



# Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

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## Division of Professional Regulation

PAT QUINN  
Governor

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### **Save the Dates**

Team Illinois meetings will be held on a quarterly basis. Please save the following dates for FY 2010 meetings:

October 26, 2009 Connect SI host  
February 8, 2010 Springfield, IL  
May 24, 2010, Chicago, IL

### **Simulation Survey Presentation**

We are pleased to announce that the two presentation proposals submitted to the 2nd Annual Nursing Faculty Technology Conference being held in Peoria, IL on December 18, 2009 have been accepted.

Initial baseline metrics collected from the iCRSP participants for the 2008-2009 academic school year will be analyzed and presented during the forty-minute concurrent sessions. Information will be shared on the average number of students scheduled per unit over varying academic terms. In addition, patterns and trends recognized as a result of using the system will be identified. Finally, a preliminary inventory of lessons learned and the future vision of iCRSP will be discussed.

Illinois Simulation Asset Mapping: Expanding Education Capacity will be presented during the poster session. The ICN, in partnership with the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC), Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) and The Illinois HomeCare Council (IHCC) distributed the survey to Nursing Education Programs, Medical Education Programs, Hospitals and Home Health Care providers in Illinois. The presentation will review the results of the asset mapping survey. Also, plans will be shared for developing a simulation consortium in Illinois with the hospitals, nursing schools, medical schools and allied health areas.

For additional information regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Faculty Technology Conference see the Methodist College of Nursing (MCON) [http://www.mcon.edu/CollegeOfNursing/Faculty/nurs\\_tech\\_conf.aspx](http://www.mcon.edu/CollegeOfNursing/Faculty/nurs_tech_conf.aspx)

### **CCNA Learning Communities**

Based upon your feedback CCNA reduced the number of Learning Communities from 4 down to 2 and broadened their scopes as follows:

- Education Redesign – including, but not limited to the OCNE model and faculty development
- Technology and Learning—including, but not limited to clinical placement, on-line learning, and simulation

State Teams may also choose to participate in one or more of the Learning Communities.

The Learning Communities will provide varying levels of technical assistance for State Teams based upon evidence of progress toward increased education capacity. Consultant Experts will help guide and facilitate regular conversations, plan and organize relevant site visits as appropriate, research and share the latest and best practices from the experts among you and your colleagues, and offer additional support as needed. State Teams evidencing strong and active progress will receive specific and targeted support to ensure continued strong success and modeling for other State Teams. State Teams evidencing strong work to develop strategies or implement plans to increase education capacity will continue to benefit from active technical assistance: conference calls in relevant topical areas, facilitated state-to-state mentoring, assistance from the grant writing consultant, information and research about best practices and more.

## **HRSA Funding Opportunity**

HRSA announces the release of \$13.4 million in ARRA funding for loan repayments to nurses who agree to practice in facilities with critical shortages and for schools of nursing to provide loans to students who will become nurse faculty.

The awards come from two programs administered by HHS' Health Resources and Services Administration: the Nurse Education Loan Repayment Program and the Nurse Faculty Loan Program.

- Funding announced tomorrow for the Nurse Education Loan Repayment Program (NELRP) totals \$8.1 million. Those funds, awarded competitively, will be direct assistance to help 100 registered nurses pay their nursing education debts.
- Funds announced tomorrow for the Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) total \$5.3 million. Those funds go to schools of nursing to support the training of 500 masters and doctoral nursing students who plan to become nurse faculty after completing their education. Following graduation, loan recipients may cancel up to 85 percent of the loan principal and interest in exchange for four years of service as a full-time nursing faculty at a school of nursing.

### **Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI): announces S. 1569: to Expand the APN workforce**

Efforts to reform health care continue to provide new and exciting developments each day. The [Center to Champion Nursing in America](#) (CCNA) is pleased to report another advancement for the health care of Americans and nursing education. On Tuesday, August 4, 2009, Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) introduced S.1569 to expand our nation's Advanced Practice Registered Nurse workforce. Like the Capps amendment recently introduced in the House of Representatives, if enacted the bill will ensure that Medicare payments for nursing education match the health care needs of current and future Medicare recipients. Once again, CCNA commends our colleagues for their hard work and the unprecedented coordination among AARP and several leading nursing organizations. Further information on CCNA website.

### **Secretary Sebelius Makes Recovery Act Funding Available to Expand Health Professions Training**

HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the availability of \$200 million to support grants, loans, loan repayment, and scholarships to expand the training of health care professionals. The funds are expected to train approximately 8,000 students and credentialed health professionals by the end of fiscal year 2010. The funds are part of the \$500 million allotted to HHS' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to address workforce shortages under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The URL for this announcement is: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/07/20090728c.html>

The \$200 million will be directed to the following program areas:

- \$80.2 million for scholarships, loans, and loan repayment awards to students, health professionals, and faculty. Of those funds, \$39 million will be targeted to nurses and nurse faculty, \$40 million to disadvantaged students in a wide range of health professions, and \$1.2 million to health professions faculty from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- \$50 million in grants to health professions training programs. Funds will be used to purchase equipment needed to expand programs and improve the quality of training.
- \$47.6 million to support primary care training programs. These funds will support the training of residents, medical students, physician assistants, dentists and individuals, many of whom will practice in underserved areas.
- \$10.5 million to strengthen the public health workforce. Funds will support public health traineeships and increase the number of individuals trained through preventive medicine and dental public health residencies.
- \$10.2 million to increase the diversity of the health professions workforce.
- And \$1.5 million to support the efforts of state professional licensing boards in reducing barrier to telemedicine.

HRSA is using a competitive process to award all funds. Some awards will be made over the next several months. In addition, funding opportunities for some programs will be announced over the next several months, giving applicants adequate time to prepare materials.

The remaining \$300 million in ARRA workforce funds is being used to expand HRSA's National Health Service Corps, which provides scholarships and loan repayment for primary care providers who serve in health professional shortage areas. In addition, HRSA received \$2 billion through ARRA to expand health care services to low-income and uninsured individuals through its health center program.