



# Connecting Research, Evidence, and Practice to Address Health Inequities through Diverse Experiences for Black/African American Nursing Students

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## Background

The increased number of health professional shortage areas often results in limited, inequitable access to healthcare services which can have devastating effects on health outcomes. These areas rank higher in most of the leading health indicators that often have high rates of morbidity and mortality and can have a myriad of deleterious effects.

A shift is needed to focus on health promotion and prevention in order to improve the health of all people, particularly those living in health professional shortage areas. One way to not only address this shortage but also provide a mechanism to increase the effectiveness of interventions developed to address these health inequities is to increase the number of Black/African American nurses involved in the development of and implementation of the culturally appropriate and sensitive interventions.

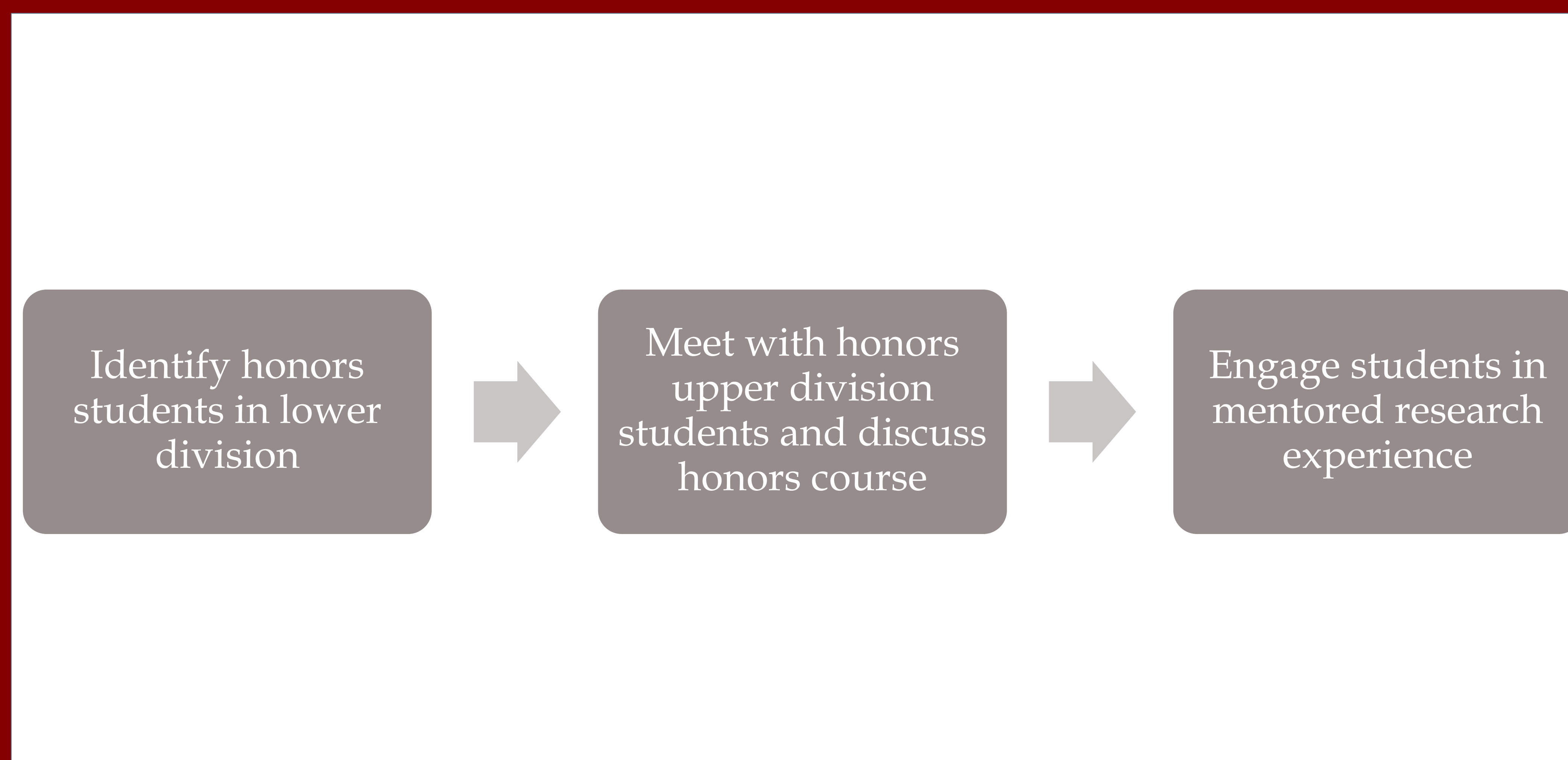
## Objectives

- To increase the number of Black/ African American nursing students enrolled in the honors program.
- To increase the number of Black/ African American nursing students involved in mentored research opportunities.
- To increase the number of Black/ African American nursing students involved in health inequities research.

## Purpose

The purpose of this project is to increase the number of Black/ African American students who participate in mentored research experiences and engage in research addressing health inequities.

## Strategies



## Expected Outcomes

- The number of Black/ African American nursing students enrolled in the honors program will increase by 5%.
- The number of Black/ African American nursing students involved in mentored research opportunities will increase by 5%.
- The number of Black/ African American nursing students involved in health inequities research will increase by 5%.

## References

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diversity, equity, and inclusion*

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### Biography

Dr. Cassandra Ford is an Associate Professor at the Capstone College of Nursing, The University of Alabama. She is a Fellow of the American Heart Association and the Gerontological Society of America. She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses within the College of Nursing. She has been the recipient of federal and intramural grant funding, conducted several research studies related to health disparities as well as educational research, and authored numerous publications and presentations. Dr. Ford has extensive experience related to community-based work, health disparities research, and working with underserved and rural populations.



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