

Status:

- There is a greater need for more health care professionals for the aging and underserved population in Arkansas.
- There is a growing number of aging/retiring doctors, nurses, pharmacists, etc. We need to be producing the next generation of this crucial workforce.

Program:

UAMS-NW represents an expansion of several important programs at UAMS:

- College of Medicine
- College of Nursing
- College Pharmacy
- College of Health Related Professions

UAMS-NW is not a “second medical school” for the state of Arkansas. It will not be a duplication of services or programs; rather, it is an expansion of the state’s health education system and is the most economical way for Arkansas to educate, train and graduate more health professionals.

Impact:

- Having a portion of the 3rd and 4th year College of Medicine students in Fayetteville will allow for a 33% enrollment increase in medical school enrollment in Little Rock.
- Important partnerships and collaborations with University of Arkansas–Fayetteville, the federal Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, the State of Arkansas-Fayetteville Veterans Home and the Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC).
- Increase reimbursement rates to support HCBS for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- The College of Nursing through collaborations is able to increase the class size by 40% in undergraduates and provide the structure to increase the number of nurse educators so badly needed.

How it Works:

- In the College of Medicine, UAMS is anticipating a 33% increase in its class size in Little Rock by 2012. The entire class will remain on the main campus in Little Rock for their first 2 years.
- A portion of the 3rd and 4th year College of Medicine students will attend classes and clinical rotations at UAMS-NW in Fayetteville.
- The satellite campus will enable UAMS to increase the class size of the College of Pharmacy by 62%.
- Education expansion includes students in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and allied health.
- Washington County is leasing the former Washington Regional hospital space to UAMS-NW for \$1 a year (for 330,000 square feet of buildings valued at \$58–60 million). The building will be renovated for classrooms, administration, housing of the Area Health Education Center Northwest (AHEC-NW) and student/residents support services. Over \$3M has been raised through local philanthropy for the initial renovations.

Administration/oversight: The northwest Arkansas campus is a component of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.