



PROPELLED WITH PURPOSE

| PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2025 |

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“My time at AHU was an incredible community **building experience**. I stayed in AHU housing for all four years. One thing I valued about **AdventHealth University** is its **small class sizes**, which allowed me to create a community of friends and **develop a close-knit circle**. It gave me the opportunity to make **friendships** that have lasted many years, even after leaving the university.”

Bryan Barr, 2021 Bachelor of Healthcare Administration and 2024 Master of Healthcare Administration graduate and Manager of Leadership Development for AdventHealth Mid-America Region

***Living the Healing
Values of Christ***



A Place of Transformation

C. JOSEF GHOSN, EdD, FACHE

At AdventHealth University, we believe education is more than the pursuit of knowledge. Here, we practice Whole Person Education, where we foster a culture of belonging, well-being, fulfillment, and purpose in all we do.

As we reflect on the past year, I am inspired by the sense of discovery and compassion I see in our students, faculty, and staff. From our hallways and classrooms to virtual meetings and service projects, I see them embodying our mission to *live* the healing values of Christ.

In a world that often feels fragmented, AHU remains a place individuals are seen, valued, and empowered. We cultivate a culture of belonging where every student feels supported, every voice is heard, and every story matters. On these pages, you'll find inspiring stories and outcomes related to our AHU Strategic Framework, based on three pillars: Educational Excellence, Faculty and Staff Development, and Student Growth and Success - all supported by our Mission and Whole Person Education.

To our students, families, community partners, and friends: Thank you for walking this journey with us. Your support fuels transformation and opens doors to a brighter, more compassionate future.

Onward together,

C. Josef Ghosn, EdD, FACHE

President and CEO
AdventHealth University



Empowering Our Students

KAREN BENN MARSHALL, EdD, MS

Friends of AdventHealth University:

As we enter our 33rd year, thank you for your support and interest in AdventHealth University. Your passion for our university comes at a pivotal time: Our commitment to educational excellence has never been more apparent.

Our dedication to student diversity and graduate success was recognized with a new Carnegie Classification from the American Council on Education, designating us as an Opportunity College and University-Higher Access, Higher Earnings. This means our student body is extremely inclusive and our graduates are earning significantly higher than their peers in the region.

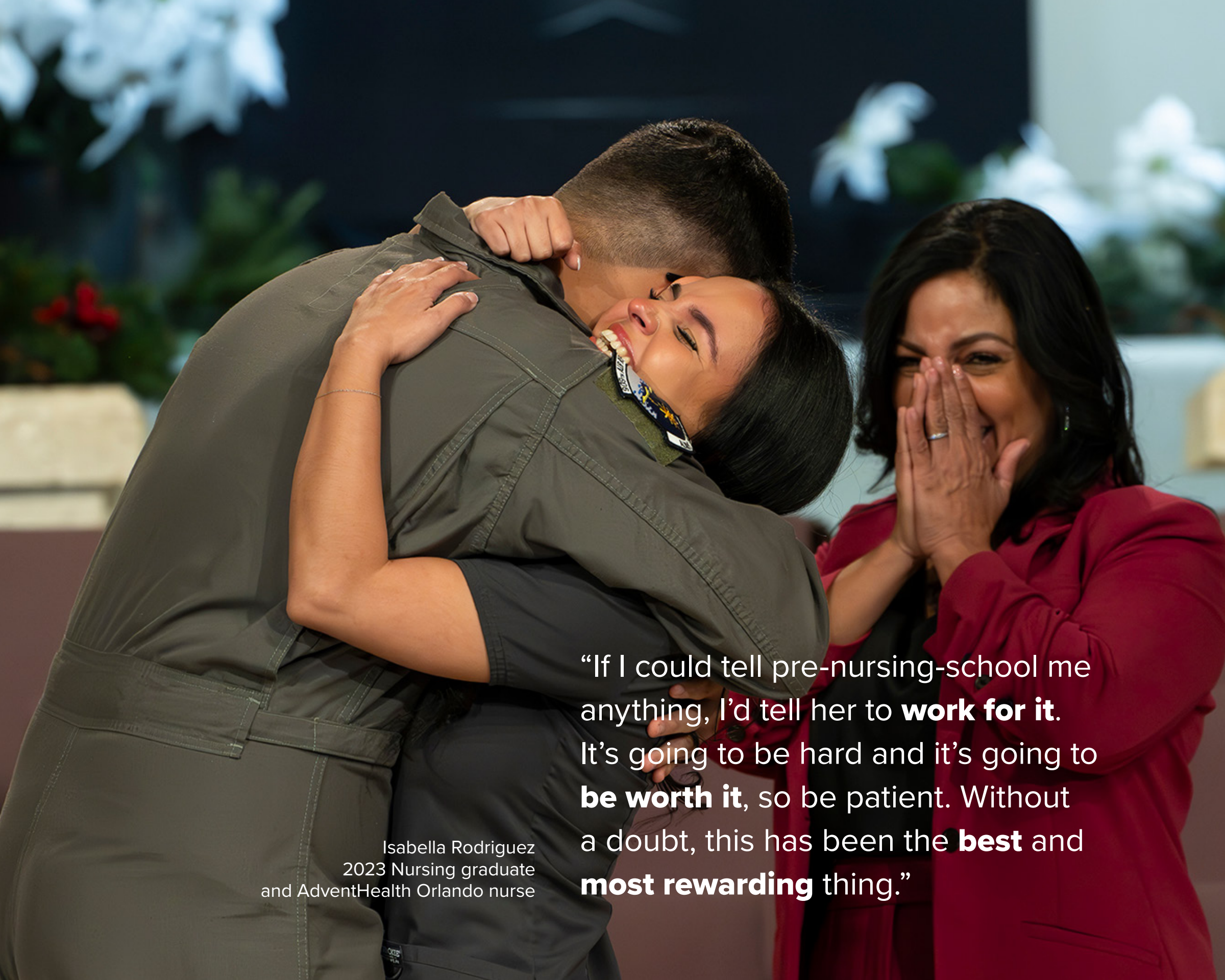
Our esteemed faculty continue to advance health-care higher education through impactful research, professional development, and educational innovation. With 208 adjunct faculty and 115 full-time faculty - 11 of them hired in the last year, our university grows stronger and better poised to ensure student success and educational excellence.

Together, these achievements reflect our shared mission to develop highly skilled professionals who *live* the healing values of Christ. We are grateful for the students and alumni who have passed through our hallways and sat in on our lectures and labs. Each day, you find new ways to inspire us and make us proud.

Thank you,

Karen Benn Marshall, EdD, MS

Provost/Senior Vice President, Academic Administration
AdventHealth University



Isabella Rodriguez
2023 Nursing graduate
and AdventHealth Orlando nurse

“If I could tell pre-nursing-school me anything, I’d tell her to **work for it**. It’s going to be hard and it’s going to **be worth it**, so be patient. Without a doubt, this has been the **best** and **most rewarding** thing.”

Educational Excellence

KELLEY SLAGOWSKI

SUPPORT AROUND EVERY CORNER

Kelley Slagowski is on the road to becoming a radiologic technician and is looking forward to specializing even further in an imaging modality.

“MRI, maybe,” said the 25-year-old AdventHealth University Denver student pursuing her Associate degree in Radiography.

Armed with an Associate degree in Science shortly after high school, Kelley began working in consumer access and registration at AdventHealth Castle Rock, where she has worked for 4½ years. She was drawn to science, zoology, and health care but wasn’t sure where she wanted to end up.

“Working at a hospital, I got to know different areas. Radiography really stuck out to me,” Kelley said. “I asked people and gathered information. I knew I wanted to be in health care.”

She learned about AdventHealth University Denver through a team newsletter. “I really liked the way the courses were structured,” Kelley said. “The faculty here was so nice and welcoming.”

In addition to tuition assistance from AdventHealth, her dreams were supported by a \$1,500 Weniger Scholarship in early 2025. Each year, Weniger Fellows Student Scholarship Fund selects one student from each of the 13 accredited Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities in the North American Division to receive a \$750 scholarship, matched with \$750 by the institution. “The faculty at AHU chose me for this scholarship,” Kelley said. “It’s a super big help. I’m working as much as I can, so I am so thankful to receive this. It will cover one full class. It’s such a big financial stress off of me.”

Kelley is set to graduate in April 2026.

“Radiography is a lot more complex than I ever thought it was. I am excited to start my own journey and take control over some of the imaging processes for patients and their families.”



**Find out more
about AHU Denver**

Kelley Slagowski
AHU Denver
Radiography student,
Class of 2026

AHU Denver Fast Facts

2009

Year AHU Denver opened

150

Alumni

3

Degrees

100

Current students

250

Targeted students by 2030

5

AdventHealth hospitals in
the Rocky Mountain Region



Take a peek at
AHU Denver's new
classrooms and labs and
how we celebrated its
opening!

Educational Excellence

13 

Accrediting agencies,
including SACSCOC

18 

Scholarship
Repository Projects

20 

Peer-Reviewed Research
Proposals Reviewed

2017 

Year AHU began using simulation to
enhance clinical training

2025 

Implemented Packback to support ethical
use of AI by students and faculty

AdventHealth University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. The mission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges is to assure the educational quality and improve the effectiveness of its member institutions.

Top 64

AdventHealth and **AHU** became one of the 2025 **Top Simulation Programs to Know** by Becker's Hospital Review

2026

Opening of the four-story
AHU Simulation Center

“I had a job lined up before I even graduated. I discovered **my passion** for OB-Gyn during nursing school, and when the chance came to work in high-risk pregnancy, I knew it was where I was meant to be. The **support and collaboration** I experienced working alongside other nurses in my final year made a **huge impact** and gave me the **confidence** to step into this role.”

Emily Thompson, 2025 Nursing graduate
and nurse on the High-Risk Pregnancy Unit
at AdventHealth Orlando



Educational Excellence

BRIDGING PRACTICE & EDUCATION: NEW AHU PATHS PAVE THE WAY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Hannah Schumacher, a nurse in AdventHealth Orlando's neurological ICU, brings hope and healing to patients recovering from strokes, spinal injuries, and trauma. Her role demands deep expertise and emotional resilience and she's found a way to expand her impact beyond the bedside.

Schumacher is one of five AdventHealth Orlando nurses pioneering a fairly new **dual role as clinical scholars**. These nurses spend two shifts caring for patients and a third shift teaching nursing students at AdventHealth University. Through simulation labs and hands-on hospital experience, students gain real-world insight from instructors actively practicing in the field.

"I love seeing the students grow from cautious beginners to confident caregivers," Schumacher said. "They start connecting the dots, and it's amazing to witness."

This innovative model addresses multiple challenges: Florida's nursing and nursing faculty demands as well as burnout among bedside nurses. By blending clinical practice with academic mentorship, AdventHealth is creating a sustainable, enriching path for both students and professionals.

"It's a win for students, a win for the university, a win for nursing retention, and a win for AdventHealth," said Kathy Gover, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, vice president of nursing practice and innovation for AdventHealth's Central Florida Division.

"This gives clinical staff the opportunity to do something different from working at the bedside. It also gives them a gentle, beautiful entry into the academic world of nursing."

Students also are reaping the benefits of having an instructor who earlier that week was taking care of patients and their families. "Students appreciate getting knowledge from a nurse who actively is in practice," Gover said.

Clinical Scholars roles are just one of several ways AdventHealth University is ensuring success for students. Students also:

- Work on one of several **Dedicated Education Units** for AHU senior nursing students, paired with a nurse as they treat patients
- Practice in energized imaging labs, with high-fidelity mannikins, and on virtual reality **technology**
- Work with **academic success coaches** and advisors

Perpetual "Angel" Fernandes Hoare, a clinical scholar who is a registered nurse on the cardiology intensive care unit at AdventHealth Orlando, said she sees students benefit from the hands-on experiences as they prepare to transition to a first-year nurse. "I try to make it a safe space for them, where they can ask questions and learn from mistakes. I try to make learning fun."



**Developing
Influential
Professionals
of Uncommon
Compassion**



Stanley Dobias, DMin,
associate professor of
Religion and Ethics

Faculty & Staff Development

STANLEY DOBIAS, DMin

AHU AMBASSADOR: MOVED TO GIVE

“As long as we continue to be blessed, we are absolutely going to continue to give back.”

That’s Stanley Dobias, DMin, a 25-year AdventHealth University faculty member who, with his wife Melissa Dobias, vice president of Risk Management and Patient Safety for AdventHealth’s West Florida Division, have established two impactful student scholarships at AHU. Dr. Dobias joins several other AHU faculty and staff in feeling the call to create student scholarships.

“Here at AdventHealth University, you have a great amount of diversity. The fact that students want to come here because that is their calling, knowing our tuition costs a little more – what a compliment to what we do,” said Dr. Dobias, associate professor of Religion and Ethics. “What does that say about the environment that we’ve created? To me, that is absolutely beautiful.”

Both Melissa Dobias and Stanley Dobias were inspired by their parents who sacrificed so much so they could receive college educations. And as passionate supporters and advocates of AdventHealth University, they felt future AHU students were the best way to act on that kindness.

“We wanted to pay it forward,” Dr. Dobias says. The two scholarships were created six years ago, providing \$130,000 in total funds for students.

One of them is aimed at undergraduate and graduate nursing students. “At the graduate level, there’s not as many financial aid opportunities.”

The second one is for students interested in becoming chaplains – filling a great need in hospitals throughout the U.S.



Learn about AHU's
Endowed Scholarship
opportunities

Faculty & Staff Development

323 
Total Faculty


115 
Full-Time Faculty

208 
Adjunct Faculty

207 
Support Staff

89% 
Faculty/Staff Retention



82% 
AHU team member
job-satisfaction rate, March 2025

45 
Workshops by the
Center for Faculty Excellence

My path to AHU was paved with prayer; I asked God to place me where I could **best serve others** and **make an impact**. God has answered that prayer, and because He is so good, I want everything I do to **demonstrate that goodness** through my work. While I am focused on my purpose here, I always want **God to be the focal point**, ensuring He gets the glory when anything good happens.

Stephanie Alava,
Marketing Manager, AdventHealth University
and 2024 MHA graduate



Student Growth & Success

YENNIFER GARZON

FUTURE PHYSICIAN DRIVEN TO SUCCEED

Yennifer Garzon hardly knows the meaning of rest.

A senior at AdventHealth University, her ambition has her traveling across the U.S., serving as president of the school's Pre-Med Society, actively involved in the national board of the Latino Medical Student Association, and working overnight shifts at AdventHealth Kissimmee.

That's all after being in the United States for only four years. She and her family moved from Venezuela to seek better medical care for her father, who was seeking treatment for prostate cancer. Yennifer began attending Celebration High School, where she eagerly took dual enrollment courses as her father fully recovered. She learned that AdventHealth pays 100 percent of tuition for team members who want to earn one of five degrees through AdventHealth University. The only one who speaks English in her family, Yennifer quickly began working at AdventHealth Kissimmee upon earning her high school diploma so she could take advantage of this team member benefit. Yennifer is prepared to graduate from AdventHealth University with her Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences in December 2025 at only age 19 – a degree that sets her on her path to medical school. Students like Yennifer in Tampa, Orlando, Denver, and online are examples of AHU's commitment to student support and success.

Yennifer's exploring earning a master's degree as she applies to medical schools like Johns Hopkins University, University of South Florida, and Loma Linda University and recently earned a position as lead lab assistant at the new AdventHealth Minneola.

"I always wanted to be a doctor," Yennifer said. "My whole childhood, I was very sick. I had a pediatrician, Dr. Elizabeth, who was more like a close friend of the family, and she had a huge influence on me. I want to be like my Aunt Elizabeth. I want to do internal medicine because of her."

Carnegie Classification

2025
Opportunity
Colleges &
Universities:
Higher Access &
Higher Earnings

AHU Tampa Fast Facts

2025

Year the first cohort of students begins

1

Degree: Associate of Science in Nursing

27

Current students

8

Faculty + support staff



Find out more about
our student clubs and
organizations



Yennifer Garzon,
Orlando Biomedical Sciences
student, Class of 2025

Student Success: Whole Person Education



BELONGING

- Cultivates community, inclusion, and connection.
- Encourages students, faculty, and staff to feel accepted and valued.
- Builds a campus culture of mutual respect, collaboration, and social responsibility.

WELL-BEING

- Promotes balance across physical, mental, and emotional health.
- Focuses on personal and professional resilience.
- Encourages lifestyle choices and support systems that nurture holistic health.



FULFILLMENT

- Fosters engagement, growth, and accomplishment.
- Connects learning with personal meaning and joy.
- Encourages self-efficacy, service, and professional excellence.

PURPOSE

- Anchors education in vocation, faith, and mission.
- Helps individuals discern and live out their calling in health care as a ministry.
- Encourages students to align their talents with service to others and God's healing work.



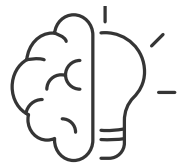
WPE is:

A new wholistic approach created and implemented at AdventHealth University in 2024. It is rooted in AdventHealth values & Seventh-day Adventist beliefs that prepare students across five domains.

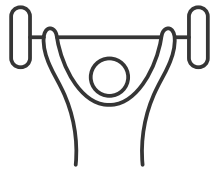
WPE matters because:

WPE empowers students beyond academics, cultivating resilience, purpose, adaptability, and compassion. AHU equips graduates to care; lead with integrity; innovate; and deliver whole-person care in an ever-changing world.

This philosophy is a distinguishing characteristic of AdventHealth University.



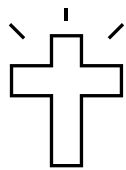
Intellectual



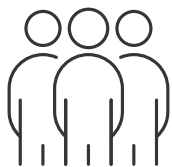
Physical



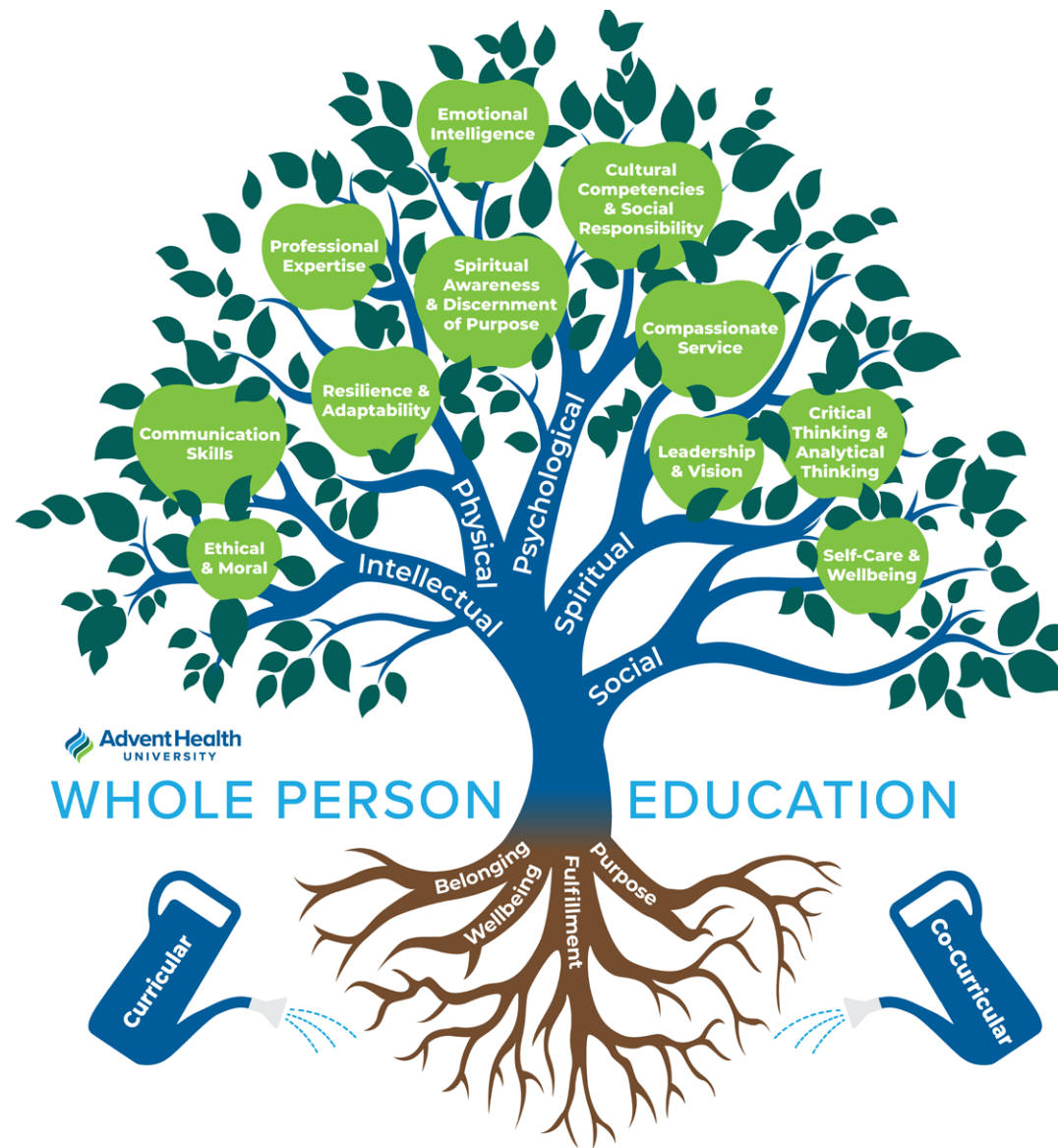
Psychological



Spiritual



Social



4

Rooted in four pillars

5

Preparing student across 5 domains

11

Essential student competencies

Whole Person Education


\$65,700

Council of Independent Colleges grants for Whole Person Education




Learn more about Whole Person Education at AHU


Student Growth & Success

1,894 
Fall 2025 student enrollment
(1.8% year-over-year increase)

2,036 
Fall 2026 enrollment goals

29% 
AHU students attending
college for the first time

71% 
AHU college transfer students

29 
Average age of an
AHU student



\$74,338
Average **first-year salary** of an
AHU undergrad

Fast Facts

6:1

Student-to-faculty ratio

13

Accrediting agencies

19

Average class size

1992

Year AdventHealth University
was established

60+

Community Engagement
partners

Associate

Diagnostic Medical Sonography
General Studies
Health Sciences
Nursing
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Radiography
Science & Technology

Bachelor's

Biomedical Sciences
Health Sciences
Health Humanities & Social Sciences
Healthcare Administration
Imaging Sciences
Medical Lab Sciences
Nuclear Medicine Technology
Nursing
RN-BSN

Master's

Clinical Ministry
Healthcare Administration
MHA/MBA
Nursing
Occupational Therapy
Physician Assistant Studies
Robotic Surgery
Spiritual Care

Doctoral

Nurse Anesthesia Practice
Nursing Practice
Physical Therapy

13,000
AHU alumni

2,300
AHU alumni
currently
employed by
AdventHealth

Degrees





\$3.3M
Awarded in
Grants



Easy ways to give to AHU:
Scan the QR code or
contact:

Erin Simmons
Chief Development Officer
erin.simmons@ahu.edu

Investing In Our Future

Philanthropy is a driving force at AdventHealth University, where we believe in the transformative power of education. As the educational landscape fluctuates, the role of philanthropic support continues to be a steadfast and essential way to live and grow our mission. Community support ensures that a high-quality college education remains accessible to all who dream of becoming a health care professional.

3%

Increase in philanthropic giving to higher education institutions in U.S.¹

\$1.9M

AHU student scholarships from AdventHealth

\$750K

Contributions from individual supporters this year

80+

Endowed scholarships

73%

Students who receive financial aid

24M

Students aid who provided

¹Inside Higher Education March 2025

SHAPING TOMORROW

\$3M



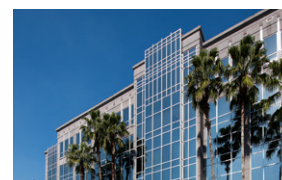
New 11K-square-foot
Welcome Center

\$5M



New 17K-square-foot
AHU Denver relocation

\$5M



New 15K-square-foot
AHU Tampa

\$7M




Current 26K-square-foot
Orlando campus
renovations

\$40M



2026: 60K-square-foot
AHU Simulation Center
in Orlando



A photograph of graduates in black caps and gowns with blue and yellow stoles, seated in a lecture hall. The image has a blue tint. The text is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image.

“This university is an example of what it teaches.
If you are struggling in school, **you are not alone.**
Resources are always available. There is **no journey**
that is easy. But if it is your call, it will surely come.”

John Itoe, 2023 AHU Denver nursing
graduate and registered nurse on the
Medical/Surgery Unit at AdventHealth Porter

