The 2017 Tennessee Promise of Nursing Grant Program
Administered by the Foundation of the National Student Nurses’ Association and
Tennessee Hospital Association
Request for Proposals (RFP)

Program Description:
Several hospitals and healthcare agencies in Tennessee, Johnson & Johnson and other
national companies with an interest in supporting nursing education contributed funding
for the Tennessee Promise of Nursing Grant Program through the 2015 Promise of
Nursing for Tennessee gala event held in Nashville sponsored by Johnson & Johnson.
The Foundation of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) awarded 12 nursing
grants totaling $171,000 in 2016. Unused funds of $124,000, originally allocated for
student scholarships and faculty fellowships by the NSNA, are still available for
distribution for three to five projects in the state of Tennessee.

Applications should focus on creative approaches and partnerships of nursing schools
located in Tennessee with, hospitals, and/or other health care providers in the community.

Successful applicants will demonstrate creativity and innovation in partnerships and
content that concentrate on the following focus areas, identified by participants at the
Chief Nursing Officers and Nursing Deans and Directors’ workforce summit on April 13,
2017:

Recruitment and Retention
- Developing strategies to attract new graduates into geographical and clinical
  shortage areas;
- Improving the onboarding process to help new graduates transition into practice;
- Defining ways to improve/change the work environment to retain new graduates;
- Ensuring support for career and leadership development for new nurses.

Multigenerational Challenges
- Identify barriers to close the “gap” between the generations of working nurses;
- Improving the “culture” within the nursing to address the work/balance; expectations
  and differences between the generations;
- Seek ways to include input from “younger” generations.

Defining the Workforce of the Future
- Identifying the required competencies for the changing healthcare environment and
  implementing those competencies within the nursing curriculum;
- Aligning the competencies of graduates with the needs of clinical facilities;
• Creating or identifying reliable data sources for alignment of supply/demand (bi-directional between academics and practice);
• Provide earlier/more exposure to the field of nursing (via pipeline programs and media).

**Eligibility:**
Eligible programs are those public and private schools of registered nursing physically located in Tennessee that have been approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing; and, nonprofit hospitals or organizations with a 501C3 IRS determination status that have a focus in healthcare.

**Proposal Requirements:** * (five page limit excluding attachments)
  • Complete contact information for your grant proposal including name, title, project title, mailing address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.
  • Provide complete contact information regarding the official recipient of funding including legal corporate name, mailing address, telephone number, fax number and employer identification number.
  • Provide a description of your proposed project and the content focus area it will address.
  • Define the anticipated outcomes and assessment methodology.
  • Identify and describe how your proposal satisfies the goals and objectives outlined in this RFP.
  • Describe how you will sustain your project in the future.
  • Identify any partners involved with your project and define how these organizations will contribute to the project.

**Attachments:**
  • A budget and budget narrative of the proposed project. Include all in-kind contributions and specify any other funding sources, whether they are committed or pending. Specify the usage of the PON grant funding.
  • Provide a letter of support from the administration of your college, hospital or organization and two (2) other letters from local healthcare organizations or other applicable sources.
  • 501 C3 IRS Determination Letter (example attached).

**Application Process:**
Applications should be submitted electronically to Mary Ann Watson at mwatson@tha.com. If you are unable to submit electronically, please contact Mrs. Watson via email or by phone (901.569.0172) to arrange for submission.

**Guidelines:**
Grant funds should be utilized by December 2018. Institutional nursing programs, educational foundations or non-profit hospitals are the only eligible organizations. Funds cannot be awarded to individuals or to a college’s general fund.
Grant funds may not be used to:
- pay tuition for degree granting programs
- fund scholarships for undergraduate tuition (scholarships are available from the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association)
- purchase faculty release time
- pay for students to attend NCLEX review courses
- pay for faculty recruitment expenses

Selection Criteria:
- Proposal conforms to RFP guidelines.
- Proposal addresses one or more of the identified focus areas.
- Project demonstrates creativity and shows methods for identifiable change or improvement within some aspect of the focus areas.
- Proposal demonstrates support or partnerships with local healthcare organizations.
- Matching funds or other support are not required but may be considered during the review process.
- Strength of proposed evaluation methodology and the ability to define anticipated outcomes and provide measurable data on outcomes.
- Proposal can be implemented in a timely and efficient manner.
- Proposed project or activity can be replicated in other areas and institutions.

Submission and Award Information:
The number and amount of individual grants awarded will be determined by the strength of proposals and the budgetary requirements for implementation of the proposed activities selected for funding. Consideration will be given to an even distribution of funding across the geographical regions of the state.

Proposals must be received by 12:00 midnight (CST) on September 30, 2017. Awards, once approved by NSNA, will be announced no later than October 31, 2017. Funds will be distributed directly by NSNA.

For questions or comments, please contact:

Bill Jolley 615.401.7410 bjolley@tha.com
Mary Ann Watson 901.560.0172 mwatson@tha.com
Sample 501 C3 IRS Determination Letter

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. During your advance ruling period, you will be treated as a public charity. Your advance ruling period begins with the effective date of your exemption and ends with advance ruling ending date shown in the heading of the letter.

Shortly before the end of your advance ruling period, we will send you Form 8734, Support Schedule for Advance Ruling Period. You will have 90 days after the end of your advance ruling period to return the completed form. We will then notify you, in writing, about your public charity status.

Please see enclosed Information for Exempt Organizations Under Section 501(c)(3) for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.