average Purdue Global military student awarded 54 credits needed associate 's 45 credits needed bachelor 's Commonly Searched Commonly Searched Nurses backbone health care industry According National Academies Sciences Engineering Medicine nursing single largest profession entire U.S. health care workforce Without registered nurses health care system would collapse Nationally Health Resources Services Administration HRSA projects Whereas overall projected surplus RNs 2035 several states still expecting shortages 10 states largest projected shortages 2035 projected supply deficiencies adequately address nursing employment needs health care industry must recognize address challenges like industry many factors impact supply demand health care sector According United States Census Bureau December 2019 73 million baby boomers — born 1946 1964 — country baby boomers age increasingly require health care services sheer size generation ’ aging population could considerable burden health care system nursing shortage ’ solved Baby boomer nurses retiring large numbers creating lack nurses U.S. Chronic diseases grown among individuals U.S According U.S. Centers Disease Control Prevention 60 Americans suffer least one chronic disease number steadily growing Cancer heart disease diabetes stroke respiratory diseases hypertension obesity arthritis chronic diseases lead hospitalization long-term disability steady growth chronic diseases increases need health care services especially nurses state ’ health care industry leadership government needs take close look attract nurses recommendations industry professionals legislators discussed include Additionally national foundations health care industry players educational institutions role play form effort recruit retain nurses employers across country offering substantial financial non-financial perks incentives According numerous reports article Houston Chronicle incentives include Nurses — considering becoming nurse — secure considerable benefits result nursing shortage Nursing rewarding profession fulfills passion serve care others explore field nursing advance nursing career learn earning nursing degree online Purdue Global request information See Notes Conditions important information Author Purdue Global