

FY2012 NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item presents a recommendation for 18 faculty members at 18 different institutions to receive the Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards for Fiscal Year 2012. These individuals meet the qualifications set forth in the Nurse Educator Fellowship Act and have been selected from a group of 39 nominees. Awards will be used to supplement the salaries of these nursing faculty members.

This grant program is tied to Goal 3 of the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*, increase the number of high-quality postsecondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy. Nursing continues to be a high-demand field that requires the retention of well-qualified faculty to train nursing students. The demand for this occupation also has increased the frequency of outside offers for nurse educators to leave teaching and go into clinical practice. This fellowship helps institutions recognize their well-qualified nurse educators and counter those outside job offers so that Illinois can continue to address the high demand for well-trained nurses.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the allocation of \$180,000 to 18 eligible institutions on behalf of the 18 individuals who are recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards in Fiscal Year 2012.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

FY2012 NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

The 2012 awards will mark the sixth year of the Illinois Nurse Educator Fellowship program. During the past five years the Illinois Board of Higher Education has awarded 81 fellowships. The prior Fellows were nominated by 35 institutions of higher education, including 10 community colleges, four public universities, and 21 private institutions of higher education.

Participation in this program is open to Illinois institutions of higher learning with a pre-licensure nursing program approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

To be eligible to receive an award, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- nominated by the chief nursing administrator in an eligible institution;
- made significant contributions to the nursing program;
- Illinois resident and a minimum of a master's degree in nursing;
- employed in a full-time nursing faculty position at an eligible institution;
- employed by the nominating institution in a teaching position preparing registered nurses for a minimum of 12 months; and
- not received an award in the past five years.

Thirty-nine applications were received for the fiscal year 2012 awards. The applications were reviewed and evaluated by an external independent nursing expert and subsequently reviewed by the IBHE staff to ensure compliance with the rules. The \$180,000 appropriation for the fiscal year 2012 Fellowship program will support 18 awards. Fellowship funds are salary supplements that, at the discretion of the Fellow, also may be used for expenses related to professional development and continuing education. Awards will be made to the participating higher education institution on behalf of the fellow selected for receiving the award.

The fellows selected to participate in the fiscal year 2012 Nurse Educator Fellowship Program will be responsible to participate in statewide nursing advocacy to help address the nursing shortage in Illinois. Fellows may be asked to consult with the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Center for Nursing regarding statewide nursing issues. Each fellow will be responsible for preparing a final report that describes their fellowship experience.

Recommendation

The staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

That the Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the allocation of \$180,000 to 18 eligible institutions on behalf of the 18 individuals recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship awards for Fiscal Year 2012 (see Appendix 1).

APPENDIX 1
FY2012 Nurse Educator Fellowship Recommendations

(in alphabetical order)

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Kim Astroth, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	Illinois State University
Elizabeth M Chang, MSN, RN Assistant Professor	Trinity Christian College
Ruth Fiedler, EdD, RN Assistant Professor	Rush University
Shamim Huda, MSN, RN Instructor	CCC – Harry S Truman College
Sarah Katula, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	Elmhurst College
Cindy Kohtz, EdD, RN, CNE Professor	Methodist College of Nursing
Brenda S. Lessen, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	Illinois Wesleyan University
Kimberly Mitchell, PhD, RN Associate Professor	St. Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
Glenda Morris Burnett, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	St. Xavier University
Cristina Myers, DNP(c), RN Assistant Professor	Kaskaskia College
Kelley Obringer, MSN, RN Instructor	St. Johns College
Bertha Paul, DNP(c), RN Professor	CCC – Richard J. Daley College
Albertina Amelia Perez, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville
Yvette Rose, MSN, RN* Assistant Professor	Olivet Nazarene University
Matthew Sorenson, PhD, RN Assistant Professor	DePaul University
Doris Van Byssum, PsyD, MSN, RN Assistant Professor	University of St. Francis
Carolyn A. Whitehouse, MSN, RN Instructor	Western Illinois University
Vera Yee, PhD, RN Associate Professor	Illinois Central College

* Doctoral student

Each recipient will receive a \$10,000 award for a total of \$180,000.