Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE) Fund

Revised 08/18/2023

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Will the agency receive a Project Award Notification?

Allocations are published in the GAA <u>Chapter 2023-239</u>, <u>Laws of Florida</u>. No additional notification will be provided.

2) Where can I find the allocation calculation charts for the PIPELINE funding year 2023-34?

Allocation calculation charts are posted in the "resources" section of the <u>PIPELINE website</u>.

3) Does the agency need to submit a DOE 399 form for these funds?

No. DOE 399 form will not be required; however, the agencies are expected to report the following at the end of the fiscal year:

- Funds expended in the 2023-24 fiscal year (July 1 to June 30)
- Programs benefiting from the expenditure of these funds
- Impact of these funds on program quality and student access and achievement

4) When should these funds be used?

Funds are expected to be used from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

5) Does the agency have to return any unused funds?

There is no need to return any unused funds, your agency will keep them and use them for the next fiscal year.

6) Will there be an application process for the PIPELINE?

No.

7) May funds be spent to remodel existing facilities (e.g., replacing flooring, light fixtures, air conditioning, etc.)?

No. Fixed capital outlay costs are not an allowable use of funds.

8) May funds be used for minor remodeling?

No. Fixed capital outlay costs are not an allowable use of funds.

9) Can funds be used for indirect cost rate?

No. Indirect costs are not an allowable use of funds.

^{*}The exact format of the report will be provided at a future date.

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10) If the agency changes the object code, will an amendment be necessary?

No. Under this new process, there is no need to file amendments. However, funds may not be used for indirect cost rate, fixed capital such as remodeling, and/or renovation. The use of funds must abide by the allowable/unallowable criteria.

11) Can instructor salaries and supplemental pay be paid for from PIPELINE funds, including those of current staff members?

Yes. This is an allowable expense. NOTE: Funds are subject to an annual legislative appropriation. If funds are provided for future years, the allocation may change based upon the requirements for allocation in the statute. If staff positions are changed from a federal to state funding source, in future years, your agency will not be allowed to switch the positions back to a federal source due to restrictions on supplanting.

12) Are administrative salaries allowable such as Deans and Directors of nursing programs?

Yes. This is an allowable expense.

13) Are scholarships for tuition and fees, books, and other costs of attendance items for nursing students permissible use of funds for the PIPELINE grant?

Yes.

14) What programs may the funds be used to support?

The website has been updated to include a link to an Excel document that provides the full list of eligible state-fundable programs.

15) Can funds be used to pay for enrollment charges to a community school class for tutoring pertaining to the nursing test?

No. Only state-fundable programs may be supported with these funds. Fees for service courses such as fee-based or continuing workforce education cannot be supported with these funds.

16) Regarding where we are to account for these funds for Florida College System (FCS) accounting, how do we determine whether it is Restricted vs. Unrestricted?

The PIPELINE funds are intended to allow our FCS Institutions to have local discretion and flexibility to expend PIPELINE FCS funds to support any state-fundable program or purpose, including CTE programs as well as associate in arts and baccalaureate degrees. The colleges can account for this funding in either restricted or unrestricted.

17) We need to purchase a vehicle for the purpose of training for students to use in the lab. Would this be an allowable use of funds?

Vehicles are allowed for instructional purposes for vehicles that are required to operate the program (e.g., automotive, truck driver program).

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18) Can these funds be used for advertising, marketing, recruitment, or similar activities?

If the activity directly supports a state-funded program, this may be an allowable expense. However, the agency must adhere to DOE communications procedures as follows:

- DOE must approve the content prior to publishing to ensure that the content is aligned with the Department's messaging.
- The agency must justify in the budget narrative how this expenditure benefits the program and produce a return-on-investment summary.

The agency must timely submit the content for the Department's analysis along with the media plan (placement, distribution, frequency, etc.) prior to the expenditure of any funds for this purpose.

If an agency is using the Get There branding packets produced by the Department, prior approval of messaging is not required. The budget narrative must include justification for the expenditure benefit and return on investment information. Any modification to the Get There branding would require prior approval for the use of these funds.

Should you have additional questions about this program, please submit to the following email: Pipeline@fldoe.org