NURSING SIMULATION EDUCATION & TRAINING

HRSA: Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention (NEPQR)

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of Rural Health
Area Health Education Center

The NEPQR-SET grant is intended to educate MSU Nursing students in the development of clinical skills, clinical reasoning, and real-world application of professional nursing skills. The program supports 16 of the 28 simulations integrated in the nursing curriculum to be enhanced with trained actors as patients or as embedded family members. This intentional resource builds communication skills, confidence, team work, and time management in the care of acutely ill patients. Enhanced simulations include cardiac, pediatric, obstetric, and mental health.

"I loved the opportunity to focus on communication with family member. I felt it increased my skills and confidence in this area."

-Kalispell Student, Spring 2025

PROGRAM GOAL

Our goal is to provide high-quality simulation-based learning in a psychologically safe, controlled and standardized environment. Students can practice clinical skills, demonstrate competence, and develop clinical reasoning. Our overall goal is to ensure students are prepared to care for actual patients safely and with caring competence.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

September 30, 2023 to September 29, 2026

CLINICAL PARTNERSHIPS

The NEPQR-SET grants foster community and clinical partnerships by providing simulation-based learning for nurse residency and clinical partners, addressing their educational needs. Community advisory boards facilitate open communication and feedback, enhancing the overall program.

2024 NUMBERS

212 MSU nursing students trained in SET simulations

51 Practicing professionals received continuing education in simulation

Training offered to students from all 5 MSU Nursing Campuses

IMPACT & RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Why This Program Matters:

- Researchers suggest simulation-based learning reduces patient injury and avoidable death due to medical or nursing errors.
- Simulation creates opportunity for nursing students to practice skills and recognize changes in patient condition and practice rapid response to reduce patient mortality.

This program is funded through HRSA's NEPQR-SET. The NEPQR-SET provides a unique and critical opportunity for MSU Nursing students to graduate with improved readiness, increasing the quality of care provided to patients. It strengthens the rural nursing workforce by preparing students to meet the complex needs of our populations statewide.