

Lucretia Shafer

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Goal Statement and Action Plan

I am looking for a full time entry-level position for an RN, BSN in a hospital medical/surgical unit. I will use the wisdom, knowledge and skills gained there as a solid foundation upon which to build my nursing career.

Two and Five Year Goals

As I come to the end of my basic nursing education I have become very aware of what I do not yet know and understand. Therefore, I plan to work full time for at least two years in a hospital setting so that I can build my base of nursing knowledge and skills and become an expert nurse. My career is somewhat limited by my late arrival to the field of nursing so my goal is to make every year I practice count as two years. I say this somewhat tongue-in-cheek but I am determined to advance to expert nurse as quickly as possible by working full time, taking advantage of educational opportunities presented in my work setting, and continuing to read professional journals to which I subscribe. I will be a life-long learner.

While in school I developed a particular interest in Care theories. I am particularly interested in holistic care and how it positively impacts individuals, families and populations. As a result, palliative care, pain management and end-of-life care are all fields of interest to me. In the next two years I will be exploring each of these fields to determine if my strengths, skills, and passions are drawn to any one of them in particular. At that point, I will either pursue a Masters in Nursing or seek certification in a nursing specialty in one of these areas of interest if I feel that the additional education will enhance my goal to become an expert nurse.

In five years I will be confident and comfortable in my role as a nurse. By then, I hope to be functioning at a high level of skill and influence among those I will be working with. I do not plan on leaving bedside nursing but I also do not think I will be doing Med/Surg nursing at this point in time. I will either have my Masters degree or certification in a specialty area and will be focused on being a change agent to provide the best possible care to enable and equip my clients to attain optimal health and wellness to the day they die. Ultimately, I hope to influence our country's attitudes and approach to end of life care.