

# PRESS RELEASE

Office of Marketing and Communications



**Mandy Heil**

Associate Dean of Marketing and Communications

(928) 314-9594

[mandy.heil@azwestern.edu](mailto:mandy.heil@azwestern.edu)

## **Contact:**

Cynthia Reyes

Interim Director of Nursing

Arizona Western Entrepreneurial College

[cynthia.reyes@azwestern.edu](mailto:cynthia.reyes@azwestern.edu)

(928) 317-6038

## **Nurse Pinning Ceremony to celebrate 48 graduates**

*Yuma, AZ (December 2, 2024)* – Two years after its expansion, the Arizona Western Entrepreneurial College Nursing program will honor its largest graduating class at a Nurse Pinning Ceremony on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Nursing Program expanded to accept 60 students in Fall 2022 after receiving funding through the [Nurse Education Investment Program](#). Now, 48 student nurses will graduate from the Associate Degree in Nursing Program as the first cohort to complete the program since the expansion.

“This graduating class marks a historic milestone for our program,” commented **Cynthia Reyes**, Interim Director of the AWC Nursing Program. “With 48 students completing their journey, we are reminded of the power of growth and opportunity. Expanding the nursing program two years ago was a bold step, and seeing the strength, resilience, and talent of this cohort reaffirms that decision. As they step into their careers, they carry forward a legacy of compassion and excellence that will shape the future of healthcare.”

“This graduating class reflects the incredible impact of expanding our nursing program to meet community needs,” said **Reetika Dhawan**, CEO of AWC’s Entrepreneurial College & Vice President of Workforce & Healthcare Programs. “These 48 graduates embody resilience, dedication, and a commitment to excellence that will strengthen healthcare in our region. We are immensely proud of their achievements.”

The Nurse Pinning Ceremony will take place on **Thursday, December 5 at 6 p.m.** in the 3C Schoening Conference Center of the Yuma Campus.

The media is invited to attend this event.

###