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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Wisconsin Nurse Educator Program is an initiative endorsed by the Administrators of Nursing Education in Wisconsin (ANEW), Wisconsin League for Nursing (WLN), and the Wisconsin Nurses Association (WNA) to support the increase of nurse educators in Wisconsin. To continue supporting the education of nurses in Wisconsin, the state legislators and Governor Tony Evers have continued funding—\$10 million—to the Wisconsin Nurse Educator Program (WNEP) in the 2025-2027 budget. WNEP offsets the expenses of nurses enrolled full-time in PhD, DNP, or master's Nurse Educator programs as well as post-doctoral fellowships by providing funds and opportunities to Wisconsin residents. Faculty loan forgiveness is also available for qualified candidates who are current or future Wisconsin residents and are hired full-time at a Wisconsin nursing program. It is an exciting opportunity for anyone who has considered becoming a nurse educator.

These dollars fund nurses pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)-Nurse Educator, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) or PhD degree, as well as post-doctoral fellowships. Recipients are required to teach for three years (six-years part time) in a Wisconsin nursing program following their graduation. Faculty loan forgiveness—including faculty moving to Wisconsin from out of state and establishing residency—is also available for qualified candidates who are hired at a Wisconsin nursing program.

PhD students are eligible for up to \$50,000, DNP students \$40,000 and MSN NE students \$30,000. Funds may be used to cover the cost of tuition as well as expenses related to school such as books, travel, childcare, etc. Students may be full-time or part-time enrollment and must commit to teaching at an approved Wisconsin-based school for at least three years (six years part time) post-graduation.

The funds are distributed through the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB). Application forms are available on the HEAB website. Applications will be reviewed and approved on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications will be accepted until all funds are distributed. Funds will be dispersed in the fall and spring semesters of the academic year. Funds are not dispersed in summer. Applicants are responsible for budgeting use of funds to extend throughout the program of study.

More information is available at: <https://nurseeducatorswi.com/>