Nursing Students' Development and Application of Best Practices
Nursing Practice DNP – College of Health and Human Development

Step 1: Student Learning Outcome

Appraises literature in order to implement best practices, apply relevant findings to develop practice guidelines, and disseminate findings from practice through scholarship.

Step 2: Methods and Measures

Direct: Doctoral project defense as measured by the doctoral project defense tool on a 100-point scale.

Indirect: Student self-assessment at graduation on the Skyfactor Exit Survey questions that align with The Essentials of Nursing.

Step 3: Criteria for Success

Direct: Score of 80 out of 100 points.

Indirect: Mean score of 5.5 (aggregation of several questions aligned to the outcome) on a 7-point scale.

Step 4: Results

Direct: A total of 45 DNP students in both cohorts (Students of Registered Nurse Anesthetists (SRNA) and post-masters) received scores ranging from 91.75-100 on the defense of their DNP final project, with a mean of 98.6. These figures have exceeded the set benchmarks, with 100% of students scoring above 85%. Results are also in line with prior year assessments. Some aspects that students can improve on include thoroughness of the presentation and their knowledge of the methods and evaluation section of the DNP project.

Indirect: A mean score of 6 out of 7.0 on the Skyfactor survey indicates strong student agreement in achievement of the learning outcome. Of note, scores above 5.5 are considered high, thus, students demonstrate high achievement on this measure. Results are also in line with prior assessments.

Step 5: Improvement Actions

Continue discussion on the areas of the DNP defense rubric where students may improve (e.g., knowledge of the methods and evaluation section). To maintain high achievement of student learning, the program will continue with current assessments and reporting on the outcome.