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DFC Memorandum Number: 2022-14
Contact: Katie Grissom
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Florida College System Presidents
School District Superintendents
Commission for Independent Education (CIE) Presidents
Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) Presidents

FROM: Kathryn S. Hebda 

DATE: August 31, 2022

SUBJECT: Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund

Senate Bill 2524 ([Chapter 2022-154, Laws of Florida](#)) established a new competitive grant opportunity for districts, Florida College System (FCS) institutions, and independent nonprofit colleges and universities in Florida. Section (s.) 1009.8962, Florida Statutes (F.S.), was created to incentivize collaboration between nursing education programs and health care partners to combat the growing nursing shortage in the state. This program, titled the Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE) Fund, provides matching funds, on a dollar-to-dollar basis, to participating agencies that partner with health care providers as defined in s. 768.38(2), F.S. The 2022 General Appropriations Act provided \$19 million for the LINE Fund for the following institutions:

- Florida College System institutions under s. 1000.21(3), F.S.
- School district postsecondary technical career centers under s. 1001.44, F.S.
- Charter technical career centers under s. 1002.34, F.S.
- Independent nonprofit colleges or universities located and chartered in this state and accredited by an agency or association that is recognized by the database created and maintained by the United States Department of Education to grant baccalaureate degrees.

All eligible applicants must also meet performance metrics set forth in s. 1009.8962, F.S., including:

- For a certified nursing assistant (CNA) program, data supporting a completion rate of at least 70 percent for the prior year.
- For a licensed practical nurse, Associate of Science in nursing, and Bachelor of Science in nursing program, data supporting a first-time passage rate on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination of at least 70 percent for the prior year.

KATHRYN S. HEBDA
FLORIDA COLLEGE SYSTEM CHANCELLOR

Funds may be used to award scholarships to students who meet the residency for tuition purposes requirements, recruit additional faculty, purchase equipment, and support simulation centers to advance high-quality nursing education programs throughout the state. Funds may not be used for the construction of new buildings.

The Request for Proposal for the disbursement of these funds, including, the application and associated documents, is now available on the following funding opportunities site:
<https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/funding-opportunities/2022-2023-funding-opportunities/>.

The State Board of Education has adopted Rule 6A-10.0352, Florida Administrative Code, for this new program. Information on this rule is available at the following location:
<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=6A-10.0352>.

A funding opportunities webinar is scheduled for the following date and time to provide information on the new law and appropriation, instructions on how to complete and submit the proposal, and an overview of the review process.

Date	September 9, 2022
Time	10:00 a.m., EDT
Registration Link	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2421355927225806859

Once available, please review the proposal requirements and plan to participate in the webinar to ask additional questions. Should you have questions, please contact Katie Grissom, Director of Workforce and Academic Alignment, Division of Florida Colleges at LINE_Fund@fldoe.org.

KH/ch

cc: Henry Mack, Senior Chancellor, Florida Department of Education
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District Technical College Directors
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