

**FACULTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION**  
**Fall 2015**

Name of Person Submitting Request:		<b>Elaine Akers</b>
Program or Service Area:		<b>Student Health Services</b>
Division:		<b>Student Services</b>
Date of Last Program Efficacy:		<b>Spring 2014</b>
What rating was given?		<b>Continuation</b>
# of FT faculty	# of Adjuncts	Faculty Load:
Position Requested:		FT Nurse Practitioner shared with Crafton
Strategic Initiatives Addressed: (See Appendix A: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/l5oqoxm">http://tinyurl.com/l5oqoxm</a> )		Access and Student Success

1. Provide a rationale for your request.

It is difficult to recruit and retain qualified nurse practitioners who specialize in college health issues without offering full time work and benefits. Our students also benefit greatly when they have consistent access to the same clinician who knows them and has built rapport with them. The American College Health Association recommends that college health clinics be staffed by clinicians specializing in college health. We are proposing that we hire a full time N.P. with a College Health focus that can be shared between San Bernardino Valley College and Crafton Hills College campuses. (Allocated 60/40 between the two colleges).

Access to a nurse practitioner on campus supports student success by providing students services quickly before problems exacerbate and interfere with class attendance and their academic success. Nurse Practitioners specializing in the unique needs of college students provide care that is culturally sensitive and in tune with the college environment. The Nurse Practitioner is pivotal in providing Family PACT and reproductive health services to both men and women on campus. Pregnancy is a known barrier to continuation in college. Concerns about sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, and other reproductive issues are a common stressor and distraction for students that can be address. Common acute illnesses such as colds, flu, sore throats, allergies, back pain, asthma, urinary tract infections, ear infections, and strep throat can derail students from completion of important projects, courses, exams, and class attendance. This can lead to an inability to persist and stay in school if not treated promptly. Nurse Practitioners are attuned to the needs of the whole person and often identify emotional difficulties, substance abuse, sexual/physical abuse, and undiagnosed medical issues that may also impede success in college and quality of life. Stress, Depression, and Anxiety create academic barriers for many of our students (see EMP) and the NP as part of the mental health team can assist students with immediate access to medication and medical support for these issues long before they could access those services in the community. These can often be addressed in Student Health or appropriate referrals made for assistance in the community. Nurse Practitioners are also skilled at educating students and empowering them for self-care and lifestyle changes that will support current and future successes and quality of life. Often a visit to student health is the students first time accessing medical care as an individual adult creating an important opportunity for health education.

2. Indicate how the content of the latest Program Efficacy Report and current EMP data support this request. How is the request tied to program planning? (*Reference the page number(s) where the information can be found on Program Efficacy.*)

From last program efficacy report limitations: Lack of coverage for some NP clinic hours. Continue to recruit to cover those slots and have referrals available if it cannot wait until the next NP is available. Usually we can see a student within a week at the most. Working around their class schedule limits when they can utilize our services at times.

From 2016 EMP: **Program Goals:**

- Improve the overall health and quality of life for SBVC students through healthy lifestyle changes.
- Develop targeted services to meet the most prevalent mental and physical health needs of SBVC students.
- Facilitate access to needed mental health and health care services for SBVC students

From 2014-15 EMP action plans: Continue Family PACT services to increase access to reproductive health services for men and women.

Most prevalent health problems in our population from NCHA are obesity, overweight, back pain, allergies, and asthma. Most prevalent mental health problems are depression and anxiety.

From 2015-2016 EMP Develop key staff position to enhance student success and access to services, FT Nurse Practitioner.

3. Provide updated or additional information you wish the committee to consider (*for example, regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency, student success data, planning, etc.*).

The current NP is in a professional expert position and is paid an hourly wage by both campuses that could be applied to the FT position. Our ability to provide prescription and examination services keeps students successful and in school because they receive treatment early and on campus between classes. Primary Care appointments in the community may be scheduled 4-10 weeks from the request. By then the problem is resolved or the student is at risk of failure because the problem has persisted and worsened creating significant interference with academics and life tasks.

4. What are the consequences of not filling this position?

Risk not being able to staff the student health center with a nurse practitioner due to inability to recruit or retain qualified candidates. Our current NP is actively looking for a permanent FT position. Nurse Practitioners are in high demand especially now that the affordable care act is fully implemented increasing the need for qualified clinicians in the community. A small percentage of nurse practitioners are experienced in college health. Often nurse practitioners are the main source of income for their families due to their advanced education and therefore seek full time employment with benefits.

