

**NURSING INITIATIVE**

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ann Millner**

House Sponsor: Robert M. Spendlove

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill provides a process to provide funding to meet the projected demand for individuals to enter a nursing profession.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ requires the Medical Education Council to project the demand for individuals to enter a nursing profession;
- ▶ provides a process for the Legislature to provide funding to certain programs that prepare an individual to enter a nursing profession;
- ▶ requires the State Board of Regents to report to the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53B-24-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 258

ENACTS:

**53B-26-201**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

30 **53B-26-202**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **53B-24-303** is amended to read:

34 **53B-24-303. Duties of council.**

35 The council shall:

36 (1) submit an application in accordance with federal law for a demonstration project to  
37 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services before December 31, 1997, for the purpose of  
38 receiving and disbursing federal funds for direct and indirect graduate medical education  
39 expenses;

40 (2) seek private and public contributions for the program;

41 (3) study and recommend options for financing graduate medical education to the  
42 [~~State Board of Regents~~] board and the Legislature;

43 (4) advise the [~~State Board of Regents~~] board and the Legislature on the status and  
44 needs of health care professionals in training;

45 (5) determine the method for reimbursing institutions that sponsor health care  
46 professionals in training;

47 (6) determine the number and type of positions for health care professionals in training  
48 for which program money may be used; [~~and~~]

49 (7) distribute program money for graduate medical education in a manner that:

50 (a) prepares postgraduate medical residents, as defined by the accreditation council on  
51 graduate medical education, for inpatient, outpatient, hospital, community, and geographically  
52 diverse settings;

53 (b) encourages the coordination of interdisciplinary clinical training among health care  
54 professionals in training;

55 (c) promotes stable funding for the clinical training of health care professionals in  
56 training; and

57 (d) only funds accredited clinical training programs[~~;~~]; and

58 (8) project the demand for individuals to enter a nursing profession as described in  
59 Section 53B-26-202.

60 Section 2. Section 53B-26-201 is enacted to read:

61 **Part 2. Nursing Initiative**

62 **53B-26-201. Definitions.**

63 As used in this part:

64 (1) "Eligible program" means a program that:

65 (a) prepares an individual for a nursing profession;

66 (b) is an approved education program, as defined in Section 58-31b-102; and

67 (c) is offered by an institution.

68 (2) "Full-time" means:

69 (a) for an institution described in Subsection 53B-1-102(1)(a), the number of credit  
70 hours the board determines is full-time enrollment for a student; or

71 (b) for an institution described in Subsection 53B-1-102(1)(b), 900 membership hours.

72 (3) "Institution" means an institution of higher education described in Section  
73 53B-1-102.

74 (4) "License classification" means a classification applied to a nursing license  
75 described in Section 58-31b-301.

76 (5) "Nursing profession" means a profession for which an individual is required to be  
77 licensed under Title 58, Chapter 31, Nurse Practice Act.

78 (6) "Region" means an economic service area described in Section 35A-2-101.

79 (7) "Program of instruction" means the same as that term is defined in Section  
80 53B-16-102.

81 Section 3. Section 53B-26-202 is enacted to read:

82 **53B-26-202. Nursing Initiative -- Medical Education Council reporting**  
83 **requirement -- Proposals -- Funding.**

84 (1) Every even-numbered year, the Medical Education Council created in Section  
85 53B-24-302 shall:

86 (a) project the demand, by license classification, for individuals to enter a nursing  
87 profession in each region;

88 (b) receive input from at least one medical association in developing the projections  
89 described in Subsection (1)(a); and

90 (c) report the projections described in Subsection (1)(a) to:

91 (i) the State Board of Regents;

92 (ii) the Utah System of Technical Colleges Board of Trustees; and

93 (iii) the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

94 (2) To receive funding under this section, on or before January 5, an eligible program  
95 shall submit to the Legislature, through the budget process for the State Board of Regents or  
96 the Utah System of Technical Colleges, as applicable, a proposal that describes:

97 (a) a program of instruction offered by the eligible program that is responsive to a  
98 projection described in Subsection (1)(a);

99 (b) the following information about the eligible program:

100 (i) expected student enrollment;

101 (ii) attainment rates;

102 (iii) job placement rates; and

103 (iv) passage rates for exams required for licensure for a nursing profession;

104 (c) the instructional cost per full-time equivalent student enrolled in the eligible  
105 program;

106 (d) financial or in-kind contributions to the eligible program from:

107 (i) the health care industry; or

108 (ii) an institution; and

109 (e) a funding request, including justification for the request.

110 (3) The Legislature shall:

111 (a) review a proposal submitted under this section using the following criteria:

112 (i) the proposal:

113 (A) contains the elements described in Subsection (2);

114 (B) expands the capacity to meet the projected demand described in Subsection (1)(a);

115 and

116 (C) has health care industry or institution support; and

117 (ii) the program of instruction described in the proposal;

118 (A) is cost effective;

119 (B) has support from the health care industry or an institution; and

120 (C) has high passage rates on exams required for licensure for a nursing profession;

121 (b) determine the extent to which to fund the proposal; and

122 (c) appropriate the amount of money determined under Subsection (3)(b) to the eligible

123 program's institution.

124 (4) An institution that receives funding under this section shall use the funding to

125 increase the number of students enrolled in the eligible program for which the institution

126 receives funding.

127 (5) On or before November 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, the board shall report to

128 the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee on the elements described in Subsection

129 (2) for each eligible program funded under this section.