



# Improving the Operating Room Pipeline: Collaboration with Community-Based Hospital Pilot Program for Baccalaureate Nursing Program



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## Purpose

Sam Houston State University and St. Luke's Health, The Woodlands Hospital developed a collaborative perioperative internship program for upper-division baccalaureate nursing students. The goal is to increase the number of new graduate nurses in the perioperative service line.

## Application Process

- ❖ Reviewed by SHSU and St. Luke's
- ❖ Minimum GPA 3.0
- ❖ Personality Assessment
- ❖ Panel Interview

## Overview and Curriculum Development

In the spring semester of 2022, six senior-level students were selected to participate in the perioperative program. The curriculum was developed using the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) Introduction to Perioperative Nursing (IPN) for undergraduate nursing students.

- ❖ 10-week summer didactic course
- ❖ 45 clinical hours in summer
- ❖ 135 clinical hours in fall



## Pilot Outcome Summer 2022

SHSU Nursing Students			
Enrolled	Completed Program	Hired into PeriOperative Areas (OR)	Hired into other related areas (ICU)
6	5	4	1

## Curriculum Development Rationale

The 2020 National Health Care Retention & RN Staffing Report indicated that the largest amount of Perioperative RN turnover (25%) occurs within the first year of hire (Reuter & Spalla, 2021).

