

**APPROVED
DECEMBER 10,
2013**

Item #V-14
December 10, 2013

FY2014 NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item presents a recommendation for 22 faculty members to receive Nurse Educator Fellowship awards in fiscal year 2014. These individuals meet the qualifications set forth in the Nurse Educator Fellowship rules and have been selected from a group of 28 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 has been a long-term high-demand field that requires the retention of well-qualified faculty to train additional nursing students. This fellowship helps institutions recognize their well-qualified nurse educators so that Illinois can continue to address the long-term demand for well-trained nurses.

The Illinois Center for Nursing surveyed the nurse educators who have received fellowships through this program. Eighty-seven percent (or 77 out of 87) continue to be actively involved in nursing education in Illinois as an educator or, in a few cases, as an educator/administrator. The survey results indicate that this seven-year-old program is meeting its intended purpose, i.e., to help ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at Illinois institutions of higher education.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the allocation of \$220,000 to 15 eligible institutions on behalf of the 22 individuals who are recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards in Fiscal Year 2014.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

FY2014 NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Fiscal Year 2014 is the eighth year of the Nurse Educator Fellowship Program. During the past seven years the Illinois Board of Higher Education has awarded 117 fellowships. The prior Fellows were nominated by 43 institutions of higher education. Fellowships have been awarded to 15 community colleges, 5 public universities, and 23 private institutions of higher education.

In October 2013 the Illinois Center for Nursing surveyed the 117 nurse educators who have previously received a Nurse Educator Fellowship. The objective of the survey was to help determine if the program has helped to retain well-qualified nursing faculty at Illinois institutions of higher education. All but two fellows were located and surveyed about their current job and location; 87 responses were received (or 74.3 percent response rate). The majority of these fellows (88.5 percent or 77 of the 87) are still employed by the nominating institution. The results of the survey were extremely positive and are shown below:

Nurse Educator Fellowship Program Statistics

	Number of Fellowships Awarded	Annual State Funding	October 2013 Survey Results		
			Number of Fellows Responded to Survey	Employed in Illinois as Nurse Educator or Educator/Administrator	
				Number of Fellows Employed in Nominating Institution	Number of Fellows Not Employed in Nominating Institution
2007	15	\$ 150,000	12	8	4
2008	15	150,000	11	11	0
2009	15	150,000	12	10	2
2010	18	180,000	15	13	2
2011	18	180,000	12	12	0
2012	18	180,000	12	10	2
2013	18	163,100	13	13	0
Totals	117	\$1,153,100	87 (or 74.3%)	77 (or 88.5%)	10

These statistics indicate that the state investment of \$1,153,100 over the past seven years has helped Illinois institutions of higher education retain well-qualified nurse educators. This fellowship program has provided financial assistance to help institutions recognize and counter the outside job offers so that Illinois can continue to train nurses and address the high demand for registered nurses in the workforce.

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

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or 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.

Twenty-eight applications were reviewed and evaluated by an external independent nursing expert and subsequently reviewed by the IBHE staff to ensure compliance with the rules. 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 fiscal year 2014 appropriation for the program is \$224,300. This amount is approximately 37.5 percent greater than the prior year level of \$163,100. After consulting with the advisory board for the Illinois Center for Nursing, the staff recommendation is to return to awarding \$10,000 per fellowship. Thus, the appropriation of \$220,000 will provide 22 fellowships of \$10,000.

The fellows selected to participate in the fiscal year 2013 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 \$224,300 to 15 eligible institutions on behalf of the 22 individuals recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship awards for Fiscal Year 2014 (see Appendix 1).

APPENDIX 1
FY2014 Nurse Educator Fellowship Recommendations

(in alphabetical order)

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Michele Beatty, MS, RN*	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Karen Brandt, PhD, RN	Northern Illinois University
Jill Chamberlain, MS, RN, CNE*	St. Johns College
Elizabeth Florez, PhD, RN	DePaul University
Frank D. Hicks, PhD, RN	Rush University
Julianne Jagielka, DNP(c), RN	Morton College
Sheryl Jenkins, PhD, RN	Illinois State University
Patricia Kelly, MSN, RN, CNE*	St. Xavier University
Noel Kerr, PhD, RN	Illinois Wesleyan University
Amber S. Kujath, PhD, RN	Rush University
Annette Mattea, DNP, RN, APN/CCNS	University of St. Francis
Jill Parsons, PhD, RN	MacMurray College
Lola M. Prince, PhD, RN, APN, FNP-BC	University of St. Francis
Tina Saddler, MS, RN*	Western Illinois University
Lisabeth Searing, PhD, RN	Illinois Wesleyan University
Daisy Sherry, PhD, CNP, RN	Lewis University
Stacy Skelton, MSN, RN*	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Marsha Snyder, PhD, RN, PMHCNS/NP, BC, CADC	University of Illinois at Chicago
Debra Stark, PhD, RN	Methodist College
Jacqueline Tulley, PhD, RN	St. Xavier University
Teresa Valerio, DNP, APN, FNP-BC, CBSN	Illinois State University
Catherine Vincent, PhD, RN	University of Illinois at Chicago

*Doctoral student

Each recipient will receive a \$10,000 award for a total of \$220,000.

