



Illinois Board of Higher Education

JB Pritzker, Governor
Pranav Kothari, Chair • Ginger Ostro, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Illinois Institutions Offering Pre-Licensure Registered Professional Nursing Programs

FROM: IBHE Grants Team

DATE: August 20, 2025

RE: **Nominations for Nurse Educator Fellowships - DUE OCTOBER 31st**

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) is seeking nominations for the fiscal year 2026 Nurse Educator Fellowship Program. This program provides fellowship awards of \$10,000 to nursing faculty in pre-licensure registered professional programs offered by Illinois institutions of higher education. These awards are salary supplements to help retain well-qualified faculty through supporting their professional development.

- **The program is funded with an FY26 appropriation of \$800,000, which is sufficient to potentially offer up to 80 awards.**

Please review the nomination packet carefully. The IBHE will consider institutional and individual efforts to advance equity as part of the selection process. The equity gaps pertain to nursing students who are African American, Latino, low-income, first-generation college, from rural communities, working adults, and students with disabilities, and other special populations. Student data previously submitted by the institution to the IBHE will be included in this part of the application review.

The nomination packet and forms are attached and may be accessed on the IBHE web site at:

<https://www.ibhe.org/nefp.html>

Submit nominations to IBHE by email to nursingfellows@ibhe.org on or before **October 31st, 2025**.

Thank you!