

UAMS WHERE NURSES THRIVE

In late 2024 the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Medical Center was awarded the highest international recognition for excellence in nursing from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), achieving designation as a Magnet® hospital.

Achieving Magnet status is part of the institution's long-term strategic goals and reflects the university's commitment to delivering world-class care to all patients. Research demonstrates that Magnet recognition provides higher job satisfaction among nurses, higher patient satisfaction and lower mortality rates.

"We are thrilled to be recognized by the ANCC for a culture that empowers nurses and the entire care team to focus on patient safety and the best possible patient experience," said Chief Nursing Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor for Patient Care Services & Clinical Operations Tammy King-Jones, PhD, RN, NE-BC. "This designation sets high expectations, and we are committed to ensuring those are met."

"Earning Magnet designation means that UAMS commits itself to a higher standard for nurses. We are not merely encouraged but demanded to practice at the top of our license," said Steven Ross Ragsdale, RN, from the Psychiatric Research Institute at UAMS.

"Our nurses are actively engaged in creating the best possible outcomes for our patients and their families," said Lisa Odena, an RN IV in the med-surg float pool. "We can do that because we are valued members of the health care team and we have a voice in the care we provide."

One of the hallmarks of Magnet institutions is how nurses are integrated into decision-making related to patient care and clinical operations.

"We work closely with residents, attendings, and multidisciplinary teams to provide the highest quality care in the only adult Level 1 Trauma Center

in Arkansas," said Neko Gilbert, RN, team lead in the Emergency Department. "There's a strong focus on professional development with many of our nurses joining the Emergency Nurses Association and ongoing opportunities for nurses to enhance their skills."

"Being a part of the journey to obtain Magnet status really highlighted for me why nurses love working at UAMS," said Mary Catherine Smith, RN Care Manager. "There really is no place like UAMS. From the workplace culture to the excellent care we provide to our patients, UAMS truly is the best!"

We invite you to learn more about nursing at UAMS. Whether you're a patient or a health care professional, you'll quickly see that our nurses are in a league of their own. 

Honoring Our Nurses Year-Round!

Not just during Nurses Week—at UAMS, we continuously acknowledge and celebrate our nurses for their exceptional care and commitment to our patients. Thank YOU for making a difference every day!

#NursingExcellence #TeamUAMS
#UAMSNursesThriveIn25 #MagnetDesignated



There has never been a better time to work at UAMS Health!



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