



# Nursing Incentive Scholarship Fund

## NISF ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must:

- Submit an NISF application via their nurse portal account no later than June 8<sup>th</sup>;
- Be a resident of Kentucky;
- Not be listed on the Nurse Aide Abuse Registry with a substantiated finding;
- Be enrolled in an approved nursing program; and
- Be able to complete a minimum of 6 prelicensure credit hours or 4.5 graduate credit hours during the award period.

## NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION

- Official Verification of Enrollment in an approved nursing program showing the credits that will be attempted during the award period;
- Proof of Kentucky Residency (driver's license, voter registration card, federal tax return, W2, or military form 2058); and
- Official transcript for the educational institution where you most recently earned a degree, credits, or a GED. The transcript must be marked as official and include the cumulative GPA.

## OPTIONAL DOCUMENTATION

You may also submit a Student Aid Report (SAR) if you wish financial need to be considered when your application is scored.



Rutgers School of Nursing Graduation 2016

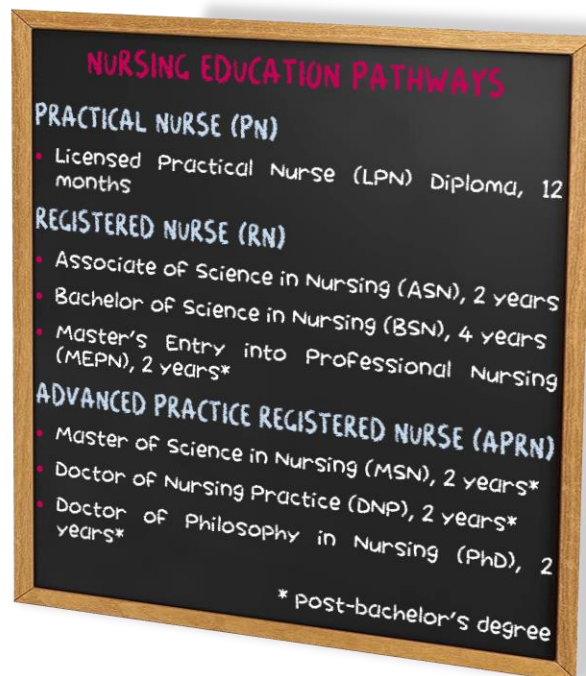
The Kentucky Board of Nursing administers the Nursing Incentive Scholarship Fund (NISF) that is established by [KRS 314.025](#) and regulated under [201 KAR 20:390](#) and provides scholarships to Kentucky residents attending an approved prelicensure or graduate nursing program. The NISF scholarship was created to address the nursing workforce needs throughout the Commonwealth and to give preferential assistance to financially-needy Kentucky residents, licensed nurses pursuing further nursing education, and prelicensure nursing students that have already completed part of a nursing program.

The academic year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, and each NISF scholarship award period runs concurrent to the academic year. The application submission period is from January 1<sup>st</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup> each year. All NISF scholarship applicants must be enrolled in [nursing](#) courses during the award period that starts July 1<sup>st</sup> of the year that the application is submitted. Students that have been accepted into a nursing program but have not yet started nursing courses are not eligible for the scholarship. Applicants scheduled to graduate the same year that the NISF application is submitted must be able to complete 6 prelicensure credit hours or 4.5 graduate credit hours between November 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> of that year. Students not scheduled to graduate by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the application submission year must be able to complete a minimum of 12 prelicensure credit hours or 9 graduate credit hours during the award period. Students graduating from their nursing program before November of the award period are not eligible for the scholarship.

- \$1,500 per academic semester or \$3,000 per academic year.
- Does not have to be applied to tuition or books – use the scholarship for cost of living expenses, such as gas, childcare, or food.
- Apply between January 1<sup>st</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> for the upcoming academic year.
- May attend any approved nursing program in any state, not just Kentucky.
- Direct-deposited straight into your bank account!

NISF recipients are selected annually by the Board using the criteria specified in 201 KAR 20:390. Scholarship awards of \$1,500 per academic semester or \$3,000 per academic year are issued each fall. Scholarship awards are not required to be directly applied to tuition or books – award recipients may use the funds for cost of living expenses, such as gas, childcare, food, bills, etc.

After graduation, each NISF scholarship recipient is required to work full-time (or equivalent) as a nurse in Kentucky for six months for every academic semester funded by the scholarship. If a recipient graduates from a nursing program and chooses to continue their nursing education, they are eligible to apply for a new scholarship during the submission period of the year they will begin the new program.





#### NURSING DEMAND

The Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts an increase in demand for nurses from 2022 to 2032:

- PN: 5% growth in demand
- RN: 6% growth in demand
- APRN: 38% growth in demand

#### RESOURCES

- Kentucky Nursing Programs:  
<https://kbn.ky.gov/education/Pages/Kentucky-Programs-of-Nursing.aspx>
- KBN Nurse Portal:  
<https://kybn.boardsnursing.org/kybn>
- Nurse Portal Instructions:  
<https://kbn.ky.gov/Licensure/Pages/nursing-portal.aspx>
- KBN NISF Page:  
<https://kbn.ky.gov/education/Pages/nursing-incentive-scholarship-fund.aspx>
- Order a GED Transcript:  
<https://parchment.my.site.com/GED/s/article/Order-your-GED-credentials-transcript-diploma-certificate>
- Obtain Student Aid Report:  
<https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/review-and-correct/sar-student-aid-report>
- Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA):  
<https://www.kheaa.com/web/home.faces>

## Submitting an Application

To submit an NISF application, you must first have a KBN nurse portal account. You do not have to be a nurse to create an account. You must have a valid email address that you are able to access. To create your nurse portal account, go to the [KBN Nurse Portal](#) and click the blue Create an Account button. Follow the prompts for creating an account and you will receive an email with an activation link. Click on the activation link to finish the account creation process. More instructions on creating a nurse portal account, including an instructional video, can be found on the [Nurse Portal Instructions](#) page.



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After creating and logging into your nurse portal account, you will see several boxes. Scroll to the last box titled *Other Applications* and press the Apply button. You will be redirected to the page of "Other Applications." Click on NURSING INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP FUND to begin the application. Once the application has been started, you may save and finish the application at a later time, as long as the application is submitted on or before June 8th.

## Scholarship Recipient Requirements

Students that receive an NISF scholarship are required to:

- Maintain Kentucky residency throughout nursing school and until all work requirements have been fulfilled;
- Maintain a current address and contact information on file with the Kentucky Board of Nursing;
- Submit verification of continued enrollment and good standing with the nursing program within 30 days of the start of nursing courses during the award period;
- Maintain successful academic progression as defined in 201 KAR 20:390;
- Successfully complete/graduate from the nursing program within the standard program completion timeframe;
- Successfully obtain nursing licensure at the level of the nursing education funded within two years of graduation;
- Obtain nursing employment in Kentucky within six months of graduation, if already licensed as a nurse at the time of program completion;
- Obtain nursing employment in Kentucky within six months of issuance of licensure, if not licensed as a nurse at the time of program completion;
- Work full-time as a nurse in Kentucky for six months for each academic semester funded (one year for each academic year funded);
- Not be listed on the nurse aide abuse registry with a substantiated finding of abuse, neglect, or theft; and
- Not receive any disciplinary action from any nursing regulatory agency until all work requirements have been fulfilled.

Scholarship recipients that fail to meet the above requirements may be required to repay the award amount received plus interest at the simple annualized rate of eight percent. If a work requirement is partially unsatisfied, the repayable amount may be prorated based on the portion of the work requirement fulfilled. Repayment deferral may be requested in the case of disability, major illness, or accident that prevents a recipient from completing the program of nursing or being employed as a nurse in Kentucky.



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