

8.008 Nursing Education

(1) **Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund:** This fund provides the opportunity for each state university to receive matching funds for every dollar contributed to an institution by a healthcare partner. The fund provides a dollar-to-dollar match to the participating institution, subject to funds availability. Each university shall adopt regulations for the administration of this program. To be eligible for state matching, healthcare partner contributions must be made in the manner prescribed below and as provided by section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes.

- (a) Institutions must have a nursing education program that meets or exceeds a first-time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 75 percent for the prior year based on a minimum of 10 testing participants.
- (b) Identified healthcare partners must be a healthcare provider as defined in section 768.38(2), Florida Statutes.
- (c) Gift funds and matching funds may be used for the following in order to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state: student scholarships, recruitment of additional faculty, purchasing or repairing equipment necessary to support the delivery of nursing programs, and creating or updating nursing simulation centers. Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings.
 1. Institutions awarded LINE funding and who choose to use LINE funding for scholarships may only award scholarships to enrolled nursing students who meet the residency requirements pursuant to section 1009.21, Florida Statutes.
- (d) Each university board of trustees may submit to the Chancellor's office proposals made in accordance with the guidelines, formats, instructions, and schedule provided by the Chancellor.
 1. Each proposal must identify a healthcare partner located and licensed to operate in Florida whose monetary contribution will be matched by the LINE Fund on a dollar-for-dollar basis, subject to funds availability.
 2. The Board of Governors will review and evaluate each complete and timely submitted proposal according to the following minimum criteria. Additional criteria may be established by the Chancellor as needed.
 - a. Whether funds committed by the healthcare partner will contribute

meet local, regional, or state workforce demands. If applicable, this shall include advanced education nursing programs and how the funds will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors, and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in section 14.36, Florida Statutes.

3. The Board of Governors will award grant funding based on the merit of each proposal.
 4. LINE Funds may be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
 5. Award amounts may be prorated depending on the number of approved proposals and the dollar amounts requested.
- (e) Each institution with an approved proposal shall notify the Board of Governors upon receipt of funds provided by the healthcare partner identified in the proposal. The Board of Governors will subsequently release grant funds, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to the amount of funds received by the institution, subject to funds availability.
- (f) Annually, by February 1, each institution awarded LINE Funds in the previous fiscal year shall submit a report to the Board of Governors that demonstrates the expansion

