VA NURSING ACADEMY

To help address the nation's nursing shortage and ensure health care for a growing number of veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is expanding the VA Nursing Academy's 'Enhancing Academic Partnerships' program through new partnerships with seven leading nursing schools across the United States.

The VA Nursing Academy, a five-year, $40 million initiative introduced in 2007, connects the VA's world-class health care system with some of the country's top nursing schools to ensure that highly educated nurses are available to provide premium health care to our nation's veterans.

"The VA Nursing Academy expands our teaching faculty, improves recruitment and retention, and creates new educational and research opportunities," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake.

Through the partnerships, nursing school faculty provide services for VA facilities; VA nurses are appointed as faculty of the nursing school; and nursing students receive enhanced clinical experiences at VA facilities.

The following nursing schools were selected to join the program as partners to local VA medical centers: the Medical University of South Carolina; Loyola University of Chicago; the University of Detroit Mercy; Saginaw Valley State University; the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center; Rhode Island College; and the University of South Florida. The original four nursing schools in the program are the University of Florida; University of Utah; San Diego State University; and Fairfield University.
For more information on the VA Nursing Academy, visit www.va.gov/oaa/vana/.