The Washington Center for Nursing (WCN) is the statewide nursing organization whose goal is building a diverse, highly qualified nursing workforce to support a healthy Washington.

The WCN Board is led by nurses from across Washington who are actively involved in their communities. They include men and women of different backgrounds and ethnicities, representing many care settings and education levels.
Nursing is a challenging, exciting and rewarding lifelong career that offers a variety of practice, education and leadership opportunities. As nurses, women and men make a difference doing what they love in any setting around the world.

Successful nurses:
- Make a difference in people’s lives
- Are part of something bigger than themselves
- Advocate for patients and families
- Are lifelong learners
- Choose from hundreds of roles ranging from patient care to research
- Work anywhere in the world
- Earn competitive wages
- Enjoy the richness of a scientific education

Nurses describe their careers...

“I am a critical thinker. You are taking care of a patient for 12 hours and responsible for that life. It is also very intellectually stimulating and rewarding.”

“It is such an honor because we are there at such vulnerable times in people’s lives and people remember you years later.”

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN):
Provides direct care and collects data for assessment. Delivers care, administers medications, and performs treatments. Works under the supervision of an MD, RN, ARNP or PA in hospitals, long-term care, home care or out-patient settings. Passes the LPN-NCLEX exam to become licensed in the state of Washington.

Registered Nurse (RN):
Manages and provides complex care, promotes health and wellness, educates patients and families, and collaborates with other members of the health care team in planning, delivering and evaluating care. Supervises other staff.

Works in a variety of settings. Completes an Associate, Baccalaureate or Master’s entry program, and passes the RN-NCLEX exam to be licensed in the state of Washington.

RNs may also obtain a Master’s or Doctoral degree and have roles like:

Advanced Practice Nurse (APN):
RNAs with a Master’s or Doctoral degree may become Nurse Midwives (CRNM), Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA), Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS), or Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP). ARNPs can be primary care providers who diagnose and prescribe treatments and medications, and manage their own practice of patients.

Nurse Educator:
Nurses with a Master’s degree or Doctoral degree teach nursing students in education programs, conduct research, and practice nursing.

For more information:
Contact your counselor, community college, 4-year college or university
www.wcnursing.org
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Facebook: Washington Center for Nursing