



NEWS RELEASE

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DU ONLY MI UNIVERSITY TO RECEIVE FEDERAL GRANT FOR VETERAN'S BACHELOR OF SCIENCE NURSING DEGREE

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 1, 2013 – Davenport University is proud to be one of only nine institutions across the United States to be awarded grant funding under the *Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention: Veteran's Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing Program* (VBSN) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration. This funding includes an initial award of \$327,284 for the 2013-14 program year with recommended future funding bringing the grant total to \$1,217,446 over a four-year period.

The program is designed to help veterans and inactive military members to successfully pursue and attain a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN), pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) and obtain a nursing position in the healthcare field. For many veterans and military medically-trained persons, this program will fast-track them into the middle of their sophomore year of the nursing program.

"Many returning military service members and veterans have medical training coupled with combat medical experience, which translates well into a nursing career if provided the opportunity to enhance their knowledge-base and skillsets," stated Dr. Karen Daley, Dean for Davenport's College of Health Professions. "With the creation of Davenport's Veteran's Bachelor of Science in Nursing Pre-Licensure Program, we can do just that."

"Davenport is the only institution in Michigan and only one of nine in the country to receive this prestigious funding," said Dr. Rick Pappas, President of Davenport. "This further enhances our leader role in providing veterans and military members with innovative, proactive resources and services tailored to fit their particular needs while tapping into their unique skillsets and experiences."

Interested veterans and military members can begin the admissions process immediately by visiting davenport.edu. Fifteen students will be accepted into the first cohort scheduled to begin in the Fall 2014 semester. This degree will be offered at DU's W.A. Lettinga, Warren and Midland Campuses.

About Davenport University

Founded in 1866, Davenport is a private, non-profit university serving more than 11,000 students at campuses across Michigan and online. With tuition among the lowest of all private universities in the state, Davenport provides high academic quality, small class sizes, conveniently located campuses, faculty with real-world experience and more than 50 dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs addressing in-demand careers in business, technology and health professions. More information is available at www.davenport.edu.

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