

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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News Release

VA Boston Healthcare System First in New England to receive Nurse Residency Program Accreditation

VA Boston Healthcare System's Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program (PBNR) has received a 3-year accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), an autonomous accrediting agency whose mission is to serve the public interest by helping ensure the quality of professional nursing educational programs. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuing self-assessment by nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional education and post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs.

VA Boston Healthcare System's PBNR is the first program of its kind in New England, and only the second in VA to receive this prestigious designation from the CCNE. There are only 12 other hospitals nationally that have programs which have received this accreditation.

VA Boston Healthcare System is the largest VA facility in New England. Across its three medical campuses and numerous clinics, it provides state-of-the-art, comprehensive primary, acute, and chronic care to over 65,000 veterans each year. It is within this unique structure that the Northeast Region VA Nursing Alliance (NERVANA) Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program operates. NERVANA is an academic-practice partnership whose mission is to develop and implement innovative educational models to expand opportunities for nursing students, new graduates, and faculty in the care of the veteran patient.

"VA Boston and its academic partners take great pride in sharing our mutual expertise and the value of the rich environment in which a Post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency program can flourish," said Cecilia McVey, Associate Director of Nursing and Patient Care Services. "This shared vision creates the best that academics and practice have to offer and provides a forum for research and evidence based practice"

This highly selective, year-long nurse residency program is designed for nurses newly graduated from baccalaureate nursing programs. Nurse residents master advanced clinical skills, implement evidence-based practice, and hone their leadership abilities. Nurse residency programs are critical in attracting and retaining the best nursing graduates to complex acute care settings.

The PBNR is a Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency sponsored by the Office of Academic Affiliations in collaboration with the office of Nursing Services of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Central Office.

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To learn more about the Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program at the VA Boston Healthcare System, contact: Judith Wendt, RN, MSN Program Director, Judith.wendt@va.gov, 774 -826-1268

Please visit the following web sites for more information about the VA Boston Healthcare System (www.va.boston.gov), or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/about/mission-values-history)



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