

Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)

Opportunity number: HRSA-25-070





Contents

	Before you begin	4
Q	Step 1: Review the Opportunity	<u>5</u>
	Basic information	6
	Eligibility	Z
	Program description	9
	Award information	12
?	Step 2: Get Ready to Apply	14
	Get registered	<u>15</u>
	Find the application package	<u>15</u>
	Application writing help	<u>15</u>
2	Step 3: Prepare Your Application	17
	Application contents and format	18
8	Step 4: Learn About Review & Award	29
	Application review	<u>30</u>
	Award notices	32
1	Step 5: Submit Your Application	<u>33</u>
	Application submission and deadlines	<u>34</u>
	Application checklist	<u>35</u>
D	Step 6: Learn What Happens After Award	<u>36</u>
	Post-award requirements and administration	37
8	Contacts and Support	<u>41</u>
	Appendix: Sample NFLP Terms	44

Contents 2

Endnotes 51

Contents 3



Before you begin

If you believe you are a good candidate for this funding opportunity, secure your <u>SAM.gov</u> and <u>Grants.gov</u> registrations now. If you are already registered, make sure your registrations are active and up-to-date.

SAM.gov registration (this can take several weeks)

You must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

Grants.gov registration (this can take several days)

You must have an active Grants.gov registration. Doing so requires a Login.gov registration as well.

See Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

Apply by the application due date

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on February 24, 2025.



To help you find what you need, this NOFO uses internal links. In Adobe Reader, you can go back to where you were by pressing Alt + Left Arrow (Windows) or Command + Left Arrow (Mac) on your keyboard.

Before you begin 4



Step 1: Review the Opportunity

In this step

Basic information	9
Eligibility	
Program description	9
Award information	11

Basic information

Division of Nursing and Public Health

Providing low-interest loans and loan cancellation for qualifying students who become nurse faculty.

Summary

This program aims to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty nationwide by providing low interest loans for individuals studying to be nurse faculty and loan cancellation for those who then go on to work as faculty.

Funding details

Application Types: Competing Continuation, New

Expected total available funding in FY 2025: \$25,600,000.

Expected number and type of awards: 80 grants

Funding range per award: Up to \$2,000,000 per award (this ceiling amount reflects the maximum requested award amount).

The NFLP is a formula-based program. We distribute NFLP funds among eligible entities with complete and approved applications.

We plan to fund awards for a one-year period of performance of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

The program and estimated awards depend on the future appropriation of funds and are subject to change based on the availability and amount of appropriations.



Have questions?
Go to Contacts and
Support.

Key facts

Opportunity name: Nurse Faculty Loan Program

Opportunity number: HRSA-25-070

Announcement version: New

Federal assistance listing: 93.264

Statutory authority: 42 U.S.C. § 297n-1 (Public Health Service Act Section 846A).

Key dates

NOFO issue date: November 26, 2024

Informational webinar: See HRSA Bureau of Health Workforce's open opportunities website for details.

Application deadline: February 24, 2025

Expected award date is by: July 1, 2025

Expected start date: July 1, 2025

See <u>other submissions</u> for other time frames that may apply to this NOFO.

Eligibility

Who can apply

You can apply if you are an accredited school of nursing with advanced nursing education programs. Any school(s) of nursing affiliated with this application must be accredited at the time of application – and for the duration of the award – by a recognized body or bodies, or a state agency, approved by the Secretary of Education for nurse education accreditation. Applicants must submit official documentation of accreditation in Attachment 1 for all affiliated nursing programs.

Tribes and tribal organizations may be eligible if they own and operate accredited schools of nursing with an advanced nursing program.

Types of eligible organizations

If otherwise eligible, these types of domestic* organizations may apply.

- · Public institutions of higher education
- · Private institutions of higher education
- Non-profits with or without a 501(c)(3) IRS status
- · For-profit organizations
- State, county, city, township, and special district governments, including the District of Columbia, domestic territories, and freely associated states
- Native American tribal governments
- Native American tribal organizations

*"Domestic" means the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Individuals are not eligible applicants under this NOFO.

Other eligibility criteria

Beneficiary eligibility

To receive support under this program, student borrowers must:

• Be enrolled in a course of study in an advanced nursing education degree program.

- Post-master's nursing certificate and Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) students are eligible for support.
- Maintain an acceptable level of academic standing (as determined by the academic institution).

A student borrower must be one of the following:

- A U.S. citizen or non-citizen national.
- An individual lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States.
- Any other person defined as a "qualified alien" under section 431(b) of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-193, as amended.

Individuals on temporary or student visas are not eligible to participate and cannot receive NFLP support.

Completeness and responsiveness criteria

We will review your application to make sure it meets these basic requirements to move forward in the competition.

We will not consider an application that:

- Is from an organization that does not meet all eligibility criteria.
- Requests funding above the award ceiling shown in the <u>funding range</u>.
- Is submitted after the deadline.
- Fails to submit accreditation or approval documentation.

Application limits

You can submit only one application per campus. A campus is defined as a division of a university that has the same name but has a separate Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and is separate with its own grounds, buildings (e.g., school of nursing), and faculty.

We will only review your last validated application for each distinct project before the deadline.

Cost sharing

Cost sharing or matching is required for this program. Recipient institutions are required to deposit an Institutional Capital Contribution (ICC) that is equal to not less than one-ninth of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Federal award amount, hereafter referred to as the Federal Capital Contribution (FCC). The ICC must be deposited at the time the FCC is received and deposited into the loan fund account.

Program description

Purpose

The NFLP seeks to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty nationwide by providing low interest loans for individuals studying to be nurse faculty and loan cancellation for those who then go on to work as faculty. Successful applicants must establish, operate, and maintain a student loan program that provides loans to students enrolled in advanced nursing education degree programs. NFLP recipients must also monitor compliance with program requirements.

NFLP graduates can have up to 85 percent of their student loan, including interest, canceled if they work full-time as nurse faculty for up to four years at an accredited nursing school. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) who work full-time as preceptors in academic-practice partnerships are also considered faculty under the NFLP, expanding clinical training for nursing students.

Background

Strengthening the nation's supply of nurse faculty is critical to meeting workforce needs and educating the next generation of nurses. According to recent data collected through the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) 2022 Faculty Vacancy Survey, there are 2,166 unfilled nurse faculty positions in the United States, with 62 percent of schools unable to fill their full-time faculty slots. The data shows a national nurse faculty vacancy rate of 7.8 percent. Most of the vacancies (79.8 percent) were faculty positions requiring or preferring a doctoral degree. [1] HRSA projections show maldistribution of the registered nurse workforce across the United States, as well as shortages in many states. Maldistributions and shortages are partially attributable to nursing school faculty shortages, which affect nursing program enrollments. [2]

Partnerships between NFLP recipients and academic or practice institutions are beneficial in addressing nurse faculty shortages and the limited supply of APRN preceptors. These partnerships provide an avenue for shared resources, increase opportunities for recruitment of diverse student populations, and support post-graduation employment.

The NFLP supports institutions committed to preparing advanced degree nursing students to serve as nurse faculty. Evidence has shown monetary support to pursue education, including fellowships and loan forgiveness, to be effective in encouraging students to become nurse faculty.

To better understand key program-related terms in this NOFO, please visit the <u>Health Workforce Glossary</u>.

Program goals

- Increase the number of qualified nurse faculty nationwide by supporting training
 of advanced nursing education students who will serve as nurse faculty upon
 graduation, with a focus on doctorate preparation.
- Reduce the financial barriers for nurse faculty with loan cancellation.
- Expand clinical training opportunities by increasing access to joint nurse faculty roles, such as APRN preceptors.

Program objectives

NFLP recipients will:

- Establish and/or maintain a distinct NFLP loan fund account and provide fiscal oversight in accordance with NFLP requirements.
- Disburse loans to students enrolled in accredited or approved (for new programs)
 advanced nurse education training programs, who will serve as nurse faculty upon
 graduation.
- Operate a NFLP loan fund, collect on loans borrowed, manage cancellations, monitor compliance, and provide accurate programmatic and financial data to show successful project implementation.

Program requirements and expectations

You must address the following in your application, and meet these expectations if you receive an award:

- Establish, if not already established, and maintain an interest-bearing student loan fund, and deposit in the student loan fund account:
 - The FCC (the federal award made to the institution)
 - An amount equal to not less than one-ninth of the FCC, referred to as ICC
 - · Collections of principal and interest on loans made from the fund
 - Any other earnings on the loan fund such as interest borne on the account
- Develop a standard operating procedure to guide project administration.
- Within 60 days of receiving the FCC, withdraw the entire FCC amount, add the ICC amount, and deposit both into a separate, interest-bearing NFLP student loan account.

- Conduct a training program to prepare students to become nurse faculty/
 preceptors including training on how to deliver didactic and clinical curricula that
 reflects best practices in teaching and care delivery. NFLP funds can cover the
 costs of student nurse educator development activities^[3] within the course of
 study as a reasonable educational expense.
- Disburse NFLP loan funds to advanced nursing education students. NFLP funds
 can only be used to pay the cost of tuition, fees, books, laboratory expenses, other
 reasonable education expenses, and costs of collection of loaned principal and
 accrued interest.
- Encourage post-graduation employment by connecting graduates with employment resources and opportunities, including in communities of need (i.e., underserved, rural, and tribal areas).
- Collect principal and interest on all loans from the NFLP student loan fund and deposit them back into the fund. NFLP funds can cover the costs of loan collection, including reasonable costs for personnel or third-party servicers.
- Provide cancellation of up to 85 percent of the original student loans (plus interest thereon) for completion of up to four years of post-graduation full-time nurse faculty employment (see below):
 - 20 percent of the principal and the interest on the amount of the unpaid loan balance upon completion of each of the first, second, and third year of fulltime faculty employment; and
 - 25 percent of the principal and the interest on the amount of the unpaid loan balance upon completion of the fourth year of full-time faculty employment.
- Participate in federally designed evaluations to assess program effectiveness and efficiency upon request.

Program specific instructions

You are encouraged to:

- Establish collaborative partnerships to recruit students, provide access to training resources, and connect graduates with employment opportunities.
- Enhance experiential and didactic curricula to help NFLP students address health disparities, social determinants of health (SDOH), health equity, and behavioral health integration for populations they serve upon graduation.
- Recruit, train, support, and graduate students, including those from diverse populations, such as those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Support an organizational culture of wellness by using evidence-based strategies aimed at promoting mental wellness and reducing burnout in the nursing workforce.

Award information

Funding policies and limitations

Policies

We will only make awards if this program receives funding. If Congress appropriates funds for this purpose, we will move forward with the review and award process.

Maintenance of effort (MOE)

Federal funds must add to any existing non-federal funds for your proposed activities. If you receive an award, you will have to spend at least as much as you spent in the last fiscal year before the award. 42 U.S.C. § 296b(b) (Public Health Service Act section 803(b)) requires this. We will enforce these statutory requirements through all available mechanisms. You must provide supporting documentation in Attachment 2.

For NFLP, the MOE is based on the ICC contributed to the prior fiscal year and the estimated ICC amount for the next fiscal year.

General limitations

- For guidance on some types of costs we do not allow or restrict, see Project
 Budget Information in section 3.1.4 of the R&R Application Guide. You can also see
 45 CFR part 75, or any superseding regulation, General Provisions for Selected
 Items of Cost.
- You cannot earn profit from the federal award. See 45 CFR 75.400(g).

Program-specific limitations.

Award funds cannot be used for indirect costs. Recipients may use a reasonable amount of funds toward loan collection costs for NFLP loans, including designated institutional structures, to collect costs such as personnel and third-party servicers.

- NFLP loan support is only made to eligible students to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses (including student nurse educator development activities) for the duration of their course of study.
- NFLP loan support cannot exceed \$40,000 per student for any academic period.

See Manage Your Grant for other information on costs and financial management.

Program income

Program income is money earned from your award-supported project activities. You must use any program income you generate from awarded funds for approved project-related activities. Find more information about program income at 45 CFR 75.307.

Contacts



Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

In this step

Get registered	<u>15</u>
Find the application package	<u>15</u>
Application writing help	15

Get registered

SAM.gov

You must have an active account with SAM.gov. This includes having a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. Begin that process today.

To register, go to <u>SAM.gov Entity Registration</u> and click Get Started. From the same page, you can also click on the Entity Registration Checklist for the information you will need to register.

When you register or update your SAM.gov registration, you must agree to the <u>financial assistance general certifications and representations</u>. You must agree to those for grants specifically, as opposed to contracts, because the two sets of agreements are different. You will have to maintain your registration throughout the life of any award.

Grants.gov

You must also have an active account with <u>Grants.gov</u>. You can see step-by step instructions at the Grants.gov <u>Ouick Start Guide for Applicants</u>.

Need Help? See Contacts & Support.

Find the application package

The application package has all the forms you need to apply. You can find it online. Go to <u>Grants Search at Grants.gov</u> and search for opportunity number HRSA-25-070.

After you select the opportunity, we recommend you click the Subscribe button to get updates.

Application writing help

Visit HHS's Tips for Preparing Grant Proposals.

Visit HRSA's How to Prepare Your Application page for more guidance.

Step 2: Get Ready to Apply

Join the webinar

We will hold a pre-application technical assistance webinar. The webinar will provide an overview of pertinent information in the NOFO and an opportunity for applicants to ask questions. Visit the HRSA Bureau of Health Workforce's <u>open opportunities</u> website to learn more about the resources available for this funding opportunity.

Step 2: Get Ready to Apply



Step 3: Prepare Your Application

In this step

Application contents and format

Application contents and format

Applications include four main components. This section includes guidance on each.

Application page limit: 50 pages.

Submit your information in English and express whole budget figures using U.S. dollars.

Make sure you include each of these:

Components	Submission Format	Included in the page limit?
Project abstract	Use the Project Abstract Summary form.	No.
Project narrative	Use the Project Narrative Attachment form.	Yes.
<u>Attachments</u>	Insert each in the Other Attachments form.	Yes, unless otherwise marked below.
Other required forms	Upload using each required form.	Indicated in the other required forms section.

See the <u>application checklist</u> for a full list of all application requirements. See <u>form</u> <u>instructions</u> for more detail on completing each form.

Required format

You must format your narratives and attachments using our required formats for fonts, size, color, format, and margins, etc. See the formatting guidelines in section 3.2 of the <u>Application Guide</u>.

Project abstract

Complete the information in the Project Abstract Summary Form. Include a brief overview of the project, specific objectives that the project will accomplish, which of the clinical priorities will be addressed by the project (if applicable), and how the proposed project will be completed. For more information, see section 4.1.ix of the Application Guide.

Project narrative

In this section, you will describe all aspects of your project. Project activities must comply with the <u>nondiscrimination requirements</u>.

Use the section headers and the order below.

Introduction and purpose

- Briefly describe the purpose of the proposed project and the need for nurse faculty.
- Explain how the project will increase the number of qualified nursing faculty nationwide.

Need

- Describe the need for more qualified nurse faculty within your geographical area.
- Discuss how your students will benefit from this program.
- Describe how your graduates impact the nurse faculty workforce locally and nationally, including benefit to rural or underserved populations, as applicable.
- Use and cite demographic data as part of the descriptions and explanations above, as applicable.

Approach

- Describe methods and/or activities that you will implement to address the stated needs, purpose, and program goals.
- Explain how you will meet this program's requirements and expectations.
- Identify strategies, tools and/or activities to address: diversity, such as by recruiting students from disadvantaged backgrounds or rural areas; burnout; and SDOH and advancing health equity.

High-level work plan

- Describe how you'll achieve each of the objectives during the period of performance.
- Describe the timeframes, deliverables, and key partners required during the grant period of performance to address the needs detailed in the Purpose and Need sections.
- Describe the collaborative academic or academic-practice partnerships formed to support training, student nurse educator development, and post-graduation faculty employment.

Resolving challenges

- Discuss challenges that you may encounter in designing and carrying out the
 activities in the work plan. Explain approaches that you will use to resolve them,
 including:
 - How you will ensure students understand the commitment to work as fulltime nurse faculty in order to receive cancellation of up to 85 percent of their original student loan amount (plus interest thereon).
 - How you will manage borrower records and the institution's loan fund account, including preventing high default rates.
 - How you will manage loan cancellation, repayment, and collection, including coordinating with third-party loan servicing and collection entities.
 - How you will track and support NFLP graduates with meeting their obligation to work as full-time nursing faculty, including in rural and underserved areas.

Performance reporting and evaluation

- Outcomes. Describe the expected outcomes (desired results) of the funded activities.
- **Performance Measurement and Reporting.** See Report on Your Grant for performance measure requirements and examples of reporting forms.
 - Describe how you will collect and report required performance data accurately and on time.
 - Describe how you will manage and securely store data.
 - Describe how you will monitor and track NFLP-supported students and graduates (from enrollment to graduation, loan cancellation, repayment, and collection), including plans to maintain contact after graduation.
 - Describe how you will monitor and analyze performance data to support continuous quality improvement.
- Program Evaluation. The evaluation should examine processes and progress towards program goals, program objectives, and expected outcomes. Evaluations must follow the HHS Evaluation Policy and the standards and best practices described in <u>OMB</u> Memorandum M-20-12. Describe your plan to evaluate the project. Include:
 - The evaluation questions, methods, data to be collected, and timeline for implementation.
 - The evaluation barriers and your plan to address them.
 - The evaluation capacity of your organization and staff. Include experience, skills, and knowledge.

 How you will disseminate results and how you will assess whether your dissemination plan is effective, for example, whether the results are national in scope and the potential for replication.

See **Reporting** for more information.

Sustainability

We expect you to sustain key project elements that improve practices and outcomes for the target population.

- Propose a plan for sustainability after the period of federal funding ends.
- Describe how you will continue supporting the number of students trained to become qualified nursing faculty.
- Describe how you will obtain future sources of funding to maintain your training efforts.
- Discuss how long it will take to become self-sufficient.
- Discuss challenges that you will likely encounter in sustaining the program. Include how you will resolve these challenges.

Organizational information

- Briefly describe your mission, structure, and the scope of your current activities. Explain how they support your ability to carry out the program requirements.
- Discuss how you will follow the approved plan, account for federal funds, and record all costs to avoid audit findings.
- Describe the organizations you will partner with to fulfill the program goals and meet the training objectives. Include copies of Statement of Collaborative Academic/Academic-Practice Partnership (Attachment 5) with key organizations.
- Include Biographical Sketches for key positions using <u>Attachment 6</u>. See qualifications for key positions below:
 - Project Director:
 - Primary contact for the project and works with HRSA staff, members of the project staff, and partners.
 - Responsible for the project and all deliverables.
 - Must have at a minimum a master's or doctorate level degree.
 - Has experience as an educator and administrative expertise (including but not limited to fiduciary oversight of loan funds, preparation, and submission of the Annual Performance Reports).

NOTE: If the Project Director is not a nurse educator/administrator, then they must have direct affiliation with the nursing education unit at the institution. There may only be one Project Director for the NFLP project.

- Financial Management Staff:
 - Provides oversight of the fiduciary components of the NFLP funds.
 - Responsible for data collection and ensuring timely reporting of data to HRSA.
 - Responsible for coordinating activities related to loan fund account establishment/maintenance, loan provision to students, loan cancellation and write-off, loan repayment and collection, and financial record keeping.

NOTE: NFLP funds may be used to cover the reasonable costs for personnel, third-party servicers, or other designated institutional structures responsible for NFLP loan collection.

Budget and budget narrative

The NFLP is formula-based and does not require submission of a budget or budget narrative.

Attachments

Place your PDF attachments in order in the Attachments form.

Attachment 1: Accreditation documentation

Required - Does not count toward the page limit.

You must provide documentation of your school(s) of nursing/nursing program accreditation. Please do not provide only the web link to the accreditation body's website. HRSA will not open any links included in the application.

Schools of nursing and nursing programs affiliated with the proposed project that offer formal degree programs must be accredited by a national or state agency recognized by the Secretary of Education for the purposes of nursing education. These agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
- Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education

You must submit appropriate accreditation or approval documentation to be deemed eligible.

If your accreditation/approval status cannot be verified, you will be considered nonresponsive and deemed ineligible.

You must submit an official letter of accreditation that includes the following:

- Proof of continuing accreditation/approval from the relevant accrediting/approval body, confirming you are not on probation.
- The name of the accrediting/approval body.
- The date of initial accreditation/approval.
- The date of the next expected review or the expiration date of the current accreditation/approval.
- Proof of status if you are on a provisional accreditation.
- The period covered by the accreditation.

Substantive change notification

Accredited nursing programs that modify (for example, a change to a BSN-DNP program) or add a nursing specialty that requires substantive change notification to the national nursing accrediting body, must include documentation of approval of the change from the accrediting agency.

Newly established programs of nursing accreditation

If a nursing program is new and therefore not yet accredited, but will likely be accredited in the future, the Secretary of Education may deem it accredited if the program meets accreditation standards before the second entering class begins their academic year.

If your program is new, please provide a Letter of Reasonable Assurance from the U.S. Department of Education as Attachment 1.

Attachment 2: Maintenance of effort documentation

Required - Counts toward the page limit.

You must specify the non-federal funds that support proposed activities. These include cash, in-kind, or other contributions. Do not include any federal funds. See <u>Maintenance of Effort</u> requirement.

For NFLP, the MOE is based on the ICC contributed to the prior fiscal year and the estimated ICC amount for the next fiscal year.

Use the sample format below to provide the Maintenance of Effort documentation.

Table: Maintenance of Effort

FY Before Application: Actual Non-Federal Expenditures	First FY of Award: Estimated Non-Federal Expenditures
\$	\$

Attachment 3: Loan disbursement plan

Required - Counts toward the page limit.

Upload a disbursement plan for the new NFLP funds being requested in this application, in a tabular format. Institutions must include a detailed schedule of the disbursements planned for students who will receive loan support during the funded period of performance.

The detailed schedule must document the following in Section A:

- Number of students you plan to support, listed by full-time or part-time status.
- The date of the disbursements for the full academic year period (e.g., fall/spring/summer).
- The estimated loan amount for each student (eligible costs including tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses).
- The estimated collection cost.

For continuation (competing continuation) applicants with unused past NFLP funds received under previous grant awards: In addition to the information collected in Section A, you must provide as **Section B** a supplementary disbursement plan for those unused NFLP funds to include the following:

- Number of students you project to support using the unused NFLP funds, listed by full-time or part-time status.
- The date of the disbursements for the full academic year period (e.g., fall/spring/ summer).
- The estimated loan amount for each student (eligible costs including tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses).
- The estimated collection cost.

Attachment 4: Default rate corrective action plan (for competing continuation applicants)

Required (if applicable) - Counts toward the page limit.

If you are applying as competing continuation with NFLP loan default rates greater than 5 percent, you must submit a corrective action plan that demonstrates how you will reduce the default rate to:

- Less than or equal to 5 percent; or
- One-half the default rate reported for the previous reporting period, whichever is greater.

The default rate corrective action plan must be signed by the Project Director, the Authorizing Official, or both, and must include:

- A description of the factors that have contributed to the default rate exceeding the
 5 percent threshold; and
- A work plan with specific activities and associated timelines to reduce the default rate to either (a) under 5 percent or (b) half the current default rate (whichever is greater) during the period of performance.

Attachment 5: Statement of collaborative academic/academic-practice partnership

Required (if applicable) - Counts toward the page limit.

Provide evidence of a collaborative academic/academic-practice partnership, including:

- A copy of a formal partnership agreement between the applicant organization and the partner entity or entities, or
- A sample agreement and a clear partnership plan.

Your institution must ensure that the partner organization(s) maintain(s) accreditation throughout the period of performance, as applicable. The partnership plan must also include a description of the academic-practice partnership plan to support graduates serving as APRN preceptors in order to receive loan cancellation.

Attachment 6 Senior/key person Biographical Sketch

Required - Does not count towards the page limit.

In addition to the requirements in <u>Project Narrative</u>, <u>Organizational Information</u>, follow these instructions.

- Include biographical sketches for people who will hold the key positions.
 - You should complete this for the Project Director, the Financial Management, and other key roles contributing to the project.
- Try to use no more than two pages per person.
- Do not include non-public, personally identifiable information.
- If you include someone you have not hired yet, include a letter of commitment from that person with their biographical sketch.
- · Include:
 - Name and title
 - Education and training for each entry listed, include:
 - Institution and location
 - Degree and date earned, if applicable
 - Field of study
 - Section A, Personal Statement. Briefly describe why the individual's experience and qualifications make them well-suited for their role.
 - Section B, Positions and Honors. List in chronological order previous and current positions. List any honors. Include present membership on any federal government public advisory committee.
 - Section C, Other Support. This section is optional. List selected ongoing and completed projects during the last three years. Begin with any projects relevant to the proposed project. Briefly indicate the overall goals of the projects and the individual's responsibilities.
 - Other information. If applicable, include language fluency and experience working with populations that are culturally and linguistically different from their own.

Please note, the <u>R&R Application Guide</u> states that biographical sketches count toward the page limit. However, per this NOFO, your biographical sketches will not count toward the page limit.

Attachments 7 - 15: Other relevant documentations

As Applicable - Counts toward page limit.

Include here any other documents that are relevant to the application.

Other required standard forms

You will need to complete some other forms. Upload the forms listed below at Grants.gov. You can find them in the NOFO <u>application package</u> or review them and any

available instructions at <u>Grants.gov Forms</u>. See the <u>application checklist</u> for a full list of all application requirements.

Forms	Submission Requirement
Project Abstract Summary Form	Yes, with application.
SF-424 R&R (Application for Federal Assistance)	Yes, with application.
Research & Related Other Project Information	Yes, with application.
Project/Performance Site Locations	Yes, with application.
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	If applicable, with the application or before award.
NFLP Program Specific Data Forms	Yes, with application.

Form Instructions

SF-424 R&R form

Does not count toward the page limit.

Follow the instructions for Application for Federal Assistance in section 3.1.1 of the R&R Application Guide.

Research and Related Other Project Information

Only the project narrative counts toward the page limit

In addition to the requirements in the <u>project narrative</u> section, you will provide some additional information in this form.

- Complete items 1 through 6.
- Upload a blank document in item 7: Project Summary/Abstract to avoid a crossform error with your Project Abstract Summary Form.
- Upload your project narrative in item 8.
- Leave items 9, 10, and 11 blank.
- If you have more than 10 subawards, you may use item 12 to add subaward budgets that could not fit in your R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) Form

Does not count toward the page limit.

Follow the form instructions in Grants.gov.

NFLP Program-Specific Data Forms

Does not count toward the page limit.

You must complete and submit the NFLP Program Specific Data Forms (NFLP Tables) in your grants.gov workspace by the application due date. The NFLP Tables are essential for award calculation. Incomplete or missing data may result in HRSA deeming the application nonresponsive, and the application may not be considered for funding.

1. Review 2. Get Ready

3. Prepare

4. Learn

5. Submit

6. Award

Contacts



Step 4: Learn About Review & Award

In this step

Application review 30
Award notices 32

Application review

Initial review

We review each application to make sure it meets <u>eligibility</u> criteria, including the <u>completeness and responsiveness</u> criteria. If your application does not meet these criteria, it will not be funded.

Also, we will not review any pages over the page limit.

Review criteria

The NFLP is a formula-based program. We distribute NFLP funds among eligible entities with complete and approved applications.

The formula uses the data you supplied in your application. We will calculate FY 2025 award amounts based on the following:

- · Number of Terms/Quarters
- · Tuition/Fees/Expenses Amount Per Term/Quarter
- Total Number of Doctoral and Master's Students Requested for Support
- Total Number of Continuing and New Students Requested for Support
- · Amount of Loan Fund Disbursed and Projected Loan Fund Balance
- · Amount of Federal Funds Requested
- Default Rate Percentage

The doctoral funding priority required by section 847(f) of the Public Health Service Act within the NFLP formula is applied by allocating a larger portion of the funds to support doctoral students.

Risk review

Before making an award, we review your award history to assess risk. We need to ensure all prior awards were managed well and demonstrated sound business practices. We:

- Review any applicable past performance.
- Review audit reports and findings.
- · Analyze the budget.
- · Assess your management systems.
- Ensure you continue to be eligible.

- Make sure you comply with any public policies.
- · May ask you to submit additional information.

As part of this review, we use SAM.gov Entity Information Responsibility / Qualification to check your history for all awards likely to be over \$250,000. You can comment on your organization's information in SAM.gov. We'll consider your comments before making a decision about your level of risk.

If we find a significant risk, we may choose not to fund your application or to place specific conditions on the award.

For more details, see 45 CFR 75.205.

Selection process

NFLP funds are distributed among participating institutions as formula-based awards. Program data reported on the NFLP Program Specific Data Form and other program sources such as the annual performance reports are used to determine funding and administer the program.

When making funding decisions, we also consider:

- · Completeness of application
- · The available funds
- Assessed risk

For continuation applicants, in determining NFLP award decisions, the application review and award determination process will consider:

- The unused/unobligated NFLP fund balance from previous awards.
- The NFLP loans made by the institution over recent periods.
- The NFLP loan default rate. Continuation applicants that are above the default rate threshold (greater than 5 percent per last annual performance report) and noncompliant with loan disbursements for two years or more, will be deemed ineligible for future funding or be subject to additional penalties, up to and including, remittance of unobligated funds as well as suspension and/or termination of the NFLP award.

The formula calculation may allocate zero funds to a successful continuation application (for example, for high unused/unobligated account balance), which may result in no funds being awarded to an applicant under this solicitation.

Funding priority

This program includes a funding priority imposed by section 847(f) of the Public Health Service Act. A funding priority will be applied to eligible NFLP applicants that support students enrolled in doctoral nursing programs (e.g., PhD, DNP, and Ed.D. in Nursing Education).

HRSA applies the doctoral funding priority through an internal formula calculation by allocating a larger portion of available NFLP funds to applicants who support doctoral students. Relevant student data must be provided on the NFLP Program Specific Data Forms.

Award notices

We issue Notices of Award (NOA) on or around the <u>start date</u> listed in the NOFO. See Section 4 of the <u>Application Guide</u> for more information.

By drawing down funds, you accept the terms and conditions of the award.

1. Review

2. Get Ready

3. Prepare

4. Learn

5. Submit

6. Award

Contacts



Step 5: Submit Your Application

In this step

Application submission and deadlines 34

Application checklist 35

Application submission and deadlines

Your organization's authorized official must certify your application. See <u>Find the Application Package</u> to make sure you have everything you need.

Make sure you are current with SAM.gov and UEI requirements. When you register or update your SAM.gov registration, you must agree to the <u>financial assistance general certifications and representations</u>, and specifically with regard to grants.

Make sure that your SAM.gov registration is accurate for both contracts and grants, as these registrations differ. See <u>Get Registered</u>. You will have to maintain your registration throughout the life of any award.

Deadlines

You must submit your application by February 24, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

Grants.gov creates a date and time record when it receives the application.

Submission method

Grants.gov

You must submit your application through Grants.gov. You may do so using Grants.gov Workspace. This is the preferred method. For alternative online methods, see <u>Applicant System-to-System</u>.

For instructions on how to submit in Grants.gov, see the <u>Quick Start Guide for Applicants</u>. Make sure that your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks, or we may not get it. Do not encrypt, zip, or password protect any files.

Have Questions? Go to Contacts and Support.

Other submissions

Intergovernmental review

This NOFO is not subject to <u>Executive Order 12372</u>, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs. No action is needed.

Application checklist

Make sure that you have everything you need to apply:

Form	See instructions	Included in page limit?
☐ Project Abstract Summary	Project abstract Form instructions	No
Research and Related Other Project Information	Project narrative Form instructions	Only the attached project narrative
Attachments include: 1: Accreditation Documentation 2: Maintenance of Effort documentation 3: Loan Disbursement Plan 4: Default Rate Corrective Action Plan 5: Statement of Collaborative Academic/Academic-Practice Partnership 6: Senior/key person Biographical Sketch 7-15: Other If you have additional relevant material to submit, such as documents. explanations of mandatory disclosures, you can use this form.	Attachments Form instructions	Yes, unless otherwise noted in Attachments section
Other required forms	Other required forms	No
SF-424 R & R (Application for Federal Assistance)	Form instructions	No
☐ Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (If applicable)	Form instructions	No
Other Program Specific forms: NFLP Program Specific Forms	Form instructions	No

^{*} Only what you attach in addition to these forms counts toward the page limit. The form itself does not count.



Step 6: Learn What Happens After Award

In this step

Post-award requirements and administration

Post-award requirements and administration

Administrative and national policy requirements

There are important rules you need to know if you get an award. You must follow:

- All terms and conditions in the Notice of Award. We incorporate this NOFO by reference.
- The regulations at 45 CFR part 75, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards, or any superseding regulations. Effective October 1, 2024, HHS adopted the following superseding provisions:
 - 2 CFR 200.1, Definitions, Modified Total Direct Cost.
 - 2 CFR 200.1, Definitions, Equipment.
 - 2 CFR 200.1, Definitions, Supplies.
 - 2 CFR 200.313(e), Equipment, Disposition.
 - 2 CFR 200.314(a), Supplies.
 - 2 CFR 200.320, Methods of procurement to be followed.
 - 2 CFR 200.333, Fixed amount subawards.
 - 2 CFR 200.344, Closeout.
 - 2 CFR 200.414(f), Indirect (F&A) costs.
 - 2 CFR 200.501, Audit requirements.
- The HHS <u>Grants Policy Statement</u> (GPS). Your NOA will reference this document. If there are any exceptions to the GPS, they'll be listed in your Notice of Award.
- All federal statutes and regulations relevant to federal financial assistance, including those highlighted in HHS Administrative and National Policy Requirements.
- See the requirements for performance management in <u>2 CFR 200.301</u>.
- The Project Director must register promptly in the HRSA Electronic Handbook (EHB) once an award is made.

Non-discrimination legal requirements

If you receive an award, you must follow all applicable nondiscrimination laws. You agree to this when you register in SAM.gov. You must also submit an Assurance of Compliance (HHS-690). To learn more, see the Laws and Regulations Enforced by the HHS Office for Civil Rights.

Contact the <u>HHS Office for Civil Rights</u> for more information about obligations and prohibitions under federal civil rights laws or call 1-800-368-1019 or TDD 1-800-537-7697.

The HRSA Office of Civil Rights, Diversity, and Inclusion (OCRDI) offers technical assistance, individual consultations, trainings, and plain language materials to supplement the HHS Office for Civil Rights guidance. Visit OCRDI's website to learn more about how federal civil rights laws and accessibility requirements apply to your programs, or contact OCRDI directly at HRSACivilRights@hrsa.gov.

Executive order on worker organizing and empowerment

Executive Order on Worker Organizing and Empowerment (E.O. 14025) encourages worker organizing and collective bargaining and promotes equality of bargaining power between employers and employees.

You can support these goals by developing policies and practices that you could use to promote worker power.

Cybersecurity

You must create a cybersecurity plan if your project involves both of the following conditions:

- You have ongoing access to HHS information or technology systems.
- You handle personal identifiable information (PII) or personal health information (PHI) from HHS.

You must base the plan on the <u>NIST Cybersecurity Framework</u>. Your plan should include the following steps:

Identify:

• List all assets and accounts with access to HHS systems or PII/PHI.

Protect:

Limit access to only those who need it for award activities.

- Ensure all staff complete annual cybersecurity and privacy training. Free training is available at 405(d): Knowledge on Demand (hhs.gov).
- Use multi-factor authentication for all users accessing HHS systems.
- · Regularly backup and test sensitive data.

Detect:

 Install antivirus or anti-malware software on all devices connected to HHS systems.

Respond:

- Create an incident response plan. See <u>Incident-Response-Plan-Basics_508c.pdf</u> (<u>cisa.gov</u>) for guidance.
- Have procedures to report cybersecurity incidents to HHS within 48 hours. A cybersecurity incident is:
 - · Any unplanned interruption or reduction of quality, or
 - An event that could actually or potentially jeopardize confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the system and its information.

Recover:

· Investigate and fix security gaps after any incident.

Receipt of funds

Awarded institutions will receive the NFLP award via electronic funds transfer. The HHS Payment Management System (PMS) will establish an account for new institutions receiving an award. For information regarding drawdown of funds, contact the <u>Division of Payment Management System</u>.

You must draw down the full FY 2025 NFLP award amount from PMS within sixty (60) days of receipt of the award and deposit the funds into an interest-bearing student loan fund established by the institution. Institutions must conduct all loan activity through the student loan fund, rather than multiple drawdowns from the PMS account. The student loan fund must contain the following:

- FCC loan dollars awarded.
- ICC matching amount (equal to not less than one-ninth of the FCC).
- Proceeds from the collections of principal and interest on NFLP loans made from the fund.
- All other earnings of the fund.

NFLP schools are permitted to keep unused NFLP loan funds in the revolving institutional NFLP fund account without fiscal year restriction. However, we perform

routine reviews of account activity and may require institutions that haven't awarded loans in the past two years to return unused funds to HRSA.

Continuation applicants must draw down from the PMS and loan previously awarded funds to students, or they may become ineligible for future funding. Institutions that fail to draw down funds and make loans to students will be considered non-compliant with NFLP requirements. Additionally, we will initiate the termination of grants with inactive accounts and unused loan funds for a period of two or more consecutive years.

Reporting

If you are funded, you will have to follow the reporting requirements in Section 4 of the R&R Application Guide. The NOA will provide specific details.

You must also follow these program-specific reporting requirements:

- **Performance Reports**: Recipients must submit a Performance Report through the EHB annually.
 - All HRSA recipients must collect and report performance data so that HRSA can meet its obligations under the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010 (GPRMA) and the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018.
 - The Annual Performance Report (APR) collects data on all academic year activities from July 1 to June 30. It is due to HRSA on July 31 each year.
 - You can find examples of APRs at <u>Report on Your Grant</u> on the HRSA website.
 Performance measures and reporting forms may change each academic year.
 HRSA will provide additional information in the NOA.
- **NFLP Financial Report:** The NFLP financial forms (NFLP forms 1-4) are required to capture data on maintenance of the NFLP loan fund. These forms are part of the Annual Performance Reports but are a separate reporting deliverable.
- **Federal Awardee Integrity Reporting**: The NOA will contain a provision for integrity and performance reporting.



Contacts and Support

In this step

Agency contacts	42
Grants.gov	42
SAM.gov	42
Helpful Websites	43

Agency contacts

Program and eligibility

Nawall Kertache

Project Officer

Attn: Division of Nursing and Public Health

Bureau of Health Workforce

Health Resources and Services Administration

Email your questions to: NFLP@hrsa.gov

Call: 301-443-6752

Financial and budget

Timothy P. Coyle

Grants Management Specialist

Division of Grants Management Operations, OFAAM

Health Resources and Services Administration

Email your questions to: TCoyle@hrsa.gov

Call: 301-443-4243

HRSA Contact Center

Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET, except for federal holidays.

Call: 877-464-4772 / 877-Go4-HRSA

TTY: 877-897-9910

Electronic Handbooks Contact Center

Grants.gov

Grants.gov provides 24/7 support. You can call 800-518-4726, search the <u>Grants.gov Knowledge Base</u>, or <u>email Grants.gov for support</u>. Hold on to your ticket number.

SAM.gov

If you need help, you can call 866-606-8220 or live chat with the <u>Federal Service Desk</u>.

Contacts and Support 42

Helpful Websites

- HRSA Grants page
- The <u>HRSA Manage Your Grant</u> webpage.
- Health Workforce Glossary

Contacts and Support 43

Appendix: Sample NFLP Terms

Under the Nurse Faculty Loan Program ("NFLP") HRSA-25-070, as authorized by Section 846A of the Public Health Service Act ("the Act"), the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") enters into an agreement with a school of nursing to establish and operate a student loan fund to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty. This agreement is memorialized through the Notice of Award.

The Fund

Institutions must establish and operate a distinct, interest-bearing NFLP loan fund ("the Fund") used only for making NFLP loans to eligible students and for the costs associated with collection of these loans. Eligible institutions are awarded funds in the form of a Federal Capital Contribution (FCC) and are required to deposit an Institutional Capital Contribution (ICC) that is no less than one-ninth of the requested FCC into this fund.

The school will deposit into the Fund:

- The FCC,
- An ICC equal to not less than one-ninth of the FCC,
- · Collections of principal and interest on NFLP loans made from the Fund, and
- All other earnings of the Fund.

NFLP schools are permitted to retain unused NFLP loan funds in the revolving institutional NFLP fund account without fiscal year restriction.

HRSA performs routine reviews of account inactivity and loan fund use and may require institutions that have not made loan awards to students in the past 2 years to return unused loan fund balances to HRSA or may take other enforcement actions.

Eligible Borrowers:

The school must determine that a student borrower is eligible before awarding a NFLP loan, as well as adhere to all eligibility requirements in the Notice of Funding Opportunity when selecting students for the NFLP loan.

Making NFLP Loans to Students:

The school will make NFLP loans to eligible students for the cost of tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses. The school should offer full

support, or the amount requested by the student to cover the full or partial tuition/fees on a first-come-first-serve basis for an academic year until funds are expended. An NFLP loan may not exceed \$40,000 per student for any academic year.

The school must establish a process to identify prospective student borrowers, verify their eligibility, and make loans consistent with institutional policies, federal laws, and regulations; to include a signed promissory note and disclosure of terms/conditions. This process may also include sending a loan award notification letter to each student borrower requiring the student's signature to indicate acceptance or rejection of the NFLP loan and its terms and conditions.

The school must execute an NFLP Promissory Note, indicating students' intent to become nursing faculty, when making an NFLP loan. The borrower must sign the Promissory Note prior to disbursement of loan funds and receive a copy from the school. A new Promissory Note is not necessary each time a student receives funds. Modification of the Promissory Note template requires prior approval of HHS. Any statutory amendment to section 846A, or other applicable authorities, affecting the terms of the NFLP loan will require the Promissory Note be amended, as applicable, for future loans and, in some circumstances, an amendment to previously executed Promissory Notes.

Loan Disbursements: Schools should prioritize loans to continuing NFLP borrowers ahead of new NFLP borrowers, and disbursements must be clearly documented. Schools must cease disbursements of NFLP loans to borrowers that are no longer in compliance with the terms of the NFLP award, in situations such as the following: withdrawal from the institution/course of study, failure to meet the academic standards of the institution, and request to terminate NFLP participation.

Interest:

The NFLP loan will bear interest on the unpaid balance of the loan at the:

- Rate of 3 percent per annum beginning 3 months after the Borrower graduates
 from the advanced nurse education program; and after obtaining employment as
 nurse faculty within 12 months following graduation. If the Borrower serves as
 nurse faculty for more than 1 year but less than 4 years, rate continues at 3 percent
 per annum.
- Prevailing market rate if the Borrower fails to complete the advanced nurse education program or fails to obtain employment as nurse faculty within 12 months following graduation.

Cancellation:

The school will cancel up to 85 percent of the principal and interest of an NFLP loan over a 4-year period as follows:

Upon the borrower's completion of the first, second, and third year of full-time employment consistent with the definition below the school will cancel 20 percent of the original principal of and all accrued interest on the NFLP loan; and upon borrower's completion of the fourth year of full-time employment consistent with the definition below the school will cancel 25 percent of the original principal of and all accrued interest on the NFLP loan.

Full-Time Employment:

Refers to the status of a student borrower who has graduated and is employed and serving in a nurse faculty capacity that qualifies for loan cancellation. For the purpose of the NFLP, the institution which provided NFLP support to a borrower makes the determination about meeting the full-time employment requirement. This must include one of the following criteria: (1) employment as a full-time faculty member at an accredited school of nursing; (2) employment as a part-time faculty member at an accredited school of nursing in combination with another part-time faculty position or part-time clinical preceptor/educator position affiliated with an accredited school of nursing that together equates to full-time employment; or 3) designation of nurse faculty in a joint nurse faculty appointment serving as full-time advanced practice registered nurse preceptor for an accredited school of nursing, within an academic-practice partnership framework.

Joint Nurse Faculty Appointment:

Joint nurse faculty appointments are appointments that involve practicing as both a clinician and nurse faculty member with mutually established responsibilities in both the academic institution and practice entity. APRNs may be assigned a joint nurse faculty appointment for serving as preceptors for APRN students in an affiliated school of nursing, while maintaining their primary staff appointment. For the purpose of NFLP, an NFLP graduate who is designated as nurse faculty (a joint nurse faculty appointment) serving as an APRN student preceptor in a full-time capacity, qualifies for loan cancellation. The joint nurse faculty appointment can only be designated to a NFLP graduate who holds a primary staff appointment as a practicing APRN for a health care entity, and who agrees to, and is qualified to precept APRN students.

- 1. The NFLP graduate must receive loan cancellation in exchange for their service as a full-time APRN preceptor in a joint nurse faculty appointment.
- 2. The NFLP institution that provided NFLP support to the borrower is responsible for making the determination about whether a borrower meets the full-time employment requirement for preceptorship service consistent with the requirements outlined in this funding opportunity.
- 3. The school of nursing whose students are being precepted must provide the designation of nurse faculty for the NFLP graduate, and complete all required documentation (e.g., employment certification and documentation of full-time

status) needed for the graduate to receive loan cancellation in exchange for full time preceptorship service.

The NFLP graduate's affiliation with the accredited school of nursing must be formally documented by entering into a formal agreement as part of an academic-practice partnership based on the institution's existing policies. The academic-practice partnership may occur between the academic institution (with students to precept) and the NFLP graduate's employing (health care/practice) institution; or directly between the academic institution and the NFLP graduate. The designation of nurse faculty for the NFLP graduate serving as a full time APRN preceptor in a joint nurse faculty appointment must be denoted through a formal agreement documenting the individual as nurse faculty.

Repayment:

The NFLP loan is repayable over a 10-year period beginning 9 months after the borrower completes the advanced nurse education program, ceases to be enrolled as a student in the advanced nurse education program, or ceases full-time employment as nurse faculty. The school must provide the borrower with a repayment schedule.

Loan Servicing and Collection:

The school must have in place structures and policies that enable collection on principal and interest on all loans made from the NFLP student loan fund. NFLP funds may be used to cover the costs of collection of NFLP loans including designated institutional structures to collect costs such as personnel and third-party servicers.

The school must conduct and document an entrance interview for each academic year the student receives an NFLP loan. This documentation must include:

A student-signed statement of the borrower's rights and responsibilities regarding the NFLP loan, including the intent to serve as nurse faculty and cancellation; and

Personal information provided by the borrower to assist in loan cancellation and collection. The school must provide the borrower with a repayment schedule.

Exit Process: Institutions must establish and maintain a process to inform and track borrowers' employment and repayment statuses after completion or cessation of the course of study. Institutions should document the exit process with NFLP borrowers.

Default by the Borrower:

If an NFLP borrower defaults on the loan, the school must immediately stop the disbursement of the NFLP loan and begin collection on the loan. Default means:

A NFLP borrower has failed to make payments as required by the Borrower's Promissory Note and repayment agreement.

Loss of the status as a student in good standing, as defined by the school for the advanced nurse training program.

Failure to gain, maintain, or provide evidence of employment, within 12 months of graduation, as a full-time faculty member, at an accredited school of nursing, or part-time faculty member at an accredited school of nursing in combination with another part-time faculty position or part-time clinical preceptor/educator position affiliated with an accredited school of nursing that together equates to full-time employment, or employment as designated joint-appointment faculty serving as full-time APRN preceptor within an academic-practice partnership framework affiliated with an accredited school of nursing.

Records:

All records associated with NFLP awards, including Borrower Records, must be maintained in accordance with 45 CFR 75.361. The school must establish and maintain borrower records for each NFLP loan recipient, including at a minimum the following:

- School's copy of the loan notification letter(s)
- Original copy of signed Promissory Note(s)
- Signed disclosure Statement of Borrower's Rights and Responsibilities.
- Records of enrollment status for each academic year of NFLP support.
- · Records of payments and cancellation.
- Records of approved leave of absence, break in service, deferment, forbearance, or default (as applicable).

The school must retain all records relating to an NFLP loan for a minimum of 3 (three) years after the loan is retired.

Failure to meet NFLP requirements may impact future NFLP grant funding per applicable grant regulations at 45 CFR § 75.371. Institutions that exceed a default rate of greater than 5 percent will be considered non-compliant with NFLP requirements. The default rate is calculated as the percent of the institution's total outstanding student loan principal subject to repayment, which is past due for a period of greater than 120 days. HRSA will assess award recipients for program compliance including to determine whether an institution has a default rate greater than 5 percent, on June 30 of each year. When non-compliance is determined (e.g., a NFLP recipient has a default rate greater than 5 percent), HRSA will notify the institution of its non-compliant status, as well as any required steps to come into compliance, including any necessary action on the part of the recipient. Recipients will be provided with a time-phased approach to resolve compliance issues. Failure to comply with the grant requirement within the specified time frame may result in administrative actions up to and including, withholding further Federal awards for the project, as well as the suspension and/or termination of the NFLP grant.

- 1. FEDERAL CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION (FCC): This award represents the HHS/HRSA share of the funds, specifically the FCC award amount made available to establish or continue the NFLP loan fund at your institution.
- INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION (ICC): Institutions are required to
 contribute an ICC amount equal to at least 1/9th of the FCC award amount.
 Institutions have the option of contributing a larger share to the loan fund. The ICC
 amount is in addition to the FCC award amount and must be deposited into the
 NFLP loan fund.
- 3. NFLP LOANS TO STUDENTS: Nursing students who receive NFLP loan support must be enrolled in an eligible master's or Doctoral nursing degree program at the time the NFLP loan is established.

Remedies for Non-Compliance

Institutions will be considered non-compliant with NFLP requirements for the following reasons:

- Failure to draw down funds from the PMS within 60 days.
- Failure to disburse funds and make loans to students for 2 consecutive years or greater.
- Use of NFLP loan funds for purposes other than the allowable expenses outlined in the <u>program requirements</u>.
- Failure to comply with any other program requirement.

Institutions deemed noncompliant will be considered ineligible for future funding or be subject to additional penalties, up to and including, remittance of unobligated funds as well as suspension and/or termination of the NFLP award. HRSA will initiate termination for grants with inactive accounts and unused/unobligated loan funds for a period of 2 consecutive years or greater.

If a non-Federal entity fails to comply with Federal statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of a Federal award, HRSA may impose additional conditions, as described in § 75.207. If HRSA determines that noncompliance cannot be remedied by imposing additional conditions, HRSA may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate in the circumstances:

- Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity or more severe enforcement action by the HHS awarding agency or pass-through entity.
- 2. Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.
- 3. Wholly or partly suspend (suspension of award activities) or terminate the Federal award.

- 4. Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 CFR part 180 and HHS awarding agency regulations at 2 CFR part 376 (or in the case of a pass-through entity, recommend such a proceeding be initiated by an HHS awarding agency).
- 5. Withhold further Federal awards for the project or program.

Endnotes

Select the endnote number to jump to the related section in the document.

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2024). Fact Sheet: Nursing Faculty Shortage.
 Washington, DC. Retrieved from: https://www.aacnnursing.org/news-data/fact-sheets/nursing-faculty-shortage ↑
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, National Center for Health Workforce Analysis. (2024). Nurse Workforce Projections, 2021-2036. Retrieved from: https://bhw.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/bureau-health-workforce/data-research/nursing-projections-factsheet.pdf
- 3. Student nurse educator development activities should be incorporated as part of the curriculum/ course of study and include (but are not limited to), completion of nurse educator courses, mentorship, teaching practicum, teaching assistantships, nurse education focused workshops, and certification. ↑

Endnotes 51