooms and triage centers in California and throughout the country—saving an untold number of lives.

Marny is grateful to the CSUS faculty advisor who encouraged her to pursue this meaningful research, especially when she hears from a patient who was successfully treated for sepsis because of early diagnosis. A champion of CSU nursing programs and evidence-based education, her motto is “Recognize Sepsis, Save Lives!”

# Nursing Programs at the CSU

	Pre-Licensure Programs*			Post-Licensure Programs*			
	LVN-to-BSN	BSN	Entry-Level MSN	ADN-to-BSN	ADN-to-MSN	MSN	DNP
Bakersfield		•		•			
Channel Islands		•		•			
Chico		•		•		•	
Dominguez Hills			•	•		•	
East Bay	•	•		•			
Fresno		•		•		•	Joint NorCal DNP
Fullerton	•	•	•	•		•	Joint SoCal DNP
Long Beach		•	•	•		•	Joint SoCal DNP
Los Angeles		•	•	•		•	Joint SoCal DNP
Monterey Bay				•			
Northridge	•	•		•			
Sacramento	•	•		•		•	
San Bernardino		•		•		•	
San Diego		•		•		•	
San Francisco		•	•	•		•	
San José		•		•		•	Joint NorCal DNP
San Marcos	•	•		•	•	•	
Sonoma		•		•		•	
Stanislaus		•		•		•	

\* Contact the CSU campus for information about which programs are offered through extended education.

Program availability subject to change.



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