The highest ranking campus official, our Chancellor, is a registered nurse with a PhD in the discipline of Nursing. We are proud of Chancellor Carwein!

The Department of Nursing at IPFW has several distinguishing features: its location provides access to two superior clinical agencies: Parkview Health System and the Lutheran Health Network; its campus neighbors the Ivy Technical College a pathway for returning RN students to earn a baccalaureate degree at the campus “next door.”

IPFW partners with nearly 100 clinical agencies for student experience to help meet regional and national healthcare needs.

IPFW has an educational partnership with Parkview Health System and fully supports their Magnet Hospital Recognition journey. The Department boasts two Nurse-Managed Clinics, which serve thousands of people annually. Our faculty are experts in the field and serve as role models and mentors for nursing students.

The Department of Nursing employs two professional advisors to maximize student success—at both graduate and undergraduate levels.

When seeking to improve our programs, IPFW considers its communities of interest: its faculty, students, clinical partners, alumni, and advisory committee members.

It is an honor to work and serve in the Department of Nursing.

Enjoy our Points of Pride!

Lee-Ellen C. Kirkhorn, PhD, CNE, RN
Professor of Nursing and Department Chair
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
IPFW boasts a 98% pass rate for first time test takers for 2015 and has consistently remained well above the national standard for the accreditation period.

Since 2010, the traditional Baccalaureate Nursing Program has grown by 17% and enrolls more than 320 students in the four year program of study.

Since 2010, the Baccalaureate – Completion Program (RN to B.S.) has grown 74%, and currently enrolls more than 60 students in the online program.

Since 2010, the Master of Nursing Program has grown by 100% and enrolls more than 80 students in its many concentrations.

IPFW Nursing Students are prepared with cutting edge technology threaded throughout the curriculum in clinical, simulation, and didactic courses. The state of the art Clinical Performance and Simulation Center has four (4) high-fidelity human patient simulators.

Baccalaureate Nursing Students have the opportunity to participate in several domestic intercultural immersive experiences; one, funded through student government, provides community health assessment with Public Health Nurses serving the Ojibwa Tribe of Native Americans on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation located in the Wisconsin Northwoods.

Baccalaureate Nursing Students are engaged in local service learning opportunities that provide healthcare needs and services in Fort Wayne. Healthy Cities is one example of a community-wide program that involves multiple healthcare disciplines working together in the provision of care for underserved populations in Fort Wayne.
Graduate Student Employment rate is 100% in their specialty for those who have sought employment and have not pursued advanced degrees. Most are employed in the Northeast Indiana area.

Undergraduate Nursing Students perform in student leadership roles to create and present quality improvement projects that are implemented in local and regional healthcare organizations.

Undergraduate Students engage in research and honors program projects and present findings in local and national nursing conferences.

RN Student (Undergrad) survey respondents reveal 100% employment working in a RN role and more than 70% are employed in healthcare fields as students.

IPFW’s Nursing Program is well known for its rigor and high expectations. Healthcare organizations and alumni express pride in selecting IPFW Nursing Graduates as members of their teams and Nursing Alumni speak highly of their nursing education.

Using online evaluation methodology (Class Climate®), more than 90% of Nursing Students rate their instructors and their nursing courses as EXCELLENT: All Nursing Faculty and Nursing Course ratings are in the satisfactory – excellent range for the accreditation period.

IPFW graduate programs provide the opportunity for students to sit for applicable certification exams following graduation. IPFW boasts a 100% Pass rate on its certification exams for first time test takers.
Students participate in Interprofessional Learning Experiences (IPE) at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. IPE is expected by accreditation bodies and employers.

The IPFW Department of Nursing has six (6) Nurse Practitioners, one (1) Clinical Specialist, one (1) Certified Nurse Midwife, and four (4) Certified Nurse Educators. A faculty practice plan is in place for those who must complete practice hours for continued certification.

The IPFW Nurse-Managed Lafayette Street Family Health Clinic recorded 2,012 patient visits last year and the IPFW Nurse-Managed Center for Healthy Living had 2,486 patient visits.

Both Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Directors are Registered Nurses who hold PhDs. The Graduate Director is a Certified Nurse Educator and board certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner. The Executive Director of Clinics and Special Programs is a Registered Nurse who holds a PhD.

IPFW’s Nursing Department Chair is a Registered Nurse, holds a PhD, and is a Certified Nurse Educator and a Fellow of the 2015 AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Cohort.

SIGNIFICANT FUNDING SUPPORT From Parkview Health System – an educational partner with IPFW.

**IMPACT:**

Graduates of IPFW are employed in the specialties of internal medicine, adult health endocrinology, pediatrics, cardiology, military medicine, orthopedics and gerontology

Graduates are employed throughout Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, California and Colorado.

The majority of graduates practice in Indiana.

The Department of Nursing boasts 2 Chapman Scholars—one recent graduate and one current student.
IPFW and Parkview Health have enjoyed a mutually beneficial partnership for decades. In 1989, Parkview Health entered into a collaboration with the IPFW nursing department. This arose from the following circumstances: a desire to cooperate in the provision of outstanding nursing education to help meet future demands for qualified registered nurses in the Fort Wayne area and to extend a financial contribution for the support of nursing programs, contributing to the Parkview Nursing Endowment. This collaboration helps to support faculty and staff salaries, equipment, supplies, renovations, and professional development.

In 2010, the Fort Wayne School of Radiography sponsored by Parkview, transitioned to a Department in the College of Health and Human Services at IPFW. Parkview continues to support the program through financial contribution and clinical education opportunities at Parkview facilities for students enrolled in the program.

Today, valuable initiatives include the IPFW/Parkview Student Assistance Program (SAP) which provides confidential, short-term personal counseling services to all students currently enrolled at IPFW, free of charge. Chancellor Carwein along with nursing faculty serve on boards at Parkview Health and contribute to important and high profile initiatives, such as the development of the Parkview Nurse Residency Program. Looking to the future, to facilitate the Magnet Recognition Program at Parkview, IPFW is working to streamline and tailor its RN to BS program so that Parkview returning RNs can more easily obtain their Bachelor of Science degree.