

NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: The purpose of the Nurse Educator Fellowship Program, created in 2006, is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education is authorized to make awards to participating institutions on behalf of nursing faculty who have been nominated and selected to receive a Nurse Educator Fellowship Award during Fiscal Year 2008. Awards will be used to supplement the salaries of the nursing faculty selected for the Fellowship.

This item presents a recommendation for 15 individuals at eligible institutions to receive the Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards for Fiscal Year 2008. These individuals have been selected from a group of 30 nominees and meet the qualifications set forth in the Nurse Educator Fellowship Act.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approves the allocation of \$150,000 to eligible institutions on behalf of the 15 individuals recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship Awards in Fiscal Year 2008.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NURSE EDUCATOR FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

This program is one of several new Illinois nursing initiatives created in 2006. The purpose of the program is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing. Last year the board made 15 awards to participating institutions on behalf of nursing faculty that were nominated and selected to receive an award. Awards are used to supplement the salaries of the nursing faculty selected for the Fellowship.

Eligible Institutions

Participation in this program is open to Illinois institutions of higher learning with a 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).

Fellowship Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive an award, a nursing Fellowship applicant must:

- be an Illinois resident and have a minimum of a master's degree in nursing;
- be employed in a full-time nursing faculty position at an eligible institution;
- have been employed by the nominating institution in a teaching position preparing registered nurses for a minimum of 12 months; and
- have made significant contributions to the nursing program.

Fellowship Awards

Thirty eligible applications were received for the Fiscal Year 2008 awards. The applications were reviewed by Board staff and an external independent nursing expert. In Fiscal Year 2008, the \$150,000 appropriation for the Fellowship program will support 15 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 in behalf of the fellow selected for receiving the award.

Duties and Responsibilities

The fellows selected to participate in the Fiscal Year 2008 Nurse Educator Fellowship Program will be responsible to participate in statewide nursing advocacy to help address the nursing shortage in Illinois. Fellows may also be required to consult with the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Center for Nursing regarding statewide nursing issues. Each fellow will be responsible to prepare a final report that describes their fellowship experience.

Recommendations

The staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

That the Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the allocation of \$150,000 to eligible institutions on behalf of the 15 individuals recommended to receive \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship awards for Fiscal Year 2008 (see Appendix 1).

APPENDIX I

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION Nurse Educator Fellowship Program

FY2008 Nursing Educator Fellowship Recommendations (in alphabetical order)

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Institution</u>
Rashidah Abdullah, MS	Instructor	CCC - Harry S Truman College
Kim Amer, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	DePaul University
Karen Baldwin, Ph.D	Assistant Professor	Northern Illinois University
Beth Nachtsheim Bolick, MS*	Assistant Professor	Rush University
Sandra Drozd Burke, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Illinois State University
Connie M. Dennis, Ph.D.	Professor	Illinois Wesleyan University
Trudy DeWaters, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	North Park University
Linda Duncan, DNP	Professor	North Park University
Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D	Assistant Professor	Illinois State University
Karen Egenes, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Loyola University of Chicago
Carla Ferguson, MSN	Assistant Professor	Oakton Community College
Paula N. Kagan, Ph.D	Assistant Professor	DePaul University
Frank Lyerla, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Lee Alan Schmidt, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	Loyola University of Chicago
Mary E. Weyer, Ph.D.	Professor	Elmhurst College
* Doctoral student		

Each recipient will receive a \$10,000 award for a total of \$150,000.