

**STATE OF WISCONSIN INITIATIVE TO FAST TRACK NURSE EDUCATORS
SUPPORT AGREEMENT**

Whereas, the UW-College of Nursing, the University of Wisconsin System and various collaborating partners have been successful in procuring funding from the U.S. Department of Labor to address the growing nursing faculty shortage;

Whereas, the Hospital or Health Care Entity (“Entity”) identified below has agreed to participate in the state of Wisconsin initiative to fast track nurse educators (“*SWIFT*”) as administered by the UW-College of Nursing (“UWM”);

Whereas, Entity and UWM seek to enter into this Support Agreement (“Agreement”) in consideration of the benefits and opportunities mutually provided to each of the parties and therefore agree as follows:

1. Entity agrees to nominate and support ___ of its employees to enable each to enroll in Master’s level courses to enable each to obtain a Master’s degree in Nursing by:
 - (a.) providing tuition support of ___% of the costs incurred by each of its nominated employees to enable each to pay tuition and fees at the time of course enrollment;
 - (b.) providing each of its nominated employees no less than 8 hours of paid time off from employment duties to attend classes on a full-time basis during each week of enrollment.
 - (c.) providing each of its participating employees a continuation of the support indicated in secs. 1(a.) and (b.) as long as satisfactory academic progress is being achieved.
2. Entity agrees to nominate nursing employees who in its judgment have the ability and interest in becoming nursing educators by participating in the *SWIFT* program within a 2-3 year period of time of full-time enrollment.
3. Entity agrees that upon the attainment by each employee of a Master’s degree in Nursing, it shall adjust either employment duties or work schedules or both, to enable each to function in a nursing educator capacity within the Wisconsin health care system. The duration of the employee commitment to the nursing educator function shall be no less than equal to the number of months of support received through the *SWIFT* Nurse Educator initiative.
4. Entity agrees to periodically advise UWM of the status and progress of each of its nursing employees in the *SWIFT* program.
5. UWM will provide administrative coordination to advise Entity of the overall progression of the *SWIFT* program and to assist all institutional participants in addressing common problems that may be encountered.
6. UWM will publicize Entity’s participation and recognize its contribution toward the advancement of nursing education.
7. UWM will seek funding renewal to allow the *SWIFT* program to continue beyond its original funding period.

This Agreement is effective upon full signing by the parties.

Entity: _____

University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

By: _____/Date_____

By: _____/Date_____