



Advanced Practice Nurses...

*As part of the
SWIFT* Nurse Educator
Initiative, tuition grants
will be available to
APNs to become
nurse educators.*

* STATE OF
WISCONSIN
INITIATIVE TO
FAST
TRACK Nurse
Educators

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SWIFT

Nurse Educator INITIATIVE



There is a significant and ongoing need for nurse educators in Wisconsin.

According to the *Wisconsin Health Care Workforce Report* published in August, 2005, registered nurses comprise the single largest health care occupation in the state, and by 2012, the greatest shortage among health care occupations will occur within the registered nurse (RN) workforce.

THE GOOD NEWS IS that there is no shortage of qualified applicants for RN education programs, both in technical colleges and collegiate undergraduate programs. Nursing has emerged as a stable, well-paid profession with many opportunities for career advancement.

THE BAD NEWS IS that all nursing education programs in Wisconsin are turning away qualified candidates. Expanded capacity will require more faculty. The State of Wisconsin Initiative to Fast Track (SWIFT) Nurse Educators is an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Labor to address the nurse educator shortage in this state.

Grants for nurse educator training

Beginning February 2006, as part of the SWIFT Nurse Educator Initiative, twenty (20) tuition grants will be available to assist advanced practice nurses (APNs) to become nurse educators. The APNs, who must be practicing in Wisconsin, will be fully funded to complete the Health Professional Educational Certificate offered through the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee.

There are increasing opportunities for APNs, including nurse practitioners (NPs), certified nurse midwives (CNMs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) to serve as part-time faculty while maintaining their employment as APNs. Nursing education programs need masters prepared APNs to teach clinical practice and theory courses, however many APNs are unprepared to teach because they have had no training in educational principles and strategies.

Credential for nurse educators

The Health Professional Educational Certificate (HPEC) is a five-course program which can be completed online, except for the final course, which will involve approximately one day per week of actual practice teaching with nursing students. Coursework includes content on principles of adult education, program planning, and teaching in a practice discipline. Candidates with SWIFT grant tuition support will agree to teach full- or part-time for one to two years at any Wisconsin nursing education program upon completion of their certificate.

To Apply

HPEC candidates supported by SWIFT will need to apply online to the UWM Graduate School for the non-degree certificate. In addition, they will need to submit their transcripts for all previous degrees and pay an application fee of \$15. Once all materials are submitted, the Admissions Committee will review each application and determine which candidates will receive the SWIFT tuition grants.

For further information or to apply for a SWIFT tuition grant for the Health Professional Educational Certificate, contact the SWIFT Initiative staff listed below or visit the website at www.swift.uwm.edu.

Certificate Content and Timeline for Health Professional Educational Certificate

APRIL 24–JUNE 16, 2006

Instructional Design and Teaching Strategies

JUNE 26–AUGUST 18, 2006

Principles and Foundations of Adult Education

AUGUST 28–OCTOBER 20, 2006

Curriculum Development in Nursing

OCTOBER 23–DECEMBER 15, 2006

Teaching in a Practice Discipline

JANUARY 22–MAY 10, 2007

Seminar and Practicum in Teaching

Contact Information

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