

2008 Virginia Doctoral Nursing Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program

Purpose of the Program:

This fund will provide loans to **full-time doctoral students who are accepted to, or enrolled in, a nursing program in the Commonwealth of Virginia**. The purpose of this program is to increase the number of nursing faculty by providing doctoral students with financial support for full-time study. The loans will not have to be repaid as long as the recipient is employed as a faculty member at a nursing school in Virginia for two years of full-time teaching for every year of support received. This program will assist Virginia nursing schools in recruiting and retaining new nursing faculty and help produce the additional nurses required in Virginia.

This effort represents a partnership of the public and private doctoral-granting institutions in the Commonwealth: George Mason University (GMU), Hampton University (HU), the University of Virginia (UVA), and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). All nursing schools in the Commonwealth will benefit from this program, as upon graduation, recipients of these loans must assume faculty positions at any nursing school in the state that prepares Registered Nurses (RN).

Who may apply:

Full-time students accepted to, or enrolled in, a public or private Virginia doctoral nursing program.

How to apply:

Submit an application for the Virginia Doctoral Nursing Student Loan, available at your chosen institution's website (GMU, HU, UVA, VCU) or at the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) at www.schev.edu/students/Payforcollege.asp.

When to apply:

A complete application must be submitted to SCHEV by the deadline of April 15, 2008 by 3 p.m. (EST).

Eligibility:

Eligible to apply are full-time students in their first year of a nursing doctoral program in Virginia, or full-time students who have been accepted to, one of the four doctoral nursing programs in Virginia. Students will be supported for two years while completing doctoral coursework. Students are expected to be full-time students every semester while receiving support. If a student takes a leave-of-absence or discontinues his/her studies, the amount the student receives will be reduced proportionally.

Applicants must have been admitted to the School of Nursing in which they plan to study and the School of Nursing must be committed to meeting the tuition needs of the applicant. Doctoral students who receive these loans will still be eligible to apply for other sources of funding, such as NRSA funding and teaching, research, or graduate assistant positions at their sponsoring institution.

Award Amounts:

Award amounts may be up to \$25,000 per year, for up to two years, while the doctoral student is completing course work. Each of the participating schools will support tuition and fees for students chosen for this program. Students who are completing dissertation or other capstone research are not eligible for loans.

Teaching Commitment:

For each year of loan support, recipients **must** accept a full-time teaching position within 12 months of degree completion at a Virginia nursing school that prepares RNs. Recipients must teach full-time two years for each year of support. Recipients, who do not fulfill this requirement, must pay back the loan in full, at an interest rate of 9% of the loan within two years of degree completion.

Application Checklist

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The following items must be included in each application. Every item listed below must be in the application packet. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The application package should include all of the following:

* *Indicates forms that are attached to the application.*

1. ___ Applicant Data Sheet *
2. ___ Two (2) References in a sealed envelope with the reference's signature across the seal. At least one reference must be from a former faculty member or teacher. *
3. ___ Dean's Commitment Statement *
4. ___ Outline Program of Study *
5. ___ Two-page document (no more than 1,000 words) from applicant describing his/her personal and professional interest in nursing and nursing education. Include in this letter:
 - what do you hope to accomplish in your career
 - describe your willingness to teach in Virginia
 - cite opportunities, if any, that you have had to teach within the past 2 years
 - cite leadership capabilities and describe your leadership experience
 - the challenges you envision while obtaining your education
 - how the doctoral program will build on your current competencies
6. ___ Letter of Acceptance to a Doctoral School of Nursing Program from GMU, HU, UVA, or VCU
7. ___ College Transcript
8. ___ Curriculum Vitae (CV)

The complete application should be sent to:

Maricel Quintana-Baker, Ph.D.
Associate Director for Academic Affairs
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
101 North 14th Street, 9th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
MaricelQuintanaBaker@schev.edu

Applications are due April 15, 2008, no later than 3:00 p.m. (EST)

Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered. SCHEV is not responsible for late applications. Therefore, you are advised to send this application via overnight, certified mail.

Applicant Data Sheet

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Please Type or Print Clearly

Applicant Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

School Address: _____
(if different from above)

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Social Security Number: _____
(optional) ____ - ____ - ____

Date of Birth: _____
(optional) ____ / ____ / ____

Race/Ethnicity (optional; check all that apply):

- American Indian Alaskan Native Asian Black or African-American
 Caucasian Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Hispanic Other: _____

Are you a U.S. Citizen? ___ Yes ___ No

If No, please provide the number and copy of your residency card.

Citizenship: _____ Proof of Permanent U.S. Residency: _____

Transcripts to be expected:

Institution: _____

Institution: _____

Institution: _____

Institution: _____

School of Nursing in which you are currently enrolled
or to which you have been accepted: _____

Date of acceptance to the above named school: _____

Have you already begun your studies? ___ Yes ___ No

If Yes, how many credits do you currently have? _____

How many credits are you enrolled in for next semester? _____

How did you find out about this program? _____

Degree being obtained: Research (Ph.D., DNSc, DNS) Practice (Doctor of Nursing Practice)

I understand that in order to qualify for the Virginia Doctoral Nursing Student Loan Program, I must be enrolled as a full-time student in a Ph.D. or DNP program. I further understand that if I cannot complete my education, then I would be responsible for paying back with a 9% interest penalty whatever monies have been given to me within two years of the time of my withdrawal.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reference Form (CONFIDENTIAL)

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TO THE APPLICANT:

This section is to be typed and signed by the applicant before it is given to the reference for completion. Please ask references to return completed reference forms to you in a sealed envelope, with the reference's signature across the seal. References must accompany the applications.

(Note: Remember to allow extra time for your references to send YOU the letters so they can be included in the application package).

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Applicant Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

I hereby waive my right to examine this reference material.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

TO THE REFERENCE:

The above-named applicant has listed you as a reference for the Virginia Doctoral Nursing Student Loan Assistance Program. This loan repayment program is designed to increase the number of doctorally prepared faculty needed in the Commonwealth to expand student capacity nursing programs.

Please provide the following items:

- This completed form, and
- A brief statement (about 250 words) which includes how long and in what capacity you know the applicant, your opinion of his/her abilities, and the characteristics related to his/her potential for doctoral level work and potential faculty member. Also, address his/her commitment to nursing education, scholarliness, intellectual curiosity, interpersonal skills, and ability to function as a member of a community of scholars. If possible, please cite examples.

Please return the letter and this form to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.

Reference Name: _____

Title: _____ Institution: _____

E-mail: _____ Day-time Phone: _____

Dean's Commitment Statement

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Please Print

Applicant Name: _____

Institution: _____

Dean/Director's Name: _____

As Dean/Director of my institution's School of Nursing,
I am committed to providing tuition for: _____

Dean's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: Schools are expected to provide tuition to loan assistance recipients.

Planned Program of Study

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APPLICANT'S NAME: _____

SCHOOL: _____

Please list all the coursework which you have completed toward your doctoral degree:

Course Number	Course Name	Institution	Number of Credits

Please answer the following questions:

1) To the best of your ability, how many semesters/quarters will you need to complete your studies?

2) How would this be translated in years?