
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2168 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY KHAN, KOSIEROWSKI, TAKAC, MAYES, PASHINSKI,
FLEMING, GIRAL, WAXMAN, JOZWIAK, HOWARD, PROBST, KAZEEM,
HOHENSTEIN, SCHLOSSBERG, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, VENKAT, PARKER,
BOYD, HANBIDGE, CIRESI, SANCHEZ, SHUSTERMAN, D. WILLIAMS,
WARREN, DELLOSO, GREEN, BOROWSKI, WEBSTER, KENYATTA, KINSEY,
STEELE, CONKLIN, HILL-EVANS, GUENST AND POWELL,
MARCH 28, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, MARCH 28, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," establishing the New Nursing Faculty
6 Grant Program; providing for duties of the Pennsylvania
7 Higher Education Assistance Agency; and making an
8 appropriation.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
12 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding an
13 article to read:

14 ARTICLE XXII-C

15 NEW NURSING FACULTY GRANT PROGRAM

16 Section 2201-C. Definitions.

17 The following words and phrases when used in this article
18 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Accredited medical college." As follows:

3 (1) An accredited medical college as defined in section
4 2 of the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as
5 the Medical Practice Act of 1985.

6 (2) An osteopathic medical college as defined in section
7 2 of the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as
8 the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act.

9 (3) An institution of higher education that meets the
10 requirements under section 6.1 of the act of May 22, 1951
11 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The Professional Nursing Law.

12 (4) A program at an institution of higher education that
13 meets the requirements under 49 Pa. Code § 18.131 (relating
14 to recognized educational programs/standards).

15 (5) A program at an institution of higher education that
16 meets the requirements under 49 Pa. Code § 25.151 (relating
17 to certification of physician assistant educational
18 programs).

19 (6) An institution of higher education that meets the
20 requirements under section 3(c) of the act of May 1, 1933
21 (P.L.216, No.76), known as The Dental Law.

22 "Agency." The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance
23 Agency.

24 "Application." An application for a grant under the program.

25 "Eligible individual." An individual who meets the
26 eligibility criteria specified under section 2203-C(c).

27 "Full-time." A faculty course load of 12 or more academic
28 credits in each of two semesters in an academic year of an
29 accredited medical college.

30 "Grant." A grant under the program.

1 "Nursing faculty member." An individual employed by an
2 accredited medical college who is responsible for teaching
3 nursing curriculum on-site. The term does not include an
4 individual who teaches nursing curriculum entirely online.

5 "Program." The New Nursing Faculty Grant Program established
6 under section 2202-C.

7 Section 2202-C. New Nursing Faculty Grant Program.

8 The agency shall establish and administer the New Nursing
9 Faculty Grant Program as specified under this article to provide
10 grants to individuals who are nominated by an accredited medical
11 college under section 2203-C(a) and satisfy the eligibility
12 requirements under section 2203-C(c).

13 Section 2203-C. Applications and eligibility for grants.

14 (a) Applications.--No later than 120 days after the
15 effective date of this subsection, the agency shall develop and
16 make available an application form on the agency's publicly
17 accessible Internet website. To apply for a grant, the dean or
18 director of nursing of an accredited medical college shall
19 submit an application to the agency. The application shall
20 include, at a minimum, the following information:

21 (1) The name and current curriculum vitae of each
22 nursing faculty member who is nominated for a grant by the
23 accredited medical college.

24 (2) A verification of the date of hire or a statement
25 certifying intention to hire each nursing faculty member.

26 (3) An anticipated title and discipline of employment
27 for each nursing faculty member.

28 (4) A description of the job functions to be performed
29 by each nursing faculty member.

30 (5) A narrative that substantiates that each nominated

1 nursing faculty member will increase the enrollment capacity
2 of the accredited medical college and that each employment
3 position was historically difficult to fill.

4 (b) Restrictions.--The number of nominations made by an
5 accredited medical college in an application in accordance with
6 subsection (a) shall be unlimited, but the accredited medical
7 college shall submit each nomination in the application in
8 priority order.

9 (c) Eligibility.--To be eligible for a grant, an individual
10 shall meet all of the following criteria:

11 (1) Be a resident of this Commonwealth.

12 (2) Be employed as or hold a pending offer to become a
13 full-time nursing faculty member at an accredited medical
14 college.

15 (3) Has been employed as a full-time nursing faculty
16 member for a period of no more than three years.

17 (4) Has been nominated by an accredited medical college
18 in an application in accordance with subsection (a).

19 (d) Selection method.--The agency shall establish a
20 selection panel to review each application submitted to the
21 agency. The selection panel shall give priority to nursing
22 faculty positions that have been historically difficult to fill
23 and the priority order specified in an application. The agency
24 shall award grants based on the number of nominations under
25 subsection (a) and the availability of funding for the grants.

26 Section 2204-C. Amount and use of grants.

27 (a) Amount.--The agency may award a grant in an amount of
28 \$10,000 to an eligible individual.

29 (b) Use.--An eligible individual may use a grant for the
30 following purposes:

1 (1) Professional expenses.

2 (2) Loan repayment.

3 (3) Salary supplements for work as a nursing faculty
4 member.

5 (c) Renewal.--The agency may renew a grant award for up to
6 four additional years if an eligible individual remains in
7 continuous employment as a nursing faculty member at the
8 accredited medical college from which the eligible individual
9 was nominated in accordance with subsection (a), subject to the
10 availability of grant funding. The dean or director of nursing
11 of an accredited medical college shall submit an application to
12 the agency for an eligible individual seeking a grant award
13 renewal in accordance with section 2203-C(a). The agency may not
14 renew a grant award if an eligible individual transfers to
15 another accredited medical college or institution of higher
16 education, resigns or does not remain a full-time nursing
17 faculty member.

18 (d) Limitations.--The agency shall award grants from money
19 appropriated for the program. The agency shall give first
20 priority for the awarding of grants to applications for renewals
21 of grant awards under subsection (c). An eligible individual may
22 not transfer a grant to another accredited medical college or
23 institution of higher education.

24 Section 2205-C. Annual report.

25 The agency shall annually publish a report on the program on
26 the agency's publicly accessible Internet website. The agency
27 shall include the following information in the report:

28 (1) The number of eligible individuals receiving grants.

29 (2) Demographic and income statistics of each eligible
30 individual receiving a grant.

1 (3) Each accredited medical college that applied for a
2 grant.

3 (4) Outcome measures, including the following:

4 (i) The number of grant recipients currently
5 employed as nursing faculty members after three years.

6 (ii) The number of grant recipients currently
7 employed as nursing faculty members after five years.

8 (iii) Any other measures determined by the agency.

9 Section 2206-C. Grants not taxable income.

10 A grant received by an eligible individual shall not be
11 considered taxable income for purposes of Article III of the act
12 of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of
13 1971.

14 Section 2207-C. Administrative costs.

15 From money appropriated to the agency for the program, the
16 agency may retain a reasonable amount necessary to pay for
17 direct costs to implement the program, not to exceed 5%. The
18 agency shall include an estimate of costs to administer the
19 program within the agency's annual submissions under section 610
20 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The
21 Administrative Code of 1929.

22 Section 2208-C. Regulations and guidelines.

23 The agency shall promulgate regulations and adopt guidelines
24 and procedures necessary to implement this article.

25 Section 2. The sum of \$2,300,000 is appropriated from the
26 General Fund to the agency for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the
27 purposes of the addition of Article XXII-C of the act.

28 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.