



Department of Health
 2021-23 Second Supplemental Budget Session
 Maintenance Level - M1 - Nurse Preceptor EA Adjustment

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) requests an expenditure authority adjustment for the Nurse Preceptor Grant. The Nurse Preceptor Grant incentivizes working nurses who precept nursing students by providing personal instruction, training, and supervision to nursing students.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2022	2023	2021-23	2024	2025	2023-25
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	(\$3,000)	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	(\$3,000)	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Decision Package Description

Nurse Preceptor Grant

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5693 Chapter 297, Laws of 2022, Section 222

(54) \$3,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$3,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the Washington nursing commission to manage a grant process to incentivize nurses to supervise nursing students in health care settings. The goal of the grant program is to create more clinical placements for nursing students to complete required clinical hours to earn their nursing degree and related licensure.

Funding was provided to set up a grant program to provide incentives to nurses who provide personal instruction, training, and supervision to nursing students in health care settings. NCQAC requests an adjustment to the appropriation received to effectively implement the plan.

Funding provided in FY22 could not be spent due to the time it takes to stand up a new program. This program did not exist at the time funding was appropriated and requires significant planning to establish and implement. There was not adequate time to hire program staff, plan, establish, implement program, and disperse funds by the end of FY22. Therefore, NCQAC requests FY22 funding be reappropriated to FY23. Funding for FY23 would total \$6M. Annually thereafter, the total would be \$3M.

Dollars in thousands

Fiscal Year	Appropriation Needed (Fund)	Appropriation Received (Fund)	Difference (Fund)
2022	\$0 (001-1)	\$3,000 (001-1)	-\$3,000 (001-1)
2023	\$3,000 (001-1)	\$3,000 (001-1)	\$6,000 (001-1)

The definition of a preceptor comes from the [WAC 246-840-533 \(1\) \(a\)](#) A nursing preceptor means a practicing licensed nurse who provides personal instruction, training, and supervision to any nursing student, and meets all requirements of subsection (4) of this section.

- (4) A nursing preceptor may be used in nursing education programs when the nursing preceptor:
 - (a) Has an active unencumbered nursing license at or above the level for which the student is preparing.
 - (b) Has at least one year of clinical or practice experience as a licensed nurse at or above the level for which the student is preparing.
 - (c) Is oriented to the written course and student learning objectives prior to the beginning the preceptorship.
 - (d) Is oriented to the written role expectations of faculty, preceptor, and student prior to beginning the preceptorship.

(e) Is not a member of the student’s immediate family, as defined in RCW 42.17(A).005(27); or have a financial, business, or professional relationship that is in conflict with the proper discharge of the preceptor’s duties to impartially supervise and evaluate the nurse.

Importance of enough preceptors:

- Without enough preceptors, there will be a delay in having trained nurses enter the workforce pipeline in a timely manner. Students cannot meet academic criteria for graduation without completing their preceptorship and obtaining their clinical hours as set in the nursing curriculum. This could potentially affect graduation timeframe thus having fewer nurses enter the workforce.
- Washington state is in a critical nursing shortage due to many factors. Currently, hospitals are reporting over 6000 nursing positions open. This does not include other types of clinical settings such as long-term care, home health, hospice, and other various clinics.
- Nurses are working with less staff and increased workload. Having the preceptorship program will provide nurses an incentive to invest their time and clinical expertise to educate future nurses for safe and clinically competent nursing care for our local community.

Estimated Numbers of Preceptors:

- In the Nursing Education Programs 2020-2021 School Report: Statistical Summary and Trend Analysis Report showed a total number of 5,373 graduates for fiscal year 2020-2021.
- Some schools are increasing enrollment as of academic year 2023. We estimate 5500 as a good starting point for the upcoming grant program.
- This demonstrates the need for qualified preceptors at the clinical sites. The needs are increasing with the additional enrollment. Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs will be increasing in the future with the emphasis on Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner-DNP programs with a decrease in Master of Science of Nursing programs.

The following charts demonstrate the increasing number of nursing students graduating:

Undergraduate Programs

Year	Practical Nurse (LPN)	Associate Degree (ADN)	Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN)/GE/Other	Registered Nurse to Baccalaureate	Total
2020-2021	315	1689	1124	1310	4438
2019-2020	238	1561	941	1209	3949
Increase Graduation	77	128	183	101	489

Graduate Programs

Year	Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)/ADMIN/Non ARNP	MSN/ARNP/Post Masters Certificate Nurse	PHD/DNP	Total
2020-2021	353	132	450	935
2019-2020	264	101	382	747
Increase Graduation	88	31	68	187

Proposal

This is a request to adjust expenditure authority by moving funding from FY22 to FY23 to meet legislative intent to set up a grant program to

provide incentives for nurses to supervise nursing students in health care settings.

Alternatives

No alternatives were explored. The funding was provided through Engrossed Substitute Senate bill 5693 and is mandated for the commission. This will be the first program of its kind for nursing in the state.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

Expansion or alteration of a current program or service:

This is not a request to expand or alter a current program or service. This request is necessary to implement legislation passed and correct existing errors in fund balances and appropriations.

Detailed assumptions and calculations:

Details regarding the calculations informing this request are available in the support document titled, "Preceptor Grant Technical Correction DP v.2"

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

See attached Financial Calculator (FNCal)

Workforce Assumptions:

N/A

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This request supports the Governor's Results Washington in the following goals:

- Healthy and Safe Communities
 - Create more clinical placements for nursing students to produce more nurses and meet the increase demand for nurses in the state
 - Ensuring Access to Quality Healthcare

This request supports the department's Transformational Plan, Priority 2: All Washingtonians are well served by a health ecosystem that is robust and responsive, while promoting transparency, equity, and trust.

Performance Outcomes:

This request will allow NCQAC to implement enacted legislation with the corrections to existing spending authority.

Equity Impacts

Community outreach and engagement:

Limited outreach has taken place due to the short timeframe since funding appropriation was granted. However, we frequently receive feedback from nursing programs, students, and employers impacted by the lack of preceptors available to assist students meet academic criteria for graduation and obtaining their clinical hours as set in the nursing curriculum. Resulting in delays for trained nurses from entering the workforce pipeline timely and could affect graduation timeframes.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

With the current nursing shortage in Washington state and around the nation, increasing the nursing pool and improving access to care through this decision package should not unintentionally marginalize or disproportionately impact any populations or communities. On the contrary, the program will target nurses in underserved communities and populations.

Target Populations or Communities:

All communities statewide who benefit from access to nursing care are impacted by this proposal. This includes tribal, urban, and rural communities. The ability to incentivize qualified nurses to be preceptors allows nursing students to fulfill all academic and clinical requirements to obtain their degrees and ultimately licensure in the state. All communities with a nursing shortage will benefit from this program and will help to better address the nursing shortage by increasing the nursing population pool.

Other Collateral Connections

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

This request does not create impacts to the state workforce.

Intergovernmental:

This request does not affect tribal, regional, county or city governments.

Stakeholder Response:

There has been considerable public interest in the development of the grant program, the funds available, and the disbursement. The Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner community is interested in funds being available for advanced practice preceptors as well as preceptors for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses. The nursing education programs and employers are also interested in this grant. The kidney dialysis companies are interested due to the number of nursing students in their facilities and preceptors.

The staff have been hired and are exploring methods to identify preceptors, the number of preceptors, and monetary amounts for precepting. Models from other states have been evaluated to determine if they should be applied in Washington. Payment methods will need to be evaluated.

State Facilities Impacts:

This request will not change facilities or workplace needs.

Changes from Current Law:

This request does not require changes to state statutes.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This request is not a response to litigations, audit findings, executive orders, or task force recommendations.

Reference Documents

[Preceptor Grant DP v.2 2023 Supp.xlsm](#)

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2022	2023	2021-23	2024	2025	2023-25
Obj. A	(\$25)	\$180	\$155	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. B	(\$11)	\$65	\$54	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. E	(\$6)	\$15	\$9	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. J	\$0	\$6	\$6	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. N	(\$2,958)	\$2,723	(\$235)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Obj. T	\$0	\$11	\$11	\$0	\$0	\$0

Agency Contact Information

Kristin Bettridge
(360) 236-4316
kristin.bettridge@doh.wa.gov