



MEMORANDUM

TO: AHEC Directors
AHEC Nurses

FROM: Hugh H. Tilson, Jr., JD, MPH
Associate Dean, School of Medicine
Director, NC AHEC Program
Jill Forcina, PhD, RN, CNE, CNL, OCN, Associate Director

DATE: November 15, 2021

SUBJECT: Support for Planning, Continuation, and Development of New Clinical Training Sites for Nursing: **Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

Funding is available for nursing programs in the NC Community College System and the University of North Carolina System, as specified by legislation, in order to develop new clinical training sites for nursing students. Funding is available in amounts of up to \$5,000 per semester or a maximum of \$10,000 per fiscal year.

Under guidance of the NC AHEC Nurse Council, the following changes will be piloted in FY 22-23 in order to meet the needs of the nursing workforce:

- Consideration of fund allocation to nursing programs in the NC Independent Colleges and Universities, depending on funding availability. Nursing programs within the NC community colleges and the constituent institutions of UNC will have priority consideration.
- Offering of a limited number of awards are available for up to \$10,000 per semester or a maximum of \$20,000 per fiscal year. These awards are more competitive and are not guaranteed to be awarded.
- Utilization of a standardized scoring rubric to ensure that applicants know what is expected in the proposals and that the priorities of the NC AHEC Program are met as effectively as possible in fund allocation.

Please send the ANNOUNCEMENT with your AHEC contact information or letter to all community college and University of North Carolina nursing programs located in your AHEC region.

In past years, funded clinical site development projects involved site development, project implementation, and sustainability of clinical experience. Many site development projects can be completed in one year; however, if additional funds are needed at the end of the first year to assure the success and sustainability of the clinical site, schools may apply for a continuation.

For the 2022-2023 funding period, priority will be given to the following:

- Schools requesting a continuation of a project funded in fiscal year 2021-2022. Those schools must include a progress report with their request for continued funding, justification for additional funds, and a plan for the site to be self-supporting by the end of the additional grant period.
- Proposals that indicate plans for the site to be self-supporting by end of the one year grant period.
- No “roll-over” funding requests will be considered for the FY 2022-2023 allocation of funds.

Each nursing program may submit only one application for a single site.

When contacting the institutions, the cover letter should identify the contact AHEC nurses and be signed by both the AHEC director and the AHEC nurse coordinating the grants. Correspondence for the institutions in the University of North Carolina system should be sent directly to the deans of the schools of nursing. Correspondence to the institutions in the community college system should be sent to both the president and the director of nursing programs. A list of North Carolina nursing programs, by AHEC, is attached to this memorandum.

The procedure for managing resources follows the usual principles of the NC AHEC Program. Planning, discussion, and program proposals are developed on the regional level in collaboration with the local AHECs and submitted through the AHECs to the NC AHEC Program Office. Final approval and negotiation involves the AHEC Program Office. Distribution of resources is on a cost-reimbursement basis through subcontracts from the AHECs to the appropriate recipients.

Proposals for planning, continuation, or development of new clinical training sites should be submitted to the regional AHEC by April 4, 2022. These proposals will be due to the Program Office no later than **April 15, 2022** and can be submitted via this smartsheet form: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/855ec6a85b7e4d598d71301859e8bf0d>

CC: Dr. Lori Byrd, Associate Vice President, Programs, NC Community College System
Ms. Crystal Tillman, Executive Director, North Carolina Board of Nursing
Dr. Kimberly van Noort, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, UNC System Office
Mr. Thomas R. West, Vice President for Government Relations & General Counsel, NC Independent Colleges and Universities
Dr. Felicia Mosley-Williams, Statewide AHEC Nursing Liaison
Mr. Pratyush Mehta, AHEC Finance Director

Attachments: Grant Announcement for Nursing Clinical Site Development Proposal 2022-2023
Preceptor Grant Application Guidelines for 2022-2023
Clinical Site Development Rubric 2022-2023