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TITLE 23: EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES
SUBTITLE A: EDUCATION
CHAPTER II: BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATIONPART 1100
NURSING SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM

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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 9.31 of the Board of Higher Education Act [110 ILCS 205/9.31].

SOURCE: Emergency rules adopted at 30 Ill. Reg. 17113, effective October 16, 2006, for a maximum of 150 days; adopted at 31 Ill. Reg. 3145, effective February 7, 2007; amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 17458, effective October 14, 2011; emergency amendment at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days.

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**Section 1100.100 Purpose
EMERGENCY**

The purpose of the Nursing School Grant Program is to address the nursing shortage in Illinois by *increasing the number of nurses graduating from Illinois institutions of higher learning* [110 ILCS 205/9.31]. Grants shall *be awarded on the basis of performance criteria* [110 ILCS 205/9.31] and a competitive application process.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

**Section 1100.200 Definitions
EMERGENCY**

"ACEN" means Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

"Baccalaureate Completion Program" means upper division courses and bachelor's degree programs offered by 4-year degree-granting colleges and universities via an online program or at a location geographically convenient to student populations currently being served by an existing institution of higher learning.

"Board" means the Board of Higher Education.

"CCNE" means the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

"Community College" means the public community colleges of this State.

"DFPR" means the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or its successor.

"Eligible Nursing Program" means a nursing program at an Illinois institution of higher learning that prepares registered nurses in accordance with Section 1100.300 and offers at least one of the following nursing degree programs:

"ADN" means an Associate Degree in Nursing. Upon completion of the program, a graduate must be eligible to take the examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a registered nurse.

"BSN" means a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. This program admits pre-licensure students and awards a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Upon completion of the program, a graduate must be eligible to take the examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a registered nurse.

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"RN-BSN" means a baccalaureate completion program that admits registered nurses and awards a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

"MSN Entry" means a Master's of Science in Nursing program for students with bachelor's degrees in other fields who want to transition into nursing. Upon completion of the program, a graduate must be eligible to take the examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a registered nurse.

"Institution of Higher Learning" means a public or nonpublic institution of higher education located within Illinois that offers associate, baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate degrees and that is authorized to operate in the State of Illinois.

"NCLEX-RN" means the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse. Passing the NCLEX-RN is required of candidates for licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN) in Illinois.

"Program" means the Nursing School Grant Program.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.300 Eligible Nursing Program**EMERGENCY**

Illinois institutions of higher learning offering registered nursing degree programs must meet the following criteria to be eligible to receive a grant under this Part:

- a) ADN programs must:
 - 1) Be approved by DFPR;
 - 2) Be accredited by ACEN; and
 - 3) Have an articulation agreement with at least one institution of higher learning that offers baccalaureate degrees for registered nurses.
- b) BSN programs must:
 - 1) Be approved by DFPR; and
 - 2) Be accredited by CCNE or ACEN.

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- c) RN-BSN programs must be accredited by CCNE or ACEN.
- d) MSN Entry program must:
 - 1) Be approved by DFPR; and
 - 2) Be accredited by CCNE or ACEN.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.400 Application Process
EMERGENCY

- a) Eligible nursing programs will be notified by the Board when funding opportunities and application materials for grant opportunities under this Part are available.
- b) Application materials may be obtained from the Illinois Board of Higher Education, 1 N. Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite #333, Springfield IL 62701 or the Board's website at www.ibhe.org.
- c) Completed application materials must be signed by the institution's authorized representative and received by the Board by the announced deadline for the submission of applications, which shall not be less than 45 days from the announcement and release of application materials. Application materials will be due no later than October 31 of each year.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.420 Priorities for Projects Funded
EMERGENCY

In a given fiscal year, the Program appropriations shall be allocated for projects based on the following order of priority:

- a) Funding for baccalaureate completion programs to facilitate student articulation from an ADN program offered by a community college to a BSN or RN-BSN program;
- b) Funding for continuation of a grant previously awarded under this Part; or

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- c) Funding for a new grant to expand or improve an eligible nursing program.

(Source: Added by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.440 Use of Award Funds
EMERGENCY

Acceptable expenditures may include, but are not limited to, the following direct costs:

- a) Hiring additional qualified nursing faculty and staff;
- b) Developing or expanding instructional programs (e.g., online, weekend, evening);
- c) Developing or expanding academic support services or programs;
- d) Securing additional clinical instruction sites;
- e) Improving or increasing spaces for classrooms or laboratories; and
- f) Purchasing equipment and other program-related instructional materials.

(Source: Added by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.460 Grant Applications
EMERGENCY

Grant applications under this Part shall include, but need not be limited to, the following items:

- a) Comprehensive description of the proposed use of funds, including evidence of current research and best practices, to support proposed strategies.
- b) Budget by line items, including personal services, contractual services, commodities, equipment, telecommunications, and travel.
- c) Performance measures, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1) Number of degrees conferred (three-year trend);
 - 2) First-year retention rate (three-year trend based on 30 semester hours or equivalent);

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- 3) NCLEX-RN pass rate for first-time test takers in comparison to the national average for the previous calendar year as reported by DFPR; and
 - 4) Job placement within 6 months after degree completion (three-year trend).
- d) Statement of institutional support and sustainability of grant-funded activities.
 - e) Plans for close-out reports.
 - f) Uniform Application for State Grant Assistance completed and signed by authorized representative.

(Source: Added by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.480 Award Determinations**EMERGENCY**

- a) The grant awards for eligible nursing programs shall be determined using a competitive process to review applications. The Board's standards for approval include, but are not limited to, the following criteria, considerations and weightings:
 - 1) Evidence of effective program goals and performance measures (25%);
 - 2) Proposed use of funds and budget justification demonstrating an effective use of program resources (25%);
 - 3) Evidence of institutional support and sustainability of grant-funded activities (10%); and
 - 4) Evidence of an effective plan to evaluate progress (15%).
- b) Grant funding is subject to Program appropriations.

(Source: Added by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.500 Expansion Grants (Repealed)**EMERGENCY**

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(Source: Repealed by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.600 Improvement Grants (Repealed)
EMERGENCY

(Source: Repealed by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.700 Award Process
EMERGENCY

- a) Board staff shall review application materials and make recommendations to the Board for approval.
- b) Once grants are awarded by the Board, the Board shall notify each applicant in writing concerning its application.
- c) The Board shall enter the uniform Grant Agreement, provided by the Grant Accountability and Transparency Unit (GATU) pursuant to the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) [30 ILCS 708], with those institutions awarded a grant under this Part that specifies the terms and conditions of the grant.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.800 Audit Requirements (Repealed)
EMERGENCY

(Source: Repealed by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)

Section 1100.900 Financial Reports, Closeout Reports, Performance Reports, and Audits
EMERGENCY

- a) Financial reports, annual reports, closeout reports, performance reports, and audits shall meet the requirements of GATA (44 Ill. Adm. Code 7000) and this Section. Grant recipients shall:
 - 1) File quarterly financial reports with the Board describing the expenditures of funds. The first report shall cover the first three months after the award

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is approved. Reports are to be filed in the format determined by the Board.

- 2) Submit a closeout report within 60 calendar days following the end of the fiscal year. In the event that the agreement is terminated prior to the end of the fiscal year, the 60 day period starts on the date of termination. The report is to be submitted in the format determined by the Board.
 - 3) Submit a final financial report within 180 days after the end of the fiscal year. The report is a statement of costs and revenues for the grant project and is signed by the authorized representative. The report is to be provided in the format determined by the Board.
 - 4) Submit a performance report within 60 calendar days following the end of the fiscal year. In the event that the agreement is terminated prior to the end of the fiscal year, the 60 day period starts on the date of termination. The performance measures are proposed by the grantee and may be adjusted by the Board in consultation with the grantee. The report is to be provided in the format determined by the Board.
 - 5) In the event that the grant award meets or exceeds the threshold amounts for a required audit, the performance of an audit must comply with the terms of the Grant Agreement and GATA.
- b) Deadlines may be extended at the discretion of the Board, except as provided in subsection (a)(1).

(Source: Added by emergency rulemaking at 42 Ill. Reg. TBD, effective August 6, 2018, for a maximum of 150 days)