



Case Study: The Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation: Board of Cooperative Educational Services

How One LPN Program Improved NCLEX and Practice Readiness

Challenges faced

Preparing students to solve a growing demand for LPNs

Oswego County, NY, faces a significant shortage of healthcare professionals. Many organizations are recruiting LPNs to fill the gap. The New York Department of Labor projects that the Central New York region will see LPN demand rise by nearly 20% through 2028.

CiTIBOCES strives to increase the supply of LPNs by providing cost-effective education that readies students for the workforce. Yet falling NCLEX® scores in 2015 indicated that CiTiBOCES students were not adequately prepared for the exam or for clinical practice. The curriculum in use at the time focused more on memorization than on ensuring that students could apply learning to clinical practice.

CiTIBOCES recognized a change was needed. The CiTiBOCES faculty sought a solution that integrated multiple learning modalities to better engage busy students and help them develop essential clinical judgment. However, since 98% of CiTiBOCES students get financial aid, the new program couldn't further stretch students' finances. And since the faculty was already overwhelmed with competing priorities, they needed a solution that made it easy to integrate interactive tools and resources into their lesson plans

Profile

Located in the heart of Oswego County, NY, CiTiBOCES — The Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation: Board of Cooperative Educational Services — is crucial to the local community and in helping to respond to the local nursing labor shortage. Most CiTiBOCES nursing students are in their late 20s to early 30s. Most must work while pursuing their nursing education, and many are single mothers also juggling family responsibilities.

Overview

CiTIBOCES was established in 1948 to provide cost-effective education that prepares adult learners for the workforce. Many CiTiBOCES nursing students begin with the Certified Nursing Assistant curriculum before continuing with the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program.

Notable accreditations and/or credentials

The LPN program is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education.

98%

CiTIBOCES students who receive financial aid

19.6%

projected growth of LPNs in Oswego County, New York State from 2018-2028¹

14.2%

poverty rate in Oswego County, New York (vs. 12.7% in New York State)²

“For both the NCLEX and preparing to join the workforce, students must develop actual clinical judgment. After reviewing nursing education solutions, we chose Lippincott® CoursePoint to help our faculty build lessons that engage students so that they level up. Our NCLEX pass rate jumped from 65.22 to 95.83 after our first full year with Lippincott.”

Elizabeth Rice, BSN, RN, Health Occupation Coordinator, Adult Health Programs Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation

Solution snapshot

CiTIBOCES faculty began exploring Wolters Kluwer's digital curriculum solutions in 2016, adopting Lippincott® CoursePoint+ and Lippincott® PrepU. When the COVID-19 pandemic closed clinical sites, CiTiBOCES also began using vSim® for Nursing LPN/LVN to ensure students continued their clinical training with simulation patient scenarios co-developed with NLN.

Throughout the implementation, CiTiBOCES faculty worked with Wolters Kluwer to build interactive, engaging lessons, which has helped students apply their learning to clinical situations.

The solution

An integrated solution that fosters clinical judgment

In order to impact NCLEX scores and better prepare students for practice in their community, CiTiBOCES rolled out Lippincott® CoursePoint+ for their Medical-Surgical, Pharmacology, Anatomy-Physiology, and Maternity-Pediatrics courses. Lippincott® blends several learning modalities to transform the nursing education experience to meet the expectations of today's students and encourage active learning for greater student engagement. The solution delivers content in an online, on-demand, mobile-friendly format optimized for diverse learning styles and student preferences.

Together, this mix engages students as they interact with the information in several different formats. By completing concept maps before class, students arrive at lectures primed to learn and begin applying the information. Afterward, CiTiBOCES implemented phased homework assignments utilizing Lippincott® CoursePoint+ to reinforce lectures. Along the way, students are exposed to thousands of NCLEX preparation item types that familiarize them with the test format.

Rather than simply memorizing and repeating information, students are challenged to assess a situation, then take all they have learned and apply it to solve a clinical scenario. This process helps students build and demonstrate the clinical judgment that is essential for the NCLEX exam and clinical practice.

CiTIBOCES students are able to access a wealth of evidence-based, peer-reviewed eBooks, Picmonics, interactive videos, *Stedman's®* Medical Dictionary, drug cards, and other resources that they can easily refer to right from a smartphone or other device. The format makes it easier to study for the NCLEX or review a given topic.

Throughout the implementation, the CiTiBOCES faculty worked closely with the Lippincott® Customer Success Management team to ensure they were getting the most out of CoursePoint+. Lippincott's proactive approach even helped the CiTiBOCES team launch vSim® for Nursing just days after COVID-19 abruptly shuttered clinical sites. Even less tech-savvy staff and students easily transitioned to online clinicals that integrated with the rest of the program.



CiTIBOCES improved its NCLEX pass rate from 65.22% in 2016 to 95.83% in just two years.



Staff now incorporate multiple modalities so that students make connections between the classroom and the clinical setting.



Students appreciate the eBooks, animations, interactive case studies, Picmonics, videos, drug cards, and other tools they can use anywhere.

Results

More successful students

CiTIBOCES students are now exposed to thousands of NCLEX item types that familiarize them with the test format — driving a jump in NCLEX pass rates from 65.22% in 2016 to 95.83% in 2018.

Better knowledge retention

Time-strapped students see information in different formats that introduce, reinforce, and confirm learning. These lesson plans are more engaging while ensuring students come to class prepared to see how everything fits together — boosting learning and knowledge retention.

Improved clinical judgment

CoursePoint+ includes case studies and other tools that help students demonstrate that they have learned how to assess a situation and apply their knowledge. This process builds the confidence, competence, and clinical judgment skills that students need for the NCLEX and for practice.

Relief for the LPN shortage

One hundred percent (100%) of CiTiBOCES graduates are placed in LPN jobs that pay well above Oswego County's average income, filling essential healthcare roles with qualified LPNs who can serve their community while building a better life.

Footnotes

¹ NY Department of Labor

² 2021 US Census data

Considering a digital learning solution? Let us help you evaluate how to leverage Lippincott® CoursePoint+, Lippincott® PrepU, and vSim® for Nursing to prepare your nursing students for real-world practice.

Contact a Wolters Kluwer sales representative today and discover what Lippincott® can do for you.

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