FY 2024-25 Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure Program Grant
Request for Applications
Frequently Asked Questions

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Who's eligible to apply?

California community colleges districts are eligible to apply and may apply on behalf of colleges. Multi-college districts must submit one separate application for each college within the district.

2. What is the purpose of the Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure program grant?

In 2030, there's an anticipated shortage of registered nurses by 44,500. To meet this growing demand, the Legislation established the [Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure (RNI) Grant Program (Ed. Code, § 88770, et seq.; Stats. 2024, ch. 71 (SB 155)](#) to expand nursing programs and partnerships, address nursing shortages, and increase, educate, and maintain the next generation of registered nurses through the community college system.

3. Where can I find a copy of the PowerPoint for both the Bidder's Conference and the NOVA application walkthrough?

A copy of the PowerPoint and video recording from the Bidder's Conference can be found on our [WEDD RFA website](#). Applicants are encouraged to check this website regularly for updates on the RFA.

4. Where can I find assistance with NOVA?

If you're new to NOVA, to request an account use:

https://nova.cccco.edu/request-access

For additional assistance, assistance can be submitted through the helpdesk:

https://nova.cccco.edu/help

5. Where can I find the application in NOVA?

In NOVA, the application is listed under program "RNI." Navigate to 'Programs' under the dashboard and find "RNI" listed under "Programs."

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6. **Can you add additional people beyond the project manager to be able to work on the grant in NOVA?**

    Yes. Any additional individuals that need access to the plan should be added as an "Alternate Project Lead."

7. **When is the application due?**

    Applications are due Friday, January 31, 2025, by 11:59PM. Draft applications and extensions will not be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure their application is submitted by the date and time mentioned above.

8. **What is the performance period?**

    The grant has a 24-month performance period and is expected to begin on July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.

9. **Can indirect cost be charged to these funds?**

    Yes, up to 4% can be used for indirect cost. The formula to calculate indirect cost is below:

    - Grant Amount ÷ 1.04 = Grant Operating Budget × 4 percent = Indirect Costs

    For more information on indirect costs, please refer to the Chancellor's Office Budget and Accounting Manual on the [Manuals website](#).

10. **How will funding be dispersed?**

    Funds will be distributed through an invoicing method with an 80 percent advanced payment upon execution of a grant agreement, and 20 percent paid upon completion of required reporting.

11. **What are the reporting requirements?**

    The grantee is required to submit regular reporting, including an end-of-project final report in the NOVA system by **August 31, 2027**. The required report will demonstrate the grantee provided program deliverables pursuant to the grant agreement.

Due Date	Report Type
January 31, 2026	Expenditure and Progress Report due covering the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Due Date	Report Type
July 31, 2026	Expenditure and Progress Report due covering the period of January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026.
January 31, 2027	Expenditure and Progress Report due covering the period of July 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.
July 31, 2027	Expenditure and Progress Report due covering the period of January 1, 2027, through June 30, 2027.
August 31, 2027	Final Report of Expenditures due.

12. What should we label our application?

We recommend using the following format: DistrictName_CollegeName_Name of Proposal. This is only a suggestion. How the application is named will not be a factor in the scoring of the application.

13. What types of letters of support should be provided?

Letters of support are not required but applicants can choose to include letters from local partners to support the proposal.

14. If the applicant has a concurrent enrollment partnership (CSU partnership) already in place, will they receive the 4 priority points?

If an applicant already has a partnership with a 4-year college in place, they will need to 1) explain what the current partnership is and 2) provide a detailed plan of the anticipated expansion. Submitting a current partnership without plans of expansion will not automatically award the applicant the 4 additional priority points.

15. Should the applicant include a current copy of the MOU and/or articulation agreement to the grant application as proof of the partnership.

Yes, the current plan should be included. It can be attached in the "Supporting Documents" section of the application.

16. **Would an "articulation agreement" with a CSU that describes the pathway to BSN from CCC be sufficient to qualify for "partnership" with CSU?**

    If the applicant does not currently have an articulation agreement with the CSU with a BSN pathway and plans to pursue this during the grant performance period, then yes, it would be considered a partnership. We would like to reiterate that submitting a current partnership without plans of expansion will not automatically receive the 4 additional priority points.

17. **When colleges are working together on multi-college initiatives, can they develop a single narrative to describe the initiative and all submit the same narrative in their individual RNI grants? Will they be disqualified or penalized for having the identical language in the grants to describe the shared effort?**

    For a collaborative effort in the same district or region, applicants can create a similar narrative that explains the overall big idea but as these are individual applications and not all colleges in the district/region is guaranteed to be awarded, each application should provide details concerning their part of the plan, including what outcomes they will deliver with their respective grant funding, if awarded. The same would be true for their workplan and budget.

NURSING SHORTAGE HIGH NEEDS REGION MAP

18. **Where do I find the Nursing Shortage High Needs Region map?**

    The map can be located on the [FoundationCCC website](#).

19. **On the Nursing Shortage High Needs Region map, our college is not located in the blue section but our district is. Do we still qualify?**

    Yes. The Chancellor's Office will use the borders of the district to determine qualification for the priority consideration points.

20. **Our college is in a light blue area. What does that mean in terms of the additional points?**

    The Chancellor's Office will use the borders of the district to determine qualification for the priority consideration points.

21. **Can you please address the rationale to utilize HCAI data for identifying shortage areas vs. the Center of Excellence data?**

Healthcare Access and Information (HCAI) supply and demand modeling stands out for its granularity and data quality. By leveraging comprehensive datasets, including Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) license data and HCAI's license renewal survey, these models analyze workforce needs at the individual level. This allows for granular county-level insights. In contrast to the Centers for Excellence, which primarily rely on labor market data, HCAI's modeling is not limited to traditional labor metrics. Instead, it incorporates a broader range of sources and advanced methodologies, ensuring more precise and localized workforce planning that aligns with the diverse needs of California's communities.

PROGRAM EXPANSION QUESTIONS

22. Does the college need to have Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) approval for growth by the deadline of the application to apply for program growth?

No; however, the applicant should plan to have a detailed outline in their workplan of the intended activities and timeline. The applicant can provide as much information to show the process has begun. It should be clear in the workplan what steps are being taken to ensure growth by the end of the performance period, including by when the applicant plans to have the BRN approval and when the students for the new added slots will begin. Ideally, these new slots should begin before the end of the performance period.

23. Do programs need to grow/expand as part of the application?

The RFA has a total of eight legislative priorities that applicants can address in their proposals. ADN expansion of the program in terms of adding additional students to the annual admission is one of them (listed as priority #2). It is not a requirement for applicants to include this priority in their application. The Chancellor's Office will give consideration to all applications that focus on one or any combinations of the priorities listed.

24. Will colleges wishing to develop a Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) program be eligible for this grant?

Proposals to create or develop a standalone LVN program do not meet the purpose of the grant and will not be considered. However, LVN to RN or LVN to ADN bridge program creation and expansion will be considered.

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25. Under the expansion criteria, can the addition of an LVN program be considered as expansion?

The Chancellor's Office will consider the addition of a LVN program to an existing ADN program. Ideally, the LVN program should have a bridge program to the ADN program.

FUNDING AND BUDGET QUESTIONS

26. Can partnerships include subcontractors?

Subcontracting provisions will be outlined in the executed grant agreements. Interested applicants will need to include the following information in the application: the name of the proposed subcontractor, the estimated amount to be subcontracted, the services to be provided, and by when the service should be completed.

27. Do the other funding sources include General Fund? Asking what the breakdowns are of other funding sources?

This question is in reference to listing additional funding sources that support current efforts to address the applicant's needs and support their overall nursing education. Yes, applicants are requested to include all existing funding sources supporting their nursing education, including general funds. Our goal is to see the selected proposals successful and sustained after the expiration of the RNI grant.

28. Is there a non-allowable expenses list for this grant?

Currently, there is not. Please refer to the Strong Workforce Program [website](#) Frequently Asked Questions regarding use of funds.

29. Can we use it for student scholarships for BSN courses taken concurrently at a 4-year college while enrolled at the community college?

Assuming the ADN program currently has a partnership with the local 4-year college that allows their ADN students to take BSN courses concurrently, the grant funding can be used to pay the student fees associated with the concurrent course. The funding to address the fees cannot be given as a scholarship to the students. Applicants addressing this need in their proposal will need to identify a process for selecting which students will receive this assistance and address the method of payment with the 4-year college (subcontracting, etc.).

30. Can the grant be used to pay for the accreditation fees for a first-time application for ACEN accreditation?

Yes, application fees for ACEN Accreditation are an allowable expense. Applicants are encouraged to list this fee in their budget if this is their plan.

31. **Can the RNI grant be used to pay student fees for CCPS or My Clinical Exchange?**

Justification will need to be provided for how this expenditure supports the purpose of the RFA and applicant's Needs Statement.