** Kansas Nursing Initiative Grant**

 **Nursing Faculty and Supplies**

**FY 2026**

**Request for Proposals**

**NCLEX Score Improvement (Alternate Application B)**

The Kansas Nursing Initiative was developed to address the growing nursing shortage in the state, providing needed resources to accredited nursing education programs. Today, subject to annual appropriation from the Legislature, approximately $3.7 million is available to both public and privately funded educational institutions with accredited nursing programs. A portion of the total appropriation is set aside for proposals from institutions seeking accreditation support (Application A) and NCLEX score improvement (Application B).

Nursing Initiative Fund grants are awarded to eligible recipients on a competitive basis to support nursing faculty and supplies, as noted below:

*Provided, That any unencumbered balance in the nursing faculty and supplies grant program account in*

*excess of $100 as of June 30, 2025, is hereby re-appropriated for fiscal year 2026: Provided further, That the state board of regents is hereby authorized to make grants to Kansas postsecondary educational institutions with accredited nursing programs from the nursing faculty and supplies grant program account for expansion of nursing faculty, laboratory supplies, and tools for student success: And provided further, That such grants shall be either need-based or competitive and shall be matched on the basis of $1 from the nursing faculty and supplies grant program account for $1 from the postsecondary educational institution receiving the grant.*

**Funding Specifics**

* Grant funds are not intended for continuous support of existing faculty salary levels
* $1 to $1 institutional match is required
* Total grant funds available for Application A & B recipients combined is approximately $370,000
* The NCLEX Score Improvement grant application mustinclude funding activities to improve student success (see Allowable Expenditures section for details).

**Eligible Recipients**

Institutions eligible for a Kansas Nursing Initiative grant award must have nursing programs which meet the following criteria:

1. Approved by the Kansas Board of Nursing AND nationally accredited
2. Most recent 3-year average NCLEX scores at or above the 3-year national average\*
3. Documented articulation of one of the following: RN to BSN, BSN to MSN, MSN to DNP

***\*This application is for those programs who do not meet the NCLEX score requirement.***

**Award Period**

The grant award period is **July 1, 2025** through **June 30, 2026.** All activities and expenditures must occur within the grant period. Final reports are due by **July 15, 2026.** Any unspent funds must be returned to KBOR within 15 days after the end of the grant award period.

**Allowable Expenditures**

* **Faculty Development and Support**

Examples of possible activities:

* + Stipulation of higher percentage salary for nursing faculty (must be sustained by the institution after the grant year)
	+ Faculty salary for new nursing faculty (max. 50% of salary for one year only)
	+ Development of a mentoring program for new nursing faculty (release time)
	+ Development of curriculum (release or off-contract time)
	+ Clinical Teaching Institute (CTI)
		- Faculty salary/stipend and travel to attend CTI
	+ Simulation training and support
	+ Professional development (faculty tuition is not allowed) – provide names of events
	+ For accredited programs, the grant does not fund re-accreditation
* **Student Support Services**

Each applicant must propose at least one activity to support student success, include the expenditure in the Budget, and provide details in the Budget Narrative and the Project Narrative.

Examples of possible activities:

* + Program for prescriptive support services for test taking
	+ NCLEX test prep and practice testing
	+ Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) services
	+ Implementation of specialized integrated instruction
	+ Implement or embed online/on-ground course on Nursing Leadership/Management

**Submission Requirements**

Qualified institutions must submit a proposal describing the nature and scope of the proposed project and the amount of funding requested.

Proposals for Kansas Nursing Initiative grant funds must include:

* Cover sheet
* Application
* Budget
* Contractual provisions and local assurances

**Incomplete proposals will not be considered for funding.**

A **signed electronic copy** of the proposal must be submitted to WFDGrants@ksbor.org no later than 5:00 p.m. on **March 14, 2025.** Proposals received after the due date will not be considered for an award.

**Webinar – Request for Proposals Q & A**

 Date: Friday, February 21, 2025

 Time: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST

 Webinar Invitation will be sent to Nursing Directors

**Reporting Requirements**

A final narrative and expenditure report must be submitted to WFDGrants@ksbor.org no later than **July 15, 2026**.

**Failure to Commence Project**

If the project activities described in the grant proposal have not commenced within 60 days after acceptance of the grant award, the recipient must report in writing the steps taken to initiate the project, the reason for the delay, and the expected start date and submit an adjusted project timeline. If project activities have not commenced within 30 days of receipt of the above letter, KBOR may terminate the grant and the recipient will be required to return all unused grant funds with a complete accounting of all expenditures.

**Right to Terminate the Grant**

After a grant is awarded, any adjustments and/or modifications to the activities or budget amounts must be approved by KBOR prior to the change occurring. Failure to request grant changes in advance may result in the returning of funds expended without approval and/or termination of the grant. KBOR reserves the right to terminate any grant award and cease payment to the recipient for failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations, and/or terms of the grant assurances. Further, KBOR may seek reimbursement of any or all grant funds and may reclaim any equipment, durable goods, and other property purchased with these grant funds if the recipient fails to perform in accordance with the terms of the grant assurances and reporting requirements.

**Unused Funds**

All grant funds awarded but not expended or encumbered by **June 30, 2026** must be returned to KBOR within 15 days after of the end of the grant award period.

**Kansas Nursing Initiative Grant**

**NCLEX Score Improvement**

**Alternate Application B**

**FY26 Cover Sheet**

Institution Name

**I understand that, if funds become unavailable or total amount to be awarded changes, this application may be terminated or adjusted. If satisfactory progress and documentation are not made regarding the intended outcomes of this application or if this institution fails to comply with applicable laws, regulations, assurances and/or terms of this grant, this application becomes null and void and all funds must be returned.**

**Contact Persons**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Name & Title** | **Telephone** | **Email Address** |
| Director of Nursing |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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Director of Nursing Signature Date

President Signature Date

**Amount of Funds Requested $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**STATE USE ONLY—DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**

**$ Approved Grant Award Amount**

KBOR Authorized Representative Date

**Kansas Nursing Initiative Grant**

**FY26 Application (B)**

**General Program Information**

1. **List your nursing programs and their accreditation status**
	1.
	2.
	3.
2. **List the number of adjunct, part-time, and full-time faculty, and their credentials**
	1. **Adjunct:**
	2. **Part-time:**
	3. **Full-time:**
3. **By program, list your 3-year attrition rate**
	1.
	2.
	3.
4. **Your most recent average NCLEX board scores are:**

 **Program 3 yr. Avg. NCLEX Score**

**Project Narrative**

1. **What do you plan to do/accomplish with grant funds?**
	1.
	2.
	3.
2. **How will you measure the success of this project?**
3. **How will you ensure that the project activities and accomplishments are sustained in the future?**
4. **Provide one example of a partnership with business and industry.**
5. **Include a copy of one articulation with** **a nursing program at the next level. (ex: RN to BSN, BSN to MSN, MSN to DNP, APRN, etc.)**

**Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FY26 Budget (B)**

**NCLEX Score Improvement Grant**

**Budget Sheet**Provide a line item budget for anticipated project expenditures. Include only those funds that are being requested through the grant, not the institutional match. Add rows to the table as needed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Budgeted Item****(Add lines as necessary)** | **Item Amount** | **Budget Total** |
| **Faculty Development & Support** *(faculty tuition not allowed, must name PD events)* |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
| **Student Support Services** |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|  |  |  |
|  |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |  |  |
|    |   **Total for Project** |   |

**Match**

Describe the details of the $1-1 institutional match (cash or in-kind) which will be used for this grant award

**Budget Narrative**

Provide a budget narrative explaining how each cost was determined and how funds will be expended. For Professional Development, include the names of the proposed events.

**Supporting Budget Documentation**

(if applicable)

State of Kansas

Department of Administration DA-146a (Rev. 07-19)

**CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS ATTACHMENT**

Important: This form contains mandatory contract provisions and must be attached to or incorporated in all copies of any contractual agreement. If it is attached to the vendor/contractor's standard contract form, then that form must be altered to contain the following provision:

The Provisions found in Contractual Provisions Attachment (Form DA-146a, Rev. 07-19), which is attached hereto, are hereby incorporated in this contract and made a part thereof.

The parties agree that the following provisions are hereby incorporated into the contract to which it is attached and made a part thereof, said contract being the day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , 2025.

1. **Terms Herein Controlling Provisions:** It is expressly agreed that the terms of each and every provision in this attachment shall prevail and control over the terms of any other conflicting provision in any other document relating to and a part of the contract in which this attachment is incorporated. Any terms that conflict or could be interpreted to conflict with this attachment are nullified.
2. **Kansas Law and Venue:** This contract shall be subject to, governed by, and construed according to the laws of the State of Kansas, and jurisdiction and venue of any suit in connection with this contract shall reside only in courts located in the State of Kansas.
3. **Termination Due To Lack Of Funding Appropriation:** If, in the judgment of the Director of Accounts and Reports, Department of Administration, sufficient funds are not appropriated to continue the function performed in this agreement and for the payment of the charges hereunder, State may terminate this agreement at the end of its current fiscal year. State agrees to give written notice of termination to contractor at least thirty (30) days prior to the end of its current fiscal year and shall give such notice for a greater period prior to the end of such fiscal year as may be provided in this contract, except that such notice shall not be required prior to ninety (90) days before the end of such fiscal year. Contractor shall have the right, at the end of such fiscal year, to take possession of any equipment provided State under the contract. State will pay to the contractor all regular contractual payments incurred through the end of such fiscal year, plus contractual charges incidental to the return of any such equipment. Upon termination of the agreement by State, title to any such equipment shall revert to contractor at the end of the State's current fiscal year. The termination of the contract pursuant to this paragraph shall not cause any penalty to be charged to the agency or the contractor.
4. **Disclaimer Of Liability:** No provision of this contract will be given effect that attempts to require the State of Kansas or its agencies to defend, hold harmless, or indemnify any contractor or third party for any acts or omissions. The liability of the State of Kansas is defined under the Kansas Tort Claims Act (K.S.A. 75-6101, *et seq.).*
5. **Anti-Discrimination Clause:** The contractor agrees: (a) to comply with the Kansas Act Against Discrimination (K.S.A. 44-1001, *et seq.)* and the Kansas Age Discrimination in Employment Act (K.S.A. 44-1111, *et seq.)* and the applicable provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101, *et seq.)* (ADA), and Kansas Executive Order No. 19-02, and to not discriminate against any person because of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, military or veteran status, disability status, marital or family status, genetic information, or political affiliation that is unrelated to the person's ability to reasonably perform the duties of a particular job or position; (b) to include in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the phrase "equal opportunity employer"; (c) to

comply with the reporting requirements set out at K.S.A. 44-1031 and K.S.A. 44-1116; (d) to include those provisions in every subcontract or purchase order so that they are binding upon such subcontractor or vendor; (e) that a failure to comply with the reporting requirements of (c) above or if the contractor is found guilty of any violation of such acts by the Kansas Human Rights Commission, such violation shall constitute a breach of contract and the contract may be cancelled, terminated or suspended, in whole or in part, by the contracting state agency or the Kansas Department of Administration; (f) Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal anti-discrimination laws and regulations; (g) Contractor agrees all hiring must be on the basis of individual merit and qualifications, and discrimination or harassment of persons for the reasons stated above is prohibited; and (h) if is determined that the contractor has violated the provisions of any portion of this paragraph, such violation shall constitute a breach of contract and the contract may be canceled, terminated, or suspended, in whole or in part, by the contracting state agency or the Kansas Department of Administration.

1. **Acceptance of Contract:** This contract shall not be considered accepted, approved or otherwise effective until the statutorily required approvals and certifications have been given.
2. **Arbitration, Damages, Warranties:** Notwithstanding any language to the contrary, no interpretation of this contract shall find that the State or its agencies have agreed to binding arbitration, or the payment of damages or penalties. Further, the State of Kansas and its agencies do not agree to pay attorney fees, costs, or late payment charges beyond those available under the Kansas Prompt Payment Act (K.S.A. 75-6403), and no provision will be given effect that attempts to exclude, modify, disclaim or otherwise attempt to limit any damages available to the State of Kansas or its agencies at law, including but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
3. **Representative's Authority to Contract:** By signing this contract, the representative of the contractor thereby represents that such person is duly authorized by the contractor to execute this contract on behalf of the contractor and that the contractor agrees to be bound by the provisions thereof.
4. **Responsibility for Taxes:** The State of Kansas and its agencies shall not be responsible for, nor indemnify a contractor for, any federal, state or local taxes which may be imposed or levied upon the subject matter of this contract.
5. **Insurance:** The State of Kansas and its agencies shall not be required to purchase any insurance against loss or damage to property or any other subject matter relating to this contract, nor shall this contract require them to establish a "self-insurance" fund to protect against arw such loss or damage. Subject to the provisions of the Kansas Tort Claims Act (K.S.A. 75-6101, *et seq.),* the contractor shall bear the risk of any loss or damage to any property in which the contractor holds title.
6. **Information: No provision of this contract shall be construed as limiting the Legislative Division of Post Audit from having access to information pursuant to K.S.A. 46-1101, *et seq.***
7. **The Eleventh Amendment:** "The Eleventh Amendment is an inherent and incumbent protection with the State of Kansas and need not be reserved, but prudence requires the State to reiterate that nothing related to this contract shall be deemed a waiver of the Eleventh Amendment."
8. **Campaign Contributions / Lobbying:** Funds provided through a grant award or contract shall not be given or received in exchange for the making of a campaign contribution. No part of the funds provided through this contract shall be used to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any State of Kansas agency or a member of the Legislature regarding any pending legislation or the awarding, extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any government contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

###### **LOCAL ASSURANCES**

* *Applicants submitting an application to the Kansas Board of Regents, certify they have read all application documents including any revised documents and agree to comply with all applicable state, local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, and public policies herein.*
* *Certifies by its representative’s signature hereon that neither it nor vendors are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for disbarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this Agreement by any federal or state department or agency.*
* *To comply with all reporting requirements in a timely manner and that the information reported is valid, reliable and accurate.*
* *To be in compliance with Executive Order 12246; Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX Regulations; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and any other federal or state laws, regulations and policies which apply to the operation of the programs.*

We will not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin or disability in the educational programs, services or activities being provided.

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Name of Institution

assures the Kansas Board of Regents of its intent to comply with these Local Assurances as outlined in this document. Further, we are willing to explain, in writing, how we intend to comply with each of these assurances.

Original Signature of Authorized Administrator Title

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_