

UCF-2.041 Nursing Education

(1) Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund. The LINE Fund provides the opportunity for each state university to receive matching funds for every qualifying dollar contributed to an institution by a healthcare partner, subject to funds availability. The LINE Fund was created by the Florida Legislature to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and health care partners and to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors, increasing the capacity of high-quality nursing education programs, and increasing the number of nursing education program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce. To be eligible for state matching, healthcare partner contributions must be made in the manner provided by Florida Board of Governors Regulation 8.008, entitled Nursing Education, and as provided by section 1009.8962, Florida Statutes.

(2) LINE funding proposals may be submitted by the President or designee to the BOG Chancellor's office in accordance with the guidelines, formats, instructions, and schedule provided by the BOG Chancellor. Each LINE funding proposal should be approved by the Provost's office and identify and include the following:

1. A healthcare partner who is a health care provider, as defined in Section 768.38(2), Florida Statutes, located and licensed to operate in the State of Florida, whose monetary contribution will be matched by the LINE Fund on a dollar-for-dollar basis, subject to funds availability;
2. Whether funds committed by the healthcare partner will contribute to an eligible purpose as set forth in BOG Regulation 8.008 or Florida Statutes section 1009.8962;
3. How the funds will be used, including how funds will be utilized to increase student enrollment and program completion;
4. How the healthcare partner will onboard and retain graduates; and
5. How the funds will expand the University's nursing education programs to meet local, regional or state workforce demands, including, as applicable, advanced education nursing programs and how the funds will increase the number of faculty and clinical preceptors, and planned efforts to utilize the clinical placement process established in section 14.36, Florida Statutes.

(3) Gift funds and matching funds may be used for the following in order to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state: student scholarships, recruitment of additional faculty, purchasing or repairing equipment necessary to support the delivery of nursing programs, and creating or updating nursing simulation centers. LINE Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings. If UCF is awarded LINE funding and elects to use such funding for scholarships, those scholarships may only be awarded to enrolled nursing students who meet the residency requirements pursuant to section 1009.21, Florida Statutes.

(4) The Board of Governors will award grant funding based on the merit of each proposal. LINE Funds may be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Award amounts may be prorated depending on the number of approved proposals and the dollar amounts requested.

(5) The President or designee shall notify the BOG upon receipt of funds provided by the healthcare partner identified in an approved proposal before receiving dollar-for-dollar matching funds from the BOG's grant funds, subject to funds availability.

(6) Annually, by February 1, if UCF is awarded LINE Funds in the previous fiscal year, then by February 1, the President or designee shall submit a report to the BOG that demonstrates the expansion as outlined in the proposal and delineates the use of all funds, including contributions and matching funds. The report must be in the format prescribed by the Chancellor, and include the information, disaggregated by degree level, set forth in BOG Regulation 8.008(1)(f).

(7) The Provost may establish further detailed policies for LINE Fund administration.

Authority: BOG Regulations 1.001 and 8.008; Sections 1004.015 and 1009.8962 and 1009.897, Florida Statutes. History—New 6-29-23.